



NIGERIA FAITHFUL WORKS

REPORT

December 2009

NFW has been remarkably busy in 2009. With your help NFW has made a sustainable long term difference with water wells, water distribution projects, the student centre in Eku, and the Bio Medical engineering project at the hospital in Ogbomoso. With your continued support NFW can make a difference in many other places.

BIO MED ENGINEERING IN OGBOMOSO



Inside the Bio Medical engineering lab

The Baptist Medical Centre in Ogbomoso is working with NFW on a project to improve their biomedical equipment and provide advanced training for their biomed technicians. The project was requested in 2007 by the former medical director, Dr. Timothy Awotunde who oversees the hospital, which is in the process of becoming a university teaching hospital affiliated with Bowen University.

The purpose is to create a sustainable biomedical engineering program for the hospital in which equipment is selected and maintained in ways that are appropriate to the climate and availability of parts in Africa.

NFW consulted Engineering World Health in the search for a well-qualified, Africa-based teaching technician to help with this project. This search led to Rob Dickinson of Durban, South Africa. He is making a series of visits to

the hospital to evaluate and repair existing equipment and to begin training selected hospital staff in a comprehensive preventive maintenance program including how to maintain equipment in less-developed settings and how to obtain parts from sources within Africa. These visits will be followed by a year of consulting by internet and telephone.

Another key element of the project is advanced biomedical training at Valley View University near Accra, Ghana, for BMCO hospital personnel. NFW is coordinating efforts with another group that is arranging and funding the training in Ghana.

It is estimated that both aspects of the project will be completed by the end of 2010 with the improved biomedical equipment program fully functioning as a result.

STUDENT CENTRE EKU SEMINARY



The completed Student Centre

NFW helped The Baptist Theological Seminary in Eku complete a student centre on the campus in early 2009. All the labor and supervision were provided by students and faculty. NFW helped with the cost of the building materials and supplies. The centre provides the students with a place for group study and relaxation.

SAKI HOSPITAL BENEFITS FROM WATER DISTRIBUTION



Saki hospital staff at water bore hole and pump house

The Baptist Medical Centre of Saki continues to provide health care for the community of Saki and surrounding area. The recent completion of the water distribution system, designed and funded by NFW and executed by volunteers from the Medical Centre, solved an enormous water distribution problem.

NFW IS MAKING AN IMPACT



Ron Wasson pounding yam

In September 2009, NFW sent Ron Wasson to Nigeria for a 12 day trip to Ogbomoso and Saki. The primary purpose was to gain a better understanding of the impact of completed NFW projects and to evaluate possible future projects. NFW also wanted to establish a more credible presence through an expanded relationship with our Nigerian partners.

While in Ogbomoso, Ron was able to meet with the General Secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention, the Seminary president, the medical staff of the Baptist Medical Centre and with community leaders. He was able to see the wells drilled by NFW at the Baptist Medical Centre that provide water for the hospital and the equipment funded by NFW that has enabled more advanced medical care. Ron was also able to gain a better perspective of how NFW can make a difference

with future projects in Ogbomoso by possibly working with the Medical Centre, the Women's League of Ogbomoso or the Blind Centre, to mention just a few.

Ron went on to Saki to meet with community leaders there and to see the water distribution project that NFW and the hospital, as partners, recently completed. There is much NFW can do in Saki as well, potentially working with the Medical Centre there, and with various women's groups within the community.

NFW has established wonderful friendships and has built lasting relationships with many people in Nigeria. From this recent trip came affirmation that NFW is making a difference and will be able to continue carefully selecting sustainable projects.

WOMEN MAKE PLANS IN SAKI

While in Saki, Ron Wasson met with women community leaders representing WMU (Women's Missionary Union), Women Who Care and National Council Affairs, seeking to understand where NFW might best participate in sustainable projects.

These women are all volunteers dedicated to meeting the needs of women and the community.

Some of the areas that they see as opportunities for NFW to invest are:

- Expansion of the existing Widow Support group
This organization teaches new widows how to take care of themselves and support their family. A mentor is assigned to a new widow and invites them to the meetings. The new widows are given clothes, food, books for the children, scholarships, and more. Many are young widows who do not have skills and can't provide for themselves.
- Assistance with a Women's Development Center
A center would train women to better market themselves for employment or self employment. Skills such as cooking, sewing, cleaning/maid service, hair dresser and other vocational skills would be the focus of the education.
- Assistance with a Community Water Source
A deep well with storage tanks for the community to use would fulfill a great need as a many women have to walk several miles for water during the dry season.

OTHER NEEDS IN SAKI

There are other areas for which the Medical Centre is seeking support to improve the hospital services, such as:

- Establish an Accident and Emergency Ward
- Establish a BioMed support project
- Replace outdated equipment
- Obtain a portable electric generator
- A larger water pump
- School supplies. The hospital also runs a school on the compound for staff children and others, which has benefited from the availability of water.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF OGBOMOSO

The objective of this organization is to improve the education standard for the poor. They believe this is best done by providing and sponsoring a school that is affordable for the poor yet still meets a high standard of education. They believe that education is a sustainable project as it holds the key to breaking out of poverty. Students are asked to pay what they can toward the tuition while the difference is made up from funds raised by the Women's League of Ogbomoso.

The school is in the need of the following:

- Repair the wall surrounding the property
- Finish the construction of classrooms
- A water well, pump and distribution system
- Small portable gas generator
- General educational materials

NFW support for school needs is under consideration for future projects.

OGBOMOSO BLIND CENTRE EDUCATES



Latoye Gimoh, Frances West and Mrs. Gimoh

In 1958, **Frances West**, Missionary to Nigeria, realized that the Yoruba concept of blindness was shame on the family name, God's punishment for sins committed. She found that this misconception led to the blind being hidden away in windowless rooms until old enough to beg. Mrs. West resolved to reach out to these forgotten people. She met Ganiyu Raji, a scholarly man blinded by smallpox. He and Mrs. West founded a blind school with 8 students in a local mud building.

The Ogbomoso Blind Training Centre was officially opened on July 2, 1960. On November 10, 1962, the administrator of the Western Region of Nigeria, Senator M. A. Majekodunmi, laid the foundation stone of the Centre; the first of its kind in Western Nigeria.

The school was a step toward making the blind socially and economically independent as well as increasing public awareness of the causes of blindness, its

challenges and the possibilities for those afflicted. The first trainees were taught to make crafts, baskets, cushions, and mattresses. They were also instructed in farming techniques and soon local farmers sought out these blind, but educated students, asking for help in cultivation of soil and rotation of crops.

Currently there are about 75 residents at the Centre. In addition to the skills training, the students now attend primary and secondary school. The Centre is thriving and well known. Among its many graduates are **Latoye Gimoh** who works in telecommunications in Oyo State, and Simeon Gimoh, active in Nigerian politics. Other students have represented Nigeria on blind advisory committees in the USA, Egypt, Japan and in other countries around the world.

The Blind Centre is now under the leadership of a Council created by the Oyo State Government. The current chairman is Rev. Dr. John Adetutu.

Even though the Centre is effective and prospering, there are still many unmet needs. NFW is seeking to ascertain the most critical, affordable, and sustainable project(s) in which to partner with the Council and the Blind Centre. A number of suggestions have been brought forward and are being evaluated.

To Make a Financial Donation toward all NFW projects, make checks payable to CBF Foundation with Nigeria Faithful Fund written on the memo line.

Mail to: CBF Foundation
Suite 133
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All gifts to NFW made as above are tax deductible.

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NFW Website

Learn more about Nigeria Faithful Works by visiting our website. www.NigeriaFaithful.org

OUR MISSION

The mission of Nigeria Faithful Works (NFW) is to advance sustainable solutions that address practical needs of the people of Nigeria.

Guiding Principles

Share knowledge

Build capacity

Foster autonomy

Seek linkages with other resource groups and organizations with similar goals

Exclude personal gain for any individuals involved

How Projects in Nigeria Come About

- Requests for projects are initiated by, and carried out in association with, Nigerian partners.
- Projects are encouraged that can serve as effective models and be carried out at minimal expense.
- Nigerians invest a share of financial and other equity in projects.
- Once completed, projects are to be sustained by Nigerian partners.
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NFW wants to express great appreciation to all the friends and partners in Nigeria whose insight, dedication and hard work have been instrumental to the success of all the projects on which we have worked together. Without your help and their efforts none of what has been accomplished would be possible.

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