



IN THIS ISSUE

BWA Management Corner



-BWA appoints new president



SOS Children's village F/town



BWA May-August Events 2009

Contact Us

Botswana workcamps Association

(BWA)

Email:

info@workcampsbotswana.com

Website:

www.workcampsbotswana.com



Governments suspend developments-short or long term solution?

No developments; A solution to survive the global economic shrinkage!!! Indeed it is happening nowadays as most developments in many governments and institutions across the world had been called off as the mist of economic turmoil stay hanging across continents. As it turns out, the socio-economic developments which determine the survival of people are also cut as coffers dries in some countries. The inequalities with regard to socio-economic status of the human population continue to entrench as a considerable portion of the world population continues to live in dire poverty. The poverty stricken humans will definitely have no means to lift themselves from the current stunted economic nightmares.

A terrifying picture is also being painted as big companies suspend their social responsibility duties in local communities especially in the peripheries of towns and cities. The social responsibility activities undertaken by big companies enhanced governments' efforts in improving socio-economic developments in the recent years. The key challenge that surrounds the current state of economic affairs is how to get out with tangible solutions. The little existing financial resources can be invested in voluntary service. Why can't volunteers be given the necessary support as they can provide remedy to the current affairs which have turned into developmental problems. People should recognize that the voluntary service given out by millions of people in the past formed the foundations of the appearance of our world today. It is therefore mandatory to government and those with the means in terms of resources to give the much needed leverage to voluntary service.

Volunteers had been and continue to be pillars for developments even during good economic times. The failure by some governments including some African countries to recognize volunteers remains shocking. Volunteers remain as the hope and patriotic tools ready to sacrifice for the good destiny of countries across the world.

Question: How many people are willing to assist their communities and countries during these hard and challenging times?

Answer: ---no answer.

This is a reality phenomenon as most people sit watching without showing any sense of commitment to assisting their countries. It goes saying that people ought to make positive differences every time. People should draw their attention and commit to the developments of their communities. The only way to play an important role in the current turmoil is to take the lead and build a personal philosophy of patriotism.

Management Corner

The MOITHAOPI mouth piece literally meaning Volunteer in the local Setswana language continues to manifest itself as informative bulletin. The Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA) welcomed the year, 2009 by successfully appointing a new president after some months of searching for a capable individual. The new president of BWA is Mr, Miles Nan who is currently the managing director of Mileage Air & vice chairperson and Secretary General of Chinese Commerce of Industry. The management of BWA also welcomes Ms Tebogo Natalie Moakofhi to the family as a marketing strategy co-opted member of the national executive committee. Ms Moakofhi has established herself as an active banker professionally and also serves in numerous organisations across Botswana. The organisation also undertook three national workcamps in some communities in Botswana. The workcamp projects were attended by over sixty volunteers involved maintaining internal roads



The mission of Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA) serves to revive the spirit of self reliance locally & internationally.

FACT FILE

BWA is a national youth, non-governmental organisation which exists to uphold the spirit of voluntarism ad principle of self reliance or self-help locally and internationally for Development.

BWA was formally registered with the Registrar of Societies in 1980.

at Molefi Senior Secondary School, construction of poultry houses at Sesholo Junior School in the Tswapong area and landscaping and tree planting at Tlhomo Junior School in Kanye.

The organisation joined the youth fraternity in the commemorations of the Month of Youth Against Aids (MYAA). The Month of Youth against Aids (MYAA) commemorations continue to be held by the organisation with the generous support of Botswana National Youth Council (BNYC). It's worth mentioning and congratulating BNYC for their continued support. The BWA branches in Francistown and Mmankgodi embraced the value of compassion and caring by donating warm clothing and developing gardens for disadvantaged in our communities. The initiative by the BWA members was supported by some media houses.

FACT FILE

BWA is a non profit making organisation and subscribes to the values of patriotism, kindness and solidarity.

The organisation always ploughs back its financial resources and other means for the development of underprivileged communities.

BWA appoints new president



Mr. Nan

The Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Miles Nan as its new president with effect from January 2009. Mr. Miles Nan is the Managing Director of Mileage (Pty) Ltd and the Executive Vice-Chairperson and Secretary-General of Chinese General Chamber of Commerce. He is also the Chairperson of Mr. Miles Nan Charitable Foundation and a member of the Rotary Club of Gaborone. Mr. Nan brings wealth of experience to Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA), having earned a lot of experience in many years, working with charity organisations in the world.



FACT FILE

You can contact BWA online, log to www.workcampsbotswana.com to access BWA's information and can also make comments and suggestions or even registering your interest under the Contact Us icon on the main page

Just Updates

The Botswana Workcamps Association will be sending one of its members, Mr. Kagiso Moatshe, to Belgium at the end of June 2009 for the Ubuntu Awards. Mr. Moatshe had been selected as one of the judges for the Ubuntu International Youth Voluntary Service Award 2009.

The Ubuntu International Youth Voluntary Service Award 2009 will be contested by organisations which has projects developed through the involvement of young volunteers from Europe and Africa through cooperation. The projects objectives should identify and address development challenges.

Events to look for;

University of Botswana BWA branch social workcamp-Otse 17-22 May 2009

Khama Rhino Sanctaury Workcamp 08/06/09 to 19/06/09;

Mokolodi Workcamp 20/07/09 to 31/07/09; Spaces still available.

Tlokweng SOS Workcamp 15/06/09 to 26/06/09;

BWA National Council Meeting 4th July 2009

Outlook Expeditions volunteers projects at Khama Rhino Sanctuary (KRS) 10-17 July 2009

Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA) Annual General Meeting 08 August 2009.

Southern Africa Workcamps Associations Cooperation (SAWC) meeting at Khama Rhino Sanctuary (Botswana)-07/08/09-09/08/2009.

||| "I have found that the greatest help in meeting any problem with decency and self-respect and whatever courage is demanded, is to know where you yourself stand. That is, to have in words what you believe and are acting from." **William Faulkner**



A

Volunteers arriving at the centre

*BWA Branch
donates to
SOS
Francistown*

Volunteers maintaining sports fields



B



C

*(C). Warm clothing
& toiletry were also
donated to SOS
Children's village in
F/town*



D

BWA and SOS management representatives taking a look at day's programme

BWA Commerates Mounth of Youth Against HIV/AIDS (MYAA)



The battle against HIV/AIDS pandemic is not yet over. Indeed the world is still faced with a disaster which had proved to be a serious threat to the human population daily. The fight against the AIDS pandemic should remain everyone`s key priority as the HIV/AIDS continues to ravange the future generation of the world i.e youth. This state of affairs is worsened by the high youth unemployment, lack and unwillingness to learn and arrogance towards changing negative sexual behaviours and attitudes. The young people have turned their energetic stature to risky sexual behaviours, arrogance towards taking up governments iniatiaves aimed at socio-economic empowerment. There are calls that elderly people in the socities have negative attitude towards young people`s development but it remains challenging to recognise that the same young people are being loved and cared for by elderly people.

The Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA) commerated the Month of Youth Against HIV/AIDS (MYAA) in the second

week of April 2009 in Mochudi, South East Botswana. The Month of Youth Against HIV/AIDS (MYAA) is a initiative by Botswana National Youth Council (BNYC) with the main objective of making youth aware of their responsibility towards the battle against the HIV/AIDS scourage in Botswana. The month of March is marked as a special period for the commerations annually. The 2009 MYAA commerations were held under the theme;One Me, One Life, One Partner.The theme depicts that the fight against the HIV/AIDS can be easily won by peple taking control of their lives by recognizing that their bodies are precious gifts from God. It is therefore through faithfulness and postive sexual behaviours that will definitely makes the battle an easier encounter to win.The HIV/AIDS voluntary counselling and testing was also undertaken on the day. The commerations hosted by BWA were graced by Kgatleng legislators, BNYC and Local Enterpsie Agency(LEA) officials, Village Development Committee (VDC) members and volunteers



Volunteers marching in the streets of Mochudi, demostrating the message to the society.



I MINUTE CHAT WITH KAGISO MOATSHE (KG)



Kagiso Moatshe, an economics university student and a member of jury for the Ubuntu International Voluntary Service Award speaks to MOITHA OPI on his experiences on volunteerism and how voluntary service fraternity survives the global economic shrinkage.

Could you briefly state what inspired you to join the voluntary service community?

KG: I was invited by a classmate back in my senior school years. Actually we are friends and he recruited me into this organization. The main reasons for joining was travelling and meeting new people. I knew I was going to tour the country, meet new and different people, and working wasn't any of my objectives.

Looking at your commitment to BWA so far, where were you engaged before joining such a complex organization like BWA?

KG: No, I wasn't. I wasn't engaged in anything that has to do the community, except for the school's academic clubs, which would take us for career fairs on seasonal basis. This is where I first set my hand into community clubs.

What is your impression so far regarding the work of Botswana work camps Association (BWA)?

KG: Honestly, I think the organization is doing a very good job. What I am currently seeing here in BWA is much more than I was expecting when I joined the association. Looking at the activities that the organization hosts annually, some of which are educational, I can say the organization truly deserves credit.

How important is voluntary work to you & the world?

KG: Firstly, we need to consider the individuals who are benefiting from the association's voluntarism; we look at them as a part of the nation, and it's through these people that the world feels the weight of voluntary work. Voluntary work is equally important as paid work, and it doesn't only portray spirit for the world's physical development, it is also a good way of showing love and respect for oneself and those around you. I so much rate voluntary work that I consider it important to myself, my neighbor my nation, and my world.

What do you think interested people out there should do to assist Botswana work camps Association (BWA) in its endeavor to promote self help and developments in Botswana and internationally?

KG: They first need to understand the organization's objectives, and then needs, be it financial, material, or otherwise. That is the only

way they can understand the challenges faced by us. They need to know that we can only grow with their support, and finally the doors are open for them to get their hands to the nation through BWA.

What had been your best moment since coming to the BWA family?

KG: Well, I have had a lot of good moments, many of which are long lasting. The superior communal moments that I have had with the volunteers, the opportunities that I got, all made my stay here. But the best moment that I had was when I received a call from VOSESA, South Africa, telling me that I have been chosen to make the five African youth who will make the Jury Panel in Brussels, Belgium and Jo'burg, South Africa. You can imagine someone making it in the top five in the African continent to represent the youth!! It's really a moment not to forget, although the journey has not yet begun.

What are you really looking forward in these remaining months of 2009 & beyond?

KG: We are very much behind in publicity and that is working against us. I am looking forward to seeing this organization making the headlines in local newspapers. That is the only way we can see what's next for us.

What message do you have to the young people willing to emulate you?

KG: The path I used isn't a very challenging path; although the further you go, the more the thorns that can prick you and make you turn back. What I can say to them is, we are always there to provide them with boots for protection. Patience in what you are doing can earn you good points, and DISCIPLINE is the only way to can have democracy. H.E Lt. Gen. Khama once said, "No Democracy can exist without Discipline," and that is more than true! Discipline first, Dignity, Democracy and Development then follow. No man ever got famous from abusing alcohol, drugs and related substances. Once you have earned yourself dignity, then you will be thirsty to work with people.

BWA PARTNERS SITE

This page is dedicated to our stake holders & donors who despite the current economic meltdown still continue assisting

Outlook Expenditions

SOS BOTSWANA



IT SEARCH BOTSWANA

BOCONGO

CCIVS

Allianssin nuorisovaihto / Allianssi Youth Exchanges

SCI

MOKOLODI NATURE RESERVE

Builders World



Jeunesse et Reconstruction

MILEAGE

Chinese Embassy-Botswana Office

PPC Cement-Botswana

UNA Exchange / Cyfnewid UNA

Concordia International Volunteers

Botswana Workcamps Association (BWA) `s mission
is to provide effective voluntary service to
Communities, particularly the less well off sections.

BWA is affiliated to BNYC, BOCONGO & CCIVS -Paris in France

