

Half year report, January-June 2009 for the Isobro sponsorship project in Jos, Nigeria

Still the sponsorship project is helping Nigerian youth to acquire education. I use this opportunity to further the expressions of gratitude which I have witnessed so many times from young men and women who receive Isobro support. Usually they will thank me for the support they receive - through me - and I will tell them that the money does not come from me, but from a lot of Danish people. Then they will usually say that they understand this, but that they thank me as the one, who passes on the help.

Who received what?

So far this year, the local Isobro project has supported 57 youths of which 9 are young ladies. Most of the recipients have received support for their Senior Secondary School education, which is a very helpful step in the educational process and necessary for access to higher educations. However 9 of the Isobro recipients, young men and women, have received help to higher education. Three of these young people are studying at universities, a young man is studying at the Polytechnic School in Jos and a young lady is studying at The College of Education to become a teacher while another is studying to become a nurse. Others have been taking computer courses and one has done a video production course. Here is a little information about this lastly mentioned young man, just to give a bit of detail as an example.

Wasiu

Wasiu is an early orphaned young man who has grown up in an orphanage called Transition House. In 2006 and 07 Isobro sponsored his Senior Secondary School. He graduated June 2007. Then he was fortunate to be sponsored by private persons for half a year doing a Discipleship Training Course with YWAM. This was not an Isobro sponsored education, but having finished this, he was again sponsored by Isobro to take a course at a computer school while he was serving part time as a volunteer within an orphanage. Having accomplished the computer course he went on to take a 9 month media course sponsored by Isobro, which he is still into. There he learns to do video productions.

The support which Wasiu has received from Isobro has given him good possibilities to earn his own life. He has expressed his deep gratitude many times for the help that The Isobro has provided.

Financial situation

An account for the spending of finances this year can be seen in the attached Excel file. On the page named "AC" there is an overview of the total money spent this year (E 83). Above are the updated totals spent this year for each person. Each recipient has his/her own detailed account on the following pages.

On page AC you can see (H 20) that there is a total of 133.101 Kr. to be spent in 2009.

In H 41 can be seen that there is 34.606 Kr. remaining to be spent this year. This amount, however, is actually higher. Due to a former refunding of some school fees, some other expenses and to the income of interest in the Nigerian bank there is actually a surplus of 22.165 Kr. which will be spent over the remaining project period (2009-2010). This extra money will allow a limited number of new recipients to be taken into the support program.

The remaining project period

As can be seen in the attached educational plan file ("Isobro udd.-plan") there is a number of 37 youth scheduled for support in 2010, i.e. 20 persons less than this year. This small number together with the fact that there is some extra money, as mentioned above, speak for taking in a number of new sponsorship recipients. This seems to be contradicted by the calculation of expenses over the 5-year period (see H26 on the AC page in the Excel file). The explanation is, that the budgeted expenses for many of the recipients have been higher than what they have actually have received. Some of them for instance have had a partial support from other side. What has not been included in the budget so far, is the cost of a final audit of the project which will take place probably in the end of 2010 or the beginning of 2011. This may cost kr.1.500-2000.

Kind regards, Peter Michael Lauritzen