



## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2017

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of two cherished women of the GWAH community.

Carol Ruth Lombard Lutz, a founding member and longtime supporter of GWAH, passed away on March 16, 2017. We remember her with love and gratitude for all she did for GWAH. We have previously recognized Carol's many contributions in an email to our friends and donors.

On December 18, 2016, our beloved Anne Wilson Bates, founder and president of the non-profit organization *Marycare*, passed away.



Anne was born on November 28, 1937 in New York City. Her parents, who dedicated their time and resources to helping the poor at home and throughout the world, raised Anne in New York City, Saint Louis, MO and Greenwich, CT. After graduating from Smith College, she entered the Regina Laudis Benedictine Community where she earned an associate degree in nursing. After spending some time on a mission trip to the Philippines, Anne returned to the US to attend the Maryknoll School of Theology. She then moved to Argentina, where she worked to provide education in trades to street children and assisted in a shelter for abused women and children. In the rural areas, she helped install solar panels to provide electricity for schools.

While in Argentina, Anne met the young Nigerian Emmanuel Ihemedu, who had trained ten years in a seminary. Recognizing his great talent, she helped him come to the US, where he completed his seminary studies and became, and still is, Pastor of Saint Justin and Saint Michael Parishes in Hartford, CT. Through a charitable trust her father had established, Anne and the Rev. Emmanuel Ihemedu have worked tirelessly to make a difference in his home country of Nigeria. The non-profit organization *Marycare* in Nigeria has implemented projects such as digging wells for drinking water, building a health clinic, and providing scholarships, education, and agricultural and food security for the poor.

GWAH will keep Anne's memory alive by continuing to support her work.

### NIGERIA

Father Emmanuel, vice president of *Marycare Nigeria*, reports on two projects recently funded by GWAH.

A **skill acquisition program** currently enrolls three individuals; one person awaits placement and one person has graduated.

When his father died two years ago, Chigaamezu was left without opportunity and hope. Thanks to *Marycare Nigeria's* Skill Acquisition Program, Chigaamezu can hope again. He was apprenticed for wood



works for a three-year program and is learning how to make upholstery and furniture.

Daniel Onyejiuwa and Chinaemerm Uwandu (pictured) were apprenticed to an auto mechanic for a three-year program and are learning how to repair cars. Daniel could not complete high school because of financial difficulties, and Chinaemerem dropped out of high school when his father became ill. He was forced to choose between school and his father's treatment. His parents rely on farming and petit (small scale) trading for survival. Daniel and Chinaemerem are thankful for the opportunity and hope that this program has provided.

Miss Sandra Jirinzuma, a young amputee, applied for training in hairdressing and makeup. She is awaiting placement.

Nduka Onyejiuwa is the program's first graduate. He was apprenticed to a driving school for a period of four weeks. He has completed his training in driving and has obtained his driving license. Efforts are being made by Marycare local officials to help Nduka Onyejiuwa secure a driving job, which includes leasing out a van to Nduka for commercial purposes.



Of the 25 deserving families identified for the 2016 **peanut project**, 18 followed through. With the funding provided by GWHA, *Marycare's* local board members purchased peanuts, contracted with an agronomist who provided training, and conducted a workshop on peanut planting for the selected families. The agronomist monitored and supervised the planting process. As part of their motivation, participants were promised that the best harvest would earn an unnamed prize. Seven of the participants brought various quantities of harvested peanut. Most of them complained of destruction of their farms by rodents. However, these women are forever grateful for the help and

support given so they might put food on the table. Father Emmanuel writes: "...your funding of the foregoing projects surely has done some good saving a few more lives in the downtrodden women, men and children of isolated district of Ejemekwuru and their surrounding neighbors. *Marycare* together with the community of Ejemekwuru is grateful to GWHA for positively empowering our young people..."

## ONGOING PROJECTS

GWHA continues to fund scholarships for students in Guatemala (see past reports on our partner organization *Vamos Adelante*). Currently, seven students are enrolled at vocational school, three women are going to university and study to become teachers, and four students are in junior high school.

We also continue funding educational, training and gardening projects in Nepal.



Greenwich World Hunger Association: President: Keith Heard, Treasurer: Lucy Rinaldi  
Board of Directors: Kip Burgweger, Sally Kao Jackson, Barbara Linton, Claudia Schipper, and Pam Sloane.

**For more information about GWHA projects please visit: [www.greenichworldhunger.org](http://www.greenichworldhunger.org)**