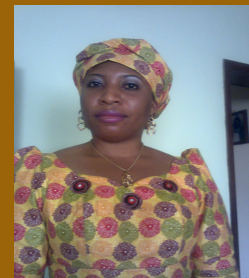
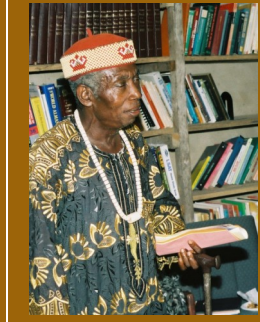


# INWELLE CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT

2011



## CENTRE VISION:

Inwelle Centre seeks to create a world in which indigent youths and women can acquire the necessary skills that will enable them to take charge of their future. This we do by combining life skills, job skills and remedial education as a tool for making them employable and self-employable.

## CENTRE MISSION:

The Centre 's mission is to alleviate the difficulty faced by indigent youths and women, who want to improve their lot, by assisting them to get the remedial education needed to enter a higher institution and by helping them acquire computer and job skills that will enable them work and earn money to be able to go to school at the same time.

**CONTACTS:** Mrs. Rose Okonkwo

Ms. Gloria Arhewoh

Mr. Obinna Umeh

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## ABOUT US

**YEAR OF INCORPORATION:** 2005

**REGISTERED OFFICE:**

5 INWELLE AVENUE, PIPELINE ESTATE, AMORJI NIKE, P.O. BOX 4008, ENUGU, NIGERIA.

**E-MAIL:** INFO@INWELLECENTRE.ORG

**PHONE:** +234-803-751-9965

**NATURE OF BUSINESS:**

REGISTERED TRUSTEES; YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT.

**TRUSTEES:**

PROF. DR. CHRISTIANA OKECHUKWU,  
PRESIDENT/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
DR. CASSANDRA OKECHUKWU (MEMBER)  
DR. ANTHONY OKONKWO  
MS. VANESSA OKECHUKWU

**MEMBERS OF ADVISORY BOARD**

DR. MARY OWENS  
RABBI HOWARD GORIN  
BARR. MRS. OBY NWANKWO  
MR. JOHN NWOGU  
MS. MIRIAM CARTER  
DR. SULAYMAN NYANG  
DR. OLAYIWOLA ABEGUNRIN  
DR. PAUL ABUDU

**BANKERS:**

UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA, STATION ROAD, ENUGU, NIGERIA.

## Director's Message



"Only the educated are really free" says a philosopher. Giving access to learning is one of things the Centre focuses on in order to promote human right. Especially, access to learning opens up avenues for the girls to be information rich. Our Mass computer literacy campaign has built the skills of numerous young girls. "There is no frigate like a book to take us lands away," Emily Dickenson writes. Surely, if she were alive, she would have made the internet and books combined the most effective frigate. Giving access to knowledge and information to the girls in remote villages through the internet is empowerment to the next level, empowerment *per excellence*. We established our first satellite centre at Ozalla Ezimo. See page — for the photos of the project.

We held a symposium on **December 16, 2010** on the theme of "Nigeria is Fifty: What About the Youths?" This time we were able to attract high level women, a proprietor of a secondary school, a former director of intelligence and training at the Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), who now owns her own law enforcement training company, and a legal practitioner who has her own law chamber. Rotary Club of Enugu Municipal, participated visibly at this symposium as some of their candidates received certificates along with our Boot Camp, and Mass Computer Literacy Campaign participants during the symposium ceremony.

We received a Community Service Award from the Rotary Club of Enugu Municipal. Being recognized by the Rotary club of Enugu Municipal as an organization that has distinguished itself was the crowning of our impact recognition in the community. The award Certificate Reads: "Your contributions towards the positive projection and the development of the Education industry in our country, has not gone unnoticed. The gold fish they say has no hiding place."

We are on the internet big time. The Centre boot camp girls have reported on "The Impediments to Girls Embracing Life in the Field of Science and technology", "The Youths' Main Priorities As Nigeria Turned Fifty", "The Recipe for Brain Drain in Nigeria," "Why Teenagers drop out of School in the Eastern States," "Coping With Teenage Pregnancy in Enugu Area," etc. The videos are on YouTube and have been visited by many people outside Nigeria. Yes, the boot camp girls and the Inwelle Centre are becoming visible, thanks to Global Fund For Women. Thanks also to our board members, friends and supporters of Inwelle Centre. You are the best.

Sincerely,  
Prof. Christiana Okechukwu, Ph.D.

Hello Friends and supporters.

The year 2011 was exceptionally fruitful. We carried out many exciting projects thanks to Global Fund for Women for its support which enabled us to achieve great things in our community.

First and foremost, we held our annual boot camp. We had our annual Academic Boot camp for girls. For 2011, we focused on leveraging girls to embrace life in the field of science and technology, especially, hi-tech computer technology. We held two workshops and seminars. The focus of the two boot camp workshops were "The Place of Girls in Science and Technology Field". For 30 days, the participants were housed and fed at Inwelle Centre premises. They were taught Mathematics, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology. They also taught each other academic subjects that they were strong in. They held folktale sessions in the evening and discussed social issues woven around these tales. They were taught landscaping at the boot camp. They actually planted flowers at the Boot camp site. They were lectured on the importance of landscaping and tree planting to help the environment. They fetched their own firewood and water and cooked their own food. We upgraded our VSAT from Ku-Band to C band and increased our bandwidth, purchased equipment to enable us function more effectively. This year alone, 106 Girls have been leveraged to seek for admission into science and technology field. Because we provided free internet usage, 130 girls were able to use our internet constantly.

## Mass Computer Literacy Campaign

2011 has been another fruitful year of empowering indigent youths, especially girls in the hinterlands, and disadvantaged women. Along with continuous computer literacy campaign, we have continued our campaign to encourage girls to embrace life in the fields of science and technology. We have also been coaching indigent girls in science subjects, English Language, and Mathematics. The girls are also given career counseling on the subjects to focus on in order to be eligible to embrace life in science and technology fields. Many of these girls will take their exams in 2011. The Centre will hold its usual participatory Learning Academic Boot camp in August 2011 and its annual symposium in December 2011. The theme of the symposium is "Science and Technology, Girls, and National Development" and one of the sub themes is "The Place of Girls in Science and technology Field" If it is possible, we also plan to make our library open and accessible 9a.m to 5p.m every working day and 24 hours on-line. Our virtual village square project is billed to start in August 2011,

To celebrate Inwelle Centre Fifth Year Anniversary, we extended free Computer Training and library usage to the community from January to April 2011. In the picture above are some of participants that have enrolled and the staff of the centre.

Thank You, All Our Friends And Supporters.

Prof. Christiana Okechukwu, Ph.D., Executive Director



To celebrate Inwelle Centre Fifth Year Anniversary, we extended free Computer Training and library usage to the community from January to April 2011. In the picture above are some of participants that have enrolled and the staff of the centre.



The reason I want to have the knowledge of computer is to make me become computer literate. And also help me improve my academic standards to suit every field.

It will help me work very well in any field I will find myself in future, such as keeping records in the office, storing information for easy access and also researching.

I plan to be coming to INWELLE centre frequently, especially to carry out research. I will like to volunteer my services to the Centre whenever the need arises.

I plan to create awareness about the centre, by telling friends, relations to come and get the knowledge of computer for free at INWELLE centre. Finally I thank God through this INWELLE centre I'm now a computer Wizard, and I also extend my greetings to the founder and trainers. May God reward them abundantly.

**Egbujie Juliana Ifeoma B.Sc Marketing (Applicant)**



Congratulations to our darling center, on behalf of 2011 Tuesday/ Thursday computer training for the privilege being given to us to be computer literate. This is to show you that we have learnt internet and some packages like Ms word, Ms window and Computer Appreciation. Thanks a lot! We are grateful.



We wish to express our profound gratitude towards your effort to bring free computer training to the youths in this community. It was a great favour to us, which helps the youths to be computer literate with the help of the lecturer Mr Idongesit S. Udo. We are able to perform excellently in many packages that we are being taught. Wow! What a great excitement we express. May the good Lord reward you with double favour.

On behalf of the afternoon students:  
**Ogechi Tessy Oyioha**

I am a student. I finished my secondary school in the year 2010 and obtained my WACE/ NECO result with seven credits and two Bs. I am seeking for admission into higher institutions. I want to use the computer knowledge which I got from Inwelle Study and Resource centre to further my Education. It will help me in my future plan, especially Education, because I will like to study computer science as a course in the University. I have planned to keep in contact with Inwelle resources centre by bringing my friend to the computer centre, browsing, checking information from my E- mail address or face book, e tc.

Moreover, I will be willing to volunteer to Inwelle centre and help in training others, if the opportunity will be given to me. Also I will make Inwelle centre work known to friends and family by visiting them in face book, home; in fact, all my brothers and sisters will soon come for the computer training here in Inwelle Resource Centre. Thanks Prof. for giving us free training, free browsing, and free Library. Thanks Global Fund for Women for making it possible for Prof to give us free computer training. May the good Lord bless you, all the days of your life. May the Lord bless the work Global Fund for Women is doing. Without you, I am not sure that I would have become computer Literate today. Also with the help of Mr. Idongesit S. Udo my dearly beloved teacher, I am able to grasp the computer. He is a great teacher and a man of no problem. His Lecture is very good, When he teaches, he asks questions. If we do not understand, he explains it more,

**Ugwu Felicia Ebere, Mbu- Amon, Nsukka Isi- Uzo L GA., Enugu State.**

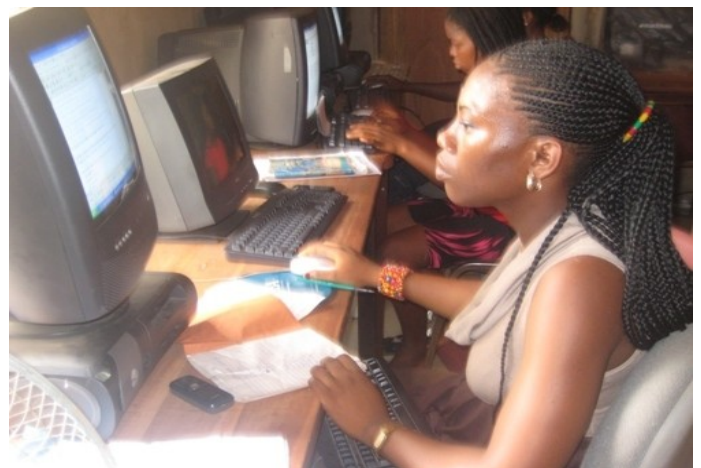


## Role Call

1. Arinze Ifeoma O.
2. Hope Nnamani
3. Igwe Chidera
4. Abiama Okechukwu
5. Ugwu B. Ikemefuna
6. Emidu Onyinye T.M
7. Onyinyechukwu Udobi
8. Ogechukwu Onyioha
9. Amaobi Chukwu
10. Nwobodo Antonia
11. Agbafule Irene
12. Evely Paul U.
13. Aneke Hillary
14. Chukwuemeka Godson
15. Chukwuemeka Cynthia
16. Utazi Christiana
17. Okonkwo Ndubuisi
18. Uche Chika Mary
19. Uduogha Chinonye
20. Igbonike Chibuzo
21. Ugwu Chukwuemeka
22. Favor Collins
23. Edeh Charles
24. Udoji Sylvester
25. Eze Gladys
26. Aniagolum Nnedimma F.
27. Chiaha Ogochukwu P.
28. Adaobi Anamuchi
29. Ugwu Onyinye
30. Ngwu Ifeanyi
31. Itumo Anselem
32. John Nnamani
33. Ezeh Uchenna
34. Okafor Ngozi F.
35. Egbo Lucy Onyinyechukwu
36. Ezeh Christopher
37. Juliet Ozoume
38. Ugbani Ugo Wisdom
39. Eze Christopher
40. Udeh Ifeanyi
41. Chinyere Precious Udah
42. Agbo Chukwunonso
43. Ozobu Ebuka
44. Nwachukwu Tim
45. Stephen Nwankwo
46. Charity Ubasi
47. Egbo Nkemdilim
48. Agbo Jude
49. Arum Alison
50. Chinedu Kenneth A.
51. Solomon Ashay
52. Nnamchi Chidera
53. Aneke Chidinma

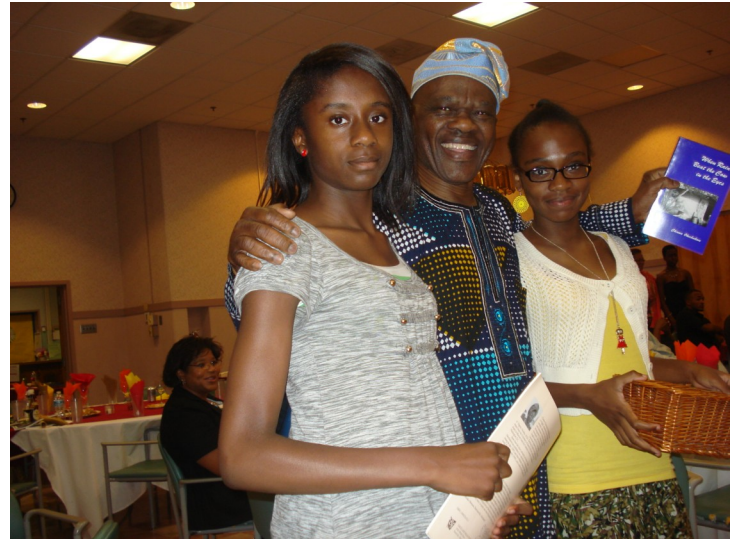
1. Aneke Chimezie
1. Aneke Benjamin
2. Aneke Dennis
3. Ugwu Chibuikwe
4. Ugwu Obunneke
5. Nnamani Angela
6. Oboye Chiamaka
7. Obi Chisom Loveth
8. Obi Ozioma F.
9. Obi Njideka C
10. Obi Promise
11. Ani Emmanuel
12. Onah Tina
13. Ugwu Martins
14. Nzekwe Eucharia
15. Nnamani Innocent
16. Ebube Paul
17. Ugwu Onyinye
18. Isengene Uche
19. Ugwu Aneke E.
20. Okolo Vitus M.
21. Ogbonanya Sandra C.
22. Nwauzor Okenna I.
23. Uzoma Nwogu R.
24. Comfort Agbalu
25. Ogechukwu Constance A.
26. Aneke Emmanuel
27. Ahum Jacinta
28. Nnamani Malachy
29. Agu Okwudili
30. Arinze Okwokwo
31. Nnayi Emmanuel
32. Okwor Victoria O.
33. Edeh Lovina O.
34. Justine Emecheta
35. Okoro Chinasa
36. Ebuje Juliana I.
37. Ezeh Ogochukwu M.
38. Ben Obi
39. Adinde Esther
40. Igbo Abraham
41. Udenze Udodili
42. Agbo Amelda
43. Ikpa Chidiebere
44. Ugwu Nonyelum
45. Perpetua Nwammadi
46. Aniude Juliet
47. Ifeoma Okelue
48. Ani Chidiebere
49. Nweze Ikechukwu J.
50. Ozungwa Blessin
51. Okolo Ifesinachi
52. Onuora Joshua

53. Ilo Sunday E.
54. Odey Emmanuel
55. Anike Ruth
56. Okolo Patrick C.
57. Aguode Boniface
58. Nwodo Loveth N.
59. Nwafor Emmanuel



# 2011 Dinner Dance

Our 2011 Fundraising Dinner dance has come and gone. To minimize cost, we had to send the invitation via email. We fundraised to carry out a participatory learning Academic Boot camp project in August. The recipient of the project were supposed to be 20 young girls transitioning from school certificate exam to gaining admission into higher institutions. However, no organization can thrive without listening to the community that it serves. We had to include some young men, but still maintaining the integrity of our focus on young girls. Here are the dinner dance photos.



# 2011 Participatory Academic Boot Camp

## INWELLE CENTRE 2011 BOOT CAMP Workshop

On August 1, 2011, Inwelle Study and Resource Centre annual boot camp kicked off with an interactive session. The focus was on empowering girls to consider careers in the fields of science and technology, especially, the lucrative field of hi tech computer.

Here are the submission of some personalities present .

Mr Ugwu said, "The world of today is gender sensitive. Therefore both young men and women should have equal learning opportunity in choosing the career of their choice. No particular career should be kept specially for the boys"

Barrister Mrs. Pat Igwebuике wanted to be a doctor but was not exposed to science courses. This hindered her. Hear her " for science subjects people read less because the formulas are the same. Science is not too tough. You don't need to speak too much grammar. If you, as a student, want the easy way out go for science".

Engineer Juliet Eketek—" exposing a girl child to science and technology, especially Hi-Tech computer is very good because girls are very meticulous and good observers more than the boys . The world needs them now"

Barrister Mrs Tessy Igweani, Proprietress, Solid Base Private School. "We had not been kind to ourselves at all. We attach some professions to our boys leaving the girls behind. This does not help matters".

Mrs. Chinyere Okoye, a journalist: "Everything you do is about science. If you don't get involved in science and technology, you are running away from what you do for yourself. The sky is not just our limit as women; it must be our beginning. Every other professional started like you, so embrace science and technology".

Mrs Patience Umeubosika- banker ; "Technology is driving the world now. Join the train before it leaves you behind".

M.r Ifeanyi Anah (dot com) Ministry of Education Enugu "Science and Technology and Hi-tech computer is the trend now. Almost every profession is being taken over by the females. Educationally, there is a paradigm shift. The interest of the learners matter so much. Every child should be encouraged to make the best out of his/her learning/chosen career".



Participants

Pastor Mrs. Kate Mkpuru facilitating a workshop



Barrister Mrs. Patricia Igweike



Mr. Ifeanyi Anah

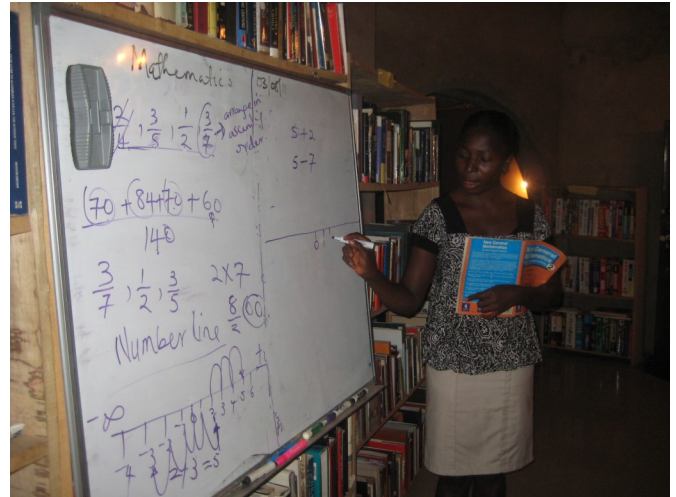


# Participants at the Boot Camp Workshop



Rev. Sister Mary Celine: "It is very interesting to be computer literate".





# TESTIMONIES

**Pastor (Mrs) Kate Uche Mkpuru**, the visionary of HERS & KIDDIES PANORAMA INTERNATIONAL (AKA The Helping HANDS). This is a non denominational organization aimed at equipping women and children to be useful citizens as well as worthy ambassadors of Christ, affecting the lives of the widows, orphans, sick and hurting through giving. She facilitated the Boot camp opening workshop on August 1, 2011. Here is what she says about the Centre.  
INWELLE CENTRE



"It is really amazing, what God is doing with Professor Christiana Okechukwu and her team at Inwelle Centre. My visit to the 2011 Booth Camp gave me great joy and opened my eyes to areas I need to work more in Hers & Kiddies Panorama International. I interacted with a team ready to give hope to the hopeless. The majority of the youth for the Booth camp were thirsty for knowledge, while some were confused about their future. Inwelle Centre provided an opportunity for them to be trained and equipped to take charge of their future. The girls got the needed assurance that they can do well in any choice of career they choose, especially, science and technology. They were really overwhelmed with joy. The peaceful location of Inwelle Centre in a quiet Nike Lake Resort Environment added great beauty and conducive atmosphere to learning. The unique library, computer equipment, students hostels and their park for relaxation helps to make the students learning easy. Just as her name implies, Inwelle is really a home for all. I give kudos to this great woman for releasing herself to be used. I really believe she needs all

## Chizoba Onah:, Participant talking to the Group:

"Lack of qualified teachers capable of handling the science subjects well in secondary schools. This leads to the students losing interest in these subjects. Also, most girls are occupied with domestic duties at home after schools. This affects their time for serious studies. Most schools don't have good guidance counselors to advise students properly on career choice. Some female students find it difficult to ask questions in class because of timidity. Sometimes, we do not get encouragement from our parents and teachers on the courses we want to take. How do we convince, especially our parents, on these science courses? The number of unemployed youth after they leave school is so alarming. All these discourage most of us here".



Check out [Inwelle Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) to hear Chizoba and other boot camp participants talking..

**Barrister Mrs Uche Ekeke;** “This is very important. The world is becoming computerized and the girl child must not be left out. Boys go to technical schools. Girls should also be allowed to try new things. In Rivers State, for example, some girls are trained to work on pipelines. In NTA Enugu, so many female engineers have been employed recently. Some of them are on training abroad”.

#### **WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES THESE GIRLS ARE FACING? HEAR THEM:**

##### **Ujunwa Ugwu**

“Peer pressure and lack of focus. This affects our decision making. We tend to follow what our friends want in order to belong to their group”

##### **Blessing Nnadi**

“Poverty , inability of our parents to provide all we want as regards to science textbooks and School fees”

##### **Chiagoziem Ugwu:**

“Moving with people of low self esteem also affects our decision making. Boys are also interested in discovery more than the girls. Most girls are afraid of taking risks.”.

#### **GENERAL ADVICE FROM CONTRIBUTORS TO PARTICIPANTS: VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY ADVISED THE YOUNG GIRLS. HERE ARE WHAT THEY SAID:**

- The time for gender discrimination is gone.
- Unemployment should not discourage girls from striving to get to the top.
- When a girl has got to the top, the girl will be in a position to even create a job and even become an employer herself.
- Girls must keep going higher and higher and acquire higher degrees in any field, especially in the field of science and technology and high -tech computer.
- When they become experts in their chosen field, the jobs will look for them.
- Poverty should not stop girls from getting where they want to go in their educational journey if they are determined and resourceful.
- Inwelle Centre is ready to provide the counseling and some resources, and basic skills in computer that will give them access to learning and the tools to be creative in taking on jobs and work and go to school at the same time.
- Girls must believe in themselves and God's purpose their lives, be able to recognize opportunities and seize them and use opportunities properly in their educational journey.
- BELIEVE IN YOURSELF AND GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE.
- Girls must shun fear and poverty mentality as one can not go to Aso Rock (The Presidential Residence) thinking like a pauper.
- The time for change has come and that chane will begin with girls and their attitude to life and their capability.







**In August, Inwelle Centre added a new member to its family. Photos on the left are of Chinyelu Participating in 2011 Boot camp.**

**Here is Chinyelu's Story:**

My story of how I met Prof. Dr. Christiana Okechukwu can truly be called Divine intervention. I must introduce myself. I am Mrs. Chinyelu Ozugha. I hail from Azu Ogbunike in Anambra Local Government Area of Anambra State. I am a single parent. I am always energetic and driven to success in life, no matter the hurdles or road blocks in my way. In and out I had been going from pillar to post on various job interviews, but all proved abortive. Being a single parent, I had started giving up hope in life. I was frustrated, depressed, helpless, and sad every time because of the psychological trauma and post-traumatic stress I was going through. I had planned on ending it all drastically. It never occurred to me that God would be sending me help. Fortunately, as God in his infinite mercy would have it, I ran into Prof. Dr. Christiana Okechukwu who immediately decided to be my mom.

In that hot afternoon, I had boarded a bus to the 200 junction at Ogui Road, Enugu, where I went to meet a woman I had met for a job. On getting there, all proved abortive. I had started walking back home to end it all, when a woman saw me walking with a child in my arm under the hot sun. Prof. Dr. Christiana Okechukwu offered me a helping hand to get into her car so that she would give me a ride to the junction, from where I could board a bus to wherever I was going. It was that moment that I opened up to her, not knowing whom she was. I let her know my predicament. To my amazement, When she realized that I was at the end of my tethers and was actually going home to harm myself, she had this sudden rush of love to help me out of my distress. I felt like she was like a breath of fresh air, a vessel God is using to help me out of my distressful situation.

Prof Dr. Okechukwu took me to Inwelle Centre. It was

Prof Christiana Okechukwu is an innovative person whom God is using to reorient youths in our area. She gave me a job immediately and the opportunity to aspire to great heights. I realized that she empowers youths, especially young girls in distress through educational and social channels. She is a born problem solver, who thinks of others first before thinking about herself. She is energetic and resourceful. Prof Dr. Christiana Okechukwu is a rare gem, wonderful philanthropist, and an inspiration. After touring the Centre, I marveled at the thinking and the amount of resource that have been poured into this channel of youth empowerment. The hercu-



lean task of contributing towards the growth of our youths is amazing and breath-taking. This is not an easy set-up. May God continue to keep and strengthen Prof. Dr. Christiana Okechukwu and all the work of Inwelle Centre which she has used to touch the life of our youths. She has used her wealth of experience, kindness, and goodwill to enhance the lives of many youths, women and encourages them to take charge of their lives. It is because of her that I now believe in myself again. God bless Prof. Dr. Christiana Okechukwu tremendously for her good work and kindness to humanity

**From  
Your self designated Protégé  
(If you will take me to be one  
now that you have saved my life)  
Mrs. Chinyelu Ozugha and her son, now your grand-  
son.  
Enugu, Nigeria**

**Inwelle Centre and Ozalla Ezimo** Community partnered to establish a resource centre that has library and computers to give access to learning to the youths of the community. Inwelle Centre trained two girls and a boy from Ozalla Ezimo to run the Resource Centre., donated 1000 books and two computers to the project while the community provided the building for the resource centre. See Photos below.



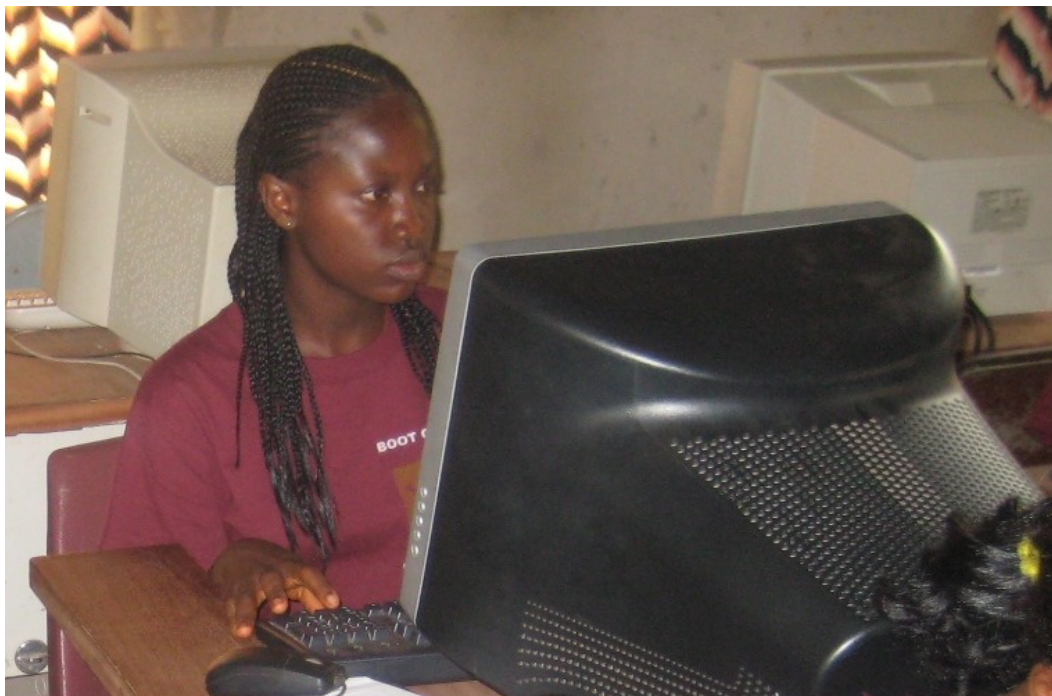


**Inwelle Centre and Ozalla Ezimo** Community partnered to establish a resource centre that has library and computers to give access to learning to the youths of the community. Inwelle Centre trained two girls and a boy from Ozalla Ezimo to run the Resource Centre., donated 1000 books and two computers to the project while the community provided the building for the resource centre. See Photos below.



## In Their Own Voices

**Sylvia Onah:** "The activities are exceptional. I am thinking that sciences are not difficult after all." Chinye Okonkwo: "I have learnt how to arrange books in the library and how to operate computers. I will look for further training so that I will know everything in the computer. Thank you, Prof. Okechukwu and Global Fund for Women. I promise to do my best in the science subjects. I want to study computer engineering."



Like **Chiagoziem Ugwu** articulates the group experience:

"The Boot camp experience is like a new life altogether away from home. The lessons, especially the Chemistry lessons are of great benefit and enjoyable. From my perspective, the most endearing thing I like about the boot camp is the disciplined life we have imbibed. I am also happy we learned computer. Our science teachers are knowledgeable. They made sure our questions were answered. I have gained more skills than I can see now. Talking about skills, we have gained more than just one skill because the main purpose of this boot camp is to help us develop our various potentials yet to be discovered. We acquired skills such as becoming more advanced in computers, planting flowers, homemaking, cooking and being a librarian. For me as a boy, cooking and homemaking are strange. But I learnt a little. I am happy that now I have started thinking about living a planned life instead of just staying idle doing nothing. Thank you Dr. Okechukwu and the people that gave money for us to be here. I hope others will benefit as we have benefitted."



# Fifth Inwelle Centre Annual Symposium

# Theme: Leveraging Girls To Embrace Life in The Field of Science and Technology



C.S.P. Mathew A.O. Iyamanbhor and Chief Agbo of Amorji Nike.



Above: Prof. Christiana Okechukwu, Founding President and Executive Director of Inwelle Centre; Mr. Onagu Ogbodo, Representative of The Enugu State Commissioner for Education, Dr. Simon Uchenna Ortuanya; Barr. Mrs. Chizoba Chine, former Director of Intelligence and Training, Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), and Barr. Albert Edoga, Former Enugu State Head of Service and Commissioner for Lands







Mr. Onagu Ogbodo, The Representative of Enugu State Commissioner for Education, Dr. Simon Uchenna Ortuanya, addressing the Symposium Audience



Mrs. Joy Ada onyesoh giving a certificate to Ms. Amarachi Osuagwu



The Impediments to Girls Embracing Life in Computer Technology Field

**Chinele Udeh, Presenter Programme Director Inwelle Centre**

“One must be worthy of one’s education. For giving the immense power of education to an unethical person is like giving an *obejili* to a mad person. Both will use their weapon indiscriminately and for collecting human sorrow as bounties.”

(Prof. Christiana Chinwe Okechukwu, Ph.D., Founding President and Executive Director of Inwelle Study and Resource Centre, Enugu).



**The Place of Women in ICT in Nigeria**

Dr. Eugene Ibe  
Presenter:  
A Veterinary Doctor  
Chairman of the  
symposium, Barrister Albert Edoga,

Being Interviewed by the Media in August at Ozalla Ezimo During the Launching of Ozalla Ezimo Resource Centre Which He Spearheaded.

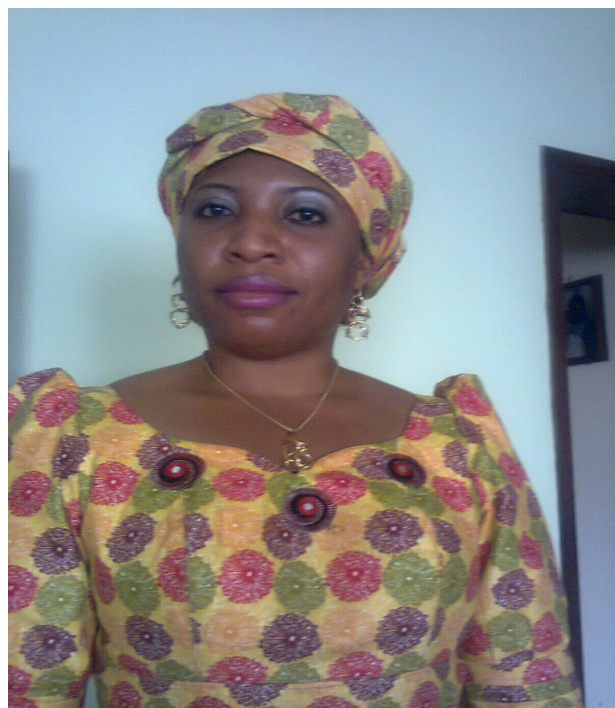


## Joy Ada onyesoh ,

managing director and principal consultant JOEM Consult Ltd is an international facilitator and motivational communicator. she holds a degree in applied chemistry, a master of science degree in environmental management and master of science degree in development studies. She is the national president of women's international league for peace and freedom Nigeria, the oldest international women peace organisation in the world and also the executive director women for skill acquisition development and leadership organisation. She is passionate about women issues and being the change she wants to see.

### **Women Scientists as Change Agent in Nigerian Development; Presenter:**

Mrs. Joy Ada Onyesoh, Managing Director and Principal Consultant JOEM Consult Ltd is an international facilitator and motivational communicator.. She holds a Bachelors degree in applied chemistry, a Master of Science degree in Environmental Management and a Master of Science degree in Development Studies. She is the national president of women's international league for peace and freedom, Nigeria, the oldest international women peace organisation in the world and also the Executive Director, Women for Skill Acquisition, Development and Leadership Organisation.



**VISION 20:20:20: Gender Equity in Science and Technology For Attaining Economic Growth and Fostering Development in Nigeria.**

**Presenter:**

**Barrister Mrs. Chizoba Chine**  
Director, Greenfields Nigeria; A retired Director of Intelligence and Training, Nigerian Drug Law Enforcement Agency and the Director of Greenfield

**VISION 20:20:20: Gender Equity in Science and Technology For Attaining Economic Growth and Fostering Sustainable Social and Economic Development in Nigeria.**

**BY  
BARR. (MRS) CHINE, CHIZOBA U.**

Since the 1980s, issues of gender and gender equality have been at the forefront of international summits. For instance, the *Beijing Platform for Action*, adopted at the *Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW)* in 1995, the Millennium Development Goals; and Vision 20:2020 called for women to be fully integrated into the system of development around the globe.

This is obviously a challenge which no government can afford to ignore. More importantly, it has become increasingly clear that development or progress in peoples' welfare cannot be achieved where the needs and contributions of half of the world's population, women, are continually downgraded, marginalized or completely ignored.

"Mainstreaming from a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels". It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences and integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.

The United Nations Millennium Declaration states that "*men and women have the right to live their lives and raise their children in dignity, free from hunger and from the fear of violence, oppression or injustice*".

## **SOME GENDER CONCEPTS**

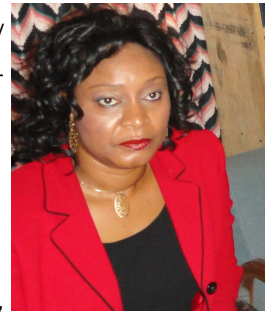
### **What is Sex?**

...the biological differences between men and women. These differences are natural because they are given from birth

### **Gender**

...the social relationships between men and women and the

way that relationship is made by society. i.e. how we are shaped after we are born into society



### **Gender Equality -**

The concept that all human beings, both men and women, are free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without the limitations set by stereotypes, rigid gender roles and prejudices. Gender equality means that the different behaviour, aspirations and needs of women and men are considered, valued and favoured equally.

### **Gender Equity**

Fairness of treatment for women and men, according to their respective needs. This may include equal treatment or treatment that is different but which is considered equivalent in terms of rights, benefits, obligations and opportunities.

Equity = a means ;  
equality = the goal.

### **Glass Ceiling -**

Invisible artificial barriers, created by attitudinal and organizational prejudices that block women from senior executive management positions

## **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Sustainable development requires the full and equal participation of women at all levels. It is clearly inappropriate to try and address problems, to identify the appropriate strategies, or to implement the solutions if only half of the people concerned are involved in the process. Gender equity is an essential building block in sustainable development. Indeed, none of the three "pillars" of sustainable development (environmental protection, economic well being and social equity) can be achieved without solving the prevailing problem of gender inequity.

**Environmental protection** requires a solid understanding of women's relationship to environmental resources, as well as their rights and roles in resource planning and management. It also requires acknowl-

edgement and incorporation of women's knowledge of environmental matters, as well as an understanding of the gender specific impacts of environmental degradation and misuse;



- **Economic well-being** requires gender-sensitive strategies. Reasonable percentage of the world's estimated people living in absolute poverty are women. Segmentation of labour markets – horizontally and vertically – has only marginally improved. No any economy can be called healthy without utilizing the contributions and skills of all members of society;
- **Social equity** is fundamentally linked to gender equity. No society can survive sustainably, or allow its members to live in dignity, if there is prejudice and discrimination of any social group.

It is important to point out that “Gender issues are not the same as women’s issues. Understanding gender means understanding opportunities, constraints and the impacts of change as it affects both men and women” (World Bank). Partnerships and equality between men and women are the basis of strong families and viable societies in a rapidly changing world. You will agree with me that women have been consistently excluded from decision-making across history and societies. Indeed, in all groups, women are being systematically discriminated against within system of governance that allow for dominance of a few social groups to the expense of others. It is such power structures that cause further imbalance, marginalization, suffering and conflict. Creating greater gender equity will contribute to building peaceful, democratic and prosperous societies.

- The broad objective of the vision is by the year 2020, Nigeria will be one of the 20 largest economies in the world
- Able to consolidate its leadership role in Africa and establish itself as a significant player in the global economic and political arena

The specific objectives of NV20:2020 are to: transform and diversify the sectoral contribution to GDP; optimise the key sources of economic growth and fostering sustainable social and economic development; achieve global competitiveness for manufactured goods; achieve \$900 billion target for gross domestic product (GDP); and

**IMPLICATIONS as regards gender and sustainable development:**

The current gender inequality may hinder or threaten the realisation of NV20:2020, particularly with respect to:

- Poverty incidence
- Illiteracy rate among women (girls)
- Poor representation in governance and decision-making positions
- Lack of access to resources (both material and financial)
- Traditional, religious and cultural barriers; and

Poor enabling environment (legal and institutional)

There are indications that there is still problem of gender disparities, which could affect the role of women in sustainable development.

The family factors affecting women’s role in sustainable development reveal that parents prefer to have more boys than girls and they give more opportunity to boys than girls

Sustainable development requires the full and equal participation of women at all levels

*“Men and women have the right to live their lives and raise their children in dignity, free from hunger and from the fear of violence, oppression or injustice.” UN Millennium Declaration*

Also, it is clearly inappropriate to try and address problems, to identify the appropriate strategies, or to implement the solutions if only half of the people concerned are involved in the process

Gender equity is an essential building block in Sustainable development

**Gender Assessment of Poverty in Nigeria**

Four types of assessment are identified in the Gender Discourse:

- Capability—lack of access to public services such as education and health
- Lack of opportunity typified by lack of access to labour markets, employment opportunities and lack of access to productive resources
- Empowerment—powerlessness and being without voice at household and community level.
- Security—vulnerability to economic risk

**Pillars of Sustainable Development**

**Environmental protection** requires a solid understanding of women's relationship to environmental resources, as well as their rights and roles in resource planning and management

It also requires acknowledgement and incorporation of women's knowledge of environmental matters, as well as an understanding of the gender specific impacts of environmental degradation and misuse

**Economic well-being** requires gender-sensitive strategies

70 % of the world's estimated 1.3 billion people living in absolute poverty are women

Economic well-being of any society cannot be achieved if one group is massively underprivileged compared to the other

Nor can an economy be called healthy without





utilising the contributions and skills of all members of society  
**Social equity** is fundamentally linked to gender equity

No society can survive sustainably, or allow its members to live in dignity, if there is prejudice and discrimination of any social group

Gender considerations is recognised as a viable tool for eradicating extreme poverty and advancing development  
Sustainable development implies meeting the needs of the present generation

without compromising the needs of the future generation

In order to promote sustainable development, there is the need for citizens (males and females) to participate in the economy, policy and social development of the society

**Equity and Sustainable Development:** two types of equity are required for full human development to take place

Equity for human generations yet to come, whose interests are not represented by standard economic analyses or by market forces that discount the future, and equity for people living now who do not have equal access to natural resources or to social and economic goods

To ensure gender equality and NV20:2020 aspirations, the following strategic initiatives will be adopted:

Institute mechanisms for the political empowerment of women to take active part in governance

Increase in proportion of women in executive positions in the work-force to at least 30% by 2015

Continuously sensitize the rural communities on traditional, cultural and religious barriers

Promote systematic gender mainstreaming in all sectors by the year 2020 through:

Capacity building;

Access to basic education

Implementing national gender policies;

Effective monitoring and evaluation of commitments; and

Providing scholarship schemes to support girl-child education to tertiary level in disadvantaged states

Increase women's access to paid employment, land, credit and other productive resources by 80% by the year 2020

Establish a national empowerment fund for economic activities for women entrepreneurs

Ensure financial sustainability for gender equality policies and programmes

Create a gender database and disaggregate information and data by gender

The Beijing Conference of 1995 clearly recognises that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential for addressing the central concerns of poverty, insecurity and for achieving sustainable, people centred-development

Therefore, the Federal Government has been enjoined to establish and strengthen gender units or gender focal points at all levels in all ministries to ensure that the gender concerns are mainstreamed into policy making and budgetary processes

Existing women organizations in the rural and urban areas can easily be used as platforms to educate women to participate fully in sustainable development, especially through green consumerism

More females should be encouraged to read science and vo-

educational subjects at all levels of education to prepare them for technological changes without which they cannot meet up

with their roles in sustainable development

Gender issues are not the same as women's issues

Partnerships and equality between men and women are the basis of strong families and viable societies in a rapidly changing world

Women have been consistently excluded from decision-making across history and societies

Indeed, in all social groups women are being systematically discriminated against within systems of governance that allow for the dominance of a few social groups to the expense of others

It is such power structures that cause further imbalance, marginalisation, suffering and conflict

Creating greater gender equity will contribute to building peaceful, democratic and prosperous societies

### Critical Success Factors

Increased women's control over their fertility

Reduced institutional discrimination and bias against women

Increased public awareness of women's issues

A decline in violence against women

Strong focus on infrastructure and productive sectors

Provision of globally competitive economic environment to enhance maximal flow of investment by the Private Sector

Empower/enable women and men collectively to determine their development

Increase the access of women and men to resources, options and political power

Involve women and men as development decision-makers

Transform gender relations

Technological Progress and innovations, tapping from available global technological common wealth and domestic science and technology resources.

Investing in human capacity development to enhance national competitiveness

Entrenchment of merit as fundamental principle and core value

Intensifying war against corruption

Fostering private sector powered by non-oil growth to build the foundation for economic diversification

Deepening reforms in all sector, and

Extending reforms to sub national levels

### Conclusion

National Development, if not **engendered** is **endangered!**

There are 3 principles for **engendering** National development:

equality of rights between women and men;

women must be regarded as

**INWELLE CENTRE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM,  
DECEMBER 22, 2011**

**Welcome Address**

**By**

**Prof Christiana Okechukwu, Ph.D.  
Founding President and Executive Director  
Inwelle Study and Resource Centre, Enugu**

Good morning and Greetings: Chairman, Barr. Edoga, Hon. Commissioner of Education, Dr. Ortu-anya, HRH Igwe Dr. Okolo, Ezeoha 1 of Amorji Autonomous Community, Hon Chief Joseph Agbo Ugwumba, Enugu East Representative, Enugu State House of Assembly, DPO Abakpa Nike Police Station, Barr. Iyamanbhor, Distinguished Presenters—Barr. Mrs. Chizoba Chine, Dr. Eugene Ibe, Mrs. Joy Onyeso, and Ms. Chinelo Udeh, Distinguished Chiefs and Government Functionaries, Inwelle Centre Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The exciting 2011 is about to end. We have our successes. We have our setbacks. We are ready to forge onto a more exciting and more successful 2012. This year, we have been able to carry out exciting projects successfully. The first project was the Mass Computer Literacy Campaign that ran successfully from February to November. We extended free internet usage to Centre users. We trained 153 youths free to be computer literate. But then our gifts kept on giving to a huge number of people as those we trained have now been empowered to train others. We kept our library open from 8a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday Through Saturday; as a result, 157 youths were able to make use of our library and internet. Global Fund for Women assisted us to install our VSAT which gave us access to the internet, supported our Symposium for 2010 and our boot camp for 2011. It also assisted in paying part of our staff salaries for 2011. We purchased a vehicle that will enable us embark on our proposed library on Wheels. We are making progress. All in all, it has been a wonderful year, a year to look back on and smile at lessons learnt and jubilate for triumphs.

**Boot Camp**

**In August 2011** we had a one month academic boot camp during which we focused on encouraging girls to embrace life in the fields of science and technology, especially the lucrative field of hi-tech computer. Among the participants, we had 14 girls and 6 boys from five states in the Southeast geopolitical zone. The participants were housed and fed at Inwelle Centre premises. They were taught Mathematics, English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology



They also taught each other academic subjects that they were strong in. They held folktale sessions in the evening and discussed social issues woven around these tales. They were taught landscaping at the boot Camp. They actually planted flowers at the Boot camp site. They were lectured on the importance of landscaping and tree planting to help the environment. They fetched their own firewood and water and cooked their own food. During the boot Camp, we also started our first satellite resource centre. We trained two girls and a boy from Ozalla Ezimo community on running a resource centre. They learned how to shelve books, keep record, and assist users with using the internet.

We hope that at the end of this symposium, stakeholders will go back to their various homes greatly empowered to leverage girls around them to befriend careers in the area of science and technology, especially hi-tech computer technology. Welcome to our symposium. Enjoy and be edified.

# Inwelle Centre Library on Wheels and Community Partnership Project

Inwelle Centre community involvement is a major focus for 2012-2013 Programme Year. Our satellite centre programme which started August 2011 is being expanded to include more communities.

## Specifications for Partnership:

- Community involvement leading to sustainability and self-sufficiency
- Outline of programme of Activities that reflect Inwelle Centre vision and mission

- Commitment to sending annual report to Inwelle Centre, not later than February of the following year after a programme year
- Providing a room equipped with shelves and access to the internet
- Sending two or three youths to be trained at Inwelle Centre to learn how to run the satellite centre
- Commitment to paying stipends to the youths who run the centre.

## Appeals for Donations

We appeal for donations towards our two major projects for the years 2012-2013.

### • Catch-them Young Project

This will run all year long. Every month, 20 young girls from primary 6 to JS3 or even up to SS2 will be taught the basic use of the computer.

**To sponsor a child costs \$30.00**

### • Inwelle Library on Wheels Project

This targets communities which are willing to empower indigent youths, especially females aged 18 – 25 who will be trained in computer skills and will be provided a place to practice their skills and use the internet. **To support one person in the community costs \$100.00**

### Mass Computer Literacy

We continue to offer free computer literacy training youths and women at our facility and the use of our library and internet,

**To sponsor a participant costs \$100.00**



## Inwelle Study And Resource Centre:

Broadening the Horizon

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Supporter

## CELEBRATING INWELLE CENTRE SUPPORTERS



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