

CARING HANDS INTERNATIONAL

A 3 DAY SEMINAR ON VOCATION / SKILL ACQUISITION AND EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM FOR YOUTHS ORGANIZED BY CARING HANDS INTERNATIONAL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF EMPLOYMENT

VENUE: 6c FAGBEWESA STREET, OSOGBO

TIME: 9-4pm DAILY

ARRIVAL

Both the participants and all the invited guests came on time as scheduled

ENVIRONMENT

The conducive environment of the workshop encouraged good learning.

Opening prayers was said by Pastor Julius Ogunkola, the General Overseer of Grace Bible Mission Church at 10.30am. The State's and National anthem was also said, then the workshop started in earnest.

FORMAL OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Youths Sports and Special Needs, Honourable Biyi Odunlade, represented by Mrs Taiwo Oladunjoye formally declared the workshop open. She said that Osun State Government is fully in support of programs aimed at solving youth unemployment in the State. She gave words of advice to the participants to make the best use of the opportunity given through this workshop to develop their potentials and then declared the Workshop open.

The Executive Director Fehintola Obilomo then read her Keynote address in which she explained what informed the decision made by the Organization to embark on a workshop of this kind been the unemployment saga among the youths of this country. It is believed strongly that the workshop will be an eye opener to spur people to self-reliance, self-worth and prosperity. She advised the participants to put in their best concentration so that this project will not be a waste of time and resources. They were also urged to take advantage of this golden opportunity and make the best out of it.

Good will messages were given by Mr Oladipo representative from WADEM, Engr Dr Stevro Aina a member of Board of Advisers, Mrs Eni Ayeni from Action Against Injustice, Pastor Ogunkola Julius O, and the representative of the State Coordinator of National Directorate of Employment Mr Odebiyi. Words of encouragement were given to the participants to take the best out of this opportunity. Revd Engr Ayo Obilomo a member of Board of Trustees also gave his good will message and said the closing prayer for the formal opening of the workshop.

The Executive Director delivering the keynote address at the Opening of the workshop Formal Opening of the 3 day Workshop

DAY 1 OF WORKSHOP, A CROSS SECTION OF THE PARTICIPANTS

The facilitator from the National Directorate of Employment Mrs Fabuluje started the workshop by advising the participants to put in their best, she then gave a general overview of what they should expect during the training program. Different vocations and skills to learn were briefly mentioned such as hat making, hall decoration, shoe and bag designing, wedding car decoration and wedding accessories, arrangement of flowers, bead making.

Hat making

Making of hat was the first skill learnt. The preparation for moulding a hat was started but was not finished because of the long process in moulding a hat, this is to be completed the next day. The materials to be used for hat making were listed out.

Hall decoration

Another skill learnt on the first day was decorations. This includes hall decorations, car decorations, arrangement of flowers, building of decorative hand fans, rosette. Materials for all these vocations and skills were mentioned and shown to the participants.

Day 2 OF WORKSHOP

The second day of the workshop started with an opening prayer, then a review of what has been learnt in the previous day was done to assess the level of interest and knowledge of the skills learnt. Feedbacks were given by some of the participants. This was handled by the Executive Director Mrs Fehintola Obilomo.

- The hat building training which started on Day 1 was completed.
- Shoe and bag making processes especially with suede was thought to them.
- More explanations on car decoration and wedding accessories were given and practicals done.
The process and materials to use were mentioned.
- Bead making was started, simple bead making was done which is just a preamble to perfecting the art.

DAY 3 OF WORKSHOP

The program for the 3rd day started with prayers, general review of the previous day skills learnt was done. Participants were asked questions on the skills learnt, their reactions and comments showed that the skills were well learnt and understood. This section was held by the Executive Director of the Organization.

EDP (Entrepreneurship Development Program)

Lectures were given on EDP (Entrepreneurship Development Program).

- How they can start their own businesses including those things to put in place and steps to take, for instance need of a sign board, flyer and business card.
- One – on - one advertisement by telling the people that we come in contact with

- Making and using products to attract customers.

The process of empowering them financially was discussed and they were encouraged to form cooperative bodies comprising of 10 people in a group. The possibility of accessing funds from bank to establish their small scale businesses was also considered. The participants were later divided into 4 groups of 10 each.

Immediate plans to form the cooperative society started, each group had their first meeting where strategies were adopted to make the cooperative societies function. Each group chose their executive members for stability and smooth running of the society.

A GROUP OF THE COOPERATIVE SOCIETY HAVING THEIR FIRST MEETING

An interactive session was held to have a general knowledge of the success of the workshop as viewed by the participants. Their comments and zeal to put into practice what they have learnt was really encouraging. Final words of encouragement and advice was given by the Executive Director of the Organization Obilomo Fehintola and certificates of participation given to each participant.

ONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS RECEIVING HIS CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Closing prayers were said and the workshop was brought to a close at 3pm on 19-11-14. The program was a huge success, thanks to the Almighty God.