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1st Quarter Report 2023

Spotlight on Young People With Disabilities (PWD)

(all names have been changed)



The year 2023 started well for us, as we held a Thanksgiving Service to mark the end of the one-year celebration of #OAFrica20..

There has been awesome progress as we continue to meet our work plans, growth strategies and organisational mission.

This year we will focus on our PWD and finding sustainable outcomes for them in the future.

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Edward has struggled to find a profession and this month he transferred from vulcanizing to basket weaving, which he much prefers. With us since 2004 when he was referred from a state orphanage as an elective mute, he still struggles with speech and is on the autistic spectrum. He is gaining vocational training in a supportive environment where his ability to communicate and interact with other people is augmented and would afford him an employable skill to function in the world of work.

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Having gone through regular physiotherapy, **Dianah** is now walking with little support. She says this has made life a lot easier. She is also working tirelessly with her speech therapist

She is now able to express herself better than before. Even though there is more room for improvement, she says this is helping her more than anything else.

She was referred to us with CP from the state orphanage with CP in 2004.



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Moses, came to us in 2009 referred from the Dept. of Social Welfare, He is now 17. He is living with autism and a heart condition, for which we organized surgery when he first arrived. He is thriving and has a sunny disposition!

His foster mother receives training on how to support a child with autism to develop new skills and overcome a wide variety of developmental challenges. He is empowered to do a lot for himself on daily basis and is making good progress.

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After giving **Keen Martin's** caregiver tips to manage his challenging behaviours and to obtain positive responses, caring for him is less stressful she says.

He was referred to us by the Department of Social Welfare in 2004. He has schizophrenia and autism and lives in a world of his own much of the time,

Keen Martin also receives support from a therapist who helps him learn to do new things which are helping him thrive. He is sociable and loves music in particular.



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Nana has Cerebral Palsy and the physio has really been helping her with mobility.

Having little physical activity daily because of her mobility challenge, **Nana** is being supported to eat more healthily. Having had a nutritionist advise her, she can control her eating habits and her health has improved as she regains fitness and motion.

Nana is one of the friendliest people you will ever come across!

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Bright has autism, a learning disability, and cerebral palsy and has recently been diagnosed with a neuromuscular disorder rendering him completely immobile. It has caused him to lose all the daily living skills that he acquired over the years.

He now receives 24-hour care and he is provided with some stimulation exercises and counselling to take his mind off being sick. He is an example to us all of how to find joy in activities he loves and is capable of.

