ACGE CONNECT

MESI Ogunähikum Ofdslags Koundatitom

Volume 5, Issue 1

November 2011

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

THE 2011 OUTREACH EVENTS: 20TH – 24TH AUG.

As the old adage goes, "practice makes perfect"! The 8th Annual 2011 AOOF Outreach Events was executed flawlessly as expected, not because there were no twists and turns or surprises along the way, but because the team is now practiced enough to adapt seamlessly. We thank God for all that was achieved with the help of our volunteers, donors and supporters at home and abroad.

At the Scholarship Gala, 40 awardees were recognized for their academic excellence as well as their commitment to community service.



The theme of the 2011 Scholarship Gala was "Pay It Forward". With roots in contract law (3rd party beneficiary) and sociology (generalized reciprocity) but revolutionized in a 2010 movie, pay-it-forward is the concept of asking that a good deed be repaid but by having it done to unrelated others instead. This theme was very fitting for the event as the students and their parents were so appreciative of AOOF's contributions to their academic pursuits that the conclusion of the gala was interrupted to provide opportunity for the awardees to give moving testimonies of the impact these scholarships are having on their lives.

The chairman of the event was also visibly moved. Brother Ike singled out a special awardee that was exempted from the heritage requirement because of his superlative academic record. In the spirit of giving back, he prayed that the young man would return to be a massive blessing to the community.

And as usual, hundreds of children, women and men turned out for the Healthfair Days where they were screened for water-borne diseases, hypertension, diabetes, and various forms of cancer. About 20 men were selected for further healthcare examination and possible intervention. To accommodate the long-awaited opening of the AOOF Year-Round Outreach Post, as well as reduce the congestion during the annual healthfair, the Eye Clinic event was rescheduled for November. This was necessary because of the demand for Eye Clinic event has been overwhelming and usually detracts from the organized health care screening events.

YEAR-ROUND OUTREACH POST

08/29/2011: WE'RE OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

Amid praise worship and dancing, the AOOF yearround outreach post opened for business on August 29, 2011. The outreach post is open every Monday and Tuesday for existing AOOF patients as well as new walkins. Under supervision of Dr. Akinremi, the attendant is authorized to dispense prescribed medication at discounted rates, take blood pressure readings, and perform urinalysis. Any irregular screening results are referred to the local general hospital for further investigations.



At the opening of the outreach post, the patients (Christians, Moslems, and others) are seen in the above photo in prayer, singing Christian songs and worshipping the Christian God, freely and spontaneously!

As you know, this was a two-year infrastructure project which was made possible only because of your support and donations. As with each of our infrastructure projects, a handful of our donors always step up to partner with us. In the spirit of deep appreciation for their support, we would like to acknowledge the Fakhoury family whose special interest in and contributions towards this project made a world of difference. That support was in memory of their grandmother whose life was dedicated to community service and making a difference. May her gentle soul rest in peace.

AOOF: Community, Coming together, Lending a hand

THE EYE CLINIC – ANOTHER RESOUNDING SUCCESS

29th Nov Screening & 2nd Dec. Surgery; 3rd Dec. Post-Op

The Eye Clinic continues to draw massive crowds for near and far! Below is a photo of a catarached eye. For all intents and purposes, this woman was practically blind and a burden to her family.



By the grace of God, AOOF's intervention has liberated her from this unthinkable stigma and affliction.

Below are dozens more, patiently waiting their turn to see the volunteer eye doctors. AOOF pays for the surgeries and for accommodating the doctors and nurses who travel long distances to provide this service. Those who can afford it are asked to make token contribution to defray the cost of their post-surgical consultations.



About 20 of the most serious eye disease patients were selected for cataract and other eye surgeries. Even though performed under the most economical conditions, all surgeries were successful.

Return Address: 4253 Silverleaf Drive Ypsilanti, MI 48197

AOOF - A Legacy!

When I was growing up in Nigeria, it was customary that a new entrant into the work force would dedicate their first salary as a token gift to be shared with those that have positively impacted their life along the way to that first job. It is a mark of appreciation. I thought that this custom was dead and long-forgotten by most. To our pleasant surprise, one of AOOF's prior scholarship award recipient (now college graduate) came back to donate a whole paycheck to our outreach efforts! That's exactly the spirit, and our hope of waking up seemingly dormant but positive customs and leaving a lasting legacy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OUR GOD...

... is an awesome God! His words teach us that with Him, nothing is impossible. Year after year, He shows us that His words and everlasting and true. He has not only kept this mission growing, there is evidence that those who have been a part of the vision continue to receive His limitless blessings. To God be the glory!

OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS ...

Over the last eight (8) years, we have done amazing things together. We've raised an average of about \$10,000/year, offered over 300 scholarships, collaborated with state government to build and equip a hospital mortuary building, provided free healthcare to thousands of people, built a community borehole, and built a classroom block for a village primary school. We continue to raise the bar year after year, and you continue to show how much you trust and care. We thank God for you and pray that He continues to bless and reward you multiple-fold. Amen.

AOOF

Abel Ogundokun Odeleye Foundation www.aoof.org

BUILD RATE US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 98765

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address Street Number and Name City, State 98765-4321

AOOF: Community, Coming together, Lending a hand