

## IAD Mission Statement

The Institute for Agulu Development's mission is to:

- Identify and prioritize needs in the town of Agulu both immediate and long run. These needs encompass all aspects of lifestyle in Agulu but exclude religious and political issues.
- Carry out such projects that will improve the lifestyles and conditions of Agulu citizens at home and abroad.
- Establish and maintain contact with Agulu Citizens (both members and non-members of the IAD) in the United States and elsewhere, realizing that the IAD objectives and actions should philosophically be inclusive rather than exclusive.
- Maintain close cooperation amongst the members of the IAD, with the understanding that our success in this endeavor can more readily come when we operate as a group rather than as individuals.
- The IAD will guard against inactivity and dormancy by charging its National Secretariat to use ad-hoc and standing committees to operate on the goals and objectives on behalf of the IAD between the annual conferences.

## IAD Program of Work

### I. Education & Literacy

Education and fight against illiteracy are at the top of IAD's priorities. For the longest time, Agulu people have believed that advancement will come through education. In recent years however, a reversal of this trend has set in and has progressed to a point where there is true reluctance towards education.

IAD believes that this recent trend must be halted and reversed if Agulu people are to progress into the 21st century competitively. We therefore make the promotion of education and increase in literacy the highest priority objective for the IAD.

Over the next year and beyond, initiatives will be undertaken by the Institute to bring sharper focus on the value of education to a developing people.

### II. HealthCare Issues

Healthcare is also a high priority item for Agulu. A cursory look at any of the villages quickly demonstrates this. Men and women who are in their forties look like very old people from inadequate healthcare. Children show signs of malnutrition and poor hygiene.

Healthcare is a multifaceted issue encompassing nutrition, medical services, hygiene, general health education, etc. The IAD will endeavor, over the coming months and years, to address these issues as the IAD's resources permit.

### III. Socio-Economic Development

Buttressing all the issues - both discussed and undiscussed - is the socio-economic status of the people. Agulu has the capacity for a strong socio-economic development (e.g. the Agulu Lake is an untapped mine of possibilities) which, if appropriately leveraged, would propel the town onto a higher plateau of economic advancement. Unfortunately, social issues and problems (e.g. religious) cripple the town and render it unable to realize its full potential as an economic entity. Good ideas are ignored because of unrelated squabbles and reasons. Good minds are turned off after repeated attempts to steer the town in a fruitful and beneficial direction.

The IAD will work diligently to address socio-economic issues, bearing in mind that it has considerable limitations imposed upon it by the separation. Nonetheless, an optimistic analysis might interpret these limitations as opportunities if tackled with proper fore-thought. There is a possibility that the *warring factions* may be getting tired of fighting. This may come into sharper focus as Agulu watches other towns advance past it, as Agulu sees the sighting of important capitals and industries in other towns while it is left behind because it cannot speak with a united voice. If such a day arrives, then it would be opportune for a body (e.g. the IAD) which has been totally uninvolved and impartial to contribute a viewpoint that will be listened to by both sides. This hope continues to linger in the IAD's mind.

### IV. Women's Issues

A people cannot be considered to be advanced, nor can a people fully benefit from its U resources until it harnesses fully, ail the resources at its disposal.

Women form a majority of the people of Agulu. The town will benefit more fully from its entire population if it looks with wisdom at issues pertaining to women. These issues include:

Maternity issues - both pre and post

Nutrition - prenatal

Social support and infrastructure for widows and their children - this is particularly poignant because the old support system is dying off because of *modernization* with nothing to replace it.

By addressing issues that are uniquely women's, we may demonstrate leadership that other towns will emulate. The IAD has tabled women's issues as an issue for consideration.

## I. FOUNDERS' LIST

Below is a list of the Founding Members of the IAD:

*Founder's Name*

*Village*

*Resides In*

Agunwa Emeka	Ukunu	Brooklyn, NY
Agupugo, Cyril	Okpu Ifite	Atlanta, GA
Alaedu, Kenneth	Ifiteani	Richmond, VA
Aneto, Dorothy	Nnogidi	Washington, DC
Anikwata, Virginia	Odidama	Rockville, MD
Aniukwu, Chike	Obeagu	Huntsville, AL
Chigbo, Okey	Odidama	Baltimore, MD
Ejidike, Onuoha	Nkitaku	West Palm Beach, FL
Ezeani, Dominic	Umunnwu	Washington, DC
Ezeani, Okechukwu	Umunnwu	Silver Spring, MD
Maduagwu, Cyril	Amatutu	Dallas, TX
Obi, Benjamin	Amoji	Boston, MA
Obi, Isaac	Nnogidi	Minneapolis, MN
Obi, Oliver	Amoji	Boston, MA
Obidiegwu, Nwamaka	Odidama	Minneapolis, MN
Obidiegwu, Christopher	Odidama	Minneapolis, MN
Oji, Emmanuel	Nnogidi	Washington, DC
Okemuo, Peter	Umuowelle	Baltimore, MD
Oh, Sampson	Nnogidi	Daytona Beach, FL
Onwusowulu, Fidelis	Odidama	Washington, DC
Umeh, Fidelis	Isiamaigbo	Chicago, IL

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