

16 COUNCILS BUILD AND FIX 56 HEALTH CENTRES IN 2 YEARS



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16 Councils Build And Fix 56 Health Centres In 2 Years

By Rasaq Adebayo

Sixteen councils have built or rehabilitated 56 PHCs since July 2022. A survey by Echonews revealed that some of the PHCs were upgraded to the status of General Hospital, providing 24-hour service with the provision of ambulances.

Others were expanded to provide additional services and accommodate new departments.

For instance, the newly renovated Iga Iduganran Primary Healthcare Centre in Lagos Island LGA comprises different sections such as Laboratory, Emergency Room, Maternity Ward, Delivery Room, Antenatal, Postnatal Section, Eye Clinic, Dental Clinic, Tuberculosis Section, Pharmacy, and others. The PHC was renovated by Rebuild Lagos and Zenith Bank in conjunction with Lagos Island Local Government. The Local Government under the chairmanship of Hon. Tijani Olusi also rehabilitated Olowogbowo and Oba Adeyinka PHCs while embarking on the development of other infrastructures.

In Apapa Local Government, the Chairman, Hon. Idowu Senbanjo rehabilitated three Primary Health Centres which are Nanti Health Centre, Oluwole Health Centre, and Ijora-Oloye Health Centre.

In Ojokoro Local Council Development



Area (LCDA), Iwa PHC, Isokan PHC, Ajegunle Ilo PHC, Kola PHC, and Abule Titun PHC were all renovated by the Hon. Hammed Tijani-led administration in his second term starting from 2021. According to information from the council, the renovation of several PHCs and reconstruction of Isokan PHC took place in the previous years and continued till the present year. In the last two years, the council has been equipping the facilities as it upgraded Kola PHC to a 24-hour service health centre.

"We are also on the verge of digitalising all the PHCs and we are starting with a pilot at Kola PHC. We kept equipping all our PHCs and one of the PHCs (Kola) is on the verge of being converted into a digital service for better service."

Olorungebebe Health Centre is 90% ready in Alimosho Local Government.

It was gathered that the Local Government built one new health centre

within the last two years; others were previously constructed or renovated in the previous regime though by the same Chairman, Hon. Sulaimon Jelili.

The newly built health facility is Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu Primary Healthcare Centre, Akowonjo, while Ipinlerere and Orisunmibare PHCs were fully renovated to give health services to the residents.

Orile Agege LCDA is not lagging in this sector as it built two new PHCs which are Claudianna Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu Primary Health Care Centre, and Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Ajayi Obasa Primary Health Care Centre (Completed but yet to be commissioned).

The council under the current administration of Hon. Johnson Babatunde has also renovated Powerline Primary Healthcare Centre, Cardinal Odumbaku Primary Healthcare Centre, and Shoretire Primary Healthcare Centre,

making five PHCs running in the council area.

Though Amuwo Odofin LG did not renovate in this political dispensation, it built Senator Oluremi Tinubu Primary Healthcare Centre two years ago.

In his two years in office, the chairman of Surulere Local Government has not rehabilitated any health centre because the last administration already did so instead, the chairman renovated the council secretariat and built a new legislative complex, the Chief Press Secretary, Tunmise Sanyaolu told ECHONEWS.

"Ours are in good shape but we just purchased land for another PHC. We've also purchased a brand-new Ambulance vehicle too," the Chief Press Secretary to the chairman of Ifelodun LCDA, Kamaldeen AbdulSalam said, adding that Oridilu, Layeni, and Amukoko PHCs have been upgraded.

For the people of Ibeju-

Lekki LG, six PHCs which include Ibeju-Agbe PHC, Aiyeteju PHC, Solu-Alade PHC, Arapagi PHC, Orimedu PHC, and Bogije PHC have been reconstructed and renovated by their council chairman, Hon. Susan Olowa to cater for their health issues.

Others include Isolo LCDA chairman, Hon. Adebayo Olasoju has also renovated three Primary Healthcare Centre in the last two years of his first term in office. They include Akinbaye PHC, Alagbeji PHC, and Ilasamaja PHC.

There was no record of any renovation of the health facility in Epe, but the council chairman, Hon. Surah Animashaun reportedly facilitated the reconstruction of the Primary Health Centre at Papa Epe by the Nigerian Army.

She also made provision of bedpans and wheelchairs to Epe health centre and Epe General Hospital, purchased two functioning ambulances for the health centre, made payment of hospital bills to the tune of N1 million a month for the General Hospital, Epe, and also sponsored one-year free medical treatment for 100 aged people under the NHIS programme.

After the construction of a Staff Clinic at Airways PHC, the health facility has become functional in Itire Ikate LCDA, Ejire, Anjorin, and Baruwa PHCs are under renovation as the council as some of the PHCs have been rehabilitated and

upgraded to operate 24 hours daily.

Hon. Monsurudeen Oloyede (Obe) of Ejigbo LCDA is also two years into the four-year tenure of his first term. Within half of his tenure, he has completed the construction of Morning Star PHC at Aigbaka Ward, reconstruction and renaming of Moshalashi PHC to Jaiye Alabi PHC, rehabilitation of Bucknor PHC, as well as renovation of Iyana Ejigbo PHC. Plans to rebuild the Ona Iwamimo PHC are underway.

In Ojodu LCDA under the administration of Hon. Olusegun Odunmbaku, the council has renovated Oke-Ira Central PHC, and Ogba PHC in partnership with Rotary Club of Eko Atlantic.

Oriade LCDA under the administration of Hon. Ramotalai Akinlola-Hassan is also set to witness a revolution in its primary health sector with the two ongoing work at Ibeshe, a riverine community - Ibeshe PHC is currently undergoing rehabilitation while it is also collaborating with the Federal Government to build a new PHC.

The local councils are keying into Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's healthcare scheme which was one of the major successes recorded by his administration in his first term.

In his second term, the governor in his T.H.E.M.E.S agenda plans to take healthcare to the next level.

16 Councils build and fix 56 health centres in 2 years

Continued From Page 2

The Governor has urged stakeholders in the State health insurance value chain and the Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA) to domesticate the National Health Insurance Authority Act of the May 2022, NHIA Act, and ensure compliance with the provision of the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS) law.

Sanwo-Olu, who was referring to the Health Management Organisations, HMOs, Health Care Providers, Corporate Organisations, Health Insurance Coverage Providers, policymakers and employers of labour and employees, urged them to support, partner, and cooperate with LASHMA.

Speaking at the maiden Lagos State Health Insurance Summit, he said the support of all stakeholders will help enable the State Government to guarantee essential healthcare services to citizens thereby improving their quality of life.

"At the inception of this administration, we have been committed to improving the quality of life of our people and steer the State towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), where Lagosians will have access to the health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship.

"These services include a full range of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care. This is one of the major goals of the health and environment pillar of the T.H.M.E.S+ agenda, with the 'plus' representing the incorporation of an intensified focus on social inclusion, gender equality, and youth development in these next four years", he said.

Sanwo-Olu stated that the NHIA Act makes it mandatory for all residents of Lagos to possess a health plan to have access to quality healthcare services thereby reducing out-of-pocket expenses on health and ameliorating the financial hardship caused by payment of huge medical bills.

Recently, the governor extended his free health insurance to the vulnerable in Ijede LCDA as part of the effort to ensure Universal Health Coverage (UHC), equity, and access to quality healthcare irrespective of the residents' socio-economic status.

Emmanuella Zamba, General Manager, Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), at the flag-off of EKO Social Health Alliance (EKOSHA) Community Storm organized by the Agency, at Ijede LCDA, commended the governor for his continuous support, especially in providing special funds for the actualisation of free health insurance coverage for the vulnerable in the State through EKOSHA in accordance with the provisions of the Lagos State Health Scheme (LSHS) Law.

She explained that EKOSHA is an initiative designed by the agency to provide a sustainable structure for the implementation of ILERA EKO free health plans for the vulnerable and indigent in the State.

The General Manager said that the provision of free health insurance coverage for the needy through EKOSHA is an integral part of the agency's strategies to attain Universal Health Coverage in the State.

According to her, the provision aligns with the new National Health Insurance Act (NHIA) which makes health insurance mandatory in Nigeria.

She pledged that EKOSHA will be at the forefront of

championing the inclusiveness of the vulnerable and preventing the re-enfranchising of residents at the grassroots in accessing quality and affordable healthcare.

Zamba pledged that EKOSHA will collaborate with all the grassroots structures through the local government areas and local council development areas to ensure its presence in the communities.

She said 30 EKOSHA field officers who will liaise with the community structures to identify vulnerable residents within the communities and facilitate their onboarding process using the Equity Fund from the Lagos State Government and the Basic Healthcare Provision Funds (BHCPF) from the Federal Government, have been engaged.

The General Manager said that EKOSHA is also at the forefront of partnering with the private sector for resource mobilisation and economic empowerment of the vulnerable to take them to a higher economic class.









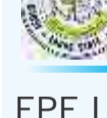





She added that 1,000 Point of Sales (POS) systems would be distributed to the vulnerable in Ijede LCDA courtesy of First City Monument Bank to make the vulnerable financially independent and uplift their economic status.

Responding, the Chairman of Ijede LCDA, Motunrayo Gbadebo-Alogba, who spoke through her Vice, Abdulaziz Kabir, commended Governor Sanwo-Olu, and the LASHMA GM for the flag-off of EKOSHA Community Storm at Ijede LCDA.

She said that there is no doubt that the programme will benefit the vulnerable and also improve the healthy living of the people within the community.

The Chairman urged those enrolled to utilise the opportunity and immediately visit the hospital whenever they need to.

COUNCILS' PHCs Constructions / Renovations

 <p>Lagos Island LG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iga Iduganran Primary Healthcare Olowogbowo PHC Oba Adeyinka PHC
 <p>APAPA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nanti Health Centre, Oluwole Health Centre, Ijora-Oloye Health Centre.
 <p>Ojokoro LCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iwa PHC, Isokan PHC, Ajgunle Ilo PHC, Kola PHC, Abule Titun PHC
 <p>Alimosho LGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olorungbebe Health Centre Bola Ahmed Tinubu PHC Ipinlerere PHC Orisunmibare PHC
 <p>Orile Agege LCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claudianna Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu PHC Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Ajayi Obasa PHC Powerline PHC Cardinal Odumbaku PHC Shoretire PHC
 <p>Amuwo Odofin LGA</p>	<p>LGA Senator Oluremi Tinubu PHC</p>
 <p>Ifelodun</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oridilu PHC Layeni PHC Amukoko PHC All upgraded
 <p>Ibeju-Lekki LGA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ibeju-Agbe PHC Aiyeteju PHC Solu-Alade PHC Arapagi PHC Orimedu PHC Bogije PHC
 <p>ISOLO LCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Akinbaya PHC Alagbeji PHC Ilasamaja PHC
 <p>EPE LGA</p>	<p>Facilitation of the reconstruction of Papa Epe PHC by the Nigerian Army.</p>
 <p>ITIRE IKATE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airways PHC Ejire PHC Anjorin Baruwa PHCs
 <p>EJIGBO LCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Star PHC Jaiye Alabi PHC Bucknor PHC Iyana Ejigbo PHC Ona Iwamimo PHC.
 <p>OJODU LCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oke-Ira Central PHC Ogba PHC
 <p>ORIADE LCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ibeshe Phc New Phc By SDG. Under Construction

LSHA Will Sustain Its Good Relationship With Echonews - Obasa

By Kunle Awosiyan

Speaker, Lagos State House of Assembly, Rt. Hon. Mudashiru Obasa has said that the house will sustain its good relationship with the Echonews. Echonews is a digital and online community newspapers that report all grassroots activities and that of the local and Lagos state governments. In a letter, "Re-congratulation on your inauguration as a member of the 10th Lagos State House of Assembly" dated July 7 and personally signed by Obasa, the speaker commended the effort of the management of Echonews for its balance reportage of the assembly.

The letter reads, "While

I thank you for your genuine interest you have in the progress and achievements of the house, I wish to also acknowledge the role and contributions of your news outfit on its objective, transparent and noble contributions to the coverage of the affairs of the nation.

He said that these qualities had in no small measure contributed immensely in restoring public trust and faith in the assembly's statutory responsibilities.

"While we wish to sustain our good relationship and other areas of mutual benefits and cooperation, please accept our sincere appreciation", the letter read.



RT Hon. Mudashiru Obasa

Lagos Court Stops Olu of Iwaya Installation

Justice O. O. Ogunjobi of the Lagos State High Court sitting at Tafa Balewa Square has ordered the Lagos State Government and others to halt the installation of the new Olu of Iwaya. In addition, the court ordered one Sulaiman Ogun-Oloko to stop parading himself as the Olu of Iwaya Kingdom or acting in the office of the Olu of Iwaya Kingdom pending the determination of suit marked LD/7218GCMW/2020. Other defendants in the matter are the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice of Lagos State, Commissioner for Local Government and Community Affairs, the chairmen of Lagos Mainland and Yaba Local

Council Development Area and Sulaimon Ogun-Oloko.

The claimants in the suit are Ramon Rufai Ogo-Oluwa Aromire, the Olu of Iwaya (elect) by Oloto Royal Family Ruling House of Iwaya Kingdom, Adelani Onitolo; Oluwole

Onitolo and Rufai Kolawole Babatunde.

The court made the order on Thursday, when it granted a motion ex parte leave to the applicant, Aromire to apply, by way of judicial review, for the declaration of the court setting aside the

purported installation and or recognition of Ogun-Oloko as the Olu of Iwaya Kingdom.

The kingship tussle had been in Lagos High Court for the past two years before Justice Ogunjobi granted the injunction on Thursday to stop Ogun-

Oloko from receiving the staff of office.

Justice Ogunjobi set aside the purported installation and or, recognition of Sulaimon Ogun-Oloko by the Lagos State Government whether on May 25, 2023, or May 27, 2023, as the Olu of

Iwaya Kingdom and during the pendency of the suit, adding that it would risk being in contemptuous of the court.

However, the judge adjourned the matter till September 19, 2023, for the hearing of the case.



Oxford University Alumni Visit Lateef Jakande Academy Tasks Associates on Capacity Building

By Kunle Awosiyan

Five Alumni of the Blavatnik School of Government of the University of Oxford recently visited the Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy (LJA) to engage with the Associates on capacity building. The Alumni, who were beneficiaries of the Africa Initiative for Governance (AIG), a sponsored Public Leadership Programme (PLP), are not only Lagos State Government staff but part of the 40 individuals chosen all over the country to attend the prestigious Oxford University. While addressing the Alumni, the Executive Secretary of the Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy, Mrs. Folasade Coker urged

young people in the State see themselves as the architects of their destinies and not victims of the socio-economic realities of our time.

Coker, who quoted one of Simon Sinek's favourite sayings, "We are not victims of our situations, we are architects of it", enjoined the Associates and Lagos youths not to give in to a victims' mentality as there is a lot in them to rise from the ashes of adversity and austerity.

One of the Oxford Alumni, Mr. Abdul Rahman Lekki, the Executive Secretary of the Lagos State Scholarship Board and a management consultant with over 10,000 hours of facilitation, took the Associates on the topic: "The Theory of Change

and Management of Capstone Project".

While listing some of the benefits of the Theory of Change, the Executive Secretary of the Scholarship Board, stated that the Theory helps to allocate resources wisely, monitor and evaluate programmes, as well as communicate with stakeholders.

Lekki said, "Regardless of your grade level, deliver like a top gun. Build capacity and become the best you can be. That is the way to the top. Do not just do your bit, do your bit and do some more as you become the reference point of excellence".

Dr. Mazeedat Erinosh, while talking on the topic: Storytelling Techniques for Effective Workplace Communication



Associates of LJLA

charged the Associates to harness the power of storytelling which is an important skill for workplace

communication. Other alumni, who facilitated during the four-day roundtable discussion and

knowledge-sharing platforms, include Dr. Funke Ayeni, Raheem Bolanle and Adedayo Adereti.

Office of Lagos Auditor General Trains Auditors How To Write Report

The Office of the Lagos State Auditor-General, in collaboration with OCS Inventory Professional Services, has organised a two-day training on Audit Report Writing for Auditors on Grade Levels 6-12. In his address at the opening ceremony of the Training held at the LCCI Conference and Exhibition Centre, Olowopopo Way, Alausa-Ikeja, the State Auditor-General, Mr Moshood Adewuyi Adewale asserted that audit report writing is an integral

tool for achieving the best Audit Practice. He stated that the participants must be able to understand the role and supremacy of Auditors as an Institution in the Public Sector and the concept of Audit Reporting Writing. Adewale emphasised that Auditors must be able to relate with others with maturity, uprightness, unbiased judgement, ability to display professional mandate and uphold public trust with accountability in their Audit Reporting Exercise.

According to him, an audit is not completed without a standard report, because it speaks all about the Audit Exercise. He, therefore, urged the participants to be attentive and participate actively to know the rudiments of writing the best audit report. The State Auditor-General also expressed his appreciation to Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for his unflinching support of capacity building for the Auditors in Public Service.



Lagos Tourism: Permanent Secretary Tells Stakeholders To Provide Lofty Ideas

By Kunle Awosiyani

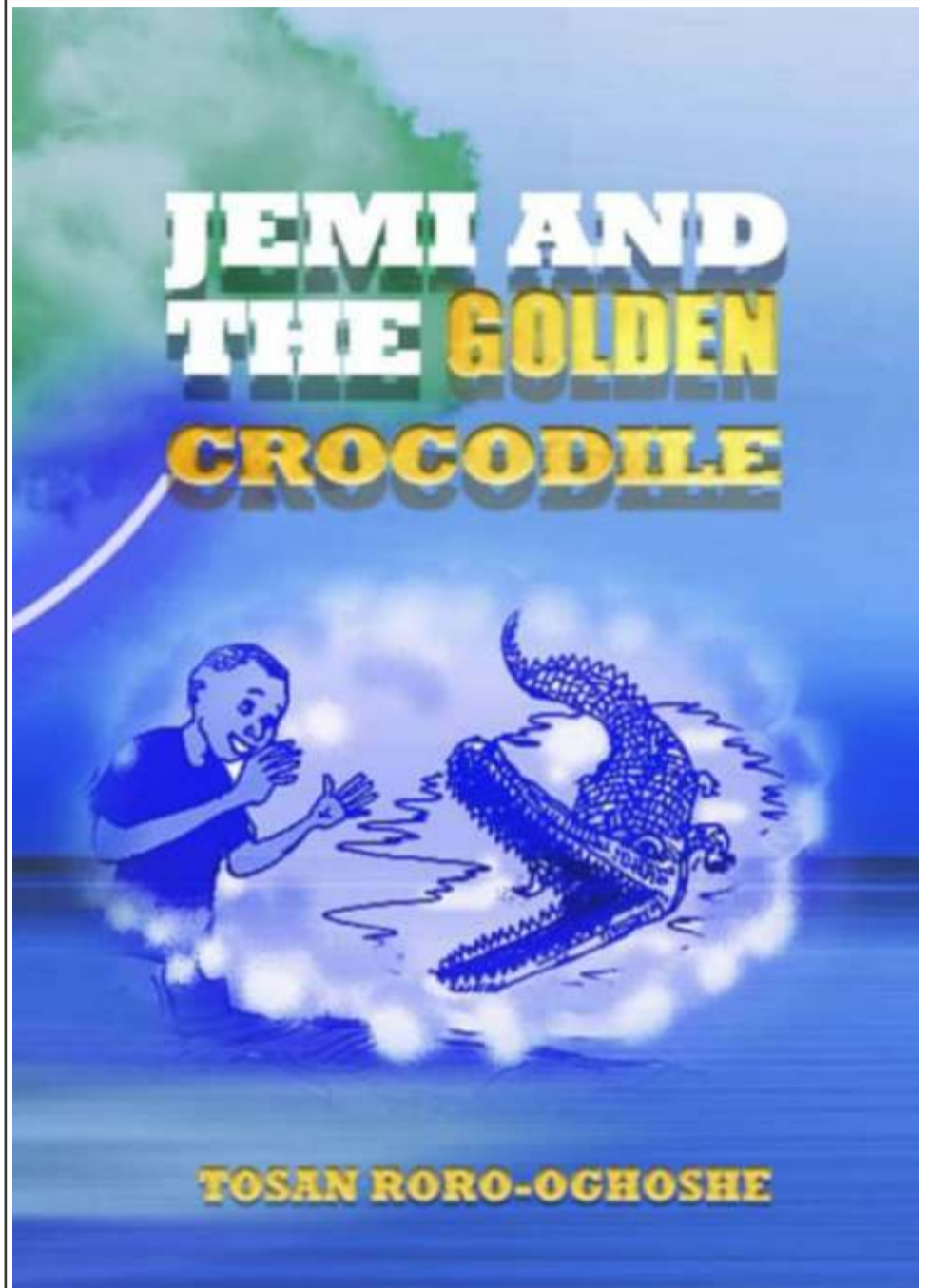
The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Ganiat Oloruntoyin Atekoja has met with Tourism Stakeholders in Lagos State at a forum organised by the Ministry and held at the Conference Room of the Ministry. Speaking at the meeting, the Permanent Secretary said the aim of the forum is to discuss and deliberate on various issues affecting tourism development in Lagos State. Atekoja posited that Lagos is lucky with a vast array of tourism resources including

landscapes, historical landmarks, cultural heritage sites and beautiful beaches that can be tapped into to create job opportunities for the teeming masses. She urged the stakeholders not to relent in their collaboration with the State Government and also come up with more lofty ideas to move the industry forward. In her words "We must work together to create a sustainable and inclusive Tourism industry that will not only benefit us today but also for generations to come". Also speaking at the event, the State Coordinator for the Federation of

Tourism Associations of Nigeria (FTAN), Mrs. Ime Udoh, who led the Stakeholders to the meeting said the initiative by the new Permanent Secretary is highly commendable and that a continuous collaboration with Stakeholders is one of the ways to move Tourism forward in Lagos State. The meeting also had in attendance the Coordinator of FTAN Southwest Vice President, Mr. Tunde Kolade; Chairman, Association of Tourism Practitioners of Nigeria (ATPN), Hon. Apata Samson Nunayon; Media Guru Mr. Frank Meke and Prince Femi Fadina amongst others



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Lagos Govt Scales Up Sexuality Education Amongst Youth

By Kunle Awosiyani

In a bid to ensure that the youths in school and those out of school are equipped with sex education, the Lagos State Government, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), has organised a three-day capacity building programme for instructors on the dissemination of the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) Curriculum and the use of Teaching Manual.

The programme held today at Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), Alausa brought together participants from the Lagos State Technical and Vocational Education Board (LASTVEB), Government Technical Colleges, Ministry of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation (WAPA) and Skills Acquisition Centres from across the State.

In her welcome address,

the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Social Development, Pharm (Mrs.) Toyin Oke-Osanyintolu, said, "This programme aims to give students the knowledge, attitudes, skills and values to make appropriate and healthy choices in their sexual lives. It gives young people accurate, age-appropriate information about sexuality and their sexual and reproductive health which is critical for their health and survival".

"The training is based on an established curriculum, scientifically accurate, tailored for different ages and comprehensive as it covers a range of topics on sexuality and sexual reproductive health throughout childhood and adolescence. It contains eight modules and 28 topics which are structured and provide a framework that spreads across human development, sexual health, relationship,

sexual behaviour, society and culture".

According to Oke-Osanyintolu, who was represented by the Director of Administration and Human Resources in the Ministry, Mr. Adewunmi Ogunsanya, to ensure that the CSE would remain relevant and responsive to the needs of the youth in society, a review of the Curriculum was considered necessary in 2022 as it became expedient to change certain vocabularies and incorporate emerging issues among young people and people with disability to ensure that no one was left behind.

On her part, the Head UNFPA, Lagos Liaison Office, Alexandrine Danzogbo stated the Organization decided to partner with Lagos State to help implement the CSE programme.

Urging the participants to further disseminate the information about CSE within their sphere of

influence, Danzogbo said, "This collaboration between the UNFPA and MYSD is to help reinforce the knowledge and competence of teachers in this issue. The achievement of the Revised Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is a landmark one. The expansion of the programme to those with a disability is to ensure no one is left behind".

In her remark, Assistant Director, Development Partnership Department, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Mrs. Oshikoya Adekemi said the Comprehensive Sexuality Education is a success story because it has positively impacted a lot of young ones who were hitherto ignorant of what they now know about sexuality.

"The role UNFPA has played, in this as a long-standing partner in the task of imparting sexuality education, is worthy of commendation", she added.

LASU VC, Olatunji-Bello, Declares War Against Sexual Violence, Seeks Safe-Haven



The Vice Chancellor, Lagos State University, Prof.

Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello, mni, NPOM, has called on individuals and organizations to create safe haven from sexual harassment and gender based violence for women and girls to enable them achieve their full potentials, stating that the potentials of the female gender are stifled in the face of threat to their wellbeing.

She made the assertion recently, while delivering the Keynote Address at the National Programme for Working Women organized by the Nigerian Labour Congress, Lagos Chapter, held at the Providence Hotel, Ikeja, Lagos.

Speaking on the theme, "Amplifying Voices, Eliminating Violence, and Fostering Inclusivity", the professor of Physiology averred that there is a nexus between women's subordinate positions in the workplace and the incidences of sexual and gender-based violence, hence the need to protect them by putting mechanisms in place for their safety.

Citing the creation of LASU Centre for Response and Prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in LASU as an example, she said, "When I became VC, we recognized the issues of sexual and gender-based violence as major obstacles capable of preventing our girls from achieving success in their educational pursuit.

"So, to address it, we established the Centre for Response and Prevention

of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence headed by one of our brilliant female educationists to put machineries in place that would ensure that sexual and gender-based violence are brought to the minimum in the University.

She said the Centre is the "only stand-alone Centre on issues of SGBV in any Nigerian University today empowered to provide the physical safe space where Students and Staff can freely report all forms of violence and be shielded from further attacks; investigate reported cases of sexual violence and take appropriate measures in line with its mandate."

She called on women in privileged positions to provide more opportunities for education and training, provide clear anti-harassment policies, establish clear reporting mechanisms and support systems for victims, and collaborate with external agencies to protect the voices and rights of women.

The Vice Chancellor was accompanied to the programme by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administration, Prof. Adenike Boyo; the Bursar, Mr. Said Babatunde Olayinka; Director, Directorate of ICT, Prof. Toyin Enikuomohin; Acting Director, Directorate of Special Interventions, Dr. Taiwo Afisi, as well as aides to the Vice Chancellor. The team was received by the Chairman NLC Lagos chapter, Comrade (Chief) Agnes Funmi Sesi.



Lagos Engages Stakeholders on Healthcare Quality Policy

By Kunle Awosiyun

The Lagos State Ministry of Health recently engaged and sensitised stakeholders in the health sector, including policymakers and healthcare providers on the State Quality Policy and Programme focused on high-quality health services and patient-centered care in the State health system.

The Lagos State Quality Policy and Programme which is supported by Pharm Access and Safe Care Standards targeted the management of the Lagos State health system for the delivery of safe, high-quality and patient-centred healthcare services to Lagosians through the provision of the 2006 Health Sector Reform Law.

The high-level stakeholders' engagement meeting held at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Ikeja under the auspices of the Lagos State Ministry of Health is geared towards the successful implementation of the Quality Programme (QP) in public and private healthcare facilities in

Lagos.

The meeting chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr Olusegun Ogboye was attended by key stakeholders in the State Health Sector including the Permanent Secretaries of Primary Healthcare Board, Dr Ibrahim Mustafa; Health District I; Dr Olufunmilayo Bankole; Health District II, Dr Dayo Lajide; Health District III; Dr Monsurat Adeleke; Health District IV, Dr Abimbola Bowale and Health District VI, Dr Abimbola Mabogunje as well as other public and private health care providers.

Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye explained that the stakeholders' engagement meeting is aimed at disseminating customised facility-specific Quality Improvement Plans of the 97 Primary Health Centres enrolled in the Quality Programme to the Permanent Secretaries of the Primary Health Care Board and the newly created health districts.

Ogboye added that the Ministry of Health with the

support of the Global Fund Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH) grant is pushing the strategic intervention of the State Quality Programme to promote a culture that delivers quality healthcare at all levels of the health system.

While restating the commitment of the Lagos State Government and the Sanwo-Olu led administration to improve access to quality healthcare services for

citizens, Ogboye assured that the State Government will continue to invest and strive to provide access to quality healthcare services at all levels of care for citizens, stressing that this is crucial to the reduction of morbidity and mortality rates, especially among vulnerable groups.

Earlier, Ag. Director, of Health Care Planning Research and Statistics, Dr Olajumoke Oyenuka explained that the Quality Policy will go a long way in enhancing health system

performance through the creation and sustenance of a supportive regulatory environment, capacity building for health workers as well as the application of quality management principles in health service delivery.

Oyenuka added that the participation of the newly enrolled primary health care centres in the Quality Programme will facilitate the empanelment of additional health facilities on the Lagos State Health Scheme which will

increase enrollment in the State Health Insurance Scheme.

While commending the Pharm Access and Global Fund for their support for the State Quality Programme, Dr Oyenuka said that the State Government will continue to prioritise the delivery of quality healthcare services and put in place strategies geared towards the delivery of healthcare services in line with the best practice anywhere in the world.



Stakeholders at the meeting

2023 Sign Language Training: LASODA Honours Overall Best Civil Servants

By Kunle Awosiyun

The Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) has honoured three officers who emerged overall best in the just concluded sign language training workshop organised for officers in the Lagos State Civil Service to bridge the communication gap between the hearing and hearing impaired individuals in the State.

Speaking at the two-day programme held recently at the STO Resource

Centre, ASSBIFI Road, Alausa-Ikeja, the General Manager of the Agency, Mr Oluwadamilare Ogundairo, said the participants demonstrated much zeal towards promoting social inclusion in the discharge of their duties.

"With the interest and determination to learn as seen here today, I can without any doubt regard you all as Ambassadors to promote inclusion for all in Lagos State, thereby fulfilling the THEMES PLUS Agenda of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-

Olu's administration which seeks to ensure gender equality and social inclusion for all", he said. He added that the sign language training exercise aims to create an enabling environment for people with hearing impairment to integrate into society regardless of their disabilities while ensuring that hearing impairment is not a barrier to clear communication.

In his words, "We all know that communication is fundamental to humanity and Sign Language is a

skill used by the deaf to communicate, hence the need to organise this workshop for frontline officers to ensure the hearing impaired individuals in Lagos State are not left behind".

Speaking further, Ogundairo explained that the annual training aims at making it possible for Law Enforcement agents, staff of Lagos State from different Ministries, Department and Agencies, who interface with the public are well equipped with the basic sign

language skills required to communicate effectively with the hard of hearing category of people in the State.

While reiterating the commitment of the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs to the well-being of People with Disabilities, Ogundairo added that the Agency will continue to promote and deliver inclusive policies and programmes through various activities to ensure their smooth integration in the State.

The officers honoured are

Mr Ogungbemi Romade Noah (First Position) from the Ministry of Environment; Mrs. Ige Abiola Kolade (Second Position) from the Office of Civic Engagement and Mrs. Akinrimisi Titilayo, (Third Position) from the Ministry of Justice, while special recognition was given to Mrs Badmus Modupe from the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority and Mrs Sanni Arike from the Civil Service Commission who came fourth and fifth respectively.

Blue Line Rail: Lagos To Rake In N112m Daily At Full Operation

By Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos State Government will be making over N112 million daily when the Blue Line Rail is in full operations going by the number of passengers and the cost of transporting them.

The Managing Director of the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA), Engr. Abimbola Akinajo, said that about 150,000 passengers are expected to board the train daily.

She said: "A full Journey from Marina to Mile 2 will cost N750 and Zonal fares will be between N400 and N500 for people not making the complete full trip. The transportation palliative announced by Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu will also cover the Train system, meaning that the highest fare for the full trip will be N375.

"The train would run 12 trips in two schedules for now – 6.30 am to 10 am (morning peak) and 4.30 pm – 9 pm (evening peak). The train will stop for 90 seconds at each station. It will run 76 trips, from 5.30 am to 11 pm, when it becomes fully operational in four weeks," she said.

The full length of the train trip from Marina – Mile 2, according to Akinajo will cost N750 but noted that the 50 percent discount announced by Governor Sanwo-Olu on all Lagos public transportation rides also applies to the train ride.

As the train begins commercial operations on Monday, Lagos commuters have started expressing their pleasure to feel this new experience, mostly residents who work and live along Marina and Mile 2 axis of the metropolis.

On Friday, Echonews observed impending passengers seeking how to get cowrie card, which is the only means to board the train, starting on Tuesday.

Cowrie card is being used for Bus Rapid Response and according to LAMATA boss, the same card will be used for the blue line. "Where can we get the cowrie card for the blue line", a BRT passenger was asking one of the bus conductors.

He had replied that the cowrie card would be available at the train stations and that he was sure that a few BRT bus stops will be empowered to sell.

All those who spoke with our correspondent commended the state government for delivering the iconic project while also reducing the fare as palliative to alleviate the high cost of living in the state and the country.

"One of the best things to have happened to Lagos since 1999 democratic government. Seeing an electrically powered train moving inside Lagos is a sight to behold not to talk about how much it will solve challenges of transportation, one Mrs. Adijatu Aramide said.

Aramide who boarded BRT bus from Berger to Leventis, Lagos said that she would have stopped going to Balogun Market if government had not subsidised the transportation fare, adding, "With Blue train joining the number of transportation modes in Lagos, we must thank the government.

To Akinajo, the LAMATA boss, who took reporters on a guided ride and tour of the physical infrastructure of the Blue Line Rail from the Marina Station to the National Arts Theatre Station in Iganmu, the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu would take the inaugural ride on the train at 9 a.m. on Monday, September 4, before other passengers begin to ride.

She said partial passenger operations will start on Tuesday from 6:30 am to

10 am for the morning peak and the afternoon Peak from 4 pm to 9:30 pm, adding that the operations will start with 12 trips for two weeks, which will later be increased to 76 trips per day.

Akinajo disclosed that though the train is electric, it would run on locomotive for the first four weeks of operation to allow the electric system to come up fully and sync properly with the physical infrastructure, adding that the plan is to allow passengers to get familiar with the rail system.

She said despite the train running on locomotive for the first four weeks, the tracks would remain energised so that passengers are not allowed to cross them.

She said passengers can only access the service with their cowry cards, noting that cash or paper tickets would not be accepted.

Akinajo, who warned against eating and drinking on the train, said adequate security has been put in place for the security of

lives and property, noting that anyone with criminal intent would be arrested and handed over to the Police as there are about 30 cameras along the tracks.

"We are going to put safety measures in place. There are over 300 CCTV cameras across the whole Blue Line Rail and over 30 cameras monitoring the tracks alone. Command and Control centers are also available in all stations. Plain cloth security agents and officers of the Lagos Neighbourhood Safety Corps will ride with

passengers at all times. Any altercation on the train will not be tolerated. Vandalism also will not be tolerated."

Speaking on the initial delay in the commencement of the Blue Line Rail, which was earlier scheduled to commence operation in August, Akinajo said the delay was caused by prevailing circumstances around import and export.

She, however, noted that LAMATA is committed to starting operations on September 4 without any further delay since all the

necessary things have been put in place for the operations of the Blue Line rail.

It would be recalled that President Muhammadu Buhari on January 24, 2023, in the company of Governor Sanwo-Olu and his deputy, Dr. Obafemi Hamzat, commissioned the first phase of the Blue Rail Line, which runs from Marina to Mile 2 and also witnessed the signing of the commencement of Phase 2 of the project from Mile 2 to Okokomaiko.

The Blue rail line, part of the Lagos Rail Mass Transit, will run 27.5 km from Marina to Okokomaiko, with 13 stations and an end-to-end journey time of 35 minutes.



NTDA Calls For Collaboration with ATOPCON

The New Towns Development Authority (NTDA) has called for synergy and collaboration between the Agency and the Association of Town Planning Consultants Lagos State Chapter (ATOPCON) in the development of a planning strategy for Lagos State.

The General Manager of NTDA, Tpl. Olakunle Aboyeji made the call during the courtesy visit by a delegation from ATOPCON to the Authority, adding that there is a need for the two organisations to work together to achieve the objectives and set goals of the State Government.

Aboyeji spoke extensively on the activities of the Authority which include the Review of Schemes;

Development of Ito-Omu; Clearing of encroachments; Opening up new areas and Human Capacity Development among others.

The General Manager also raised the issue of the Authority not having copies of layout approval by private allottees and urged the association to look into how copies of the approvals can be warehoused at the Authority to guide development and capture what is on the ground on such allocations.

In his remark, the Chairman of ATOPCON, Tpl. Dr. David Olawale thanked the NTDA for the warm welcome, adding that the visit is about the development of planning

and layout approval for a unified and robust Master plan for the State.

He opined that the State Government and the Association should see themselves as one when it comes to the development of the State.

In his words, "We are in it together and will continue to support the State Government and the Authority in whatever capacity it can to meet all set goals to achieve more in every aspect".

He noted that the developed areas within the State still needed to be reviewed from time to time to accommodate the influx of people into Lagos State. Tpl. Dr. Kola Olayiwola, RTP, FNITP, former Chairman of the

Association also commended the State Government on the engagement of Consultants for the preparation of the Master Plan for the State through the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development (MPPUD).

He opined that the review of layouts should be backed up with regular monitoring of NTDA schemes and that the Agency should also be part of such activities.

Olayiwola averred that the introduction of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) will help in providing infrastructural amenities in places where there is no provision for them to allow allottees to take possession and move in to develop their plots.



DRUG ABUSE

I think the government needs to declare a state of emergency on drug abuse. Last year I discovered my daughter had been introduced to a dangerous substance by a rich handsome kid she met while undergoing JAMB lessons and as hard and meticulous as I thought I was, I never suspected, until she fainted and was rushed to the hospital where after tests she was discovered to have abused a hard drug, making me spend an unexpected 50k that night. I immediately put her in a rehabilitation center operated by soldiers and legions, an organization in which I am an affiliate. I've spent over 100k on that matter. Two days after checking her into the rehabilitation centre, my childhood friend who is a Senior pastor at Redeemed Xtian Church of God called me around 3am, it was a distress call. His son who is a final year student of Mechanical engineering in LASU, had locked himself up in the master bedroom where he chased his parents from, brandishing a machete, that it is the room he liked. That wasn't a problem for the scared parents. His own room is all ensuite too but the demon in him wanted to deal with his parents. When I got there, having known him from birth, I knocked on his door but he



refused to open. We had to turn round and the dad broke the expensive window to his room for us to be sure he was still alive. I put a call through to my good friend Dr. K Adesokan that day and he advised we immediately take him to a psychiatric hospital after a lengthy lecture. I had to call my legion boys who came and broke the door to the room and apprehended him. He was using a substance called Ice, which is much more

lethal. He is also undergoing rehabilitation now. My younger brother a Barrister in Lekki called me about 5 days ago if I could help to apprehend two sons of a senior Deeper life Church pastor, a 70 years old woman whose husband is still in the mortuary. Her two sons ages 28 and 30 had become menace to the entire area, terrorising people after abusing drugs. They had taken them to psychiatric hospitals and

rehabilitation centers in Lagos but they were all filled to the brain with drugs. and the old woman gave up on them and they became terrors. I had to mobilize my boys to apprehend them forcefully and they are also currently undergoing rehabilitation. Another 22 years old was apprehended by my boys, after he almost severed his mother's head with a machete, he said the mum was a demon with 2 heads and he needed to take one

off. The mother escaped death by whiskers. Why am I taking time to say all these is the fact that most of the affected children all came from deep religious homes that you wonder how did they turned out like that, and to also enlighten us about the current trend. Drug use has become a pandemic. When we took my friend's son to the hospital, majority of the patients were between 16 and 30 years old in staggering numbers

mostly from well to do parents. I want to implore you this day to please be extra vigilant, looking in, at the children's rooms and lockers in their absence and constantly remind your kids of this trend and the dangers inherent in drug abuse and usage. Above all constant prayers and admonition are key. It is only God that can keep them safe from those dangers. Good day mummies and daddies.



HEROES & HEROINES OF LAGOS

Mobolaji Bank Anthony

Bank Anthony was born to the family of Alfred Bank Anthony of Brazilian quarters, Lagos Island; his mother was related to the Aleshinloye Williams family of Olowogbowo, Lagos, and both parents were businesspeople; his father had an undertaker business under the name A. Bank Anthony and Sons Ltd. He was born in the Kinshasa region of Belgian Congo in 1907. He started his education at St. Peter's School, Faji, Lagos. He later attended various secondary schools, including Methodist Boys High School, Ijebu Ode Grammar School, CMS Grammar School, and Baptist Academy, Lagos. In 1923, he started work as a junior clerk in the correspondence section of the Post and Telegraphs Department (P&T). He left the P&T dept in 1931 and switched to business. He traveled to Germany and England to study palm oil making. He later established M. de Bank Brothers, a general merchant firm initially trading in Palm Oil and then patent medicine. After both businesses unsuccessful, he switched to importing watches, clocks, and fountain pens. At one time, he was the third largest seller of fountain pens in Nigeria after UAC and the United Trading



Company. In the early 1930s, he was briefly involved with the Lagos Youth Movement. Bank Anthony's business began to pick up at the onset of World War II when prices rose in the country, benefiting traders like Bank Anthony, who had large reserves of goods before the inflationary pressures. In the 1950s, he brought a few European firms to Nigeria. He was one of

the earliest Nigerians to become chairman of a European company when, in 1950, after introducing an Italian firm to the Nigerian market, he became chairman of the Italian Construction firm Borini Prono and Company. The firm was later involved in constructing the Ijora Causeway, Benin-Asaba road and the Sapele-Onitsha road. He was also the agent of Law Union and

rock Insurance Agency in 1950 which was later managed by T.A. Braithwaite in 1951. He was also a director of the Nigerian arm of Mobil Oil Company and was also a director of the Nigerian branch of Friesland Foods.[7] Bank Anthony acquired shares in a few companies during his business career including Weide Nigeria Limited that dealt with completely knocked

down electrical parts, an Italian partnership called Motor Parts Industries, a plywood business venture in Cross River State and the Nigerian arm of May and Baker. Philanthropy Bank Anthony donated a ward to the National Orthopaedic Hospital, Igbobi, Lagos and also built Ayinke House, which houses the Ikeja General Hospital. Source: Wikipedia

Councillor Afolabi Donates Food Items To Residents

By Edith Igbokwe



Afolabi palliative to roll out soon

Residents of Oki Central, Alaguntan, Unity, United, and Gateway Progressive Community Development Association (CDA) have been selected to benefit from the food items donated by the Councillor representing

Ward A (Oki/Alaguntan), Hon. Busola Afolabi in Agbado Oke-Odo Local Council Development Area (LCDA). Afolabi is set to distribute the food items to the residents of the aforementioned areas.

According to Afolabi, "It is part of my commitment to serving the people of Ward A

(Oki/Alaguntan) and in a bid to cushion the effects of the removal of fuel subsidy, "I am pleased to announce the Subsidy Removal Palliative Food Items Distribution I organized for my ward members.

"This programme is targeted to reduce hunger and poverty, and the CDA chairmen have the prerogative to select beneficiaries

from their respective CDAs that will benefit from the opportunity.

"She reminded all that she will continue to use her good office to empower, make an indelible impact, and render quality service to her community and its environs."

The date and venue for the palliative distribution will be communicated to the public at a later time.

Jelili Establishes Relationship With New Cuban Ambassador, Palmero

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Alimosho Local Government Area, Hon. Sulaimon Jelili has established a firm relationship between his local government and the Republic of Cuba.

Jelili visited the Cuban Ambassador to Nigeria, Mrs. Miriam Morales Palmero at the Headquarters of the Cuban Diplomatic Mission in Abuja where he established the relationship.

While speaking during the meeting, Jelili

appreciated the Cuban Government for its past support, especially the training and donation of medical equipment to Bola Tinubu Health Centre in 2020 through its Sumatech Medical organisation facilitated by Zamzams

Diagnosics. He further requested for the continuity of the relationship as it is benefitting the people of the Alimosho LGA.

Palmero was appreciative of the visit being her first contact with the Local

Government since she assumed the position about two months ago.

She also promised to reciprocate the visit in a short while.

It is worth noting that the Cuban Government has been a pillar of support to the Alimosho Local Government Area through the efforts of the incumbent Chairman, Hon. Jelili Sulaimon.

Between 2017 and now, the local government has received almost all of the Cuban Ambassadors to Nigeria in the Local Government as a sign of a cordial relationship between them.

Olusesi, Olasina Families Receive Famuyiwa's Condolences

By Edith Igbokwe



Famuyiwa pens condolences to Late party members

Bereaved family members of the All Progressives Congress (APC) party received condolences from the Chairman, Agbado Oke-Odo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. David Famuyiwa.

The two party personalities that lost their lives were said to

be strong, versatile, and dogged APC party members before their demise. They are a former APC party LGA Executive in the council area, the late Mrs. Olasina (Iya Elemu), and a Leader in Ward G, the late Alhaji Rasheed Olusesi.

Famuyiwa, alongside his cabinet members,

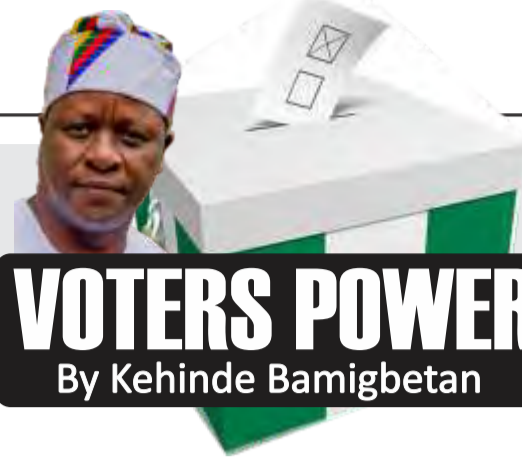
commiserated with the families of the deceased for the sudden demise of their loved ones.

He prayed that God should grant the families and the people of the Agbado Oke-Odo LCDA the fortitude to bear their sad exit.

Both bereaved family members appreciated his presence and moral support.



Jelili with Cuban Ambassador



Let the Music play on

As I predicted last week, the legislative/executive tiff will soon end as a storm in a bowl of pap.

I anchored my prophecy on the conventional wisdom that the elders won't look away when a woman wrongly wraps a child. The Governors Advisory Council, comprising the apparatchik of the party, rose to the challenge last week by convening a conference of both parties to forge a truce that should end the imbroglia.

From the snippets, the news behind the news is that more consultation will be done, and more stakeholders will be carried along in

distributing the rewards of the elections.

This week, the Executive shall return to the House with the list of nominees. After a less controversial screening, Lagosians will witness the inauguration of the new State Executive Council. Congratulations in advance to the successful ladies and gentlemen.

Therefore, let the music of the development of Lagos State be played and performed by Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-olu play on.

Tomorrow, Monday, September 4, 2023, the much-expected and well-publicized take-off of the Blue

Line, the project that takes Lagos several notches higher in urban transportation begins business.

Its impact should be felt on the traffic. More public and private officials used to putting their cars on the road in the Mile 2 axis will do themselves and Lagosians a lot of good by parking their cars and joining the Blue Line to Lagos Island.

Even if you have no business on Lagos Island this month, be curious and adventurous enough to give it a ride. Don't be surprised. We might meet in the coach.

The Blue Line rail isn't the only spectacle that.

Governor Sanwo-olu is adding to our traffic culture. Since the launch of Lagos Ride, more motorists have saved their knees from driving-induced pains by letting Lagos Ride drive them around town for small fees.

And for those yet to own cars, the subsidy on transport fares funded by the Sanwo-olu administration has brought so much relief.

Setting Agenda for Second Term: The Ejigbo-Mile 2 Waterways and Jetty. But for fear of falling into the water with little chance of emergency rescue, Lagosians would spend more money traveling by water.

It seems obviously reasonable that a

state crisscrossed by streams, canals, and rivers should continuously expand water infrastructures to execute the laid down strategy of multi-modal transportation.

Such a logic influenced the decision of our administration during my tenure as chairman of Ejigbo LCDA to tap into the state government's vision by building a jetty to promote water transportation from Ejigbo to Mile 2.

Luckily, the Oke-Afa canal was navigable. We secured the support of Tarzan Jetty in Ikoyi to come under the bridge to pick up our team. As we set out on the journey, we counted the minutes: Mile 2,

(9 minutes); Lagos Island, (16 minutes) and finally arrived at Ibeshe Island in 30 minutes.

This encouraged us to seek approval to build a jetty. With the supervision of the state government, we were able to complete the project in October 2014.

This lofty dream now requires the urgent attention of our trail-blazing governor and whoever will be saddled with the responsibility of water transportation in the forthcoming state executive council should come to our rescue and make our dreams of moving from Oke-Afa jetty to Mile 2, Apapa, Ikorodu, and Lagos Island by boat come true.



Lagos House of Assembly



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200 Students Get Free GCE Forms From Oriade LCDA

By Edith Igbokwe



Oriade Free GCE forms beneficiaries

The dream of 200 indigent students of Oriade Local Council Development Area (LCDA) to sit for the year 2023 General Certificate of Education (GCE) examination will come to pass as the council chairman, Hon Ramotalai Akinlola-Hassan paid for their exam. Speaking on behalf of

the beneficiaries, the duo of Suliat Kehinde and Jimoh Toheeb expressed their appreciation to the council boss and assured them that they would work assiduously to come out with flying colours during the examination. Akinlola-Hassan distributed free GCE

forms and scratch cards to the 200 beneficiaries at the council secretariat. She addressed the beneficiaries who were selected from the seven wards of the council to take advantage of the opportunity given to them by the council and ensure they excel in the examination. She stated further that

the distribution of the free GCE forms is a fulfillment of one of her electoral promises to the people of Oriade LCDA. She recalled giving out free GCE and JAMB forms to indigent students during her time as a member of the Lagos State House of Assembly, representing Amuwo-Odofin Constituency II. She appealed to the beneficiaries to justify the huge amount of public funds expended to procure the GCE forms, by ensuring that

they prepare very well for the examination and refrain from any form of examination malpractices. The Secretary to the Local Government, Alhaji Rasak Olojede, who represented the chairman said: "We have used taxpayers' money to get the GCE forms for you free because we want you to succeed in life and be useful to yourself, your family, and the society at large. "It is a thing of joy to inform you that, our administration has

made the distribution of free GCE and JAMB forms to indigent students an annual exercise since the inception of 2017 first tenure in office, and to the glory of God many of our beneficiaries have achieved academic success." The Head Of Education and Library Services Department in the council, Mrs. Afolake Lasisi commended the council chairman for prioritising the educational development of youths in Oriade LCDA.

Amuwo-Odofinin LG, Baales, Community Stakeholders Synergise On Security, Welfare

By Edith Igbokwe



Amuwo stakeholders meeting

The Chairman of Amuwo-Odofinin Local Government, Engr. Buraimoh Valentine has held an interactive security/welfare meeting with the traditional chiefs and stakeholders across rural areas. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Community Affairs, Mrs. Kikelomo Bolarinwa was a Keynote speaker at the meeting. She explained that synergy and cooperation are important for growth and community prosperity. She emphasised that the security and welfare of the people are the

critical components of a prosperous community. Amongst other deliberated issues is the initiation of monthly food palliative for the indigent across the communities in the council area. The Initiative was approved by the council chairman, and designed to provide food palliative every month for indigent community residents. The council chairman was acknowledged for his commitment to the development and prosperity of rural communities, highlighting the newly constructed primary

healthcare center at one of the riverine communities, rehabilitation of all the primary schools in the rural areas, and the welfare of the indigent. The climax of the event was the recognition award bestowed upon The Permanent Secretary, the Council Chairman, and two other stakeholders. Awardees include the Bale of Agala, Onisiwo Island, Chief Yisa Okesina, and the MD/CEO of O&O logistics, Mr. Oladimeji Otaseni for their contributions to the development of rural communities across the local government and the state by extension.

Amuwo Residents, Police Interact On Community Challenges

By Edith Igbokwe

Residents and stakeholders under the jurisdiction of the Satellite Police Division, Agboju Police Command have expressed their minds to the commander on security challenges confronting the area and suggested ways of overcoming the problems as well as creating synergy with the police. The commander of Area E Festac Town, ACP Egburuaja Nwachukwu gave a listening ear to the community's complaints. He suggested the ways to tackle the avalanche of security challenges listed such as armed robbery, extortion by touts, assassination, kidnapping, land grabbing, police extortion, and misconduct, among other things. He promised to address them all as he warned all criminals to steer clear of the area, to turn a new leaf or risk his wrath. The stakeholders, community leaders, and organisations including Coscharis Group, The Sun Publishing Company, and many others, bared their minds on what Nwachukwu should do to turn things around for the better. Nwachukwu was deployed to Area E command barely three weeks ago and was welcomed by the community amid

cheers and applause. The police boss was surprised at the large turnout at the meeting but expressed his disappointment as politicians, especially House of Assembly members and the local government chairman, were not present. The divisional police officer (DPO) of Satellite Police Station, Oyin Adegbite, a chief superintendent of police, told the gathering how the bad roads to the station and the entire community were hampering effective policing. She noted that the roads affect quick response to distress calls and the flood situation that affects the station when rain falls. She requested more patrol vehicles to assist in effective duty discharge. She expressed her joy as Nwachukwu visited her division three weeks after assuming duty as the area commander. "I have told you my challenges but, against all odds, we are doing wonderfully well in the area of crime fighting. We are not deterred, as we go on foot patrols and use motorcycles to respond to distress calls, because we don't have enough patrol vehicles, and the roads are in bad shape. "Sir, kindly help us to reach out to the Lagos State Commissioner of Police to give us more vehicles and other logistics. We are doing our best in the area of crime fighting but, if we are well equipped, we will perform better."

Chairman of Kirikiri Industrial Estate Association, Ambassador Nwameme Joel who represented Coscharis Group said they would like the area commander to look into the issue of extortion by motor touts, who intimidate drivers and collect tolls from them without fear of security agencies. "How can touts be extorting huge amounts of money from people doing legitimate business unchallenged? Companies are closing shop because of the economic challenges confronting us. Yet, the few people who have the courage to carry on with their legitimate business are being extorted. "As a matter of urgency, something drastic should be done about hoodlums that seem to have taken over the entire community From Maza Maza to First Gate, down to Abule Ado, criminals are grouping and regrouping. "There is no type of crime that they don't commit: armed robbery, cultism, kidnapping, assassination, killings and giving information to robbers." He stated that the police are determined to work, but they need adequate manpower to work, noting that they are ready to assist the police. He appreciated the DPO who has been working tirelessly as he could not believe that a woman would be able to perform so well. As a patron to the Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), he commended the female DPO performance.

Sanni Organises Digital Training For Youths In Constituency

By Edith Igbokwe

The Senator Representing Lagos Central Senatorial District, Sen. Wasiu Eshilokun Sanni in collaboration with Speed Up Lagos and Apapa Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has organised one-week summer skills upgrading training for students and youths living within the district. The digital training kicked off in the Apapa Iganmu secretariat along Gaskiya College Road in Ijora Badia. Beneficiaries were



Participants at the digital skills training

trained in graphic design, how to create a website using a phone, how to protect the phone from hackers using coding, and a lot more. Sanni hit the ground running with groundbreaking digital skills training for

constituents living within the Senatorial District and has been supported by all the Local Government chairmen within that district. The Chairman, Apapa Iganmu LCDA, Hon. Funmilayo Muhammed provided a conducive environment for learning, food, and other souvenirs to make the one-week

training a success. She admonished the beneficiaries via her assistant to be attentive and focused in acquiring the soft skills and in turn, help their individual lives to achieve greatness and success. The programme was held till Friday and a certificate of participation was made available for each participant.

Akorede Road To Be Delivered in Few Weeks

By Edith Igbokwe



Akorede Road in progress

Despite the disturbance by the rain which has stopped the ongoing rehabilitation of Akorede Street in Apapa Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), the engineers working on the road have promised that the work would soon be completed. According to the engineers on site, the

reason the job has been stopped for a while is due to heavy rainfall. According to them, the job has to wait until the storm is clear to embark on its completion. They promised that in the next few weeks, the interlocking block on the road will be completed. The Chairman, Apapa

Iganmu LCDA, Hon. Mrs. Funmilayo Muhammed reiterated her commitment to serve the people and to rehabilitate the roads in the local council area for the masses. According to the residents who spoke to our correspondents, the council chairman has what it takes to lead Apapa-Iganmu LCDA into a metropolitan city.

Muhammad Distributes Free GCE Forms, Charges Parents To Be Good Role Models

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Apapa Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Mrs. Funmilayo Muhammed has charged the parents to be positive role models worthy of emulation to their wards as she distributes free GCE forms to the students in the community. According to her, parents play a pivotal role in the lives of their children and they

should encourage them to achieve success by being a positive role model worthy to be emulated. She provided 200 free GCE forms to beneficiaries to serve as an avenue for achieving their dreams of furthering their education in higher institutions. She noted that her gesture would solve social problems and grassroots empowerment of

community members. She expressed that the free GCE forms are part of her manifesto to give quality education to the people. She also made provision for a special coaching center for the beneficiaries to be well-equipped to achieve excellent results. She, therefore, charged the beneficiaries to work and read intensively to come out with flying colours after the examination.



Apapa Iganmu free GCE beneficiaries

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LSSC Urges Badagry Youths To Shun Drug Abuse

By Saheed Afolabi

Commissioner, Lagos State Scout Council, Alhaji Olohuntoyin Adebisin, has urged youths in Badagry to shun drug abuse and join the Scout for positive development.

Adebisin advised the investiture and induction of the Executive Council and the launching of the Division office in Badagry.

The commissioner was represented at the occasion by Scouter Samson Idowu, the Divisional Scout Commissioner for Mainland.

According to him, so many youths are into drugs because they are not engaged in meaningful things.

"If we are saying that drug abuse is rampant among our youths, this is because they are not engaged in any meaningful things.

"I can tell you today that if I was not called up when I was young,



The Badagry division of Lagos State Scout Council in a group photograph.

probably, I might be on the other side. I was only lucky," he said.

He urged the new executive council to switch into action and ensure more youths in Badagry join Scout.

"I want a strong membership drive in the Badagry division and how is this possible? It is only possible if we catch them young. This could be done through our schools, churches,

and mosques.

"All public schools in Badagry division must join scout so that they will find something to engage them.

"In scout, we prepare young people with skills for life. You cannot find a member of Scout involved in armed robbery, touts, or hoodlums.

"This is because in Scouts we know our worth in the society," he

said.

The Lagos commissioner urged parents to allow their wards to join the association.

He appealed to well-meaning residents of Badagry to buy uniforms for interested youths who want to join Scouts.

In his remarks, Prince Mustapha Ademola, the Badagry Division

Commissioner said the mission of scouting is to contribute to the education of the young people, through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Laws.

"It is also to help build a better world where people are self-fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society.

"It is on this premise, that adults are invited to

work hand-in-hand with the hierarchy of the movement at various levels to assist in the molding of the lives of these youths.

"I am so delighted that this occasion is coming up now at the time that our country Nigeria is in so much need of youth leaders to facilitate positive change and effectively put in place the right norms in the lives of our young ones.

"I wish to inform you that Scouts in the Badagry Division need assistance from you, our interest in terms of facilities that will help to realise the development of young people in the areas such as literacy, job-skills training, integration of unemployed youths, environmental conservation, community development, and Peace Education

"With your help, both physically and financially, we will be able to impact positively the youth development programmes in the Division," he said.

Gbenu Charges Newly Inaugurated CDC To Be Dedicated To Service

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Hon. Gbenu Henugbe has charged the newly inaugurated executive members of the Community Development Committee (CDC) to be dedicated to work and be selfless while discharging their duties.

The inauguration took place at the council secretariat by the council.

The Chairman, while addressing members of the committee, thanked the former executive members of the CDC led by Alh. Kolade Ogungbe saying they have served meritoriously.

Gbenu, however, charged the new excos



L-R: The Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Hon Gbenu Henugbe having a handshake with the newly elected CDC chairman of the council, Alhaji Bashir Yusuf.

to be selfless and dedicated, urging them to take responsibility and

carry members along, especially during decision making. On election, Gbenu

stated that the turnout was not too encouraging, urging members to see the next election as an

opportunity to partake and make it more challenging.

Mr. Ademola Adesoji, the HOD of Agric and Social Services appreciated the council chairman for being supportive of the committee.

He said: "The chairman has been supportive of the CDC in Badagry West LCDA. He has been constantly funding our meetings with over 60 CDAs.

"We have a major role to play towards the development of our areas as CDC, and CDA.

"Your duty as CDA is to bring forward major challenges facing your immediate community."

He further explained

that the new association constitution stipulates that executives will now run for two years.

"Don't always leave duties and tasks to executives and officers alone. We should also be observant and take responsibility in our communities."

He urged the team to take clues from their predecessors.

Alhaji Bashir Yusuf has been inaugurated as the newly elected chairman of the Community Development Committee (CDC) of Badagry West LCDA.

Alh Bashir Yusuf, who was the former secretary of the committee, took over as the new committee chairman.

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Olabinjo Emerges Ojokoro G6 Apex leader

By Edith Igbokwe

The G6 Leaders of All Progressives Congress (APC) Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has gotten an Apex leader as Hon. Benjamin Olabinjo (BAO) was elected to fill the space. Recently, the G6 Leaders of Ojokoro lost two of its members to the cold hands of death; Alhaji Hassan Ajeigbe and Alhaji Saibu Adelaja (Baba Ile-Ogbo).



The new G6 Apex leader of Ojokoro LCDA

The demise of the erstwhile Apex Leaders left a vacuum in the leadership of the

G6 and the Ojokoro political landscape. After an election of a seven-man electoral college held recently, five members present unanimously voted for Olabinjo to steer the leadership of the Apex body, having found him most suitable for the responsibility ahead. It was gathered that the voters considered his antecedents and current political rank, a member representing Ifako Ijaiye at the Federal House of Representatives. Members of the electoral college who voted include the

LCDA Chairman, Hon. Hammed Tijani (Non-Statutory), Alhaja A. Adefolabi, Hon. James Ade Osatuyi, Hon. Adeleke Ipaiye and Hon. Benjamin Olabinjo (BAO), the newly elected leader. Others who were absent were Hon. Emmanuel Olotu (Non Statutory), and Chief Oluyomi Olaogun. Olabinjo, as a community man, was once a CDA chairman and a grassroots politician - Congress Chairman (Alliance for Democracy) in 2003, and Executive Chairman of Ojokoro Local Council

Development Area for two terms. He was sometimes a member of the Lagos State cabinet where he served as Special Adviser to the Government on Commerce and Cooperative matters as well as Special Adviser on Civic Engagement. He is presently a Member representing Ifako Ijaiye Federal Constituency at the Green Chamber, Abuja. His choice as the Apex Leader was premised on the need to strengthen the All Progressives Congress party in Ifako-Ijaiye and Ojokoro as he pledged allegiance to the party and a united constituency.

NDLEA Seeks Council's Cooperation To Fight Drug Abuse

By Edith Igbokwe



NDLEA's crew visit to Ifako-Ijaiye LG

The zonal Commander of the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency, Rotimi Fatobi has visited the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Hamzat for a team work to ward off illicit use of drugs among the youths in the community. He sought the local government's support to fight against drug abuse among youths in society. He reiterated that the misuse of the drug substance causes disorders and harm

to the health and well-being of individuals. He stated that the agency will continue to work with all local, state, and federal agencies in the fight against illicit drugs, and their abuse among youths. The chairman promised to give the agency the necessary support needed to combat the ugly crime fast eating up society. He stretched forth a cooperative hand to the agency for the development of the community, state, and nation at large.

Ifako-Ijaiye Council Boss Charges New DSS To Tackle Security Threats

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Hamzat has welcomed and charged the newly

deployed DSS officer, Mrs. Stella Moren to work on security threats in the council area. He said he expects the DSS to prevent security threats in the council area.

Moren visited the council chairman's office to get familiarised with personalities and the environment. She vowed to do her best on security threats affecting the community.

Oriade Council Chair Distributes Cars To Council Officials

The Chairman of Oriade Local Council Development Area, Hon. Chief (Mrs.) Ramotalai Akinlola-Hassan has assured the staff of the council that she will continue to give adequate attention to their welfare, to enable them to discharge their duties efficiently and effectively. The council boss stated this last Friday at the council secretariat while handing over keys of 26 official vehicles to elected councilors, political appointees (Supervisors), and three principal management staff members. According to her, the provision of official vehicles by her

administration is aimed at motivating public servants working in the Oriade council to show total commitment and dedication to their duties to provide quality and selfless service delivery for the people at the grassroots. Akinlola-Hassan charged the beneficiaries to reciprocate the good gesture of her administration by ensuring that they were punctual at work and more hardworking than ever before. The council chairman disclosed that the newly acquired staff bus will be used to convey staff residing in the Badagry axis, adding that in the next few months, another staff bus will be

purchased for staff residing in the Igando, Ikotun, and Egbeda axis. She also assured Heads of Departments and Units that they would be provided with their official vehicles in the next few months. All beneficiaries of the new official vehicles were happy to receive their keys from the council boss, who promised to be more dedicated and committed to their duties in the overall interest of the growth and development of Oriade LCDA. Among the officials who were given official vehicles are the councilors representing the seven wards in the council area, and all the

supervisors that constitute the executive committee of the council, including the Chief Of Staff to the council chairman, Mr. Daisi Muhideen. Others are the Council Manager, Builder Akitoye Semiu Babatunde; Council Treasurer, Mr. Olugbuyi Babatunde, and Council Engineer, Engr Alufoge Fatai. The branch chairman of the Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) in Oriade LCDA, Comrade Olukolu Falilu, and the Head of the Human Resources Department, Mrs. Simire Bolanle received the key of the Coaster Staff Bus from the council chairman.



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4x2 inches	10,000	4x2 inches	9,600
5x2 inches	12,000	5x2 inches	5,600
6x2/ 4x2 inches	15,000	6x2/ 4x2 inches	12,000
6x3 inches	22,000	6x3 inches	17,000
6.5x3 inches	24,000	6.5x3 inches	19,000
7x2 inches	17,000	7x2 inches	13,600
7x3 inches	28,000	7x3 inches	22,400
7x4 inches	34,000	7x4 inches	27,200
8x2 inches	20,000	8x2 inches	16,000
8x3 inches	30,000	8x3 inches	24,000
8x4 inches	39,000	8x4 inches	31,200
8x5 inches	49,000	8x5 inches	39,200
9x2 inches	22,000	9x2 inches	17,600
9x3 inches	33,000	9x3 inches	26,400
9x4 inches	44,000	9x4 inches	35,200
9x5 inches	66,000	9x5 inches	52,800
9x6 inches	80,000	9x6 inches	64,000
10x3 inches	37,000	10x3 inches	29,600
10x4 inches	49,000	10x4 inches	39,200
10x5 inches	77,000	10x5 inches	61,600
10x6 inches	92,000	10x6 inches	73,600
11x5 inches	85,000	11x5 inches	68,000
11x6 inches	97,000	11x6 inches	77,600
14.5x3 inches	53,000	14.5x3 inches	42,400
14.5x4 inches	86,000	14.5x4 inches	68,800
14.5x5 inches	100,000	14.5x5 inches	82,400

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Daini Mulls New Pry School In Oshorun

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Igbogbo/Baiyeku LCDA, Builder Olusesan Daini, has helped on the need to establish a new primary school in Oshorun area of Ibeshe to allow pupils have access to primary education in the area. The council boss reiterated his commitment toward provision of quality primary education in the council area, saying

his administration is working toward value-driven education system. He gave this remark at the meeting with the 13 head teachers from all the primary schools across Igbogbo/Baiyeku LCDA and Mr. Afolabi Amusa, Educational Secretary of Ikorodu Local Government Authority, at the Council Secretariat. He said

the Igbogbo/Baiyeku LCDA particularly his administration strongly believes that putting the education sector in the driver's seat among other sectors of the economy and getting things done properly would genuinely bring about the desired socio-economic prosperity to the LCDA and state by extension. Speaking at the meeting, Daini highlighted some recent developments in the

educational sector of the LCDA, some of which are the newly built and fully equipped 1 block of 5 classrooms in Local Government Primary School in Oreta, all-round perimeter fencing of Lajo Community School, commencement of pupils registration at the new Olu Odo Primary School in Olu Odo Community, and the impending distribution of educational materials to primary schools across

IBLCDA for the new academic session next week. "There are about 12,000 primary school pupils in Igbogbo/Baiyeku LCDA and we are dedicated to harmonize and prioritize the needs of every primary schools in our LCDA. We will equally share exercise books, educational materials for all the pupils in all primary schools next week," he said. Present

at the meeting was the Vice Chairman of IBLCDA, Hon Nuraini Okedina-Maja, the Council Manager, Mr Waheed Tijani, Hon Nurudeen Alimi, Leader of the IBLCDA Legislative Arm, Princess Basirat Banjoko, Deputy Leader IBLCDA Legislative Arm, Hon Akeem Solawon, Councilor for Ward C2, and Hon Adekunle Anifowose, Councilor Ward C5.

UN, Foundation Honour Princess Oyefusi With Humanitarian Award

Edith Chaward Foundation together with the United Nations (UN) has honoured Princess Abiodun Islamiyat Oyefusi with a Humanitarian Award. She received the Award on Saturday 3rd September 2023 in Lagos Nigeria. According to the representatives, the Award is meant to be presented to Princess Oyefusi on August 19, which was World Humanitarian Day. They stated that the honour is meant to acknowledge the good works of the

woman leader over the years in the area of humanitarian service in supporting communities within and outside the shores of Nigeria. In her response, Princess Oyefusi appreciated the delegates for honouring her, explaining that she considers her community service measure as her passion for touching lives. "It is indeed an honour and privilege to be recognised by this laudable international foundation, Thank you and God bless," she



Princess Abiodun Oyewusi (middle) displaying the award

said. Princess Oyefusi is the organiser of a Mobile Clinic initiative

dubbed 'Community Medics', a free health care program that has

visited Igbogbo LCDA, Ojo LG, Badagry

LG, Bariga LCDA and other parts of Lagos State.

Agboyi-Ketu LCDA Staff Members Get Cowry Cards, Food Motivation

By Edith Igbokwe



Motivation items to Agboyi-Ketu LCDA Staff

To ensure that employees of Agboyi-Ketu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) benefit from the ongoing BRT Bus Fare Reduction introduced by the Lagos State Government, the council chairman, Hon. Dele Oshinowo has distributed 10,000 Naira Credited BRT

Cowry Cards to Staff of Agboyi-Ketu LCDA.

The council chairman also distributed packaged food items to the council staff alongside the cowry cards.

Oshinowo explained that the incentive was to help cushion the exponential transit

fares occasioned by the fuel subsidy removal.

He explained that the programme was designed to motivate staff to put more effort into their services, noting that happy workers are productive workers.

He stated the gesture will complement the

good works of Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration.

He commended Sanwo-Olu for always acting timely to the crucial

needs of Lagosians during this temporary phase of rebooting the nation to progress.

He urged residents of the LCDA to remain calm, noting that the

removal of the subsidy was a good action to bolster the economy.

He further urged them to remain supportive of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, stressing that he has the formula to prosper the nation.

Foundation Partners Kosofe LG On Education Support

By Edith Igbokwe

SOHCARTOA Foundation has collaborated with Kosofe Local Government to support the youths as it presented 325 free GCE forms to indigent students in the community.

The council chairman, Barr. Moyosore Ogunlewe emphasised the importance of education to the socioeconomic development of the country and his administration's commitment to providing opportunities to students to enhance their academic performance.

He appreciated the SOHCARTOA Foundation for partnering with the local government by providing an additional 150 GCE forms for the second consecutive year.

He noted that his administration placed a high premium on education development and as such would not toy with the future of the students by playing politics with it.

"Permit me to use this opportunity to appreciate our partners in progress for their support in the education sector; SOHCARTOA, ANTHENA Professional Consult, and Mr. Ayanfeoluwa Adejorooluwa, May God continue to bless you.

"It will interest you to know that this is the second time that the SOHCARTOA organization will be partnering with us in the distribution of GCE forms. The same number (150) forms were donated to us last year.

"I am aware of the challenges confronting our communities particularly the economic hardship which was a result of the fuel subsidy removal that has placed additional burdens on families. It is precisely during such challenging times that our collective resilience

and commitment to progress must shine.

"The initiative is not just about easing the financial burden on parents but sending a resounding message that we stand united in our pursuit of education for all.

"If education is a barometer to measure the attainment of greatness and to achieve success, then those of us at the helm of public affairs must endeavour to give the needed opportunity to talented youths particularly the indigent ones who are willing to learn.

"This Administration sees education and health as paramount in our society, which must be insulated from politics. They both are just too precious to play politics with. That is why we give priority to the two and they will continue to get lion shares in our annual budget."

The co-founder of the SOHCARTOA Foundation Mrs. Solape Fayemi urged the beneficiaries of the GCE forms to focus on their academics and study very hard to attain success.

It was disclosed that the administration's education development policy has embarked on

the execution of some projects including the construction of Mosafejo Primary School to provide a conducive learning environment for pupils; the provision of an Electronic Library (E-library), Emmanuel Primary School in Ogudu has been selected to receive an electronic library, which will enhance students' access to educational resources.

The council has also embarked on equipping schools with ICT gadgets, all public primary schools in Kosofe Local Government will be equipped with the latest Information Communication Technology (ICT) gadgets to ensure that students become computer literate from a young age, distribution of Welcome Back to School pack to pupils, such school bags, exercise books, and uniforms among other items to pupils to support their educational needs.

It also gave scholarships and bursary awards to deserving students to support their educational pursuits.

The administration also revived and resuscitated free Adult Literacy classes to eliminate illiteracy within the community.

250 Students Benefit From Bada's Free GCE Forms

By Edith Igbokwe



Bada giving out GCE forms to Beneficiaries

The Chairman of Ikosi Isheri Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Princess Abolanle Bada has supported 250 indigent students in the council area with free GCE forms to encourage them in their academic pursuits.

One of the

beneficiaries, Rohenah Anuoluwapo expressed how excited she was about the free GCE form received and she prayed that Almighty Allah, would continue to guide and bless the chairman.

According to Bada, the objective of the initiative is to create a

level field for financially disadvantaged individuals who aspire to further their education.

She, therefore, assured all the beneficiaries that her government is ready to support their ambition to higher institutions of learning by providing all of them with free UTME forms and other support they will need to accomplish their respective goals in life.

She charged the beneficiaries to study hard and perform excellently well in the upcoming GCE examination.

She reiterated that the gesture symbolised the council's commitment to community empowerment and social equity.

"It will not only foster individual growth but also contribute to the overall development of the community in dedication and to uplift the less privileged as well promote inclusive growth."



Kosofe LG Free GCE beneficiaries

LGSC Urges Council Staff To Take Their Health Serious

By Saheed Afolabi



The Lagos local government civil service commission rubbing minds with the Mainland LG Staff and excos

The Lagos State Local Government Civil Service Commission has charged the council workers of Lagos Mainland LG to take their health seriously. The Commission said this when it paid an oversight function visit to the council. It commended the political officeholders for constantly maintaining a good working relationship

with council staff for the development of the local government area. Hon. Hakeem Adisa Bamgboja Representing Lagos Division in the Local Government Service Commission emphasised the great concern on the rise in the death rate of civil servants, charging the workers to prioritize their health. He states that the commission is

sensitising the council staff on the need to constantly carry out a health checkup, as he urged the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) to set up a chart for staff to track the periods when they have to check their vitals individually. "It is only the living and healthy that can work and perform. Call on the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) to see to it." The MOH, Dr. Tunde Osoba stated that the

Local Government has a functional health facility for the staff, saying: "If need be they are referred to Simpson Primary Healthcare Center which is well established and is open 24 hours daily.

Hon. Olubowale Sosimi, Commissioner Representing Ikorodu Division, highlighted the importance of a functional ICT unit, and the need to regularly train staff on the use of computer hardware and software.

Mrs. Olayinka Oduwale, ICT Officer said several trainings have been carried out for the youths, disclosing that she is working towards staff training sooner.

The Commissioner also encouraged the Tourism Unit to identify other emerging tourism activities within the community, citing the example of traditional cultural heritage.

He said the annual festival could generate revenue for the Local Government, urging the Tourism Officer to work with the

chieftaincy officer for good results.

The Director, Local Government Establishment and Training Officer, Mrs. Oluwatosin Adegun, who represented the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Bibilomo Olusekun stressed the need for the deployment of Public Officers who have used ten years or more in a Local Government.

She urged staffers to embrace the deployment and should not see it as a witch hunt but for career enhancement.

She emphasized staff training and career management, seeking the support of the Local Government to sponsor more officers willing to go for career advancement.

She stressed the need for self-improvement available to upskill with free training resources online.

She pointed out the need to celebrate retiring officers who have spent 35 years in service or are aged 60 years, stressing that it

will be an honour to them and that a state representative should be invited to grace the occasion.

Meanwhile, the council chairman, Hon. Omolola Essien appreciated the efforts of the team for its visitation to ensure an effective and functional workforce and operations in all LGs and LCDAs.

She further commended the commission for posting Mr. Akintola Wasiu and Mrs. Ganiat Saula as the new Council Manager and

Council Treasurer respectively, testifying that they are hard-working people contributing to the development of the council area.

She lauded the management team and the entire staff of the local government for their constant support and dedication toward a progressive Lagos Mainland Local Government.

She assured the team that she would not relent in providing a conducive working environment and welfare to the LG workforce because it is her utmost concern.

Lagos Mainland LG Distributes Bags Of Food To Residents

By Saheed Afolabi

As part of the effort to cushion the effects of fuel subsidy removal, the Chairman of Lagos Mainland Local Government, Hon. Omolola Rashidat Essien has distributed Food Palliative packages to the residents and council workers to lessen the financial and social pressures that people and families are experiencing as a result of the present economic crisis.

According to her, the decision to introduce this food palliative assistance indicates her dedication to the well-being of the residents and employees in these trying times, saying the effort serves as a sign of hope and relief to meet the needs of her people.



The distribution of food palliatives at Lagos Mainland LG

She urged the residents to be patient with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, stating that the fuel subsidy removal is aimed at improving the economy of the country for the benefit of all. She also commended

the effort of the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu for putting in place a relief package in the state. She said: "We deem it fit to share food palliative to more than 1,000 beneficiaries in Lagos

Mainland which comprises nine wards to ease the hardship of fuel subsidy removal. More is coming, and a cash gift will be given later." The food package comprises Rice, Beans, Garri, Yam, and palm oil.

Coros Members Engage Somolu Residents In Medical Outreach

By Saheed Afolabi

The Corps members in Health and Information CDS groups serving in Somolu local government have organised a medical outreach as part of their community development service, delivering free healthcare services to the residents. The elderly, the young ones, the less privileged, and disabled people in society were engaged in free medical checkups to know their health status. Over 5,000 residents

benefited from the mass outreach done by the Youth Corps members to have an impact in their immediate community where they are doing their national community service.

The programme offered a range of crucial health services which included Blood Pressure, Body Mass Index, Sugar Tests, Health Talks, and Consultations.

The One-Day outreach attracted significant participation from notable stakeholders, and residents, who commended the Corps members for giving back to the society through the initiative.



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Nigeria Ex-International Backs Okoye To Rediscover Form

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria ex-international, Andrew Aikhomogbe has backed goalkeeper, Maduka Okoye to rediscover his best form after sealing a move to Udinese. Okoye joined the Zebras from Watford on a 4-year deal after failing to register a starting shirt

at the Hornets. Aikhomogbe described Okoye's move to Udinese as a good move after having a torrid time at Watford. He believes the move to Italy will resuscitate the Super Eagles goalkeeper career. "It's a good move for Okoye to have joined Udinese in the Serie A

after a tough time with Watford in the England championship. "I want to believe that this move will help him revive his career and make a return to the Super Eagles squad." Okoye has failed to live up to expectations for the Super Eagles and most times faces backlash from the fans and enthusiasts.



Maduka Okoye

Leicester City Manager Salutes Ndidi For Fantastic Performance

By Saheed Afolabi



Wilfred Ndidi

Leicester City boss, Enzo Maresca has hailed Wilfred Ndidi for his superlative performance against Tranmere Rovers in the Carabao Cup. Ndidi contributed a goal and an assist to justify his appearance in the game.

The club's tactician narrated the game as a difficult encounter but he's glad with the outcome and he poured accolades on Ndidi for changing the game with a goal and assist. Maresca said the next game against Hull City will be a crucial match before the international break as he banks on the home support of fans to get them through. "It's never easy to win a game. I'm happy with the result and performance. We have many things, we have to improve, but that's normal. I'm happy for Wilfred. I'm especially happy for the second goal because the assist

was good. "The next game (Against Hull City) is important and then we are into the international break. It's a big game at home with our fans. It won't

be easy but with our fans there to support us, it will be good." The Foxes are top of the Championship log after four games and racking up 12 points.

Omeruo Bemoans Lack Of Stability In Super Eagles

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria defender, Kenneth Omeruo has bemoaned the lack of stability in the technical crew of the national team. There have been speculations surrounding the future of Jose Peseiro at the Super Eagles with the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) opting to use Augustine Eguavoen for the AFCON qualifier against Sao Tome and



Kenneth Omeruo

Principe. Omeruo lauded the

talent at the disposal of Nigeria which he believes should be fully harnessed by having a stable technical crew that will guide the players.

The 29-year-old defender is surprised the Eagles don't know their coach preceding the AFCON qualifier in Uyo.

"When it comes to talent, Nigeria has amazing players. Even those that are on the bench in the national team go to their club sides and bang in goals week in, week out.

"We need to have a stable technical crew. A technical crew will take us to where we are supposed to be and give us exactly the guidance that we get in Europe.

"We do not even know who will be the coach in the next game. It's crazy and it has to be fixed."

Nigeria has already sealed a place at the 2024 AFCON in Ivory Coast with a game remaining to play.

Super Eagles: Esin Backs Osimhen To Break Yekini Record

By Saheed Afolabi

Nigeria ex-international, Etim Esin has thrown his weight behind Victor Osimhen to surpass the goals record of the late Rashidi Yekini in the national team.

Yekini held the record of the highest goal scorer in the Super Eagles with 37 goals in 62 matches, 1980 AFCON winner, Segun Odegbami is second with 23 goals while third on the all-time high list with 21 goals. Since hanging up his boots in 1998, no Nigerian player has broken the record of

Yekini. Former Nigeria midfielder, Esin believes Osimhen is capable of beating the record set by Yekini because he is still young and has broken the records of Samuel Eto'o and President George Weah in the Italian Serie A.

The ex-international opined that Osimhen may struggle to attain the feat since he is not surrounded by exceptional players in the Super Eagles compared to the days of Yekini.

"If he stays fit I think he can overhaul Yekini's record. Besides, age is on his side, and with the fact that he has already broken George Weah and Samuel Eto'o's record in

Serie A, I believe he can as well with the Super Eagles.

"Again, you have to consider the fact that players that surrounded Yekini then such as Amunke, Finidi George, Okocha, Oliseh, and others are talented players and they made Yekini's goal-scoring so easy.

"But for Osimhen, you will observe that when he comes to Nigeria he always struggles to

score goals sometimes due to the caliber of players he's surrounded with.

"But then if he can get that creative player that can deliver passes for him, I am confident he will beat Yekini's record. Like you know, Osimhen's is very good in the air, strong, and can use both legs to score goals."

Osimhen has scored 17 goals in 25 matches for the Super Eagles.



Victor Osimhen