



A PROJECT OF THE
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

**University of Nigeria,
Nsukka, Nigeria**

www.childrenscentreunn.org

"By Reading We Learn
By Knowledge We Serve"

**CHILDREN'S CENTRE COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, NSUKKA**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012
(Covering the period: October 1, 2011-September 30, 2012)**

Children's Centre Development

Visit by the Vice-Chancellor

On May 17, 2012 the Children's Centre was honoured by a visit from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Barto Okolo, in the company of UWA Patron Barr. (Mrs.) Nwanneka Okolo and Special Assistant, Prof. A. Moneke. After touring the premises, the Vice-Chancellor reaffirmed his intention to renovate the building to bring it to world class standard. Areas of renovation include re-roofing, rehabilitation of the walls, painting, replacing windows and doors, re-tiling necessary sections of the floor, and remodeling the unused boys' and girls' toilets as a computer lab and a room or office. A separate contract is being awarded to rebuild the broken soakway pit and septic tank. In addition, the Vice-Chancellor reiterated the need for any businesses operating in the premises to move, as commercial enterprises are not permitted in university buildings. He further asked the Centre to forward an application for an operational grant that would cover basic expenses. A committee made up of Terri Emezi, Ngozi Osadebe and Amaka Ejikeme drew up a proposal for this purpose.

Sandor Peri Memorial Art Prize

Work was completed on the animal play sculpture created by students of the Department of Fine and Applied Arts under the supervision of Chijioke Onuorah. This was supported by the Sandor Peri Memorial Art Prize, established as a memorial to the architect of the Madam Hulder Iwuanyanwu Building by his wife Liz Peri.

Maintenance of the Grounds

The task force came periodically during the session to cut the grass, through the good offices of Chairman Prof. Nwodo. Trimming and watering of flowers and shrubs was undertaken by our new gardener, Mr. C. Ukwuaba.

Renovation of furniture

The two couches in the library were re-upholstered and are now giving the library a fresher look. Our thanks go to Dr. Ifeoma Echezona and Mrs. Amaka Ejikeme for their assistance in contacting and liaising with the cabinet maker.

Programmes and Events

Christmas Carolling, 2011

Members of the Children's Centre went caroling in December 2011 and received donations totaling N93,190.00. These came from Marg. Cartwright/Ikejiani/Fulton East with Eze Nweze Close (Zone I - 23,550), Marg. Cartwright/Ikejiani/Fulton West with Elias Ave. (Zone II - 21,070), Eze Opi/Alvan Loving (Zone IIIb - 13,070), Mbonu Ojike/Murtala Mohamed Zone (Zone IV - 35,500), and Umunkanka Zone. Our thanks go to all our carolers and coordinators. These are Mrs. Ngozi Mamah for Zones I and II; Dr. Ngozi Ekere for Zone IIIb; Prof. Virginia Dike, Dr. Alice Okore and Mrs. Ngozi Osadebe for Zone IV.

Children's Christmas Party, 2011

This annual event, given by the Vice-Chancellor's wife and UWA Patron, Barr. (Mrs.) Nwanneka Okolo, was celebrated on December 19, 2011 at the Children's Centre grounds.

Long Vacation Programme, 2012

This programme, organized by members of our partner student organization AIESEC, ran from August 13-September 15, 2012 on the theme "Step Up 3D". Twenty-seven children registered for the programme. Activities included training in entrepreneurship, gender education, multi-cultural education, civic education, environmental education, the computer and its parts, HIVS/AIDS and malaria. Volunteers Ugo Okolo and Olisa Nnabugwu, and Higher Library Officer Elizabeth Babarinde provided wonderful assistance in mounting programme activities. The University Librarian, Prof. Charles Omekwu availed the children the University Library's computer lab, while the Department of Library and Information Science provided the projector for the programme.

Reading/Football Club

The club read three novels: King Forever, Bongani's Secret and Nwogo the Witch. The club had two football matches. The first was with Uhers Study Centre, Ama-Ogbo, Alor Ulor on Dec. 10, 2011 to celebrate Nigeria's independence; it was supposed to be held in October but was shifted to Dec. 10 because the children were very occupied with academic activities. The second match was held on June 9, 2012 to mark Children's Day 2012; it was postponed from May 27 due to secondary school examinations.

Psych-educational Testing Services (PETS) Programme

The PETS programme was resuscitated during the session by Dr. Vicky Onu and Prof. Michael Eskay, who held a number of workshops and training sessions for teachers. Learning signing in order to teach hearing disabled children was a primary focus of the programme.

Children's Centre Library

Registration

During the 2011/2012 session, 190 children registered as new library users, while 84 children renewed their membership as users in this session. Worthy to be mentioned is the registration of five new schools as institutional members, while twenty schools renewed their membership.

Personnel

The library was kept open and maintained by staff and students of the Department of Library and Information Science. These include Margaret N. Ngwuchukwu, Lecturer I, who is supervisor of student practicals; Elizabeth Babarinde, Higher Library Officer; and Asst. Chief

Clerical Officer Rose Asogwa. Cleaning was carried out by Juliana Ugwuona and Mary Rose Ugwu.

Collection Development

Books accessioned increased from 18,736 to 18,940 during the session, with 210 new books added to the register. Books were bought from different places like South Africa, Ibadan, Enugu, and Lagos.

Circulation - Circulation statistics for the 2011/2012 session are as follows:

Quarter	Weekdays	Saturdays	Total
Oct.-Dec, 2011	187	144	331
Jan.-Mar, 2012	247	151	398
Apr.-Jun, 2012	319	122	441
Jul.-Sept, 2012	1,320	181	1,501
Total	2,073	598	2,671

Library Activities

Saturday Library Hours and Story Hour

The library was kept open for reading, borrowing and story hour by Elizabeth Babarinde and Olisa Nnabugwu.

Schools Outreach

The Best School Library Competition entered the final phase with a workshop held at the Children's Centre Library on February 28, 2012, where criteria for assessing school libraries and project work were explained. Marks were awarded for accommodation, collections, personnel, use of the library, and quality of project work. Twenty-three schools registered for the competition with a fee of N500.00; of these, 14 were schools with previously established libraries while 9 were schools just setting up a library. Registered primary schools were visited three times by a team made up of Virginia Dike, Margaret Ngwuchukwu, Grace Onyebuchi and Elizabeth Babarinde.. The first visit was to ascertain the initial state of library development, the second to assess progress half way through the period, and the last to make the final evaluation. Four schools with older libraries stood out on all the criteria: these were Community Primary School II, Nru; Agu Achara II, Agu Achara I, and Community Primary School I, Nru. The best new school library was C.P.S. Amogbo, with Urban Primary School coming second. The awards ceremony is scheduled for October 2012.

Prison Library Outreach

Several visits were made to the prison to see how the library was being used. It gladdens the heart to see how the prisoners are making use of the library. Books, magazines and comics were donated to the prison library to encourage them further. Major donations were of comic books given by Chinweze Dike and books from Nigerwives Enugu Branch.

Donations

The Children's Centre is grateful for the following donations received during the session:
 Mrs. Uma Agarwal, our founding member now resident in India, for \$200.00
 Indianapolis Public Library for 2 cartons of books
 Peninsula Community Library, Traverse City, Michigan for books
 Virginia Dike for postage of books from the U.S. and donation of books from South Africa

Ejim Dike for continuing sponsorship of the website
 Chinelo Dike-Minor for 8 puppets
 Chinweze Dike for 2 cartons of comics for prison libraries and postage from U.S.
 Ngozi Osadebe for sponsoring refreshments at the football/reading club
 K. G. B. Oguakwa for 1 book
 Okwy for a carton of books
 Nelly Ejike for 1 book

Financial Account

UNN Microfinance Bank Savings Account

Opening balance 1/10/11	227,995.66
Bank deposits	
Christmas caroling 2011	93,190.00
Donation of \$200.00 from Uma Agarwal	32,000.00
Total funds available	393,185.66
Withdrawals	
To Library for expenses on 22/11/11	40,000.00
To Library for expenses on 20/3/12	160,000.00
To Library for football expenses on 7/6/12	30,000.00
Total withdrawals	230,000.00
Closing balance 30/9/12	163,185.66

Library Cash Book

Opening balance 1/10/11	2,333.00
Income	
Library registration fees and fines	60,855.00
Money withdrawn from bank	230,000.00
Best school library competition entry fees	11,000.00
Donation from Dr. Vicky Onu toward salaries	12,000.00
Miscellaneous levies for trips	7,500.00
Total income	321,355.00
Total funds available	323,688.00
Expenses	
Books and other materials	13,620.00
Stationery supplies	9,590.00
Maintenance of equipment	11,050.00
Fuel for bus	44,960.00
Vehicle maintenance and repair	32,085.00
Salaries	76,000.00
Football matches	53,305.00
Repair of couches	38,200.00
Refreshments	2,040.00
Total expenses	280,850.00
Balance	42,838.00

Children's Centre Committee

The Committee met four times during the session, on Nov. 22, 2011, Feb. 7, 2012, March 3, 2012 and May 5, 2012.

Members for the session included the following:

Prof. Virginia Dike, Chair	Mrs. Elizabeth Babarinde	Mrs. Oby Ikeme
Ms. Terri Emezi, Vice-Chair	Dr. Ifeoma Echezona	Mrs. Ngozi Mamah
Mrs. Ngozi Osadebe, Secretary	Mrs. Amaka Ejikeme	Mrs. Meg Ngwuchukwu
Mrs. Fidelia Asiegbu, Asst. Sec.	Miss Helen Eke	Mrs. Ezinne Njoku
Prof. Nkadi Onyegegbu, Treasurer	Dr. Ngozi Ekere	Mrs. Stella Nwadinobi
Dr. Alice Okore, Chair Lib.Com.	Dr. Chinwe Ezeani	Miss Anthonia Ogbu
Prof. Uche Agwagah	Mrs. Ifeyinwa Ezekwe	Mrs. Charity Okide
Dr. Jo Alumanah	Prof. Julie Ibiam	Mrs. Grace Onyebuchi
Dr. Grace Anyanwu	Mrs. Chiazio Igboeli	Ms. Kasie Ugwu.

Conclusion

We are grateful to all Children's Centre supporters, notably our generous benefactor, Chief (Dr.) E. C. Iwuanyanwu. We are grateful to UWA Patron, Barr. (Mrs.) Nwanneka Okolo, for championing the cause of the Children's Centre and working for its progress and development. We appreciate the assistance of the University Administration of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Barto Okolo; Prof. Nwodo and his environmental task force; Engineer T. Osadebe, the Director of Works Services; staff and students of the Department of Library and Information Science for continuing assistance in maintaining the library; AIESEC members and other youth volunteers in our programmes; and all our wonderful friends at home and abroad. We look forward to your continuing support of the Children's Centre.

Prof. Virginia W. Dike
Chair

Mrs. Ngozi Osadebe
Secretary

Prof. Nkadi Onyegegbu
Treasurer

Mrs. Margaret Ngwuchukwu
Financial Secretary