

# ÌTÓKASÍ

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March, 2021



Community  
Development Committee  
EJIGBO LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREA  
LAGOS, NIGERIA

## Newsletter

*...caring for our progress*

# Coming Soon



**Babajide Sanwo-Olu**  
*Pragmatic THEMES for  
A Greater Lagos*

**A Book By  
Obiora Nzekwu**

Published by  
RSL Communications Ltd. Lagos  
Volume: 974 Pages



**PUBLIC PRESENTATION/LAUNCHING  
BY PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE  
CDC EJIGBO LAGOS  
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EJIGBO LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREA  
LAGOS, NIGERIA

**Let's Hear From You!**

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## Chairman's Remark



**Yes, 'this new day is too dear' for us not to archive its moments and our activities therein.**



## Trundling Community Development Practitioners/Associations in a Traumatic/Pandemic Era

It was on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2020 we began discharging the leadership roles of steering the affairs of Community Development Committee (CDC) of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (ELCDA) as elected executive body of the Committee. Precisely on the third day after Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2020 when the Federal Ministry of Health confirmed a Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) case in Lagos State. We were unaware that we would be plunked into the trauma and confusion of understanding the Pandemic, COVID-19.

Indeed, the trauma of COVID-19 was consuming and the struggle to stop it and mutate its effects on us and our communities became so intense and challenging. But, in a larger sense, the period and the struggle challenged our commitment and

leadership roles as community development practitioners/leaders to care for the people and community.

One of the principles we adopted as a guiding leadership method was to understand the essences of the moment. And as rightly stated by Ralph Waldo Emerson in his book, *Emerson, Collected Poems and Translations* (1994, published by Library of America) that "Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year... This new day is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays."

Yes, "this new day is too dear" for us not to archive its moments and our activities therein. As we further the strengthening of our vision and resolve to care for our communities with "the new normal"; we are also

striving with this newsletter to keep records of how our activities in CDC and CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA are faring.

I therefore, feel extremely happy to introduce you to the maiden edition of this newsletter. The contents of the edition contains, but, not limited to the report of Community Cares/Obe Cares Project, the experiences of COVID-19 in Lagos, especially in Ejigbo LCDA, special focus on three CDAs in their self-help projects, tackling the root causes of flood in Oke-Afa ward, special Interview with the Chairman of Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council and so on.

Happy reading!

**Prince Jelili Atiku,**  
Chairman CDC, Ejigbo LCDA



## ■ The Editorial

# A New Dawn!

The world via the United Nations, is a global community. World Health Organisation (WHO) is a global health community. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional community. Nigeria is a community. Lagos State is a community. Ejigbo Local Council Development Area is a community. The Community Development Association (CDA) is the commonest of all communities because of its closeness to the people.

The aforementioned is purposely cited to set the basis of this editorial: Community Development (CD). CD can be defined as a gathering of people of different tribes and statuses, living in the same locality, harnessing the assets endowed on them for the development of the community; ensuring that all residents in the community obey the rules and regulations establishing the CDA as enshrined in the constitution of the CDA. This is also borne out of the fact that collective action and proffering solutions to common challenges facing the CDA can be achieved if only the members work as a team. Lagos State being a state of excellence has been working closely with CDAs for decades with a view to fast tracking development at the grassroots.

To give CDAs a legal backing, the former Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babatunde Raji Fashola assented to the bill on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2008, giving formal recognition to

CDAs as the fourth tier of government. This is to encourage community participation by all and sundry. The state government upped her game by rewarding CDAs with yearly mouthwatering prizes including brand new buses plus cash to the best three CDAs and consolation prizes to another seven best performing CDAs. This had hitherto been prizes to the three best CDAs until the decision to increase the number to TEN CDAs starting from 2016.

Interestingly, Ejigbo LCDA was among the beneficiaries at the first edition in 2016 as Ashamu East CDA got the consolation prize for the 8<sup>th</sup> position on the log. The prize money was Four Hundred Thousand Naira (N400,000). That would be the first time any CDA from Ejigbo LCDA would win the yearly award. Being a fourth tier of government, every aspect of governance is assumed to be available or provided in the CDAs; this includes construction and rehabilitation of roads, electrification, building of class rooms and Community Town Halls, provision of boreholes among others.

CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA are not exception in execution of these capital intensive projects and as such, the current Community Development Committee (CDC), Ejigbo LCDA is poised at ensuring that Community Development Associations (CDAs) in Ejigbo LCDA are encouraged to embark on capital intensive projects in order to fast track development in Ejigbo and also to compete with other Local Governments/Local Council Development Areas' Community Development Associations (CDAs) at the yearly Lagos State Community Day Celebration.

The fact is that Ejigbo LCDA does not have the enough resources to meet

all the expectations of the CDAs and the Community Development Committee (CDC) is not unaware that some facilities are being provided by the Community Development Associations (CDAs) through self-help. The present executive committee members of the CDC of Ejigbo LCDA under the leadership of Prince Jelili Atiku is poised to monitor all ongoing capital intensive projects in CDAs in the LCDA and ensure that nothing is left undone to win accolades from the state government every year.

Ejigbo LCDA, under the leadership of the Chairman, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (popularly addressed as Obe) is proposing to establish a replica of the state government yearly community day - where after the Publicity Committee of the CDC might have chronicled executed and ongoing projects in the CDAs, the best CDA(s) might equally be rewarded by the LCDA.

It is on this note that the present CDC, introduce to the good people of Ejigbo LCDA, a quarterly Newsletter, **ITÓKASÍ**, a Yoruba word, which literally means reference. This is a BOLD STATEMENT that henceforth, Ejigbo LCDA shall be a reference LCDA through the activities of the CDC/CDAs. It is the birth of a new dawn in Ejigbo LCDA and we shall strive together to be among the best if not the best in Lagos State.

It is pertinent to mention that this first edition was planned for publication in the second quarter of 2020 but the pandemic would not allow it see the light of the day then. Do enjoy the first edition of the Newsletter.

### **Toyin Saka**

Publicity Secretary CDC,  
Ejigbo LCDA, *Editor*  
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■ Meet the CDC, Ejigbo  
**LCDA Executive Members**



Prince Jelili O. Atiku  
 Chairman



Alh. Wasiu Atinnsola  
 1st Vice Chairman



Basorun A.O. Oguntomole  
 2nd Vice Chairman



Barr. (Mrs.) Bimbo Olawale  
 General Secretary



Mr. Dele Olokobi  
 Assistant General Secretary



Mr. Taiwo Owolabi  
 Treasurer



Alh. Bashir Adejumo  
 Financial Secretary



Elder Amos O. Johnson  
 Auditor



Mr. Toyin Saka  
 Publicity Secretary



Mrs. Yemisi Alashe  
 Social Secretary



Alh. Tajudeen Sanni (Labule)  
 Welfare Officer



Chief Lamoriu Giwa  
 Ex-Officio I



Comr. Victor Durodola  
 Ex-Officio II



Chief Fatai Ibrahim  
 Ex-Officio III

# The Profiles

## **Prince Jelili Olorunfunmi Atiku**

*Position: Chairman*

**P**rin**ce Jelili** is an international acclaimed multimedia artist with political concerns for human rights, freedoms and justice. For over a decade, he has put his artistic practices and works at service of the prevailing concerns of our times; especially those issues that are threatening our collective existence and the sustenance of our universe.

Born on Friday 27th September 1968 in Ejigbo (Lagos), Prince Jelili had his primary and secondary education at Muslim Mission Primary School, Mushin, Lagos (1975 - 1977); Ejigbo Model Primary School (1977 - 1982) and Ejigbo High School, Lagos (1982 - 1988). He was also trained at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria (1991 - 1998) and University of Lagos, Nigeria (2004 - 2006) - Where he was awarded Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts) and Master of Arts (Visual Arts) respectively.

He was the Team Leader, Art Africa Forum, Sweden (2009 -2014) and he has served in Ejigbo LCDA in many capacities including Supervisory Councilor for Works (2006), Chairman, Assessment Committee (2005), Chairman, Market Committee (2004), etc. He was the pioneering Secretary of Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Ejigbo Chapter from 2003 to 2016 - where he was instrumental in the construction of office building and other facilities to the Police in Ejigbo.

He is a world renown Performance Artist who has travelled widely and participated in numerous performances/exhibitions/talks in Africa, Asia, Europe and America. He is 2015 Prince Claus Laureates and Professor at the Department of Africana Studies/Brown Arts Initiative in Brown University, Providence, USA in 2018. He is presently the artistic Director of AFIRIperFOMA - a collective of performance artists in Africa; and Chief Coordinator of Advocate for Human Rights Through Art (AHRA). He is also the President and Chairman Board of Trustee of Ejigbo Indigenes Forum (EIF), Lagos and Chairman of Community Development Committee, Ejigbo LCDA,

Lagos. He is a member of many local and international organisations such as International Association for Community Development (IACD), Scotland, UK and Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council and so on. He is the Chairman of Ageke/Agbole CDA.

## **Alhaji Abdulwasiu Abiodun Atinnsola**

*Position: 1st Vice Chairman*

**B**orn on the 13th of January 1966 in Lagos Island to Alhaji Abdulwaheed Ayinde Atinnsola and Late K.O. Atinnsola who both hail from Egba Land, He is the first of seven children of the family. Abdulwasiu had his primary and secondary education around Idi Oro in Mushin while he was living in Fadeyi, Lagos. After the completion of Senior Secondary Education, he learnt secretarial studies and thereafter graduated in printing training.

Alhaji Abiodun has his political tutelage from Senator Semiu Kukoyi and Adebayo Success who supported him to win the election into the post of Assistant Secretary NPN in Oshodi/Isolo LGA youth wing in 1982. He was part of Senator Ganiyu Solomon's sojourn in DPN, and also part of IDEAL Club. In Ejigbo LCDA, he was the party Secretary of Alliance for Democracy (AD) in Aigbaka Ward, Youth Leader JF. Campaign Manager, Deacon Ayo Ositelu campaign organization, point man Face of Yai 2015 and part of OBE's electoral victory 2017. He is presently LGA Treasurer of APC, Ejigbo LCDA.

He learnt community service from his father and was mentored by late Apostle B.S. Fayoda. He started as Youth Leader Ageke/ Egbapeju CDA. He was Treasurer Ashamu Estate CDA under the leadership of Mrs. Faboyede (retired Commissioner of Police) - whose tenure recorded a lot of achievements among, which was the 500 KVA transformer with accessories from Governor Raji Fashola. He was also a former Supervisor of Environment in Ejigbo LCDA between (2011 - 2014). Presently, he is the chairman of Ashamu Swamp CDA - where the unflinching support of the executive and members has helped in achieving excellent feats. His dream is to be an integral part of

Ejigbo LCDA Excellence in all facets and ramifications.

## **Bashorun Adekunle Ojo Oguntomole**

*Position: 2nd Vice Chairman*

**B**orn on the 23rd September 1950 in Ekiti State, Bashorun Adekunle attended St Andrew's Primary School Iludofin Omuo- Akoko from January 1955 to December 1960; All Saints Secondary Modern School at Omuo, Akoko from January 1962 to December 1964; St Andrew's Teachers College, Oyo from 1968 to 1970; and University of Ibadan (1975-1979) where he graduated with BA Hons in English Language. His working experiences include Nigeria Customs and Excise (now Nigeria Customs Service) - where he joined as Superintendent Collector II and retired as Comptroller of Customs (1980 - 2010), Community Relations: His relevance in community development programmes has also been recognised with the titles such as Basorun of Omuo-Ekiti, Bobagunwa of Araromi-Oke Ekiti, and Balogun of St Andrew's Anglican Church Omuo-Ekiti. He is presently the Chairman Omiyale End CDA. He is married to Orinje B. J. Oguntomole and blessed with grown up Children.

## **Barrister (Mrs.) Abimbola Olawale**

*Position: Secretary*

**B**arrister Abimbola was born and bred in Surulere, Lagos. She went to Our Lady of Apostle, Yaba for both Primary and Secondary Education. She later went to the then Ogun State University, Ago Iwoye -where she was awarded LLB and then proceeded to Law School in Lagos. She has received so many awards both academically and community service. She was a Rotaractor, loves service to humanity and believes in uprightness and relevancy towards life. She is simple and down to earth. She was the immediate past Social Secretary of CDC, Ejigbo LCDA. She is the Chairperson of Babatunde Allen CDA.

## **Mr. Dele Olokobi**

*Position: Assistant Secretary*

**M**r. Olokobi was born and grew up in Animashaun Street, Offin Area of Lagos. He attended Ahmadiyya Primary School; Ansar-ur-Deen High School, Surulere in Lagos;

Alliance Francais (for Certificate in French Language and Culture); Institute of Education at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (for NCE); University of Nigeria, Nsukka (for Modern European Languages majoring in French); Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma – where he graduated with Post Graduate Degree; and had Masters in Public Administration from Lagos State University.

He has worked at Nigerian Army 181 Battalion, Bida as a Teacher in French during his National Service (NYSC). It was at the Nigerian Army he was exposed to politics and governance. He has also served at CFAO Transcap as Cargo handler, Lagos State School Management Committee as Tutor II; Nigerian Aviation Handling Company – where he worked as Flight Officer and at various departments before he retired as Cargo and Ramp Manager. He is presently into the business of Aviation Consultancy; but still finds time to impart knowledge in the classroom.

Mr. Olokobi's community service activities started as Street Representative in Surulere to Palmgrove, which was known as Iba Estate then. He was the Estate Secretary from 1995 to 1999 and the Chairman Ilamoshe CDA from 2015 to 2020. He was a dramatist/dancer when he was in higher institutions, while his other hobbies include lawn tennis, reading, tourism and driving.

#### **Mr. Taiwo Alade Owolabi,**

*Position: Treasurer*

**B**orn 62 years ago with a humble background, Mr. Owolabi after his secondary school education at Anwar-ul-Islam College, Agege proceeded to Lagos State College of Science and Technology for his Advance level certificate and thereafter continued his education at University of Ibadan - where he was awarded B.Sc Hons Economics in 1985. He had his National Youth Service in Kano with First Bank of Nigeria Plc and subsequently gained full employment with the bank in 1986. He retired from the bank after 26 years having served in various departments which included Branch Operations, Credit Risk Management, Reconciliation, Corporate and Investment Banking Group and Regional Banking Operations.

In 1997, he was admitted to Lagos State University, Ojo for an MBA Marketing. He passed the professional examination of the National Institute of Marketing of Nigeria in 2000 and was appointed a fellow in 2006 and elected as member

Council of the Institute from 2007 to 2014 and retired from the Council after serving the mandatory two terms. He held various Chairmanship of Committees of the Institute amongst were Event, Finance and Audit Committee; and also served as Facilitator and Examiner for the Institute from 2004 to 2008.

He is an Associate of Institute of Cost Management, 2002 and Full member of Institute of Logistics Management, 2002. He was a member of Accreditation Committee (Marketing) of National Board of Technical Education (NABTEB) to various Polytechnics from 2012 - 2014. He was elected as the Vice President Anwar-ul-Islam College Old Students Association 74/75 Sets 2013 to date and at the National level as National Financial Secretary of Anwar-ul-Islam Old Students Association 2018. He became the Chairman of Kila Area Community Development Association in 2014 to date. He is Married to Otago Enitan Owolabi (Nee Oduntan) and are blessed with three children.

#### **Alhaji Bashir Akinola A. Adejumo**

*Position: Financial Secretary*

**A**lhaji Bashir was born in Lagos Island on 3rd March, 1954. He had his Primary Education in Lagos and Ikenne in Ogun State; and Secondary Education in Ikenne and Abeokuta both in Ogun State (formerly Western Region of Nigeria). He acquired his University Education in California, USA with AA Business Studies and BA Business Administration (Finance) and MBA in Management and Economics. He returned to Nigeria for the compulsory NYSC in 1978, which he did in Kano.

He joined the service of United Bank for Africa Plc as Management Trainee and left as Assistant Manager after 5 years to join the family company, Adejumo Fam Nigeria Limited and set up the Farming and Agriculture in Yewa Area of Ogun State. After establishing the palm plantation for the family company, he went solo to start Chemical Production and later moved to Ejigbo around 1998, to establish a Primary School and Administration of the Sporting Facilities established by Late Alhaji R.A. Adejumo.

On getting to Ejigbo, Alhaji Bashir's first project was to make the road to the two facilities motorable. This started his involvement in community service. After the road, community development became his passion and to date he has made the community a priority, thus influenced his decision to move his home

and work to Ilamoshe, Ejigbo. His time has been directed to his community and the advancement of same as he was recently called out of retirement to manage the family business (Adejumo Fam Nigeria limited) as the Managing Director. This has taken some of his time away from the community but still committed to the development of Ejigbo Community in general and Ilamoshe in particular.

He has served as Chairman and Treasurer of Ilamoshe CDA and Adejumo/Abule CDA at different times. He is presently the Chairman Adejumo/Abule CDA. He was the immediate past 1st Vice Chairman of CDC, Ejigbo LCDA (2013 - 2019). He is committed to the progress and development of his community and environs.

#### **Pastor Amos Olasubomi O. Johnson**

*Position: Auditor*

**P**astor Olasubomi was born on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 1947 to Chief, Rev. Johnson Olowowolekomo Mabunmi, aka (JOM) Baale Sunmoge and Mrs. Janet Adebanke Johnson at Sunmoge, via Iwopin, Ogun Waterside LGA, Ogun State. After primary school education in 1961, he moved to Lagos 1962 in search of the Golden Fleece. As a child, he proved to be creative and gifted in the fields of Arts, so he acquired training in various professional art fields at home and abroad and became the renowned Bobby Tailor' in Lagos. He is also a Janitor, Interior exterior decorator, with flair for Aesthetics and resolving critical areas in building construction. A Builder, Property Consultant.

His community service in Ejigbo started in 1997 when he became the Secretary of Muyili Oshode Street Landlord Association which after his assumption of office; he was able to change the association to; Residents Association. He became the Chairman of the Association in 2012 and worked with others who created Powerline Ifesowapo CDA – where he became the pioneer Secretary between 2000 and 2006. He also championed the creation of four CDAS out of Powerline Ifesowapo CDA namely: Ifetedo, Orioko Ifelodun, Tiwadire and Ifedapo Double Powerline CDAs.

He was the pioneer Chairman of Ifedapo Double Powerline between 2008 and 2013 and through selfless service the General Secretary now. In 2018, his CDA was among the five CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA, out of 275 that were recipients of the Lagos State Grant-in aid, ranging from



N1m-N5million naira. In CDC Ejigbo LCDA, he was at various times since the year 2000 served as the Publicity Secretary, Treasurer, Ex-Officio II and presently the Auditor. He was the Chairman of Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Ejigbo Chapter from 6th November 2008 to 4th July 2019. In 2013/2015, he was the Vice Chairman, while he also doubled as the Acting Chairman PCRC Area 'D' Command HQ. Mushin, Lagos. He is married with children and grandchildren.

#### **Habib Toyin Saka**

*Position: Publicity Secretary*

**B**orn on 10th April 1962 in Bouke, Ivory Coast, Mr. Saka is a native of Iseyin in Oyo State. He attended Anwar-ul-Islam High School, Iseyin (1974 - 1979) and obtained Higher National Diploma (HND Statistics) from The Polytechnic, Ibadan in 1986. His working experiences include Clerk in charge of the UPN Free Education Distribution for all the controlled states at Longman Nigeria Limited, Ikeja Lagos (1980 - 1981), Senior Sales Officer (Merchandising) at Nigerian Bottling Company Plc (1989 - 2006) - where he later became the National Research Analyst and National Marketing Research Manager (1991 and 1998); Sales Operations in November 1998 and he held sway as Area Sales Manager, Unit Sales Manager and Plant Sales Manager in different locations covering Lagos, Plateau, Bauchi, Gombe, Taraba States and part of Kaduna State.

Mr. Saka attended international training in Dublin, Republic of Ireland and South Africa in 2001 and 2003 respectively. He also attended Lagos Business School (LBS) for a training "Finance for Non Finance Managers in 2002. He is presently Ward Secretary of the APC, Oke-Afa Ward of Ejigbo LCDA and Chairman of Ashamu East CDA. He is a member of Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM). He is married with children.

#### **Oluwayemisi Bailey Alashe (Mrs.)**

*Position: Social Secretary*

**B**orn in the 60s, Mrs. Alashe attended Yaba College of Technology. She has different skills and a business woman to the core. She was a former Supervisor for Agric and Social Services; Former SA Health both in Ejigbo LCDA. She is also the former Assistant Treasurer, APC Oke Afa Ward; and former Social Secretary, Jakande Estate Landlords Association. Presently she is Auditor General of Lagos State Low and Medium Estate and the Chairperson of Double Star CDA. Vice Chairman, APC Oke Afa Ward. She is married with three children.

#### **Alhaji Tajudeen A. Sanni (Labule)**

*Position: Welfare Officer*

**B**orn in Ejigbo, Lagos on 10th October, 1960 to Alhaji Anafiu Sanni (popularly known as Labule/Ileobatojo) and Mrs. Taiwo Sanni both

were natives of Ejigbo, Lagos. He attended Muslim College Egbe, Lagos and Dele College of Technology, Ondo. He obtained Training Test 3 and C and G. He was AC party coordinator, Ejigbo LCDA between 1998 and 2000. He later became Ifoshi Ward Chairman of AC/ACN/APC until 2017 when he became the Financial Secretary, APC Ejigbo LCDA. He is also Chairman, Farmers Association, Ejigbo LCDA. He became the Chairman of Ori Oke Ifelodun CDA in December 2019. He's married with children.

#### **Chief Lamoriu Giwa**

*Position: Ex - Officio 1*

Chief Lamoriu is the immediate past Chairman of CDC, Ejigbo LCDA. He is one of the traditional chiefs of the Palace of Ojooon of Ejigbo/Ijan, Lagos. He is Presently the Chairman, Ageke West CDA.

#### **Comrade Victor Durodola**

*Position: Ex - Officio 2*

Comrade Durodola is the immediate past Secretary of CDC, Ejigbo LCDA. He is presently the secretary, Victory Estate CDA.

#### **Chief Fatai Ibrahim**

*Position: Ex-Officio 3*

**Chief Fatai** was born and schooled in Ejigbo, Lagos State. He is presently the Sobaloju of Ejigbo Land. He was the immediate past Treasurer of Ejigbo LCDA CDC. Currently, he is the Treasurer of Balogun Ifesowapo CDA.

## **Archive #1**

### **ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN, CDC EJIGBO LCDA, PRINCE JELILI O. ATIKU DURING THE CDC EMERGENCY MEETING TO REFLECT ON POST-ENDSARS PROTEST'S DESTRUCTION AND LOOTING IN EJIGBO ON MONDAY OCTOBER 26, 2020 AT EJIGBO LCDA SECRETARIAT**

**W**e o! One o!  
I welcome you to this emergency meeting, which is summoned on the directive of the Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area (ELCDA), Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe). The meeting is to enable us have a critical look / analysis at/on the events of the last few days in Lagos, which have changed the hitherto peaceful atmosphere in some parts of the city, especially in our community, Ejigbo.

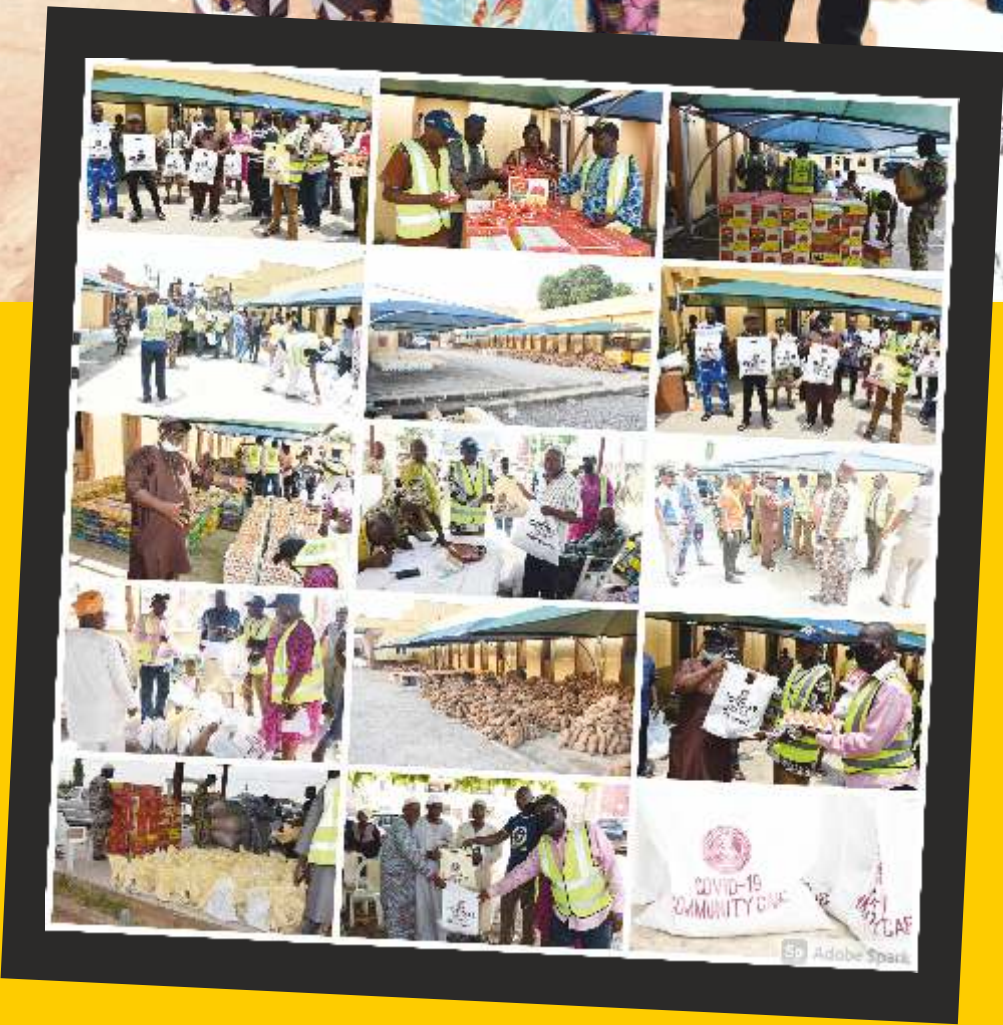
In as much as the mayhem caught all of us unawares and the evil deeds have been committed, as community development leaders/practitioners, the

onus is on us at the moment to safeguard lives and properties of government and individuals in Ejigbo LCDA.

I may not wish to recall this experience because of the trauma that come with it, but it is pertinent to recall it for the purpose of forging ahead. On Wednesday 21, 2020, at about 11:45AM hoodlums who were heavily armed with dangerous weapons besieged and attacked Ejigbo Community. In this process, the following are the affected areas and casualties recorded:

**I. Ejigbo LCDA Secretariat** at NNPC Junction, Egbe/Ikotun Road was vandalized and set on fire: All the

vehicles in the premises were destroyed while some were totally burnt. It was the timely intention of the community members led by myself that quenched the fire thus saved the secretariat from total burnt. I will like to use this opportunity to appreciate the bravery and patriotism of these people, they are Fatai Onikosi, Idowu Yekinni, Qudus Jubril, Jamiu Sanni, Nureni Amodu, Nosiru Taiye Hassan, Taiye Esegiri, Samsindeen Ogunfayo, Abdullahi Bashir, Wasiu Abiodun, Wasiu Opeyemi Ibrahim Chief Monsuru Saula, and Benjamin Bolarinwa.



**#EJIGBOAGAINSTCORONAVIRUS**

If you feel unwell or develop symptoms, immediately contact Lagos State Ministry of Health: 08023169485, 08033565529, 08052817243.

# COVID-19 EXPERIENCE



Lagos State  
Government

# Sensitization Programme on Covid-19 *Toyin Saka*

Lagos State being the first point of call of the pandemic, organised series of sensitization and awareness programmes to quickly contain the spread of the pandemic, which was first confirmed on the 27th February 2020.

On Monday, 2nd March 2020, the state government organised a special meeting which boarder on management and control of the pandemic for all the 57 Local Government Areas (LGAs) / Local Council Devolvement Areas (LCDAs), Community Development Committee (CDC) Chairmen and Medical Officers of Health (MOH). The meeting was summoned on the directive of the State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, It was held at the Banquet Hall of Lagos House, Ikeja.

On Tuesday, 3rd March, 2020, it was the turn of the CDC executive members from all the 57 LGAs/ LCDAs, School Principals, Leaders of market associations, traditional rulers, NGOs and media houses among other stakeholders. The venue of the Forum was De Blue Roof LTV 8, Agidingbi, Ikeja. The stakeholders forum was well attended and had in attendance important dignitaries such as the Deputy Governor of the State, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Emmanuel Abayomi, Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotosho.

The first to address the gathering was the Commissioner for Information and Strategy who informed the gathering that the state government was leaving no stone unturned in the dissemination of vital information for the containment of the pandemic and appealed to all attendees to encourage their members in the various communities to always make use of information that comes from the state government at this critical period.

The Commissioner for Health who every participant was looking up to, did not disappoint the gathering as he was able to give details of the confirmed cases and the efforts by the government to control the spread of the virus in Lagos State. He began with the stigma of being the first state to experience the case of the infection of the virus, which was brought by an Italian citizen who works in Nigeria and returned from Milan, Italy to Lagos on the 25th of February 2020.

Unfortunately, the Commissioner said that, the Italian Citizen came with other 159 passengers on the same flight. He continued by saying that after confirmation of the positive status of the Italian, the state government tried everything possible to trace his co-travelers but unfortunately only 50 are residents in Lagos, others have left for their destinations; but the "other 50 persons have been identified and quarantined", he said.

He added that so far a total of 100 persons have been identified and quarantined and they were all responding very well. The Health Commissioner went further to inform the gathering that 61 countries have been affected by the pandemic and that they were all doing everything possible to contain the pandemic.

He advised the participants that they should be vigilant in their various communities with a view to knowing the sick and advised them to stay indoor except the situation gets out of hand when they could then visit hospital. He also appealed that the participants should ensure that members of their communities that arrive from foreign countries should isolate themselves for 14 days.

In his closing remarks, the Deputy Governor, Dr. Hamzat, thanked all Lagosians especially the stakeholders who were present at the seminar, for always having faith in the state government. He said that the state government under the leadership of Governor Babajide Sanwoolu is not resting on his oars and would continue to put every necessary measure in place to contain the pandemic. Different flyers on how to prevent the spread of the pandemic were distributed to all the participants, not leaving out health workers.

**Photo credit above:**  
*Faces of Ejigbo LCDA CDC  
Executive members at the seminar.*

# MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF Covid-19 -A Seminar by Ejigbo LCDA

Ranti Ogunmuyiwa (Mrs.)

Following the directive of the Executive Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, to all 57 Local Governments and Local Council Development Areas in the State, Ejigbo LCDA was not left out in the sensitisation of her residents on the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

This move became necessary due to the global pandemic the disease has caused (and still causing) and the increase in confirmed cases found in Nigeria, especially in Lagos State. The seminar was held at Town Hall, Lafenwa street, Ejigbo, on Thursday 19th March, 2020.

Environmental and Medical Health Officers of the Local Council were available to talk about the Disease, which has spread round the world, what it is all about, how to prevent it, signs that make one knows if he/she has been infected, etc. A demonstration was also done on how to wash hands properly with soap and water.

**The Emergency Help Lines to call in Ejigbo LCDA are: 0814 528 1199 and 0708 189 6092. While the State Emergency Help Lines are: 0802 316 9485 and 0803 356 5529.**

Speaking on behalf of the Council Chairman, Alh. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe), the Council Manager, Princess Iyabode Ogunyemi, urged all residents of the Local Council to be proactive in maintaining personal and environmental



Ejigbo LCDA CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku addressing the press at the seminar.

hygiene, so as to prevent the spread of the Disease.

The event had in attendance, the APC Party Chairman in Ejigbo LCDA, Alhaji Fatai Abiodun Kasumu, Community Development Committee (CDC) Members, the Legislative Members and the Management Team of the Local Council. Also in

attendance were representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Artisans, Market men and women, Transport Workers, Religious Leaders and Members of National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) Ejigbo Chapter among others. They were all encouraged to help pass on the message to their people back home.

The Local Council inaugurated a 23-Man Committee, to focus on the causes, prevention and Control of the Coronavirus Disease. The committee was to educate the people on the symptoms of the Disease, what to do when detected, how to live a healthy and hygienic life to prevent its contact, and provide accurate and timely information, so as to avoid panic which sometimes leads to death.

Various flyers collected from the Administrative Secretary's Office of Lagos State Community Development Advisory Committee were distributed to all the participants. The CDC Ejigbo LCDA chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku who addressed the press after the seminar, promised to work hand in hand with both the Local Council and the Committee set up by the Executive Chairman, Ejigbo LCDA in the prevention of the spread of the pandemic by following all directives from government and medical practitioners.

**Photo credit above:**  
*Faces of participants at the seminar.*

COVID-19

# Phases of Lockdown

Ugonma Effanga (Mrs.)



Being the most affected state, Lagos did not waste time in the enforcement of the directives of President Muhammadu Buhari in his addresses to Nigeria on 29th March 2020 and 14th April 2020. The word lockdown, which is very much alien to Nigeria and Nigerians, came as an unwelcome development because of the fact that majority of Nigerians and by extension Lagosians are daily income earners. Even when there were several strikes, people were not asked to stay indoors.

The first Presidential address gave Lagosians some respite as they were allowed to move freely to make some withdrawals (seriously pegged by banks) and buy household items that could be used for the two weeks. The lockdown commenced after 11.00pm

on 30th March 2020. In reality, the effect of the lockdown could only be felt effective on the 31st March 2020.

The roads were scanty as people and different communities complied except those on essential duties including senior officers of Ejigbo LCDA and Ejigbo CDC Executive members COVID-19 Community Care Committee members who worked assiduously every day for stimulating the effects of the lockdown on the vulnerable people in Ejigbo LCDA.

In spite of the lockdown, the index for Lagos was not showing positive results and as such it was cleared that the lockdown would be extended. On 13th April 2020, President Buhari extended the lockdown by another 14 days, which took effective from 11.59PM same day. Below are the

extracts from the two Presidential Addresses:

“Based on the advice of the Federal Ministry of Health and the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), I am directing the cessation of all movements in Lagos and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) for an initial period of 14 days from 11.00pm on Monday, 31st March 2020” – 29th March 2020.

“With this in mind and having carefully considered the briefings and report from the Presidential Task Force (PTF) and the various options offered, it has become necessary to extend the current restrictions of movement in Lagos and Ogun States as well as FCT for another 14 days effective from 11.59pm on Monday, 14th April 2020” – 13th April 2020.

# EMERGENCY FOOD Response: A-3-Pronged Approach

Adeola David



down because of the highest number of people affected.

The distribution that was fairly conducted did not actually meet the expectations of the people to the extent that some CDA executive members had to complain that the relief package did not have any impact in their CDAs. The sharing was monitored by the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA Alh Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello (Obe) with a view to ensuring fairness and equitable distribution.

The Chairman, while briefing pressmen, thanked the governor for the state government's gesture and

**W**hile efforts are being made to contain the pandemic all over the world and different countries adopting different stimulus palliatives for citizens to cushion the effect of the lockdown in some few countries, Lagos State Governor, Mr Babajide Sanwoolu did not waste time in coming up with stimulus package tagged, "Emergency Food Response" as he announced to the world on Friday, 27th March 2020 that the state was going to distribute food items to 200,000 households in the first phase. This represents just 1% of the population of the state, which shows

that, the impact will be difficult to be felt.

Ejigbo LCDA received its share of the stimulus package and it was distributed using the criteria recommended by the state government - the councilor, CDC member, a representative each from Christian Association of Nigeria and League of Imams for each of the six wards.

This exercise was actually to preempt any possible lockdown of which the state would be the first to be locked

promised to always abide by any order from the state government on the containment of the pandemic. Each of the wards received 70 bags of the mixed items (rice, beans and gari) and 100 loaves of 850gm of bread.

These were taken to the various wards for distribution according to the sharing formula agreed by the each of the team.

#### Photo Credit

*The truck conveying the items, entering the inner car park section of Ejigbo LCDA Secretariat.*

# Community Care/ OBE CARES:

A Palliatives Project for the Vulnerable Members in All 110 CDAs

**Toyin Saka, Akeem Oduyoye, Yetunde Oyerinde (Mrs.), and Lukman Amisu.**

There is no doubt that the lockdown policy was confirmed to be effective in combating the spread of COVID-19 in Lagos, but it also traumatized the residents, especially in the highly concentrated low-income residential areas like Ejigbo in an unprecedented manner. The insufficiency of the necessary welfare-oriented supports from the government instigated a huge complaint from the residents. In Ejigbo, the situation was more intense because the majority of the people are daily income earners. The complaints actually spurred the executive council of CDC, Ejigbo LCDA under the leadership of Prince Jelili Atiku to come with an alternative plan to quickly remedy the situation pending the time the state government or Ejigbo LCDA would come up with a complete package that would take care of majority of the vulnerable members of the LCDA.

The executive council, had an online meeting – where it was agreed that

the CDC as a fourth tier of government in Ejigbo LCDA could raise money within its members; before reaching out to well-meaning members of the LCDA. A meagre amount of N130,000 was realized while holding the meeting and this raised morale and boost energy to reach out to some of the people that have been identified in the society.

The executive council constituted and inaugurated an adhoc committee, COVID-19 Community Care Committee (CCC) on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020. It was saddled with the responsibility of soliciting funds and material (Food) from eminent people within Ejigbo; to provide stimulus packages for the indigent and vulnerable in the Community to cushion the effect(s) of the lockdown. The members of the CCC consisted of Alhaji Tajudeen Sanni (CDC Welfare Officer) – Chairman, Akeem Oduyoye - Secretary, Hon Yemisi Alashe (CDC Social Officer) - Treasurer, Chief Bashorun Oguntomole (CDC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice

Chairman) - Mr. Ike Agina - Member, Mr. Olufemi Falese , Alhaja Segilola Kasumu, Alhaji Adele Rasheed, and Ikechukwu Ilonze. and Alhaji Toyin Saka, Hon. Joke Ndidi Adeosun, the Supervisory Councilor for Agric and Social Services of Ejigbo LCDA) were coopted into the committee. Its activities were supervised by Prince Jelili Atiku – CDC Chairman, Alhaji Wasiu Atinshola – CDC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman, and Barr. Bimbola Olawale – CDC Secretary.

Despite the physical distancing order, the committee members were able to seek for assistance from well to do and CDA members of Ejigbo LCDA. In order not to run afoul of the order on physical gathering, the committee devised a strategy of calling ten CDA chairmen per meeting at a venue in each of the six political wards in the LCDA. The meeting started in the afternoon at about 2.00pm on Friday, 3rd April 2020 with Ifoshi ward - where all the 10 CDA Chairmen convened at 29, Anuoluwapo Street, Ejigbo.





Aigbaka Ward had its meeting split into three groups because of the number of CDAs in the ward. The separate meetings were held by 3.30pm, 4.00pm and 4.30pm respectively at 1, Aya-Oye Street, Ejigbo. The meeting continued on Saturday, 4th April 2020 with CDA chairmen from Fadu Ward by 10.00am at Lafenwa Town Hall, Ejigbo. Ilamose Ward was next and the meeting was held at 1, Olokobi Street by 11.00am. By 12.00noon, the committee members were already at 1, Aceland Avenue, Ailegun to address the first group of CDA chairmen.

The second group had their turn by 12.30pm at the same venue. The last ward that was visited was Oke Afa and the two meetings commenced by 2.00pm and 2.30pm respectively at Round House, Zone 6, Jakande Estate, Oke Afa, Ejigbo.

In all the wards, some chairmen and other executive members of the CDAs made cash and food item donations. After the meeting, some eminent personalities in the LCDA were visited with positive result. This raised the morale of the committee members and by evening of Sunday

5th April, 2020 over Seven Hundred Thousand Naira had been realized apart from promises.

Eventually, the Committee was able to raise through the CDAs and eminent personalities in Ejigbo LCDA the total sum of N978,000.00 while it expended the sum of N837,515.00 for the purchase of materials needed for the program remaining the sum of N140,485.00. The foregoing income and expenditure shows an excess of income over expenditure which indicate positive result. However, the Committee also realized 79 cartons of noodles, 8 bags of Garri, 1 bag of Beans, 6.5 bag of 50kg Rice, 6 Tubers of yam, 25L of liquid soap, and 20L of liquid bleach. The Committee catered for 1,380 indigents across the 110 CDAs giving packs of the materials that contain beans, noodles, bread, rice and eggs.

However, the initiative was also supported by the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) who provided additional materials of 2,200 tubers of yam and 500 crates of egg, which were distributed to 20 indigents and vulnerable people per CDA throughout the LCDA. This means

that additional 2, 200 indigents across the 110 CDAs benefited from this initiative. It is pertinent to mention that the LCDA shared more palliative packages to the residents through the Christian Association of Nigeria, League of Imams and Onisesse Council of Ejigbo. What seemed to be a second phase of the distribution of palliatives, the Committee purchased additional food stuff and distributed it among 280 indigents.

The Committee rounded-off its activities with a verbal briefing/report to the Council Chairman, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe). The Chairman acknowledged the unprecedented moves of the CDC, and also commended the effort of the Committee for working assiduously for the success of the project. On behalf of the CDC, Hon. Obe thanked the donors from all over the LCDA for the support in cash and items. As the saying goes "the hand of the giver is always on top", may you all continue to be on top in every of your daily endeavors", he prayed.



# SPECIAL FOCUS ON **Community Development Association**

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Canal View Estate Phase II CDA  
Divine CDA  
Ashamu West CDA



# Canal View Estate Phase II CDA Empowers 50 Indigents

CDC Media Team (CDC-MT)



Canal View Estate Phase II CDA is situated at the outskirts of Jakande Estate Low Housing, Oke Afa. While the lockdown was being experienced all over Lagos State, the CDA have recognized the fact that some indigents in the community might not be able to start their petty businesses if there was no financial assistance from any quarter. This the CDA under the leadership of Mr. Fidelis Onwuatuelo identified fifty of this category of people to empower.

Saturday, 2nd May 2020 could have been a day to make much noise and

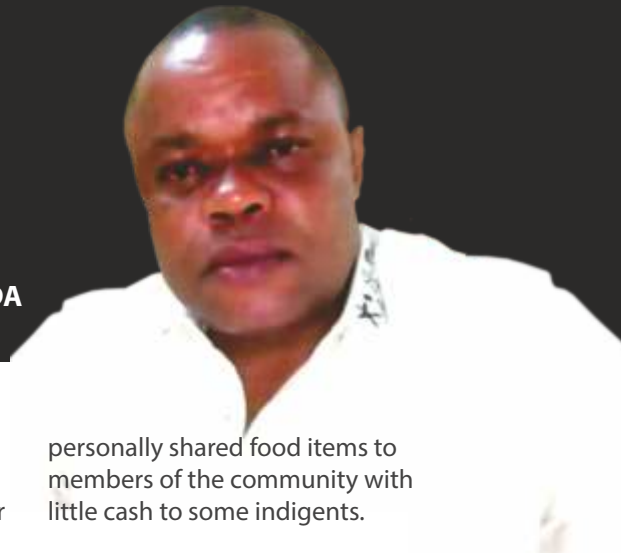
funfare but for the ban on social gathering, the empowerment program was done in a coordinated way that the sitting arrangement was made to comply with the COVID-19 State regulations. The chairman, Mr. Onwuatuelo informed the gathering that the empowerment was the CDA little way of supporting the less privileged members of the CDA.

The CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku in his speech lauded the initiative of the leadership of Canal View Estate Phase II for the empowerment program. He seized the opportunity to sensitize the residents on the

realities of COVID-19. He declared that everybody should practice good personal hygiene and follow all directives emanating from government and health officials.

The cash empowerment which had been enveloped, were brought and the list of beneficiaries called to come forward for the token. The CDC Chairman was accorded the honour to give the first five beneficiaries, while other stakeholders including the CDC Social Secretary also participated in handing over the envelopes to the beneficiaries.

# Interview with Mr. Fidelis Onwuatuelo **The Chairman of Canal View Estate Phase II CDA**



## **CDC Media Team (CDC-MT)**

### **CDC-MT**

*May we know you? Can you give us a brief profile of your person? When did you become a community development practitioner and when did you become the CDA Chairman?*

### **FO**

My name is Mr. Fidelis Onwuatuelo, a native of Ukpok in Nnewi South Local Government Area of Anambra state. After my education in the East, I came to Lagos in the year 1987 to learn trade. Because of my love for the development of any community that I find myself, I always want to participate in community activities, not sitting on the fence. This my involvement made me to serve in different chairmanship positions such Project Committee, Street and Task Force. I joined the community leadership since 2009 as taskforce chairman and later in 2011 I was elected as the vice chairman of Canal View Estate Phase II CDA. I was elected as Canal View Estate Phase II chairman in 2019, having worked assiduously for the development of the community while serving in different capacities before now.

### **CDC-MT**

*What are your antecedents in community development?*

### **FO**

Part of my antecedents is the development and leadership style of Alhaji Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe), Ejigbo LCDA Executive Chairman; right from when he was vice chairman; he visited our CDA and encouraged us with provision of a transformer that we needed so much then. With that we were determined to transform our local bushy area to a modern developed area. Since then, a lot has happened in our CDA of 11 streets and residents of more than

3,000. From sand filling of all the inner streets to electrification and provision of 24 hours' security. Under my leadership as chairman of the CDA, many of our elders are being well taken care of. There is a particular elderly community man of over 80 years' old that is on monthly salary directly paid from my pocket; a Yoruba man who has passion for the development of the CDA.

### **CDC-MT**

*Your donation of Twenty-Five Thousand Naira (N25,000) was the highest amongst the CDA chairmen's while the COVID-19 Community Care Committee members were going round for assistance. You also raised Two Hundred and Fifty Naira (N250,000) within your CDA for the empowerment of indigents in your CDA on Saturday, 2nd May, 2020. What gives you that giving spirit?*

### **FO**

What gives room to my type of charity is my background having experienced and seen how it was to be poor. I always strive to lift people out of their poor state of life; not only in my CDA, in my local church, I am the chairman of what we call "prosperity seed", a kind of charity outfit. Also as a member of PCRC, Ejigbo chapter as the Social Secretary and the current building committee chairman, myself and my wonderful executive we are determined to always make our people smile and taking them out of poor state of life both in business and belongings. We came together to help 50 vulnerable people as the first phase of the empowerment program, pending the extension of the lockdown which may demand us to do a second phase of the empowerment. On my own as the chairman, during the lockdown, I

personally shared food items to members of the community with little cash to some indigents.

### **CDC-MT**

*How do you have time for community development activities which consume time and resources? What advice do you have for other Community Development Association leadership on how to be real community development practitioners?*

### **FO**

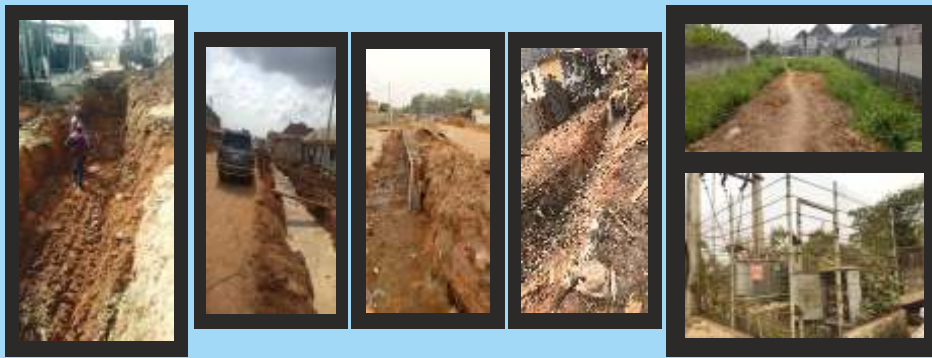
Community leadership is both time consuming and expensive but I see it as service to humanity which is paramount in life. My advice to my colleagues in the CDAs is to see this opportunity of leadership as service to God and mankind and must not be seen as a place for politics or fame. A practical example of leadership is what is happening in the new Community Development Committee (CDC) of Ejigbo LCDA now. It has never been seen this way; under the chairmanship of Prince Jelili Atiku and your humble self as PRO with your wonderful EXCO.

Finally, I want to appreciate the Ejigbo LCDA Chairman, Alhaji Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) and his team, Ejigbo LCDA CDC transformational leader, Prince Jelili Atiku and his relentless exco mostly at this period of worldwide needs. I want to sincerely appreciate you personally sir for all your efforts in positioning Ejigbo LCDA CDC and CDAs to the the world as PRO. We look up to you people sir. God bless you.

### **Photo Credit on page 16**

Alh. Toyin Saka: Mr Fidelis Onwuatuelo, Chairman, Canal View Estate Phase II addressing the gathering  
Alh. Toyin Saka: CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku also addressing the gathering  
Alh. Toyin Saka: Prince Jelili Atiku presenting the empowerment gesture to one of the beneficiaries  
Alh. Toyin Saka: Canal View Estate Phase II tars its road

# Divine Avenue CDA



land reclamation always starts with sand filling by creating footpaths and eventually sand filled for the land to be passable for all and sundry.

## Drainage

Being in a swampy and low level environment, the community is always flooded whenever it rains. To protect lives and property, the CDA has taken the bull by the horns by embarking on a massive drainage across the length and breadth of the community especially the one on the major which is about 1.5km distance. The excavation of the two sides is massive and the size of the drains (4ft by 4ft) is of standard enough to prevent further flooding.

## Security

Being in a remote and porous environment, the CDA has stepped up its security architecture by building a security post and a separate "barrack not far from the acquired parcel of land" provided for the security operatives on duty 24 hours.

## Modern Town Hall

The CDA acquired an affected building during excavation of sand for its modern Town Hall construction.

The United Nations defines community development as "a process where community members come together to take collective action(s) and generate solutions to common problems". The entire members of Divine CDA in Oke Afa Ward have come together to take collective actions and have found solutions to their challenges. In this detailed report, members of Publicity Committee were able to tour the CDA and thereby present what the CDA has done and still doing since the existence of the community.

## Executed and Ongoing Projects

### Electrification:

A 500 KVA transformer is conspicuously placed at the entrance of Divine CDA. The transformer and other accessories (more than a rim of aluminum conductor, high and low concrete poles, upriser cables, feeder

panel and isolators amongst others) were procured by the CDA through self-help without any financial assistance from Ikeja Electric. The transformer supplies electricity to the following streets where they have concrete poles except if it's a virgin area; wooden poles would be used a norm in a swampy area. The land would have to be reclaimed firstly before you can dig hole for concrete pole can be erected. The streets are: Prince Chima Street, Frank Born Street, Joe, Henry Nobifey Street, Tobechi Street, Ndugbe Street, Ugochukwu King Street, Ekwueme Amukamara Street, Okeowo Street, Mbanefo Street, Ikpeme Street, Chimanya Street and Unity Felix Street.

### Land Reclamation

Divine CDA being in a swampy environment has reclaimed the land for meaningful development. The

# Interview

with Mr. Austin Coco Uche,  
The Chairman, Divine CDA



CDC Media Team (CDC-MT)

### CDC-MT

Can you kindly tell us about yourself? What's the name of your CDA and your position and when did you become the CDA Chairman? How old is the CDA?

### ACU

My name is Austin Coco Uche. The name of my CDA is Divine Avenue Community CDA and I am the Chairman. I came on board at the keenly contested election ordered by Ejigbo LCDA in December 2019. The

CDA is 5 years old.

### CDC-MT

How did you find yourself in the leadership of the CDA?

**ACU**

It's something that came out of passion to better the community and being the oldest landlord here, my people have trust and faith in me and I have to keep to that by performing creditably.

**CDC-MT**

Do you have the cooperation of your co executive members and the generality of members of the CDA?

**ACU**

By the grace of God, yes; but you know it's not everyone that will understand your vision and objectives, when it comes to leadership. I thank God, because the relationship is becoming cordial.

**CDC-MT**

From your responses, it shows that your CDA has been executing developmental projects with the support and cooperation of members. How have you been coping and achieving considering the massive resources needed to execute these projects?

**ACU**

One of the objectives of any functional CDA is to execute developmental projects irrespective of the environment the CDA is located. It has not been easy for every Landlord and Landlady of Divine Avenue Community but because we have resolved to take the bull by the horns, we have no choice than use the self-help approach which is also the basis of community development. We started by tasking ourselves as high as N310,000 to N510,000. And we are still contributing as occasion warrants., believing that one day the Lagos state government or Ejigbo LCDA will come to our aid.

**CDC-MT**

How do you enforce compliance in the payment of the development levy considering the amount?

**ACU**

It has not been easy as there will always be some stubborn members/fellows in every

community that will prefer to wait for the government but we are not undaunted because we are all stakeholders who have decided that this is the community we live and we should be able to surmount any challenge.

**ACU**

The CDA's collective agreement is that every Landlord or Landlady shall pay Three Hundred Thousand Naira (N310,000) once you start developing your property. Some landlords ignored this collective agreement and continued with their development but when they want to move in and have the need for electricity, they come to us for connection and we are left with nothing but to collect the full or 85% of the money they would have paid in bits.

**CDC-MT**

I am aware that the community always have issues with security, what measures have you put in place to stave off men of the underworld and street urchins?

**ACU**

Insecurity has become a general thing in our country. After being robbed severely and severally, whereby lives were lost, our wives and daughters raped, we decided to secure ourselves and at the same time employ the services of private security outfit to help guard the community and to God be the glory we have been sleeping with our two eyes closed.

**CDC-MT**

You bombarded the CDC platform with the pictures of a gigantic project - drainage, last year; how much is the total cost of the project and when do you intend to complete the project?

**ACU**

I will tell you it has not been easy at all but any community that has the will, must have its way. The need for the drainage came out of the frequent flooding of the community after every down pour. It's actually a very big one, more than the community planned and estimated,

the preliminary cost put at Sixty-Five Million Naira (N65 million) but since it is our community and the unwavering commitment of majority of the stakeholders, the project shall be completed by end of July 2021.

**CDC-MT**

Looking at the topography of this environment which is swampy in nature, how did the CDA make the entire landscape passable?

**ACU**

You could see during the tour of the CDA, how the vast area used to be and how we sand filled massively to make the community passable. It was not easy as we had to trip all materials at the last point that was passable even with legs; we then started creating footpath and eventually became the passable road/streets that we are now trekking and driving on.

You saw the sand filling going on at Franco Bon Street where 10 trucks of laterite have been tripped and it has not shown as if anything has been tripped. In my estimation, the CDA must have tripped nothing less than 600 trips of 20 tons each of laterite and it is still on going as we are still expanding.

**CDC-MT**

What advice do you have for other CDAs in terms of project execution?

**ACU**

I want to answer this question in two ways, first, being a CDA, it is expected that every member should be likeminded - as stakeholders, irrespective of our status, we are supposed to have the same mindset in order for the community we live to develop as much as we want. Second, there's no way that you live in a community that you will not be a financial member; every project irrespective of the size has got a cost and since we are the occupiers of the land that we find ourselves, it has then become our responsibility to contribute our quota for the area to develop. Therefore, my advice is that our members should be committed to financing the projects and programs of the CDAs.

# Ashamu West CDA



**A**shamu West CDA situated in Ashamu Estate Phase II popular called Bucknor. The CDA, which has a new leadership, a former 1st Vice Chairman at the helm of affairs, hit the ground running immediately he was elected alongside with his executive members. His first was to host the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) and his Management Team in March 2020 and since then, it has been development strides in the CDA. His performance caught the attention of the Publicity Committee and as expected the inspection of the projects in the CDA on February 20th 2021 was worth it.

Against the preferred timing of early morning tour of the CDA, the CDA chose a time when the executive members of the CDA would be meeting and as such the publicity committee members were received

at the venue of the CDA's executive council meeting at 5.55pm. The committee members were welcomed by the following CDA officials: The chairman of the CDA, Alhaji Kunle Adegboye, Mr. Oluwabusuyi Afolabi, Financial secretary, Alhaji Daramola H.A, chairman Afolabi street. The CDA chairman said the visit coincided with the monthly executive meeting of the CDA. The CDA chairman extolled the virtue of the ELCD Chairman Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Obe and the CDC chairman Prince Atiku Jelili for a harmonious relationship and positive impact the duo has imparted on the residents of the CDA and Ejigbo LCDA in general. The chairman of the Publicity Committee, Mr. Toyin Saka gave a brief rundown of the team's mission to the CDA i.e to assess the various on-going and completed projects in the CDA. He said any CDA doing any project will be given the best of publicity.

The CDA comprises of 7 Streets namely: Duduyemi Street, Abraham Okonofua Street, Afolabi/Ayinde Lawal street, Sola Adewunmi Street, Ken Nemedim Street, Lamidi Akinwale Street and Prince Abioye Street. The projects that have been completed by the CDA are (i) **Drainage at** Abraham Okonofua Street, Abioye Street, and Sola Adewumi Street; (ii) **Gates erected at** Prince Abioye Street, Sola Adewumi Street, Ken Nemedim Street and Duduyemi Street; (iii) **Culverts at** Sola Adewumi Street, Ken Nemedim Street, and Prince Abioye Street; (iv) Sand filling at Sola Adewumi Junction and Duduyemi Junction.

The visit came to a close with closing remarks by Mr. Henry Ekom Itauma who is the CDA Treasurer, with the belief that the smooth partnership that is between the ELCD/CDC and the CDA will continue for continued and sustained progress.

## INTERVIEW

with **Alhaji Adekunle Adegboye**,  
Chairman, Ashamu West CDA,  
Bucknor, Oke Afa

**CDC Media Team (CDC-MT)**

**CDC-MT:**

**C**an our members know you and the CDA that you lead? When did you become the chairman of the CDA and what led to your emergence? How old is Ashamu West CDA?



**AA:**

My name is Alhaji Adekunle Adegboye. The chairman of Ashamu West CDA, EJIGBO LCDA. February 29, 2020 through a general election

of the residents of our community. Our CDA is 13 years old.

**CDC-MT:**

How has the CDA been raising funds for execution of projects before you came on board and now?

**AA:**

From inception of the CDA till now execution of projects have been funded largely through building levies, voluntary contributions and donations from spirited members of the community. All streets are taxed to fund the execution of projects.

**CDC-MT:**

How do you rate the response of your

members towards financial contribution geared at developing the CDA?

**AA:**

The response is generally not encouraging because many residents are of the opinion that basic infrastructures which the Association is struggling to provide should be the sole responsibility of EJIGBO LCDA or State Government having paid their annual taxes, land use taxes and other taxes as prescribed by both state and local Governments.

**CDC-MT:**

You nominated a retired high ranking military officer as being supportive of your CDA, is he the only one that supports you or you have other personalities like him?

**AA:**

The high ranking retired Army officer is not the only one that supports our CDA financially on execution of projects. We have others who also in their free will that do often support the Association. We could have mentioned them in the CDC's request last week but it demanded for only one name.

**CDC-MT:**

Your CDA did not send pictures of your last month general meeting, is it that you don't/didn't hold meeting(s) or what happened?

**AA:**

We held our monthly general meeting for the month of January, 2021 precisely on the last Saturday of

the month but it was an oversight that we did not take a picture of the meeting. We promise to guide against future occurrence.

**CDC-MT:**

The executive chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) visited your CDA early last year, what informed his visit and what did your CDA achieve from the visit?

**AA:**

It would be recalled that Honourable Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello our amiable EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN of EJIGBO LCDA visited our CDA on a working visit just two weeks after the current CDA administration came on board in February, 2020. Firstly, it was the first kind of such visit to our CDA since inception of our Association by the number ONE citizen of EJIGBO LCDA. Secondly, his visit afforded him the opportunity to identify himself with us and see the infrastructures he could provide for us as a community within his area of jurisdiction. And thirdly, his visit also afforded the residents who were around to interact with him and ask for assistance of what we need to enhance our environment for a better living.

**CDC-MT:**

Your CDA seems to be focusing on erection of security gates and drainages, what are the reasons behind these projects?

**AA:**

First and foremost, the issue of

security cannot be over emphasized at CDA, local, state and federal Government's level, hence we at ASHAMU WEST CDA place high premiums on security of lives and property. We strongly believe that it's when lives and property are well protected that we can be comfortable in running after other developmental projects. We also take the issue of drainage within our community very important as good drainage can always safeguard damage to our buildings and roads. This is why we embarked on complete provision of drainage on both sides of all our 8 streets about 3 years ago and the exercise really paid off for the entire community.

**CDC-MT:**

What advice do you have for other CDA chairmen on leadership and followership?

**AA:**

My candid advice to other CDA chairmen is that they should always carry along their executives in decision making, be open to reasonable criticism and above all being Leaders they must imbibe the character of justice, fair play, transparency and accountability on sensitive issues and finances of the community.

And to the followers, they must be prepared to render assistance to the leadership whenever they are asked to do so. Also they must meet up with their financial and moral obligations whenever such are required of them.



# Mobilizing All CDA Members to Support the State Government in Achieving The THEMES AGENDA

A Special Interview with Lagos State Community Development Advisory Committee (LSCDAC) Chairman, **Alhaji, Azees Aremu Amusat** on 25th March, 2020

## Introduction

**A**lhaji Azees Aremu Amusat was born on 15th December, 1950 in Ayobo Town in Ayobo-Ipaja Local Council Development Area of Lagos State. He obtained his first degree in Political Science Education and Master's Degree in Public Administration. He started his working career at Saka Tinubu Memorial High School, Orile – Agege on 8th January, 1973.

He worked as a teacher at Anwar-ul Islam College, Oniwaya, Agege between November 1978 and October, 1995. He was transferred to St. Joseph Secondary School, Agege as a Teacher where he later became the Vice Principal before his

deployment to the office in 2001. He became the Head of Training and Staff Welfare at the defunct PP-TESCOM Zonal office, Ifako-Ijaiye and later the Deputy Director in charge of Training & Staff Welfare, Lagos State Education District 1, Agege. The position he held till the time of his statutory retirement on 8th January, 2008.

Alhaji Azees was Assistant General Secretary, Nigeria Institute of Training, Lagos State Chapter. He was Vice Chairman, Queens College SPTA (2007 – 2011), the Chairman, Board of Queens College, (2016 – 2018); Member of the District Project Advisory Committee, Lagos State Education District I Agege; the

Chairman, Papa Oloro CDA (2009 – 2013); the Chairman, Community Development Committee (CDC) Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (2011 – 2019).

He was an Executive member, Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council (2013 – 2019 and was First Vice-Chairman, Bell University Parents' Forum. He is Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. He was given an Award of Leadership and Service to Humanity by Ikeja Club in 2016. Distinguished Award as Ambassador of Peace & Security by Lagos Watch. He is happily married with children

## The Interview

CDC Media Team (CDC-MT)

CDC-MT:

**W**hat spurred you into serving community in the first instance Sir?

AAA:

I imbibed the culture of Community service from my late Father, Alhaji Amusat Tolani who was then being referred to as "Baba Ibido" in Oke-Koto, Agege as far back as 1968; he was always leading us to clear weeds, refuse in our area and digging passages for stagnant water on the road. When I moved to my house in Ojokoro in 1980, there was problem of power supply to the



area. The only transformer supplying power to Alagbado, Kola, Adura etc, was overloaded which led to non-supply of power to the area. I organized and led a protest to The Punch newspapers Office in Onipetesi which facilitated the restoration of power to my area.

Later, emerged two dynamic elderly men called Pa Olukotun and Pa Adesina (both of blessed memories). The former became our first CDA Chairman in Papa Oloro who really encouraged and urged me to be attending CDA meetings. I was one of the major contributors to the first 33 KVA step-down Electricity project in Enitan Sub-Station 1. Since I moved in, I had been grading roads in the CDA. In December 1998, I single-handedly constructed the longest concrete culverts, two others and drainage in Adurafoam area which fetched Papa Oloro CDA the first grant from the State Government.

After my retirement in January 2008, Alhaji Mustapha Enitan, current Chairman of Papa Oloro CDA and Alhaji Tunde Oyekanmi appealed to me to take up the Chairmanship of Papa Oloro CDA with the promise that they would be assisting me with the task. After a prolonged appeal and pressure, I accepted and became the CDA Chairman between 2009 - 2013 after the tenure of Chief Owoseni (Aree Papa Oloro). During this period, the CDA won another grant from the State which was used to provide a borehole at Shittu Street. We were able to install five (5) transformers within the CDA. Attendance at CDA meetings improved drastically. Empowerment aids were extended to both Widows and scholarships to Students. I became the CDC Chairman in 2011 and left in December, 2019.

**CDC-MT:**

How did you feel when you were declared as the LSCDAC Chairman at the last LSCDAC elections?

**AAA:**

Naturally, like any other person, I was so happy, exited but quickly gave thanks to Almighty God and appreciated the uniqueness of the determination of Community practitioners in voting who should lead them.

**CDC-MT:**

As the new LSCDAC Chairman, what are you bringing on board; different from what we have seen in Lagos State?

**AAA:**

First of all, I will strive to mobilize all CDA members to support the State Government in achieving The THEMES AGENDA and other Policies of Mr. Governor in order to make LAGOS a 21st Century State. What I will also concentrate on will be:

- i. Instituting an Award for outstanding Community practitioners who had served at the State Level but were yet to be honoured.
- ii. Setting a minimum unified standard of administration for all CDCs in terms of records keeping. Eg. to ensure that CDCs open their own bank account, open files for CDAs under it and file copies of their payment in CDA files in CDC.
- iii. Periodic visitations to CDCs through the Divisional Executive Members to ensure compliance with the laid down standards.
- iv. Instituting Awards for the best five CDCs in the State with the aim of encouraging others.
- v. Enter into improved working relationship and diplomatic discussions with the Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs in order to have an improved welfare package for members of the Council.
- vi. To immediately set up a Committee to look into the issue of Community House.
- vii. Prepare plastic ID card for Executive and members.

viii. Visitation to each CDC that has one issue or the other and The Local Government Chairman of the CDC.

**CDC-MT:**

How do you intend to monitor the performances of all 57 CDCs in Lagos State?

**AAA:**

This we hope to do through:

- i. Through visitation by the CDAC Executive member(s) in each Division.
- ii. Enforcement of proper documentation.
- iii. Contacts within the CDC and their meeting minutes.
- iv. Unscheduled visitations to CDC Meetings.

**CDC-MT:**

CDAs being fourth tier of government, is the state government really reaching out to about 4,000 CDAs in Lagos State?

**AAA:**

Yes, through the Community Development Committees in all the 57 LGAs/LCDAs in the State; and through dissemination of Information through various organs and media.

**CDC-MT:**

How do you want to be remembered as the LSCDAC Chairman?

**AAA:**

For integrity, probity, accountability, cordial relationship with the State Government and other Stakeholders and Community Development Practitioners.

**CDC-MT:**

What advice do you want to give the leadership of the CDCs across Lagos State?

**AAA:**

To do the right thing all the time. Fear God and respect others.



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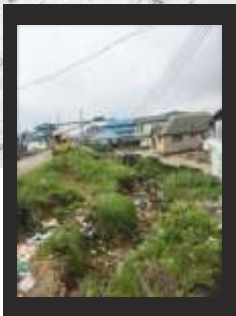
2, Sarah Faboyede Street, Bucknor Estate, Isheri - Oshun Road, behind Jakande Estate, Isolo, Lagos.

solinvestments09@yahoo.com

# ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:

## TACKLING THE ROOT OF FLOOD in Oke-Afa Ward

Toyin Saka



In the month of July 2020, the State Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources in a release signed by the Commissioner, Mr. Tunji Bello urged the residents of Lagos State, especially those with structures in low lying areas to be wary during the period of raining season to avoid any untoward incident which may come with flooding and resultant loss of lives and properties. Lagos State Government therefore reminded residents to be highly conscious of flood risk in 2020.

This report therefore, is the Community Development Committee of Ejigbo LCDA's response to the flood in the LCDA. The

Committee on Tuesday, 7th July 2020 toured 8 CDAs in Jakande Estate and Bucknor Areas of Oke Afa Ward. The tour was done by the leadership of the CDC Ejigbo LCDA, Supervisor, Agric and Social Services and representatives of 7 CDAs. The following are the names of the people in the tour include Prince Jelili Atiku, Alhaji Wasiu Atinnsola, Barr. Bimbo Olawale, Mrs. Joke Adeosun, Mr. Toyin Saka, Mr. Kalu Emea Kalu, Mr. Fidelis Onwuatuelo, Mr. John Akukwe, Rev. Afolabi Ojo, Mrs. Igwe, Mr. Matthew Salako, Mr. Adebayo Omojaro, Mr. Oladayo Okelola, Sir Ikechukwu Ezeonyeka, Mr. Olumide Fadare, Barr. Victor Enuloe, Pastor Isiah Awhangu, Alhaji Rafiu Jimoh, Mr. Akeem koleosho, Mr. Fela

Sholanke, Mr. John Ayalogu, Mr. K.C. Emmanuel, Mr. Paul Umesi and Mr. Tochukwu Akaele.

### The Affected CDAs

Below is the list of the CDAs that are being affected by the flood:

1. Ashamu East CDA,
2. Ashamu Estate CDA,
3. Canal View Estate Phase I CDA,
4. Canal View Estate Phase II CDA,
5. De Harmony CDA,
6. Peace Home Valley Estate CDA,
7. Promise Land CDA and;
8. Unity LCHE CDA.



# THE TOUR

**Being at the receiving end of the flood and waste water coming from Jakande gate, Isheri Osun Road and Iyana Ejigbo, the assembly point was the bridge linking Jakande and Bucknor by Brilliant Academy.**

## **ASHAMU ESTATE CDA**

It was observed that the beginning of under the bridge which leads to inside of the above mentioned communities, was recently dredged/de silted but not some distance due to the factors/encumbrances that shall be mentioned in the course of this report.

The efforts of some residents of Ashamu Estate CDA to dredge/de silt the beginning of the natural channel, having employed the services of a swamp boogie couldn't get much

relief as the waterway has been encroached and any attempt to go further could have pulled down some buildings unknowingly if they had dredged further.

It was also noticed that some streets linking the major channel from the bridge do not have proper drainage system that can discharge water/flood effectively, thereby causing overflowing of water/flood on the streets. While there are glaring cases of encroachment (structure already giving way and construction still ongoing), some houses have

always been marked several times in years back and nothing has been done.

There is a particular building (an abandoned warehouse built on water way and another narrow two storey building still under construction joined together to the abandoned warehouse). Between the boundary of Ashamu Estate CDA and De Harmony CDA, there are structures that have recently been built in spite of the hazards of being on waterway. Few foundations have also been laid without recourse to environmental and town planning regulations.

## **DE HARMONY CDA**

Pedro Street off Sarah Faboyede street that links the water way also has some buildings that have been marked to have encroached on the canal route. From the bridge, up till this sloppy street, one can still see the route of the canal. Getting to Delavit Street off Okoye Street, the canal route becomes smaller and this was the same location that the dredging exercise carried out by some CDAs in 2015 had a stoppage as a storey-building obstructed further dredging and it has been like that. This exercise actually caused some disaffections between the neighboring CDAs as there were accusations and counter accusations of trying to divert the canal to another route.

This notion is still being nurtured by these concerned and badly affected CDAs as was confirmed later in the day. Getting to Okoye Close, off Okoye Street, no more traces of the canal route and this is one of the contentious locations.

This Street also receives flood from Dele Awelewa, Sarah Faboyede, Ola ifa and Okoye streets due to the below the sea level location but it has been devastating to the residents on the close. This street shares boundary with Unity LCHE CDA and because of the devastation every time there is flooding, some residents on Harmony street in Unity LCHE at a time wanted to construct a Berlin Wall to block the massive flood coming from far and near.

## **ASHAMU EAST CDA**

Some few years back, Ementa Nwanisobi end that is also sloppy and connects the expected waterway/channel/canal used to have a route but this space has been blocked by structures of recent and foundations also laid to own land.

There used to be Titi Orunmila Street which goes down to nowhere and this is also one of the challenges faced in the area. Nosa Enobabor close, Jubril Aligbo, Ebo Akalonu and

by extension Alhaji Fatai Akinlabi streets also link this route that should have served as another discharge route to the canal but it is just a drain between two fences after Fatai Akinlabi by Erejuwa Crescent that all these streets discharge to. The CDA shares boundary with Peace Home Valley Estate where three streets from Peace Home Valley Estate (Ase, Jubril Aligbo and Babatunde Shogbesan) also link the unnoticed waterway from Titi Ajanaku street. This narrow path links to Ngozi Irondi where there is no longer straight route to Fasehun bridge canal but diversion to Erejuwa Crescent.

## **Promise Land CDA**

The rampaging flood after passing through the narrow path from Ngozi Irondi and Erejuwa Crescent, heads to Eric Amukamara Street which is a straight road expected to link the canal but due to the topography of the area (getting higher as one approaches the canal). This makes faster discharge of flood difficult as the rampaging flood is also diverted to Prince Bello street instead of going straight to the canal and reduce the time wasting before discharging.

It is good to note that Oke Afa canal at Fasehun Link bridge has been receiving the attention of Lagos State government as the canal that has been silted for years has been de silted and still on going for the past three months. It's also worthy of mention that the silt is being carted away and also used being used to fill the swampy environment.

The team also noticed that the link bridge is not allowing free movement of water due to the columns used in raising the bridge. If this is not looked into, it won't be long for the canal to be silted again.

## **Peace Home Valley Estate CDA**

The CDA also connects/discharges to the canal. Esther Ibekwe Street and Vineyard Road are the only physically created/seen routes that discharge to the canal. While Esther Ibekwe has some drainage system from the beginning of their boundary with

Jakande Estate, the undeveloped plots of land before the canal has no standard drainage that can discharge because it is earthing surface drainage.

This is one of the hiccups because of the volume of flood/water that comes through the route. An abandoned culvert towards the end of the street leading to the canal is yet to be completed but the standard was also questioned while by the team. Vineyard Road does not have standard drainage system because it earthing surface all through and this contributes to the slow discharge of flood/water to the canal.

## **Unity LCHE CDA**

The CDA is sandwiched between De Harmony and Peace Home Valley Estate CDAs and the blockage of the waterway from the bridge has put some of the houses in nightmare as some houses have been submerged.

## **Canal View Estate Phase II CDA**

Being below Low Cost Housing Estate, all the water/flood comes to the area and more importantly the blockage of drains on the Four Square Church which affects them including washing away the just tarred road through community efforts.

It was observed, while on Vineyard Road that the Jakande Estate Central Sewage System is not working since the central system has collapsed. It was an eye sore to see that some pipes connecting the central sewage are broken and shits flow freely on bare ground to God knows where. This was discovered at the back of the estate blocks that are backing the central sewage on Four Square Church Avenue.

## **Canal View Estate Phase I CDA**

The CDA is situated at the sloppy end of Church street in Jakande Estate. The government standard drainage system has collapsed while there is a particular spot that millions of Naira has been spent but it's money down the drain. The spot has been damaged due to rampaging flood

and instead of the flood to connect to the other side of the road, because of the damage which has cut off the government drainage, the devastation is being felt by houses that are down and there's nothing to prevent the devastation of except linking the collapsed drainage on the road. Inside the street, we could see the original drainage system put in place by government but it has been distorted and disrupted, thereby

creating their own substandard drainage system.

On Nkpor Street, a total blockage of a drain by residents of the street whom we were told do not belong to any CDA was discovered. The Supervisor for Agric and Social Services was rightly informed to help them take necessary action by informing the works department of Ejigbo LCDA. While trying to debrief after the tour,

at the beginning of the bridge, it was noticed that water stagnates on both sides of the bridge once it rains. This can lead to easy damage to the road if urgent attention is not accorded the portions of the bridge.

**Photo: CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku and Babaoja second and third on the right side.**

Being the border between Ejigbo LCDA and Isolo LCDA and because of the traffic situation in the axis, a visit was made on 18th March, 2020 to the market to assess the best practices of the market in term of cleanliness. To convince the CDC executive members in the unscheduled visit, the Babaoja, Chief Rahimi Balogun and the secretary Mr. Nureni Odofofin took the visitors round the market which was clean. The only challenge they have is the refuse collection which the cost was making the market management to patronize the LAWMA PSP on a monthly basis. This the CDC chairman directed that they should be disposing the refuse every week. That monthly patronage of the LAWMA PSP is unacceptable considering the location of the market and the danger the monthly disposal will cause to the people in the area. He said the refuse should be disposed weekly.

## A Visitation to Canoe Market in Ilamoshe



## Fumigation Exercise

Against the backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic, Ejigbo LCDA was busy day in day out with a view to containing the spread of the pandemic. Major markets and other areas fumigated on 25th April 2020. The fumigation exercise was led by the HOD Environment Department of Ejigbo LCDA, Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe and ably supported by the Supervisor for the Environment, Mr. Femi Ibine.



# Ejigbo Community Love Celebration

Julius Bamisile (CLC)



I will like to prelude this report of the maiden community love celebration held on the 14th day of February 2021 by citing the interview conducted by Mrs. Yetunde Oyerinde with the CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku between 3.13pm and 3.19pm; few minutes before the celebration began. Below is the extract of the interview:

**JB:** Can you introduce yourself as far as Ejigbo LCDA is concerned?

**JA:** My name is Prince Jelili Olorunfunmi Atiku, the CDC Chairman. I coordinate, monitor and organize the activities of all the over 120 CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA.

**JB:** How did you manage to put up this program within the shortest time?

**JA:** I and my executive members worked tirelessly to make it a success.

**JB:** Do you wish to make the celebration a yearly event?

**JA:** Yes. That is why it is called inaugural; it will be a continuous yearly event and because we keyed in to a Valentine's Day celebration.

**JB:** From the schedule of today's event, launch of 2021 calendar is prominent. How do you intend raise funds and spend it?

**JA:** As CDC we have a lot of projects to be done and if we are able to realise enough funds, this will help us execute our projects. There are a lot CDC projects that need massive funding.

**JB:** What advice do you have for all the Community Development Practitioners in Ejigbo LCDA.

**JA:** To imbibe the spirit of love, togetherness and active participation in community development activities and projects.



Ejigbo  
Community  
**Love Celebration**  
(CLC)



**EJIGBO COMMUNITY LOVE CELEBRATION 2021**

**A**s we gather here today Sunday February 14 2021, we dedicate our inaugural Community Love Celebration to our beloved **ASIWAJU BOLA AHMED TINUBU**. We register our sincere **GRATITUDE** and **APPRECIATION** to him for the creation of **EJIGBO LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREA**.

Our beloved Asiwaju, your creation, **EJIGBO LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREA** in 2003 is magical and a **LIGHT** unto us! You are indeed a positive change agent, a revolutionary and progressive leader.

On behalf of all the residents and Ejigbo Communities we would love to take this opportunity to express our love and appreciation to you.

**WE LOVE YOU DEEPLY!**  
For CDC/CDAs Ejigbo LCDA:



*Monsuru Oloyede Bello*  
Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe),  
Executive Chairman,  
Ejigbo Local Council Development Area

*Prince Jelili O. Atiku*  
Prince Jelili O. Atiku  
Chairman, CDC - Ejigbo LCDA

*Abimbola Olawale*  
Barr. Abimbola Olawale  
Secretary, CDC - Ejigbo LCDA



The celebration started at exactly 4.02pm with prayers from a Christian, Rev. Dr. Stephen Olayinka Oyinlola, a Muslim, Alfa Tijani Isiaka and Onisesese, Mrs. Kabiratu Amoke Rasaki, who is the On'bashu of Ejigbo, Lagos.

The roll call of personalities present include, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe), the Chairman, Ejigbo LCDA, Alhaji Amusat Azees - Chairman Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council, Dr. Paul Fregene – Secretary, Ejigbo LCDA, Rev. S.O Oyinlola representing Christians Association of Nigeria, Ejigbo Chapter, Chief Imam of Ejigbo, represented by Alfa Tijani Isiaka representing league of Imams and Muslims community in Ejigbo, Mrs. Kabiratu Amoke Rasaki representing the Isese religion in Ejigbo, Alhaji Abiodun Kasumu - APC LGA

Chairman Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Olanrewaju Akinbowale – Leader of the house Ejigbo LCDA, Comrade Gbenle Samuel Owolabi, Mr. Elijah Oluwatoyin Ajose (outgoing HOD Agric and Social Services, Ejigbo LCDA), Mrs. Adejoke Adeosun, Supervisory councilor Agric and Social Services, Ejigbo LCDA, Mr. Sunday Ayodele, Chairman, Revenue Committee, Ejigbo LCDA, Chief Odofin of Ejigbo, Hon. Habeeb Anibaba, Dr. Chukwuneye Celestine, Baale Orisunbare, Alhaji Shakirudeen Odofin (Oloriebi Illamoshe family), Alhaji Oseni Yisa (Oloriebi Ojomo family), Chief Akeem Rafiu, Otunba Ademola Odumade, Hon. M.O. Johnson, Mr. Akinyele Akintunde, Alhaji Olalekan, Mr. Kayode Jayeola, Comrade Owolabi, NUPENG Chairmen Folawiyo Depot, Mrs. Stella Adebisi - Iyaloja Jakande

Estate Ejigbo LCDA, Mr. Bankole Agunloye, Alhaji Nurudeen Ogunleye and several others.

In CDC Ejigbo LCDA, the executive committee members that were present include Prince Jelili Atiku – Chairman, Alhaji Wasiu Atinnsola - 1st Vice Chairman, Bashorun A.O. Oguntomole - 2nd Vice Chairman, Barr. Abimbola Olawale - Secretary, Mr. Dele Olokoobi – Assistant Secretary, Mr. Taiwo Owolabi – Treasurer, Alh. Basiru Adejumo – Financial Secretary, Mr. Toyin Saka – Publicity Secretary, Mrs. Yemisi Alashe – Social Secretary, Alhaji Tajudeen Sanni - Welfare Officer, and Alhaji Fatai Ibrahim - Ex – Officio III. There was also the presence of some **CDA Chairmen in ELCDA.**



Prince Jelili Atiku's welcome address was at 4.33 pm. He showered encomiums on the personality of Alhaji Amusat Azees, Chairman Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council who still found time to join the celebration despite the fact the day was the Introduction ceremony of his daughter's wedding. The CDC chairman's speech was anchored on the word of Margaret J Wheatly, "there is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about". In Ejigbo, we have discovered that involving in community development services and activities bring about happiness

and growth to us and our communities. We therefore care about community love and community development. The ceremony was dedicated to ASIWAJU BOLA AHMED TINUBU for the creation of EJIGBO LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREA in 2003. Therefore, he stated categorically that we are ready to return back the love which ASIWAJU BOLA AHMED TINUBU gave us first in 2003".

In continuing his speech, the CDC chairman reiterated that the community love celebration was an opportunity to remind ourselves and

re-awaken people's interest and encourage all residents in community participation in the welfare and improvement of the community; and promote peace, unity, initiative, leadership and togetherness among the members of the community.

Prince Jelili Atiku concluded his speech by drawing inference from the words of Barr. Abimbola Olawale the Secretary of the CDC Ejigbo LCDA, "I love my community because everyone seems to know each other".



## Community Love Celebration

### GRATITUDE

On behalf of the entire members, we are registering our profound appreciation to the following personalities for helping and enhancing the growth of the unlisted CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA. WE THANK YOU!

Chief Njoku Nicholas	-	Ageke west CDA
Alhaji Sharafadeen Akinlola	-	Bucknor CDA
Mr Muheeb Eniola	-	ARAROMI OLORUNSOGO ALAFIA CDA
Chief (Mrs.) Rafatu Ajagbe	-	Oboye Pipeline CDA
Mr Oladapo Ladenika	-	Praise land CDA
Engr. Odetola.O	-	United CDA
Eng Lookman Adebayo	-	Igala Estate CDA
Pastor (Dr.) Cyril Azobu	-	Ashamu East CDA
Gen. Ibrahim Alawode (Rtd)	-	Ashamu West CDA
Chief Celestine Okwudili Obiefunai	-	Kajola CDA
Mr John Agbedeyi	-	Ailegun Omoboja CDA
Alhaji M.A Oduwole	-	Green Land CDA
Mrs. Abosede Oladunni Adeyemo	-	Eyitayo CDA
Mr. Darlington Awa	-	Aso Rock Cda
Engr. Stanley Young	-	Brethren CDA
Dr. T. Gbeleyi	-	Junction CDA
Primate Elijah Ayodele (JP)	-	Olive Estate CDA
Mrs. Beatrice Abbe	-	Igala CDA
Mr. Gabriel Ajose Fadeyi	-	Ifedapo Double Powerline CDA
Mr. Raji	-	Ifoshi/Angbaka CDA
Mr. Ayodele Ayodeji Sunday	-	Ireti Ogo CDA
Chief Amos Bolanle Olaniyan	-	Omiyale End CDA
Prince Tochukwu Obidigwe	-	Canal View Estate Phase 2 CDA
Lvt. Rasheed Lawal (rtd)	-	Victory Estate 1 CDA
Chief Lateef Sekoni	-	Oba Ojoola CDA
Mr. Jude Anyanwu	-	De-Harmony CDA
Mrs. Sarah Faboyede CP (Rtd), JP-	-	Ashamu Estate CDA
Madam Esther Ibekwe	-	Peace Home Valley Estate CDA
Mr. Sunday Gijuwei	-	Babatunde Allen CDA
Mrs. O. Feyisara Ogungbesan JP	-	Agbajo CDA
Mr. Isiaka Balogun	-	Abuna Sanusi CDA
Alhaji Alimi Lookman	-	Okejide Eniolorunopa Ekundayo CDA
Alhaji A.Y. Kazeem	-	Osoru CDA
Chief (Mrs.) S.M. Adebisi	-	Double Star CDA
Elder David Akinde	-	Ori-Oke Ifelodun CDA
Alhaja Sidikat Obisesan	-	Ilamoshe CDA
Mr. Joseph Achibbuke	-	Divine CDA

**Speech by Alhaji Amusat Azees,  
Chairman Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council**



At exactly 4.47 pm, Alhaji Amusat Azees, the Chairman Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council thanked residents of Ejigbo LCDA and most especially, the CDC Chairman and his team for their commitment to community issues. He was full of praises for the Ejigbo LCDA Chairman, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe), for his love towards community and any issues brought to his attention. Some of the ways the Chairman LSCDAC further showed his love at this occasion included giving of financial reward: (i) N20,000 (Twenty Thousand Naira) to Mrs. Oyerinde Yetunde (the Electricity Correspondent of the CDC Publicity Sub-Committee) for an article (the debutant) she wrote on 4th day of January 2021 and published on the group WhatsApp platform of the CDC; (ii) N20,000 (Twenty Thousand Naira) was given to the Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Toyin Saka for his good initiatives and outstanding performance in the CDC; (iii) N25,000 (Twenty Five Thousand Naira only) was given to the CDC Secretary, Barr. Abimbola Olawale for outstanding performance' and (iv) N30,000 (Thirty thousand Naira) was given to the CDC chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku for outstanding performance and steadfastness to the course of Community Development Practice in the LCDA in particular and State in general; and (v) N50,000 (Fifty Thousand Naira only) was given to the CDC Ejigbo LCDA for appreciation of the togetherness and unity.



**Launching of CDC Ejigbo 2021 Calendar**

The Chairman CDC Ejigbo LCDA, Prince Jelili Atiku explained the concept behind the calendar, which according to him is to archive the Leaders of community developments practitioner in Ejigbo LCDA. He said this was the reason for the calendar to have seven pages: Page one contains selected activities such the distribution of palliatives to indigent members which were distributed during COVID-19 lock down in April 2020 etc., page two has pictures of the body of power in Lagos State and Ejigbo LCDA; page three has pictures of the executives of CDC Ejigbo LCDA; page four has pictures of Chairmen of CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA; page five has pictures of Secretaries of CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA; page Six has pictures of Treasurers of CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA; and page seven has the panoramic pictures of the activities of the CDC. He pleaded that the CDC has projects to carry out in future and would need fund to execute them. He therefore, declared that the launching was to raise fund for the projects. The Calendar was eventually presented to the Chairman Lagos State Community Advisory Council at about 5.07pm for official launching. The launching generated over N700,000 (Seven hundred thousands Naira). The Chairman Ejigbo LCDA used the opportunity to announce that he would provide a new A-18-seater Bus (New Chasis) to be presented latest July latest July 2021 for CDC Ejigbo LCDA.



**Send forth for the HOD Agric and Social Services, ELCDA Mr. Oluwatoyin Elijah Ajose (JP)**

The chairman ELCDA Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe), CDC Chairman Prince Jelili Atiku, The Coordinator, National Youth council of Nigeria Ejigbo Branch had no appropriate words that could describe the selfless service of the man Mr. Ajose Oluwatoyin Elijah (JP). Above all they all wished him good health, peace of mind, Long life and more victories in retirement. Gifts of various kinds and brands were presented to him including a gas cooker from the CDC.



### Exchange of Gifts

The CDC Ejigbo LCDA presented a giant portrait as gift to Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu through the executive chairman, Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Obe; and to chairman, Ejigbo LCDA too. A gift from a Professor Abdulrasaq Yusuf from College of Education, Zaria was also presented to the ELCDA. Various gifts from individual CDAs chairmen were given to recipients whose names have been written on the well wrapped gifts.

### Appreciation!

The Chairman of ELCDA, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) while appreciating the LSCDAC Chairman, Alhaji Azees Amusat and all the people present during the celebration. Printed copies of epitaph of appreciation were presented to few personalities for helping and enhancing the growth of the CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA. Check the list on page 32.

### Commissioning of Projects

The chairman ELCDA Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) informed all present that letters will soon be written to CDAs about the commencement of projects that are due for commissioning in ELCDA which his administration carried out even with the reduced revenue generation.

### Entertainment

Delicious meals and drinks were dished by Inventions Delicious Catering Services. The celebration came to a close at 6.33pm.

*Julius Bamisile is the Secretary of CDC Publicity Sub-Committee of Ejigbo LCDA. The other CDC media team that were present at the occasion lead by Mr. Saka Toyin were Mr Julius Ojo Bamisile, Mr Lukman Abolaji Amisu and Mrs Yetunde Mary Oyerinde.*

## TEXT OF WELCOME ADDRESS on the occasion of the maiden edition of Community Love Celebration, February 14, 2021

### Protocols

In her book, *Turning to One Another* (2002); Margaret J. Wheatley writes, "there is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about." In Ejigbo, we have discovered that involvement in community development services and activities bring happiness and growth to us and to our communities. We therefore care about community love and community development.

It is a great pleasure and honour to have your presence in this maiden edition of our community love celebration. The ceremony, which is dedicated to ASIWAJU BOLA AHMED TINUBU for the creation of EJIGBO LOCAL COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT AREA in 2003 aiming at bringing us together to re-energize the bond of love among us and to reaffirm our commitment for community development. Thank you to each and every one of you for being here with us today.

Before we get started in celebrating our love for the growth of Ejigbo, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of you who have big-heartedly helped us in making this event a success. We couldn't have done it without you!

This gathering is an opportunity to remind ourselves of one the principal objectives of the Community Development Committee, which is to re-awaken people's interest and encourage the community participation in the welfare and improvement of the Community; and importantly to promote peace, unity, initiative, leadership and togetherness among the members of the community. You would agree with me that the tenet of the foregoing is LOVE.

I will like to conclude this address by amplifying the statement by Barr. Abimbola Olawale, my indefatigable Secretary of CDC - Ejigbo - LCDA. She wrote in the CDC WhatsApp platform that:

I love my community because everyone seems to know each other. There are great views where you can see for miles and miles away, and a plentiful supply of kindness. We come together when a person is in a time of need and always work together for the greater good. Being good neighbors. Connecting people into relationships. Serving the needs of our community. In many ways, a healthy relationship between your brand and its community parallels that of a healthy relationship between two people. Both relationships rest on simple tenets like respect, and both should be celebrated whenever possible.

When thinking about the connection you've built with your community and its members, remember these healthy relationships to keep your community feeling loved and appreciated.

Remember to say "Thank you." People generally enjoy saying or doing nice things for others, and tend to do it without expecting to be thanked for it. However, we all know how great it makes us feel when we are recognized for our efforts. When your community says something nice about you, it's always a wonderful idea to say "thank you."

We say THANK YOU to you all and welcome to Ejigbo Communities.

Prince **Jelili O. Atiku**,  
Chairman, CDC Ejigbo LCDA

# Community Educational Intervention on Maintaining a Rape Child Molestation and Domestic Violence Free Community

Engr. Fatai Oloko and Christian Esu



The tripartite, Ejigbo LCDA, CDC Ejigbo and International Visitor Leadership Program Alumni Association, United States Consulate organised community educational intervention (CEI) program held on 26th March, 2021 at Ejigbo Local Council Development Area Premises. Chosen the theme, Community Educational Intervention: Maintaining Rape, Child Molestation and Domestic Violence Free Community, the event premised its context on the seemingly ceaseless cases of rape and other sexual and domestic violence in Ejigbo. Although it will be difficult to state accurately the statistic of the cases of this ugly experience; but three

outstanding cases have attracted the concern of the community within and outside its shore. These are, the Ejigbo Pepper Sodomy of February 2013 - bestial torture and sodomy of three women; the rape and murder of an 11-year-old girl, Favour Okechukwu at Olarewaju Street in September 2020; and recently the gang-rape of a teenager in February 2021.

In order to make the community educational intervention effective, it was divided into three sessions: (i) Session 1 (9.00AM - 12.00PM) - attracted participation of 100 Students in Senior classes of Secondary Schools from public and

private schools in Ejigbo LCDA; (ii) Session 2 (1.00PM - 3.00PM) involved 100 Youth, which included members of National Youth Council Ejigbo LCDA Chapter, Artisans Associations, Political Parties, religious bodies (Christian, Muslim and Isele-Indigenous religion), National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW), etc. in Ejigbo LCDA; and (iii) Session 3: (4.00PM - 6.00PM) - designed for 100 parents with the composition of community development leaders/practitioners, parents and teachers associations, guardians, political parties' leaders, and members of the legislative arms of Ejigbo LCDA.



In the first session, the participating schools were Ejigbo Junior High School, Ejigbo Senior High School, Oke-Afa Comprehensive Senior School, Oke Afa Comprehensive Junior School, De Gloryland College, Top High Flyers College, West Cliff International School, Ephraim High School, Chosen Seed College, Sound Foundation School, Hopeful College, Grandmate High School, Dreamland High School, Favour School, Starlight College, AP College, Hybrid Comprehensive College, Seed of Messiah School, Soundland School, Davifza Secondary School, Campus Comprehensive College, Pricom College, Classic Comprehensive College, Razeva College, Effortswill Academy, Al-Faruq College, Ronik Comprehensive College, The Great Delight Someland College, Classic Comprehensive College, and Excel College.

The session drew two lectures with sub-themes Understanding the Scourge: Rape, Child Molestation and Domestic Violence; and Speak Out Against the Root Causes Rape and Other Sexual Violence. The first lecture was delivered by Mrs. Bisi Ajayi-Kayode of CECEYARA Foundation; and Dr. Maymunah Kadiri. Mrs. Kayode charged the students to see rape as a serious abuse and should not be allowed to continue. She said it could happen to male or female. She affirmed that it is the responsibility of adult to protect children and not the other way. She urged the students to memorize the acronym, PANT: P - Private part, A - All belong to you; N - Say NO; T - Report Area Touched. She gave CECEYARA FOUNDATION help line numbers: **0800-800-8001**.

Dr. Maymunah Kadiri whose presentation was interactive, opined that the culture of abuse has to be broken, even religious houses were not absolutely free from child molestation. She echoed the slogan, SORO SOKE. She concluded by saying that "it is easier, and cheaper to manage an adolescent than repair an adult".

The second lecture in this session was delivered by Mrs. Bose Agbonmerere Ironsi, the founder and Executive Director of Women's Right and Health Project (WRHP), Ejigbo LCDA and Rev. (Dr.) Stephen Olayinka Oyinlola. Mrs. Ironsi in her lecture, said rape is associated with mental health issues. She said rape is usually perpetrated by persons that know the victims, i.e. pastor, father, uncle, etc. She also provided WRHP - help line, 0700-3333-111 - for physio-social support. Rev. (Dr.) Oyinlola Olayinka (the CAN Chairman in Ejigbo LCDA) used the acronym, SRR: S - Shout/ Scream, R - Run, R - Report illustrate in his submission in the lecture.

The Chairman, Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) in his remark on the CEI programme asserted that Ejigbo was READY TO SET THE PACE, SPEAK OUT, RIGHT THE WRONG, and ALWAYS READY TO COLLABORATE. He said the LCDA and CDC Ejigbo leadership would strive to re-write the history of EJIGBO LCDA by giving every facet of development and improvement the attention it requires. He encouraged the students to always speak out when rape occurs. He appreciated the partnership of the United States Consulate through the International Visitor Leadership Program Alumni Association (IVLPAA) and the presence of IVLPAA Chairperson, Princess Adetoun Tade, Dr. Kadiri, Rev. Dr. Oyinlola, Mrs. Ironsi, Mrs. Ajayi-Kayode and all CDC Executives of Ejigbo LCDA and the legislators of Ejigbo LCDA who were present. The first session came to a close by 12.38pm with declaration and presentation of Community Ambassadorial Certificates to all the students that participate in the session

The second session commenced at exactly 2.00pm with the introduction of dignitaries including Supervisory Councilor for Agric and Social Services, Mrs. Adejoke Ndidi Adeosun, Supervisory Councilor for Education Mr. Ganiyu Bello, Princess Adetoun Tade (President of

International Visitor Leadership Programme Alumni Association of United States Consulate -IVLP). Mr. Ganiyu Bello and Mrs. Adeko Olayinka, HOD Agric and Social Services welcomed all guests and participants to the programme and to Ejigbo Local Council Development Area.

Princess Adetoun Tade in her opening remarks said rape stories were far from us before but now very close to us, she urged the participants to listen, learn and ask question. The lecture 3 titled, The Strategies for Rape and Sexual Violence Avoidance and Resistance was presented by Mrs. Grace Ketefe and Mrs. Bisi Ajayi Kayode. Mrs. Ketefe in her contribution said, silence is not consent to sexual activity/affair. Strategies to prevent rape according to Mrs. Ketefe include: don't blame the victim, take responsibility for any error, don't use alcohol to indulge in rape, teach everyone about the need for sexual violence avoidance, condemn the act when people joke about it (rape), challenge any image that enhances sexual violence/ rape used for advertising, men must become partners to end rape, hold each other accountable, get support from people to fight rape, condemn in strong terms too sexy comments; speak up against rape, and listen to survivors.

Mrs. Ajayi-Kayode harped on community engagements with 5 steps to stop sexual abuse or rape: rape is rampant everywhere, minimize opportunities for it to occur, don't allow neighbours to send your child on errand carelessly/ without permission, look out for signs of abuse; i.e. rude behavior, fearless, drop out of school.

The theme of lecture 4 was Destroying the Culture of Rape and Domestic Violence in our Community and it was delivered by Mr. Olanrewaju Ojo who is the author of 'How not to be a rapist' and Rev. (Dr.) Olayinka Oyinlola. Mr. Ojo's lecture condemned the acts of sexual

violence and averred that consent is always needed in sexual acts. Rev. Dr. Oyinlola while speaking on how to help rape victim gave the following points: listen to victims' story, let them be in control to express themselves, respect the decision of the victim, be patient with the victim, re-assure the victim of assistance; don't doubt the victim; and say what you can do to help the victim to find justice. What should not be done to the victim according to Rev. Dr. Oyinlola are: don't be in haste, don't interrupt the victim, don't discuss their matter, don't stigmatize them.

The second session also came to a close with the declaration and presentation of Ambassadorial Certificates of campaign against Rape and other sexual violence to all the participating youth in the session. The certificates were presented by Prince Jelili Atku. It was closed at 4.00pm.

Session 3, which is specifically designed for community development practitioners/leaders, parents/ guardians began at exactly 4:30 PM. The themes of the session were "Defining Community Responses to Rape, Child Molestation and Domestic Violence" and "You are the Agent/Ambassador Against Rape, Child Molestation and Domestic Violence" with Dr. Maymunah Kadiri and Rev. (Dr.) S.O. Oyinlola as lecturers.

In "Defining Community Responses to Rape, Child Molestation and Domestic Violence", which was the Lecture 5 of CEI, Dr. Kadiri using Ejigbo as acronym explained what parents/guardians and community leaders can do to handle rape incident(s) EJIGBO: E – Enlightenment, J – Joint Collaboration, I – Implore to empower our youth, G – Get the right attitude -Don't sweep any rape case(s) under the carpet, B – Break the culture of silence; and O - Observe and listen to victims non-judgmentally.



Prince Sola Ojewusi in the Lecture 6, "You are the Agent/Ambassador Against Rape, Child Molestation and Domestic Violence" was able to educate the participants on the need to live up to expectations as true agents/ambassadors because it is the only justification for holding this sensitization program. He charged them to be agents of change in the seemingly persistent culture of domestic violence, rape and other sexual violence in Ejigbo community.

The remarks from the leader of the legislative arm of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Olanrewaju Akinbowale was assuring, as he promised to work with other legislators to enact a by-law that would make enforcement of rape case(s) easy. In the same vein, the Chairman of APC in ELCDA, Hon. Fatai Kasumu appreciated all the efforts of the Chairman of ELCDA, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) for investing in human capital the same way he is focusing on infrastructure facilities. He also showered great appreciation to the CDC executives especially the Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku as the body always partner with the ELCDA. The Supervisory Councilor for Agric and Social Services, Hon. Joke Adeosun encouraged all the

participants, especially parents to tell their children to behave well in the society.

The Chairman Education Committee of the CDC Ejigbo CDA in person of Basorun A.O. Oguntomole appreciated all for being patient since the event took off as early as 10.AM. His word of deepest appreciation went to the ELCDA Chairman, Hon Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) whom he described as a leader with the love for wellbeing of the people in his heart. He also thanked Princess Adetoun Tade, all lecturers, Councilors, the CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku, Chairman of APC ELCDA, Hon. Kasumu and all present for the quality time spent and wished everyone a safe return to their destinations.

Princess Adetoun Tade in her closing remarks appreciated Ejigbo LCDA Chairman, Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello and the Chairman of CDC Ejigbo, Prince Jelilil Atiku for the opportunity to interact with the people of Ejigbo LCDA about maintaining rape, child molestation and domestic violence free community. She called the gesture a movement with high level of preparation and commitment of both the ELCDA and the CDC Ejigbo. She showered encomiums on the CDC chairman Prince Jelili Atiku who she described as phenomenal agent of community development.

The CEI was declared closed by the CDC Ejigbo Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku at 6.25pm with rendition of the National Anthem. It is pertinent to mention that all the participants in the CEI were all given seminar materials, which include branded t-shirts and face-cap, face masks, hard cover jotters, and ball pens.

The CDC Ejigbo LCDA's Education Committee, Publicity Sub-Committee in collaboration with the Department of Education and Department of Agric and Social Services coordinated the organisation and events of the CEI.



CDC Ejigbo  
LCDA Receives

# Award OF EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE

Ugonma Effanga (Mrs.)



Barely a year old in the administration of the Community Development Committee (CDC), Ejigbo LCDA, the CDC leadership led by Prince Jelili Atiku was awarded the **BEST CDC OF THE YEAR** at the yearly EchoneWS Newspaper award, which was held on December 17, 2021. The CDC beat the other two CDCs in Oshodi/Isolo LGA, namely CDC, Oshodi/Isolo Local Government and CDC, Isolo LCDA. At the colourful presentation attended

by the Assistant Secretary, Publicity Secretary and Social Secretary of the CDC, Ejigbo LCDA, the CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku received the award on behalf of the Committee and devoted it to all the CDA members in Ejigbo LCDA. Presenting the award, the publisher of EchoneWS Hon. Kehinde Bamgbeta revealed that the award is an epitome of the qualitative leadership of the CDC and the role its leaders played in stopping the attack

of Wednesday 21, 2020 when at hoodlums who were heavily armed with dangerous weapons besieged and attacked Ejigbo Community in which in the process, Ejigbo LCDA was set on fire. The timely intervention of the team led by CDC Chairman, Prince Jelili Atiku stopped the engulfing of the LCDA secretariat in fire. He said it was an award well deserved!

# 1<sup>st</sup> CDC Ejigbo LCDA Business Day -Online Summit

Collins Agu and Olumuyiwa Adeaga



The CDC Ejigbo LCDA 1<sup>st</sup> Business Day was held virtually on the CDC-Ejigbo WhatsApp platform on Saturday, March 13, 2021 from 10:00AM - 6:00PM. With the theme: Enhancing Business Opportunities for Community Development, the online summit gathered three speakers namely Olusegun Fafore, Mrs. Yemisi Bamishile, and Gbenga Ebitigha. The summit was divided into three sessions with distinct sub-themes.

The Chairman of CDC-Ejigbo, Prince Jelili O. Atiku clearly defined the direction, aims and objectives of the business day in his welcome speech. He admitted that the CDC Ejigbo LCD was “desirous for a summit with the physical presence of all the attendees, but the crisis spawned by the COVID-19 pandemic would only permit virtual meetings” for safety. He wrote that the event was “designed to (i) boost the economy of our communities by creating networks opportunities for business development and growth; (ii) to understand the power of network effects in order to drive demand; (iii) to cultivate effective valuing strategies; (iv) application of conjoint analysis to understand what customers value most; (v) to identify

sources of competitive advantage through differentiation, expansion, and entrepreneurship; and (vi) understanding benchmark costs compared to competitors through relative cost analysis”.

Session 1 of the summit took place from 10:00AM – 1:00PM with Mentoring moments by Olusegun Fafore whose presentation dwelled on the theme, “Boosting The Economy of the Local Community”. The presentation was premised on the principle that “small businesses increase the level of taxation for a local community and ensure the money remains in that society. In addition to that it also decreases the poverty levels as more people move to become entrepreneurs as others also get employed”. Mr. Olusegun Fafore who is the Executive Assistant to the Governor of Lagos State on Public Relations and New Media highlighted the contents of his views on the path to build a local economy like Ejigbo community must begin with consciousness of the need to and build interest in driving the goal.

He stressed that Ejigbo is an important town by being home to the NNPC depot, but the importance of the town, which should be a source of attraction to investors and businesses are not maximized. He

advised that the community needs deliberate marketing and promotion; sustain job creation and possibly diversify the local economy. He went further to declare that the CDC in conjunction with the LCDA can organise a demographic exercise with a view to having an idea of some of some indices of the LCDA for effective local economic development.

The theme for the second session was “Networking for Business Opportunities and Growth” and the mentor/speaker was Mrs. Yemisi Bamishile, Chief Learning Officer, Abbacos Learning Solutions. Mrs. Bamishile hinged her thoughts in the presentation on the Covid19 era, which has revealed a picture of challenge and change in business in a residential community like Ejigbo. She thus looked into how businesses can thrive or simply survive during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. The strategies of innovations and its methods of adoption were introduced during session as a way to drive revenue and generate new opportunities as the economy recovers.

From 1:00 - 3:00PM, Mrs. Bamishile drove the 257 CDC Ejigbo LCDA members on the Its WhatsApp platform along with other 6

personalities who were added temporarily on the platform as special guests for the summit; into the methods of networking for business advantage.

She defined social networking as a “way or method of bringing together like minds with the aim of achieving a desired goal business-wise and where this is successfully done, it will bring about improvement in Business activities in all fronts”. The list of items she provided as factors needed in preparing for networking includes create a profile, identify target market, carry out research, plan to network, adopt good strategy, psychological engagement, develop personal integrity, do follow up on converts, get feedback from referrals; and make and keep contacts. She also directed the members' attention to the variables needed for online networking; qualities a business owner should have for networking to be effective; advantages of business networking and disadvantages of business networking. She concluded the presentation by declaring that networking is an investment in business, it takes time and when done correctly can yield result in years to come.

The third session was from 3:00PM-6:00PM with Gbenga Ebitigha, Senior Special Assistant to Ejigbo LCDA Chairman, Lagos as mentor/speaker. The mentoring theme of the session was “Integration of sustainability of Leadership and Business Model”, and it attempted to establish a clear sustainability objectives and strategies within individual business agenda. It explored the essences of innovation and “the four primary factors necessary for developing a sustainable plan. They include: eco-efficiency programs, management infrastructure, marketing programs and strategic initiatives. It will teach how to ensure the drive of environmental and social impacts within business operations. It taught the method of effectively communication of business's vision of sustainability.

Mr. Ebitigha in his opening remarks stated that “all issues arise and fall on leadership. A leader that is apt to plan, partner, collaborate, engage all stakeholders and actively address myriad societal issues. A leader who inspires and supports people to act together towards achieving a common goal, vision or ideal. In other words, a leader who craft a vision and inspires people to act collectively to make it happen, while responding to whatever changes and challenges arise along the way. A leader who initiates, enables or fosters change. A leader (filled with positive initiatives) who thinks globally towards the future - showing a caring attitude yet ready to be radical and drive the change process at the community level”.

He went further to expatiate that “A leader that is imbued with the aforementioned potentials, traits, aptitude and characteristics is what we referred to as “sustainable leadership”. Yes... a leader who sees sustainability as important to their societal future success”. He defined sustainable leadership as “a situation when leaders of business (often CEOs) manage companies with environment, society, and long-term sustainable development goals in mind. It is all leading in a way that benefits societies and the environment, while maintaining financial performance. For example, sustainable leaders take into account stakeholders, not just shareholders (investors who have financially invested in the community).

He also opined that the three principles of sustainability are: Economy, Society and Environment. According to him, Business Model can be defined as: “A business model describes the rationale (justification/basis/foundation) of how an organization (public and private) creates, delivers, and captures value in economic, social, cultural and political contexts. To buttress his submission, he gave four types of Business Models as: Business to Consumer, Business to Business, Consumer to Business and Consumer

to Consumer. He also enumerated examples of Business Models as, Direct Sales; Franchising; Advertising Based; and Internet Retailers.

Before ending his mentoring, he admonished the CDC leadership to come up with more initiatives especially on how to better the living standards of its vast majority, using some of the models enumerated in this summit. Like Mr. Fafore earlier opined, he was also of the opinion that the CDC should pool resources together with a view to using the resources as a cooperative scheme for its members.

Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe), the Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Lagos in his closing remarks had wished summit was “extended to many days because of deepness of the presentations, which were loaded with a lot of information for business growth in any communities like ours”. He thanked all the three speakers, Hon. Olusegun Fafore, Mrs. Yemisi Bamishile, and Gbenga Ebitigha for their resourcefulness and time geared toward the successful holding of the summit. He also appreciated the presence of Lagos State Community Development Advisory Council (LSCDAC) and International Association of Community Development (IACD) in Ghana, Zimbabwe and Kaduna; who are Alhaji Azees Amusat, Chairman, LSCDAC; Hon. Rabiu Kazeem, Chairman, CDC, Egbe-Idimu; Comrade Wasiu Adefowope, Secretary, CDC, Egbe-Idimu; Emmanuel Nii Odartey Obetsebi-Lampety; Aaron Kangausaru; and Emmanuel Bayo.

He concluded by saying, “I look forward to seeing you again in 2022, when we shall all meet (reconvene) in a physical Summit. By time we hope it shall be CDC-Ejigbo Business Week”. The summit came to an end on that note.

# Profiles of Mentors/Speakers



## **Olusegun Fafore**

**S**egun is the Executive Assistant to the Governor of Lagos State on Public Relations and New Media. Prior to his appointment, he was Consultant-in-Chief at Reputation Plus Limited, a reputation and communication management agency dedicated to helping businesses and individuals manage their engagements with stakeholders. As an accomplished public relations professional with deep understanding of the science of communication, he has provided strategic insights and advisory services to notable Nigerians, and helped in positioning some leading Nigerian brands on the global stage.

'Segun holds a baccalaureate in English Studies from Obafemi Awolowo University and a Master's degree in Corporate communications and Public Relations from the University of Leeds. He is also an alumnus of the Rutgers University Business School Executive Education Programme ('Mini MBA' in Social Media Marketing) and London School of Public Relations (LSPR).

He is a certified member of industry-relevant professional bodies, such as the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR), Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) and the Advertising Practitioners Council of Nigeria (APCON). 'Segun is a 'go-to' public relations practitioner, with a remarkable reputation for his ability to connect with stakeholders through storytelling.



## **Mrs. Yemisi Bamishile**

**Y**emisi has a degree in Marketing Communication and a Masters degree in Managerial Psychology.

She is a result oriented professional with vast experience gained over 25 years in journalism, marketing communication, banking, Training, consulting and entrepreneurial development. Her experience in various sectors has deeply enriched her strong facilitation skills.

She is passionate about people and ensuring that they perform at the peak of their talents and capabilities. She is an attitude coach, a CIPM examiner, CMD accredited trainer and member of NITAD. She is currently the Chief Learning Officer at Abbacos Learning Solutions.



## **Gbenga Ebitigha**

**G**benga is Presently, Senior Special Assistant on Employment and Job Creation to the Executive Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Lagos State. He is the CEO/Principal Partner at Handelson Consulting Limited. He had PGD in Management at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State in 2005; and B.A in Philosophy and Sociology, from the same University in 2001.

His areas of expertise include, recruitment and selection, talent management, HR process and procedures, graduate employability, manpower training and leadership development, performance appraisal, workforce planning, succession plan, HR audit; background check and verification. He is passionate to teach, impact and touch lives.

He is Associate Member of Chartered Institute of Personnel Management, Nigeria; Nigeria Environmental Society, Nigeria; Nigerian Institute of Management, Nigeria; Society of Human Resource Management, USA; Chartered Institute of Personnel Development, UK; and has had over 15 years' experience in general human resources management.



# Focus On Grassroots Governance

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## **OBE:** An Astute Community Development Enunciator

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Olumuyiwa Adeaga and  
Ugonma Effanga (Mrs.)

In the process of writing this article, we have to reference the statement by Sheryl Sanberg, the COO of Facebook. Sheryl writes in her book, *Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead* (2013) that "Leadership is

about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence." The records of achievements of the Chairman of Ejigbo Ejigbo Local Council

Development Area (ELCDA), Hon. Monsuru Oloyede Bello (Obe) is succinctly an epitome of Sheryl Sanberg's view.

Since 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 when Hon. Obe was elected as the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, his administrative era has witnessed numerous accomplishments in areas of provision of infrastructure, education, health, agriculture, empowerment, peace and security, etc. But however, in this write up we shall focus our attention on the two recent projects namely (i) the construction of link road with interlocking solid concrete bricks - 665M Road (across Kashimawo Alimi, Prince Babatunde Adefioye and Oyinbo Dudu Oteri Streets); and (ii) the construction of modern block of 13+1 Model classrooms built at Oke-Afa adjacent the January 27 Tomb in Iamoshe Area. Notwithstanding, we are pleased to encourage you to read the list and view the pictorial images of his achievements/projects overleaf.

Let's us share the testimonies of users

of the link road at Kashimawo Alimi street. Mr. Kalu Emea Kalu, the CEO, Demnak Integrated Resources Limited, Bucknor said, "The road is practically a huge relief from the nightmarish, near-stagnant traffic encounter at the Jakande gate junction which had in past taken its toll on road users, from severe loss in man hours to psychological breakdown in many cases.

It's really a welcome development that should be replicated in other areas where such is critically needed. As a suggestion, the drain at the area of the road with sharp curve should as a matter of safety be covered with concrete slabs to enhance safe maneuverability of vehicles plying it. Thumbs up to our action chairman." Another road user Mrs. Agunbiade who lives in Igando, had this to say, "before now, any boarded bus used to spend hours before linking the Jakande Gate - Ijegun Road. But now, there's nothing like that. The only noticeable obstruction is at the last barrier towards Bungalow where

there is a bad portion which causes traffic."

The construction of the modern block of 13+1 Model classrooms at Iamoshe has made qualitative education accessible to the people of the area. Apart from this, it stands as an antidote to the trauma of the January 27, 2002 Lagos armory explosion that created panic and made thousands of people, especially children to flee and drowned in Afa Canal. It is doubtless to say that when the school begin its operation the cheering voices of students would override the cries of the drowning people in the canal that still echoes in the archival body of the community.

The people of Ejigbo LCDA did fashion a slogan as a form of accolade for the achievements of Obe in office, we would without pretense re-echoe the slogan: **Obe Lekan Si!**



### Works and Infrastructure

- Road Rehabilitation,
- Rehabilitation of Dauda Ilo Road,
- Rehabilitation of Kashimawo Alimi Road,
- Rehabilitation of NEPA Junction Road,
- August 24, 2019 – Rehabilitation of Coker / NNPC Junction with Stone Base.
- August 24, 2019 – Rehabilitation of Moshalashi street / Alhaji

Nurudeen Obe Street with Stone Base.

- August 10, 2019 – Rehabilitation of Ile – Iwe Ejigbo last bus stop.
- Rehabilitation of Rafiu Tijani Street.
- June 2019- Rehabilitation of Adebayo Oyelana Road, Ailegun.
- September 13, 2018 – Rehabilitation of NEPA Road, Jakande, Oke-Afa.
- September 22, 2018 –

Rehabilitation of Agbon Magbi.

- September 4, 2018 – Rehabilitation of Egbe Road.
- May 16, 2018 – Rehabilitation of Adekoroye Street.
- January 30, 2018 – Grading of Al-Moroof Street.
- January 22, 2018 – Grading of Christ Oladunni Street.
- October 29, 2017 – Rehabilitation of Kolawole Sebili Street.

## Road Construction

ADMIN-OBE **THE SCORE Card**

- September 30, 2017: Total reconstruction of Moshalashi Road, Ejigbo, Drainage/ Culvert.
- September 22, 2018: Construction of Culvert at Bucknor.
- September 22, 2018 – Construction of Culvert at Goloba Ashogbon.
- September 2018 – Construction of Culvert at Kayode Adebajji.
- September 2018 – Construction of Culvert at Funsho Oginni, Bucknor.
- September 2018 – Construction of Culvert at Etokpe Okonkwo, Bucknor.
- August 18, 2018 – Construction of Iron Culvert at Fadu Avenue.

## Infrastructure

ADMIN-OBE **THE SCORE Card**

- Total construction of Primary School at Ilamoshe Ward.
- October 6, 2020: Commissioning of the newly installed CCTV Cameras within and beyond the Ejigbo Divisional Police Headquarters.
- October 6, 2020: Renovation of the old office building of the Ejigbo Divisional Police Headquarters.
- August 2019- Procurement of 25 new Air Conditioners for offices.
- August 28, 2019 – Upgrade of the Iyana-Ejigbo Primary Health Centre, in partnership with an NGO, The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saint Charities.
- December 2018 – Construction of Legislative Building and offices for Finance staffs.
- December 2018 –Renovation and facelift of the Council Secretariat.
- December 2018 – Construction of Ejigbo Multipurpose Building at Otasunmi Street, Ejigbo.
- December 2018 – Renovation and renaming of Moshalashi PHC to Jaiye-Alabi PHC.
- Rehabilitation of the Bucknor Primary Health Centre within the first 100 days in office.



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## Mobility Supports

ADMIN-OBE **THE SCORE Card**

### Provision of Vehicles

- October 6, 2020 – Purchase, commission and hand-over of two Toyota Sienna utility vehicles to the Ejigbo Divisional Police.
- September 2, 2019 – Refurbishment of Ambulance in order to ensure a good referral system.
- AUGUST 28, 2019 – Purchase of two Revenue Bus for the Iyana-Ejigbo and Jakande Area Offices.
- October 11, 2018 – Purchase and handing over of Official Vehicles to the Legislators, Executive Members and the Management Team.
- February 5, 2018 – Refurbishing and handing over of Police Van.





## WAPA

- Empowerment of mother of a set of triplets (3 girls), Mrs. Lydia Afolabi, who gave birth on 13th of June, 2019, and needed help. The Council Chairman gave her a Bag of Rice, a sum of N100,000 and a Grinding Machine.
- Empowerment of another family (Mr. and Mrs. Efeomotor Ogbrneovo) who gave birth to a set of triplets. They received a Sewing Machine and a Weaving Machine.
- December 2018 – During the Celebration of his first 500 days in Office, OBE empowered residents and artisans of Ejigbo LCDA with: 6 Weaving Machines, 12 Sewing Machines, 12 Standing Hair Dryers, 12 Deep Freezers, 5 Fridges, 12 Generators, 12 Industrial Burners, 12 Gas Cylinders, 20 Camp Gas and 12 Iron Cooking Bowl.
- He also gave out: 12 complete sets of Vulcanizing Machines, 10 Grinding Machines, 1 Sharp Photocopy Machine, 11 Bajaj Motorcycles, 6 Big Cows, 10 Bags of Charcoal, 24 Make-up Boxes (12 small ones and 12 big ones).
- Other items given as a means of empowerment during the 500 Days in Office Celebration include: 20 Cartons of Indomie, 5 Bags of Corn, 10 Bags of Garri, 40 Bags of Semovita (5kg), 20 Bags of Rice, 10 Bags of Beans, 10 Bags of Yam Flour, 50 Crates of Soft Drinks, 3 Wheel Chairs and 10 Pairs of Crutches.
- DECEMBER 2018 – Establishment of Vocational Training Centre at the Ejigbo Multipurpose Building, Otasunmi.

## AGRICULTURE

- November 2019: Financial support of Ifelodun CDA by donating ₦500,000 from the Local Council's account and another ₦500,000 personally by the Executive Chairman, in order to solve the transformer/electricity crisis.
- October 16, 2019 – Purchase and free distribution of Ankara Materials and transportation for farmers who attended the World Food Day Celebration held at the Police College Ikeja.
- September 9, 2019 – Commissioning of the 500KVA Transformer at Peace Home Valley Estate CDA.
- August 8, 2018 – Compensation of owners of Jakande Retail Market burnt by fire.
- Purchase and distribution of farm tools and seedlings to Famers.
- Procurement of urban friendly and improved coconut specie.
- Financial support to Ashamu swamp C.D.A.

# ADMIN-OBE **THE SCORE** Card

## ENVIRONMENT

- December 2019 - Desilting and carting away of silt and refuse from blocked drainage at Ifoshi Road Ejigbo.
- November 2019 – Desilting and carting away of silt and refuse from blocked drainage at Jakande Gate Isheri Road, Alaba and Moshalashi Road.
- October 2019 – Desilting and carting away of silt and refuse from blocked drainage from NNPC Junction to Groom Centre Egbe Road, from Iyana Ejigbo to Fidelity Bank Egbe Road, from Kessensheen Factory Plaza to Ailegun Junction Egbe Road and from Oja Iyana Ejigbo to Adebayo Street.
- July 2019 – Evacuation of refuse from Ailegun Ward, Aigbaka Ward, Oke Afa Ward and Fadu Ward.
- July 2019 – Purchase of disinfection and disinfestation equipment.
- July 2019 – Jakande Clean Up.
- May 2019 – Evacuation of refuse from Fadu Ward.
- April 2019 – Desilting and carting away of silt and refuse from blocked drainage from Rafiu Tijani Junction to Double Powerline/ Liberal Terminal.
- March 2019 – Desilting and carting away of silt and refuse from blocked drainage at Isheri Road Junction to Oworu Layout, Mobostic Filling Station to Coker Junction and NNPC Junction to Coker Junction.
- January 2019 – Clearing of massive refuse generated during the festive period.
- January 2019 – Desilting and carting away of silt and refuse from blocked public drainage from NNPC Junction to Toly Palace Hotel.
- January 2019 – Evacuation of refuse from Oke Afa Ward, Ifoshi Ward and Ilamoshe Ward.

## EDUCATION

- December 12, 2019 – Official opening of Digital Art Library at Jakande Estate, Oke-Afa Ward.
- August 2019 – Free distribution of GCE Forms to 150 Indigent students across all wards in the Local Council.
- February 2019 - Printing and free distribution of 52,000 pieces of exercise books for schools.
- December 2018 – Establishment and equipping of Child Care Centre (Creche) at Ejigbo Multipurpose Building, Otasunmi.
- December 2018 – Appreciation of the 2018 retiree head teachers in Ejigbo L.C.D.A.
- December 2018 – Free distribution of 20 White Marker Boards.
- November 2018 - Repair of damaged school gate with 120 desks and benches at Ejigbo (Ejigbo School Complex).
- August 2018 – Free distribution of additional (125) G.C.E forms for indigent students of Ejigbo L.C.D.A.
- November /December 2018 - Organization of free extra moral classes for students preparing for WASSCE (private).
- July 2018 - Purchase of Nov/Dec 2018 forms for indigent students in Ejigbo L.C.D.A.
- November 2017 – Financial assistance was rendered to the Local Government Education Authority (LGEA), towards the 2017 Merit Award
- November 2017- Turning of the Soil/Foundation Laying of a prototype building of 13+1 classroom of primary school at Ilamose.
- August 2017- Organization of free extra moral classes for students preparing for WASSCE (private) Nov/Dec 2017.
- AUGUST 2017 - Purchase of Nov/Dec 2017 form for the indigent students of Ejigbo L.C.D.A.

## HEALTH

- January 8, 2020 – Free gift items to the first four babies of the Year 2020, delivered at Iyana Ejigbo Primary Health Centre.
- August 28, 2019 – Flag-off of the Meningitis Vaccine (Men.A) at the Iyana-Ejigbo PHC.
- Support for National Immunization Programmes earned the Local Council the 1st position in the whole Oshodi/Isolo LGA.
- December 2018 – End of the year Party and Support for Pregnant and Nursing Mothers by providing mama-kits and delivery-kits for them. Three completely immunized children also got gift items.
- 2017 – Provision of new lab equipment to the Flagship Primary Health Centre, Iyana-Ejigbo PHC.

## BUDGET

- December 17, 2019 – Consultative Budget Stakeholders Forum for Y2020 Budget.
- January 27th-31st, 2019 –Budget retreat at Conference Hotels & Suites, Sagamu.
- December 2018 – Stakeholders Forum for Y2019 Budget.
- Comprehensive Data Collection on all revenue items.
- Procurement of 16 Desktop computer systems, printers and 2 photocopiers.

## STAFF WELFARE

- December 11, 2019 – Celebration and appreciation of retiring staff.
- May 22, 2019 – Purchase and free distribution of Ankara Materials to staffs during the May Day Celebration/ Workers' Forum.
- Constant provision of non-interest loan to staff.
- December 2018 – Celebration and appreciation of retiring staff.
- December 28, 2017 – Celebration of appreciation of retiring staff.



## PROFILE OF the Chairman, Ejigbo LCDA

The Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Alh. (Hon.) Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello (Obe), was born on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, 1967 by Late Alhaji Nurudeen Adio Bello and Alhaja Tawakalitu Bello, into the famous family of Akinsanya Ajaloleru of Imakiyo Chieftancy Family and Fadu Mewon family of Ejigbo. Hence, he is a native of Ejigbo Town, Lagos State.

He had his elementary primary education between 1975- 1980/81. He proceeded to Ejigbo Community High School and completed his secondary education in the 1987/88 session. He completed his National Diploma (ND) at the Lagos State Polytechnic in the year 1994/95. He furthered his education by attending the Federal Polytechnic, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State and obtained a Higher National Diploma (HND) in 1998. In 2004, he proceeded to Ladoko Akintola University, Ogbomosho in Oyo State, for his Post Graduate (PGD) course.

In March 2000, the Chairman started his working career with Lagos State Government, Ministry of Works and Infrastructure. Thereafter, Lagos State Civil Service Commission. Finally, he worked as an Executive Officer (GD) with the Lagos State Ministry of Transportation.

In 2008, Alh. Hon. Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello resigned from the service of the Lagos State Government in order to pursue his political career. He was elected as the Vice Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA for the 2008-2011 administration. He was re-

elected as the Vice Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA for the 2011-2014 administration. During those two tenures, he worked with Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan (the immediate past Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Lagos State).

Hon. Monsurudeen Bello ((Obe) was elected as the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Lagos State, on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and he runs the office till date. He is not just a leader; he is also a manager. He has been able to coordinate and guide human and material resources, in order to achieve the goals of his administration and Ejigbo LCDA at large.

What an exceptional leader! In just two years of leadership, the Chairman has achieved a lot. With a winning team who have a good understanding of the goals of the administration, Obe has performed several people-oriented projects, led by positive example, supported community activities and charitable causes, etc. His administration has witnessed uncountable achievements in areas of Infrastructure, Education, Health, Agriculture, Empowerment, Peace and Security, etc. Under his leadership, the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Ejigbo Business Summit was held on July 11, 2018.

He renovated and remodeled the Council Secretariat in December 2018, thereby creating more offices to accommodate the Finance Staffs and Legislators. He refurbished the Ambulance in September 2018. He

purchased and distributed official vehicles to all the Supervisors, Legislators and Management Team. Two Revenue Buses have been procured too, while the Staff Union Bus is under way. Worthy of mention, is the purchase and reconstruction of the Multipurpose Building at Otasunmi Street, Iyana-Ejigbo; a building that accommodates the Child-care centre, Marriage Registry, Halls and Registration Centres for National Identity Card and LASSRA. In July 2019, he purchased a 150KVA Generator for the Council Secretariat.

Rehabilitation of roads have been a continuous project since he came to power. Starting with the rehabilitation and construction of Moshalashi and Alhaji Obe Road which was known to be an abandoned death trap. Other roads include: Kolawole and Sebili Roads, Agbonmagbin Road, Ifoshi Road, Rafiu Tijani, Sule Ajegunle, Goloba Ashogbon, Tajudeen Kazeem Street, Rafiu Tijani and Apata Street, Fayemi and Sunmonu Street, Folawewo and Aigbedion Road, Disu Aina, Chris Oladunni Street, Almoroo Street, Adebayo Ogunlana Road, e.t.c. The most recent ones which are still under construction are: Kashimawo Alimi street, Dauda Ilo Road and the Dual Carriage Way at Junction, Oke-Afa, etc.

His selfless efforts and giant strides have not gone unnoticed. No wonder people from different corners and levels of the society are appreciating him for his good work and selfless service. He has received almost fifty awards and more are still coming in. As the first indigenous Chairman of the Local Council, his watchword has always been "EJIGBO MUST DEVELOP!" In November 26, 2020 he was awarded the overall best Chairman in Nigeria on Roads/Rural integration category of the Nigerian Local Government Chairmen Merit ward. Alh. Monsurudeen is a Muslim and is happily married and blessed with children.

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

# Refuse Management in Our Community

by Mrs. Abimbola Adebimpe Adedipe, HOD Environment, Ejigbo LCDA

### Text of Presentation on CDC Ejigbo WhatsApp Platform on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021

#### Introduction

**D**ear Co-Community Development Practitioners of Ejigbo LCDA,

I want to formally welcome our guest on today's talk shop, Mrs. Abimbola Adebimpe Adedipe, HOD Environment, Ejigbo LCDA. The topic of discussion, Refuse Management in Our Community is not only timely but relevant as every household generates refuse on hourly basis without corresponding mechanisms to collect on hourly basis.

The conversations will hold for TWO HOURS out of which the platform shall be exclusively left for the HOD for thirty minutes to respond to the following questions:

- (1) It seems waste disposal and collection is becoming a Herculean task nowadays, what are your thoughts on this?
- (2) Lagos State government has tried to keep everywhere clean especially the major roads, it seems, all efforts are not yielding positive results as

our major roads are always filthy. What do you think that the CDC/CDAs can do to help the government being close to the communities?

(3) The operations of some of the LAWMA PSPs, if you're to rate them, is it satisfactory and if not what do you suggest should be done to make them perform optimally?

(4) Is it possible for every nook and cranny of Ejigbo LCDA to be covered by the LAWMA PSP operators? If No, what advice do you have for those living in inaccessible areas of Ejigbo LCDA as far as disposal of waste is concerned?

(5) Push cart operators are all over the place, is there any legislation banning their operations?

(6) Every Thursday is observed as a sanitation day for all markets in Lagos State, how has this improved the sanitation in all our market environments especially the make shift markets?

(7) There used to be a functional mini truck for carting refuse around Ejigbo LCDA select locations, the mini truck has not been seen on the road for some time and it could have helped in reducing the heaps of refuse in some locations. What is holding the mini truck?

(8) Is it possible for the LCDA in conjunction with the leadership of the CDC to find a way where Waste Police operatives are engaged to monitor reckless dumping of refuse in order to stem the habit of indiscriminate dumping of refuse?

After response to the general questions above, members will be free to ask questions related to refuse management that have not been captured in the questions above.

I look forward to a successful and fruitful conversations with the HOD Environment, Ejigbo LCDA.

Prince **Jelili Atiku**  
Chairman, CDC Ejigbo



**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 1:  
a) Non cooperative attitude of members of the public on waste management and environmental issues.  
b) Inadequate capacity of some of the PSP operators  
c) inadequate personnel to enforce environmental laws.

**Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 2  
CDC should encourage members to patronise PSP operators.  
CDC should encourage members to pay for PSP charges.  
CDC should report non-performing PSP and defaulting members.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 3  
In Ejigbo LCDA, the PSP operators are fairly OK.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 4  
It is possible. But if it's not possible, those living in inaccessible areas should liaise with the PSP operators to find modalities of taking care of their refuse. e.g., the PSP operators can use mini refuse trucks in those environments to bring out refuse from such areas or in the worst scenario, wheeler trucks can be used based on the cooperation of the CDC members and the operators.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 5.  
Their operation is illegal.  
Their activities are totally against the provisions of Lagos State Environmental Law 2017

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 6  
The Thursday sanitation observed by all markets in Lagos State has improved largely the face of the markets. For the make shift markets, their operators though with the fact that they are usually reluctant and lackadaisical towards community cleanup of the markets but with the imposing charges levied on them, this has helped in getting them to participate in cleaning up the drains and the surroundings to allow for free flow of waste water thereby preventing flood hazard.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 7  
During the #EndSARS saga, the mini truck was vandalised and therefore still under repair. Although we still make use of rented compactor from some of the PSP operators pending the time the LCDA will procure her own before the end of the year by God's grace

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

Answer No 8:  
Yes, it is possible because all environmental infraction are embedded in the Nigerian Constitution, Acts of the National, state environmental laws and the local government bye-laws. But for sustainability it requires consistent political will directed towards such desire and possibility. For example, the present government under the leadership of Mr. Babajide Sanwoolu has established LAWMA policing units. Subsequent governments leadership should also sustain and maintain this in order for it to be proactive.

**Azeez Taoreed:**

Ma, here is the question from Dauda Ilo CDA: (1) The PSP operator did not come to our area since two weeks now and our people are waiting for them. (2) The PSP operator don't even reach Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Pry School most of the time they came to pack the refuse and we don't know why?

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

The PSP in Ilamose is clean *harbour* who is very effective, but in case of another time, you can report them to me directly. But they supposed to notify you if they are having any challenges in the area of faulted truck or dump site. We do not work at Bola Bola Ahmed Tinubu Primary School, it the responsibility of the LCDA not the PSP.

**Jk.Obafemi:**

Good afternoon Ma. The whole Ejigbo is becoming more dirty due to no Sanitary inspection. Ma, is it possible to re-introduce Sanitary inspection officers who will be able to visit houses and any offenders caution or fine - Bucknor Estate CDA.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

We are still on ground if you ask those in the Jakande Estates, we still work at Sarah Faboyede Street. Also because of the #EndSARS issue, we have backlog of Bench warrant to execute. We will intensify more effort around Bucknor area.

**Mr. Matthew Salako:**

@Mrs. Adedipe, why is difficult for the newly appointed PSP to meetup with the agreed dates for refuse collection. The people of Bucknor are discouraged and don't want to rely on the PSP for refuse collection. They preferred the cart pushers. Madam, please do something by talking to them.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

We will, God helping us, you know they are just coming up,

**Alh. Toyin Saka:**

Bucknor people were made to understand that the new PSP has two trucks but we struggle to see one truck.

**Taiwo Owolabi:**

Good afternoon Madam, the operation of the cart pusher need to be urgently looked into. As early as 7 to 9pm you see them migration into Ejigbo through the main road to Ori Oke or via Powerline to Korobo on daily basis. Your department must make efforts to stop this

**Alh. Toyin Saka:**

1) What's the maximum number of weeks/days that refuse can be kept

by domestic/industrial customers while awaiting collection by the PSPs in the face of unforeseen circumstances?

2) Silting of drains has largely been due to accumulation of PET bottles. The CDC is considering a proposal on how to take off these PET bottles from our environment. Can the department partner with the CDC in this capital intensive proposal?

**Pastor Biodun Idris:**

VEEDIC that was posted to replace the former PSP operator @Jakande Estate, Oke-Afa, was no longer performing, instead of weekly, the operator comes fortnightly now, and the implication is that the waste would soon be taken to the median, since it couldn't be kept in the houses.

**Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe:**

We will, but it is going to be a collective effort, when we stop giving our refuse to them, they will stop coming to our community. I will investigate that and do the needful. A1 week. We can partner with the CDC. Give me till tomorrow I will invite him.

**Prince Jelili Atiku:**

On behalf of the entire members of CDC/CDAs of Ejigbo LCDA I thank Mrs. Abimbola Adebimpe Adedipe, HOD Environment, Ejigbo LCDA for her a deep talk and for her time with us today. You are a wonderful person. We cherish you. The community conversation for today is hereby closed.

# Announcement !

## Ejigbo LCDA Agric and Social Service Department Got a New Head: Mrs. Olayinka Adeko



The retirement of Mr. Ajose, Oluwatoyin Elijah (JP) the H.O.D of Agric and Social Services, Ejigbo LCDA on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 opened the door for the transfer of another staff to resume the HOD office. Mrs. Olayinka Adeko on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 was transferred and resumed in the LCDA as the new HOD of Agric and Social Services. There is no doubt that the community will miss Mr. Ajose who served in the department as the acting Head in 2015 and as substantial Head from 2016 - 2021; but the future for the presence of Mrs. Adeko is promising.

Born on the 5th of April, 1968 to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Thomas of Agoshosin area in Lagos Island; Mrs. Olayinka Adeko attended Ansar-Un-deen Primary School, Alakoro, Lagos Island, between 1974 - 1980, where she obtained her First School Leaving Certificate [FSLC]. She

also schooled at Ido Luwo High School, Lagos Island, between 1980-1985, Professional Academy at Palm Avenue, Mushin, between 1986-1988, where she obtained her Diploma Certificate, all in Lagos State. And between 1998 - 2000, she obtained her Diploma in Social Work at Ogun State University. In 1996, she joined the Local Government Service Commission. Her first posting was at Epe Local Government as the Secretary to the Department, Agric. and Rural, Social Development between 1996-1998 and later converted to the Post of Community Development Cadre in 1998.

She proceeded to University of Ado-Ekiti between 2005-2009 - where she was awarded BSc in Guidance and Counseling. She was posted to Amuwo Odofin Local Government as a Community Development Officer between 2002 - 2009. In the same vein, she was posted to Itire Ikate,

between 2009 - 2013, where she worked as a Senior Community Development Officer and on December 2013, she was appointed as Head of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation.

She obtained her Master of Science in Sociology (MSc Sociology) at University of Lagos (UNILAG), between 2015 - 2017. She has worked at Egbe-Idimu LCDA as Head of Department (HOD) of Agric. and Social service and thereafter the HOD, Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation of Ifelodun LCDA. She attended Life Theology School, between 2011 - 2015, where she obtained her Bachelor in Christian Education. She was ordained as a Pastor in-charge at Gbanko, Badagry District, she is also a licensed and Senior Pastor with the District. Her hobbies are praying, reading, counseling and watching Christian movies. She is happily married with lovely children.

Toyin Saka

The challenges faced during rainy period are always attributed to mismanagement of waste by different groups of residents. My attempt here in this writing is to chronicle what can be done to reduce/stop the menace of mismanagement of waste in our community.

### How to Reduce/Stop Silting of Drain

Our drains are silted because in this part of the world, we do not give a damn to our environment but always ready to heap the blame of our inactions on the government. Let me briefly highlight some of the wrong things that we do consciously and unconsciously.

1) Wealth to Waste - We have been hearing of waste to wealth but what we have mostly is wealth to waste. Examples are abound:

(a) the erosion of our sand from different streets, areas, communities, etc. into the available deposits (canals, rivers, lagoons etc.) is an example of wealth to waste. A road that was sand filled and without provision for proper maintenance is always at a risk of losing the road to erosion and the resources expended on such a project becomes a wasted effort because we could not do the needful. Not doing the needful in the sense that we all see how massive the road is being washed away and could not fashion out measures to solve the challenge. As community development practitioners, nothing is too much for us if we really want to make our communities safe and habitable in all ramifications. Most of the time, we see huge deposit of sand eroded from our roads into the various drains and we allow this to be washed away until it gets back to a final place where it will be excavated

and sold to us again. Is this not wealth to waste?

b) Since the advent of the use of plastic bottles called P. E.T. (Polyethylene Terephthalate), we have thrown caution into the winds. I could recollect some decades back when there was discipline in the country, manufacturers of both can and P.E.T. products provided bins along major roads where empty containers can be dropped and properly disposed for useful venture, but today, we do not care about our environment any longer and we have been facing the consequences. 90% of the P.E.T. bottles are allowed to be wasted. This is another example of wealth to waste.

2) **Management of Waste** - Every human being is a manager of waste. As long as we buy different kinds of items, we manage waste and how we manage it should be a big concern to us as community development practitioners. Nigerians are not known to have a culture of protecting the environment. From candy and sweet wraps to other non-consumable items, we do not properly dispose these waste. It is these little inactions of us all over the place that lead to silting of drains and canals in our communities. The worst of this management of waste are the residents who never see anything wrong in disposing their refuse indiscriminately.

This group of people cuts across. It is worthy of mention in this write-up that a supposed enlightened resident of Ejigbo LCDA was caught in the act sometime in 2019, dumping refuse on the road. He was caught and our no nonsense HOD, Environment, Mrs. Abimbola Adedipe and her team ensured that the man packed the refuse he dropped and others in his

car and was led to his house to dispose the refuse in the full glare of members of his community. So many of packaged refuses dropped on the median of our roads are dropped by this group of people and in few cases the cart pushers. While some climes make use of refuse for wealth creation it is increasingly becoming a huge problem for us in this part of the world.

### How to Correct These Two Environmental Unfriendly Attitudes

As community development practitioners, everything that has to make our environment conducive and free of challenges should be taken up as our project. The development and Environment committees of any CDA should as a matter of fact be responsible for correcting the wrongs of the past. If a road was passable some years back and it suddenly becomes impassable, it was because we didn't do the right thing. The first step in addressing this challenge is to study the movement of erosion/flooding in a particular street or road with a view to knowing the level of destruction. Once the movement has been studied and the causes of the erosion are identified, it is our responsibility to halt further destruction of the road.

### How do we do this?

i. Because our drains are not aligned, any form of liquid finds its way since it is not well directed. Since this is the case, as community development practitioners, we should be able to align all the primary drains in our communities because failure to do so, makes the road deteriorate on daily basis and it continues until we lose the road. If it's a secondary or tertiary drain, the attention of the relevant authorities should be drawn to it.

ii. Where the drains are primary, we should be able to align/connect the drains in order to create routes for liquid's movement in the community.

iii. Where it is difficult to align the drains, we should be able to locate the spots where the sand washed from the road is deposited initially before it gets its way to the canal surrounding us in Ejigbo. This is the challenge! The sand can then be packed and bagged and used to either reclaim the washed portion of the road or use as shield to prevent further erosion of the road. If Sewage Road in Jakande Estate has been given an attention by all the CDAs in that area, the road would not have been destroyed to that level. Even at it is now, if the coalition of CDAs in the estate can task every flat to bring a sand bag and concerted efforts are made to reclaim the road, succor can come our way again as far as the road is concerned.

In community development, every aspect of human endeavors should be our watchword. On the challenge of mismanagement of P.E.T. which we have not given attention to, instead of having wealth to waste, we can actually reverse the trend and have waste to wealth which is actually the ideal in a normal climate.

As claimed earlier, 90% of these bottles which are not properly utilized and later turn to challenges to us. But if we have a scheme in all the over 120 CDAs in Ejigbo LCDA where the P.E.T. bottles are not allowed to be wasted or dropped indiscriminately, the bottles can be used to generate employment for our members and increase the GDP of Ejigbo. I do not want to write extensively on this as I am aware that a proposal on this has been submitted by the Chairman of Development and Project Committee, Alhaji Wasiu Atinnsola. My only prayer is for the execution of the proposal to see the light of the day.

If we have to correct the attitudes of many of us regarding to improper waste management, all CDA executive committee members have to be involved, it is not a one-man affair. First, every resident (living in an apartment or having business) of a CDA is expected to register with the LAWMA PSP Operator approved for the area. This if possible, will first of all reduce the influx of the cart pushers coming to our various CDAs. It also reduces the indiscriminate dumping of refuse in the community and exporting to other areas including dumping on the medians. With this, it is now possible to know

those members who dump indiscriminately if some of them refuse to patronize the approved LAWMA PSP Operator. The concern of some of us is the inefficient and uncoordinated operations of some LAWMA PSP Operators.

This to me is not a problem because it is a challenge that is caused by low patronage. If an operator knows that he/she is going to lose so much for not collecting as at and when due, efforts will be made to nip in the bud any teething problem. Also, our HOD and Supervisor for Environment are there for us to report to as they have both being on top of environmental related issues in Ejigbo LCDA.

Another useful lesson to learn from the management of P.E.T. bottles can be seen in the way the DARE is going about in the North. About 217,000 units of these bottles were used (filled) with mud to build an apartment. Young boys and girls are engaged to source for these bottles and are put into meaningful use rather than allow it becomes a nuisance. CDC Ejigbo LCDA can become the first CDC to venture into productive use of these objects constituting nuisance in our communities.

## Archive #1

...Continued from Page 7

*ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN, CDC EJIGBO LCDA, PRINCE JELILI O. ATIKU DURING THE CDC EMERGENCY MEETING TO REFLECT ON POST-ENDSARS PROTEST'S DESTRUCTION AND LOOTING IN EJIGBO ON MONDAY OCTOBER 26, 2020 AT EJIGBO LCDA SECRETARIAT*

**ii. Women Development Center** at Iyana Ejigbo, Egbe/Ikotun Road, which housed LASTMA, Post Office and State Vocational Training Center was set on fire and looted: Numerous vehicles, motorcycles were burnt, vocational training equipment; all the office furniture and other materials were looted. The Center was completely razed.

**iii. The LCDA Area Office Complex** at Otasanmi Street, Ejigbo, which housed National ID Registration staff was attacked: The Office Complex's gate, and fence were destroyed and power generator machine was set on fire and burnt.

**iv. Ashamu Police Post** at Isheri Road was set on fire and was totally razed.

**v. Imakiyo Police Post** at Dauda Ilo street was attacked: It's fence and gate were destroyed and was set on fire and partly burnt.

**vi. Death and Physical injuries**, the death of a youth, which occurred through gunshot; and while three other sustained vital physical gunshot injuries, the three youth are presently hospitalized for medical treatments and operations.

The Chairman, Hon. Bello (Obe) despite the limited resources available to his

government has been able to improve on the provision of developmental infrastructures; his relentless efforts in the aforementioned direction has been thwarted by this ugly and sad occurrence - the wanton destruction of properties.

In CDC Ejigbo LCDA, this event has indeed given us concern because the repairs of the properties would be funded by tax payers' money. We are of the opinion that we should not allow miscreants or mercenaries who according to our investigations might have been grouped and funded to destabilize our peaceful Ejigbo Land.

...Continued from Page 56





# Electricity Consumption:

## How Do We Pay For What We Actually Consume

Yetunde Oyerinde (Mrs.)

In the olden days, every house used to have analog meter whereby the bill received monthly was commensurate to the actual reading of the meter. Then, while a house is being disconnected, a reconnection paper is served. The consumer(s) would then go and clear the outstanding and pay the reconnection fee before electricity is restored in the affected house.

Then entered a regime change in the management of power in Nigeria by changing National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) to Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN). In an attempt to make electricity distribution reach everywhere in the country, government unbundled PHCN into Electric Distribution Companies. The difference being that the new companies are privately owned and are supposed to have what it takes to satisfy the yearnings

of millions of consumers under them.

The objective of this piece is not to appraise the performances of the Discos but how as community development practitioners, we educate our members on how to key into the prudent and economical usage of power. First, it's wrong to have allowed the various administrators of our power sector, the estimated billings which have been legalized and injurious to millions of consumers but as a people, we have a choice to either continue to be extorted or we find a solution to the extortion.

### **A Scenario of estimation/analog system of capturing usage of power**

Because so many consumers and tenants don't have an idea of how the monthly bill is arrived at and because of the notion that whether

we use power or not, same bill will be brought, we have refused to caution the usage of power in our various communities. This is how you see a neighbor's reservoir discharging water without recourse to the implications. This is how you see some security lights switched on until 8.00am or permanently all because we are not mindful of what is brought to us as consumption end of the month.

This is where you also see big inequality and injustice between those who consume less and pay the same amount of money with those who consume more. This is also where you see new houses using power and they're not captured and others are paying for them. This is also where you see a house disconnected for as long as the residents respond and the house is still being captured for billing month

in month out. This is also where the transformer meter reads the consumption generated by the community's security network by the provision of street lights and the bill being shared amongst those not using prepaid meter.

### **A Scenario of being smart by acquiring prepaid meter**

Because of the notion and mindset that prepaid meter reads faster and it's always exorbitant, most consumers already made up their minds to curtail all act of wastefulness being practiced while on estimation/analog system. This is where you see consumers control their consumption 100% - no discharge of water recklessly, no usage of the popular round bulb of 60 watts to 100 watts. This is where you see every house with energy saving bulbs and no excessive illumination of compound. This is when a consumer is traveling and can decide not to load token unlike

where you pay whether you consume or not.

### **Comparative Analysis**

It's evident that the first system of billing is expensive and unjustified yet majority of us don't want to change to the most economical, manageable and affordable system of billing.

The communities that are fully metered never experience delay in fixing faults by the Disco in charge while the others in the primitive category are always at the mercy of the Disco yet they still pay more end of the month. It's also evident that when majority are on prepaid meter, consumption is moderated and wastage is reduced which has a positive impact on the economy of everybody - there's enough power to distribute because nobody is wasting power any longer.

### **The Objectives of This Write Up**

1. *We should not be Naira wise and*

*Pound foolish by ensuring that we all key into the prepaid metering system.*

2. *When all houses are metered in Ejigbo LCDA, there shall be improved supply of power because wastage would have been removed and turned to productive supply to consumers.*
3. *The unjustified bills that we have been paying all this while could have afforded us the price of any type of prepaid meter.*

As the year is about to start, I enjoin all of us to have a plan of how to be metered in the next six months and also create the awareness in all our CDAs so that Ejigbo LCDA can be having uninterrupted power supply for the overall interest of all.

**Yetunde Oyerinde (Mrs.)** is Electricity Related Correspondent of CDC Publicity Committee/ Media Team, Ejigbo LCDA

## **Archive #1**

*Continued from Page*

We should appeal to our youths (whom as I mentioned earlier were not the masterminds of the heinous crime) to be vigilant in order not to allow hoodlums in whatever disguise cause havoc in a peaceful LCDA anymore.

On our part as the leadership of the CDC, we shall henceforth be liaising with the youths with a view to knowing what their needs are and articulate these their demands to the Executive Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA who has been trying his best in delivering his campaign promises including appointment of youths in his government.

This is the time we all need to preach love and unity amongst ourselves, not fanning ember of disunity, disintegration and anarchy. Ejigbo is a Mini-Nigeria - where all the indigenous people of Nigeria dwell. As long as we are all residents of Ejigbo, we should strive hard to see that Ejigbo land is secured and safe at this trying period because we don't have another place that we can run to when it is not planned for.

### **The Peace Strategies**

**i. Community Intervention:** The Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Hon. Bello (Obe) employed the services of the OPC to guide the Ejigbo Police Divisional Headquarters. This method succeeded in the prevention of attacks on the headquarters.

**ii. Mediation with Irate Youth:** All the groups of Youth in the Community, especially the ones from Oboye and Agbole were contacted. Series of meetings were held in this respect and the resolutions of the meetings were met accordingly. The meetings continued for this purpose, to check any violence acts that may come up again. The meetings were coordinated by the LCDA and CDC, Ejigbo LCDA.

**iii. Payment of medical bills of the injured Youths:** The Chairman Ejigbo LCDA has been paying the medical bills of the three youths that were shots on the October 21, 2021 and the one attacked on October 22 2021.

### **iv. Special Security Meeting with Stakeholders.**

This is a special scheme which has been established and the first meeting was held with all the zonal heads of OPC in Ejigbo with LCDA Chairman, the DPO, CDC Chairman and other stakeholders. The meeting was held on Friday October 23.

I will like to use this opportunity to thank the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA and his team for the quality leadership roles in this trying time. My profound appreciation also goes to all those that helped to restore and maintain peace and security, especially those that helped in extinguishing inferno that was set in by the hoodlums. THANK YOU ALL!

I will like to use this opportunity to welcome our new DPO, CSP Akinsola Ogunwale to Ejigbo. May Elédùmarè give us the wisdom and strength to sail through this moment that is filled with confusion and distresses.

Thank you for coming.

***We o! One o!!***



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### I lamoshe CDA constructs culvert to ease vehicular movement

By Mololani AbdulGafar

I lamoshe Community Development Association (CDA) headed by Ademola Odumade recently constructed a culvert linking Adeyemi Odumale Street with Olokobilane.

According to Odumade, the link up between Ademola Odumade street and Olokobilane had been inaccessible for the past eight years until it was constructed recently with the full support of the Leader of Eji gbo LCDA Legislative Arm,

Hon. Olanrewaju Akinbowale who contributed financially to the realization of the culvert.

"For over eight years, the place where the culvert has just been constructed was unmotorable and it is an intersection between Adeyemi Odumale Street and Olokobilane. So, we the residents of the community decided to embark on the project, constructing a culvert to ease movement of vehicles plying both roads and everyone has been so supportive to the project.



Hon. Lanre Akinbowale cutting the lace

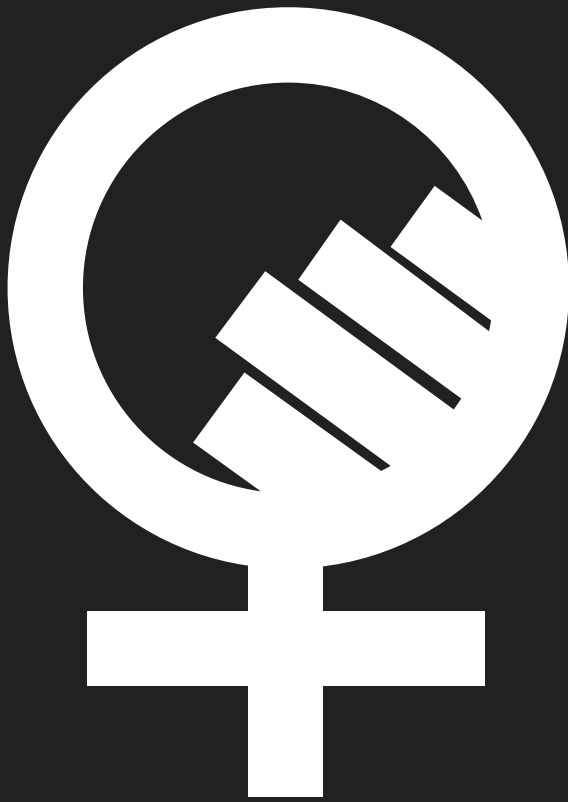
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