

Word From The Chairman



Although the vision and impetus for this project come out of the traumatic experiences of one young Nigerian, it illustrates what the Nigerian youth with a little encouragement can achieve. Time there was when our communities were centres of care and compassion. Those days are now well in the past. The selfish and individualistic pursuit of material well being has tended to rob our societies of that well-spring of human interaction anchored on empathy and care for each other. We are always in a rush and cannot pause to engage one another. Indeed, I have had cause to suggest that we are fast becoming a callous society in which care and compassion are clearly at a discount.

If in normal situations we are unable to perform our humane duties by one another, we can clearly see that in an emergency be it on the road or even in the event of a major disaster involving any of our communities we are flat-footed and unresponsive. If there had been any doubt as to the veracity of this assertion, our dismal performance during the Bell-view and Sosoliso air disasters sign-posted our inadequacies in infrastructure, in organization and indeed in humane sensibilities.

Lifeline is a poster banner that proclaims that indeed with the kind of young Nigerians active in the affairs of Lifeline the return to the days of empathic re-engagement in the society are clearly returning. It is but a drop in the ocean of what needs to be done to restore care and compassion in our national values. This is why I invite all who may come in contact with this publication to offer unstinting support-moral and material to this endeavour. Above all we need the involvement of caring dedicated and perceptive individuals in this effort.

It is a needful first step in the restoration of moral effort in the public space of Nigeria for compassion wells up from a lively and active moral conscience. Welcome to an important initiative in the effort to build a better Nigeria anchored on compassion for the future of our youth and posterity.

Professor Anya O. Anya, FAS, OFR, NNOM
Chairman, Board of Trustees

