

REFORM KUJE NEWSLETTER



PWAN/NULAI SET TO PROVIDE PRO-BONO LEGAL SERVICES FOR INDIGENT INMATES

A Kuje Prison Coordination Committee (KPCC) meeting was held in Abuja on the 8th of October 2018 and a follow up meeting held in 28th March 2019 to discuss the challenges associated with reducing pretrial delays and the implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA).

A client pretrial detainee intake form, case management tool and prison case review form were developed to help checkmate the pretrial delays. 50 lawyers and 95 Law students from three universities law clinics were selected to provide legal services to indigent inmates in the Kuje prison. The students were selected from NILE [20], BAZE [15] and UniAbuja [60].

To further ensure the implementation of the ACJA, a working partnership....(Contd on page 2)

SUCCESS STORY

60 KUJE PRE-TRAIL DETAINEES SET TO REGAIN FREEDOM – Dr Muktar (NILE University)

Since signing of the MOU and selection of lawyers and law clinicians, about 60 inmates have signed consent forms to be represented by the Law Clinic and Pro-bono lawyers. So far one inmate has been released on bail and about eight (8) other inmates are in the process of either being released on bail or having their cases discharged from court. The Law Clinic and Pro-bono lawyers continue to push forward with the other cases.



Cross-section of Lawyers and Law Students after the training

(Continued from page 1....)

was established in January 2019 between NULAI and the Justice Research Institute (JRI). A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed to collaborate in supporting the work of the pro-bono lawyers in the Reform Kuje Project. This MOU was signed by the Program Director of NULAI, Mrs Odinnaka Lagi and Programme Coordinator of the JRI, Mr Mutiu Akinsaya.

Present at this meeting were members of the Rule of Law Advisory Team (ROLAT), Prisoners Rehabilitation and Welfare Action [PRAWA], National Institute of Advance Legal Studies (NIALS), International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), and the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA).

COMMUNITY LEADERS LEND SUPPORT TO AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Partners West Africa Nigeria organised an awareness/sensitisation program on the 10th of April 2019 in the Kuje Area Council to sensitise citizens on the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) and how it affects the common man.

It had in attendance several community leaders. The leaders came out to support PWAN in creating awareness on the Act which came into being in 2015 to regulate issues such as police arrest, search protocol as well as bail.

The Project Officer of PWAN, Mr Henry Anoliefo, said that about 75% of the inmates in the Kuje prison were awaiting trial and PWAN

BACKGROUND

Reforming Pretrial Detention in Kuje Prison Project [Reform Kuje] is funded by the US Embassy Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). The project aims to achieve significant reduction in the size of pretrial detention population in Kuje prison and ensure effective implementation of the provisions of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) Reform Kuje is implemented by a consortium led by Partners Global, Partners West Africa Nigeria (PWAN), Network of University Legal Aid (NULAI), and New Rule LLC.

The project commenced on the 1st of July 2018 and is set to run through 2020.



Law clinicians attending to the participants at the awareness



A community leader addressing the participants

partnering with NULAI are working with lawyers and law clinic students to provide pro-bono legal services to detainees who cannot afford the services of a lawyer, thereby decongesting the prison.

Mr Anoliefo also explained that NULAI has developed frameworks and indicators that will be used to monitor the case management system of Kuje prison.

AIKI DA KUDIRI/ DOKAR HUKUNCI TA SHARI'A (ACJA/L)

Wannan doka tana son tabbatar da cewa wani da ke kula aiki da doka da oda (kamar dan sanda alkali ko lauya) ya tafiyar da lamarin yadda ya kamata cikin sauri domin kare daidai mutanen da lamarin ya shafa



Idan yan sanda ko wani zai kama ka, ba lallai ne ya sanya maka ankwa ko ya daure hannunwanka ba



in ba dai ka ki ka bisu ba ko kana fada da su...



Idan yan sanda ko wani zai kama ka, wajibi ne ya bayyana laifin da ake zarginka in bai yi haka ba, babu bukatar ka bi shi zuwa caji ofis.



WAJIBI ne yan sanda ya gaya maka dukan 'yancinka na:

- Kada ka yi magana sai a gaban LAUYAN
- Ka yi magana da wani LAUYA kafin ka rubuta bayani ko sanya hannu a kan kom
- Za a iya samun lauya a kyauta daga Hukumar Tallafawa da Lauyoyi ta Najeriya (Legal Aid Council of Nigeria), idan ba ka da LAUYA



TSARIN KAMA WANDA AKE ZARGI AIKI DA KUDIRI/ DOKAR HUKUNCI TA SHARI'A (ACJA/L)

Yan Sanda ba ya da ikon ya kama ka a madadin gudajjen wanda ake zargi



Baya ga yan sanda alkali yana da ikon kama wanda ko wadanda ake zargi. Kuma farar hula ma yakan iya kama wanda ake zargi da ya samu yana lalatawa ko yana satar dukiya wani mutum



Kuma zai iya kai wanda ake zargin ga 'yan sanda.

Wajibi ne dan sanda ya mutunta mutanen da ya kama, ya kauce wa duk wata musgunawa ko cin zarafi ko duk wani abu da zai iya zubar maka da mutunci

OFISHIN 'YAN SANDA



Idan 'yan sanda suka kama ka wajibi ne su dauke ka zuwa kotu ga alkali.



Idan ba haka ba, sai su sake ka

bisa sharadi

Beli



ko ba tare da sharadi ba.



In ana son a kama ka, za'a iya binka zuwa ko ina a fadin kasan Najeriya



Idan 'yan sanda suka kama wani, suna da ikon su gudanar da BINCIKARKA



ko GIDANKA bisa izini ko oda (warantin bincike) da **ALKALI** ke bayarwa.

TSARIN BINCIKE

AIKI DA KUDIRI/ DOKAR HUKUNCI TA SHARI'A (ACJA/L)



Kuma mace ce kadai za ta binciki wata mace.

Idan 'yan sanda suka kama ka za su rubuta jerin kayayyakinka su adana su amma ban da suturar da ke jikinka



Idan 'yan sanda suka gano ba ka da laifi sai su mika maka dukiya kayayyakinka da suka adana gaba.



OFISHIN 'YAN SANDA



Idan batu ba mai tsanani ba ne, kamar kisan kai, za su auna lamarin su sannan su bayar da belinka idan ba a gurfanar da kai a gaban **ALKALI** cikin awa 24 ba.

In batun mai tsanani ne, za a daure ka, sai a kai ga gaban **ALKALI**



Lamarin ya danganta, ta yiwu ka nemi wani ya tsaya maka ko kuma lallai ne ka nemi mai tsayawa ba idan batun mai tsanani ne, ba kuma lallai ne su tsare ka ba, sai dai su nemi alkali ya yi hakan.



BELI

AIKI DA KUDIRI/ DOKAR HUKUNCI TA SHARI'A (ACJA/L)



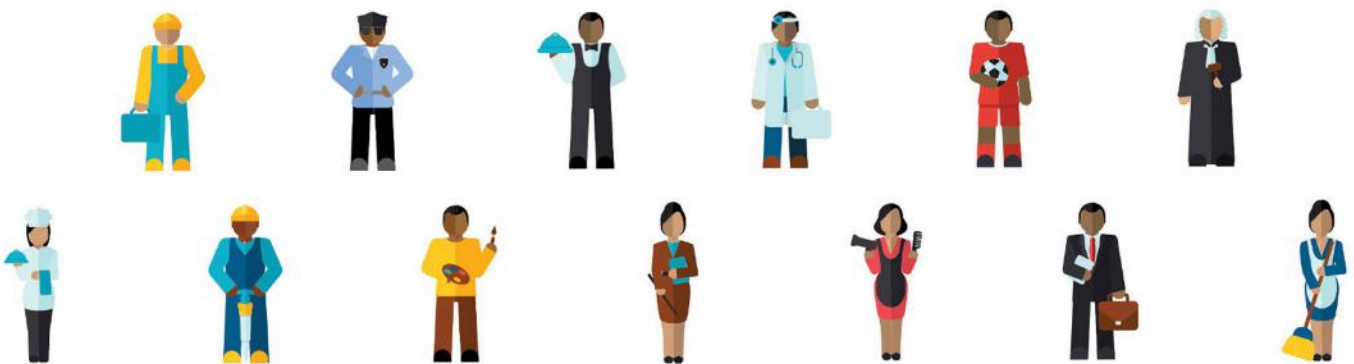
Mutumin da zai tsaya maka beli ya zama baligi namiji ko mace.



Game da shari'ar da za ta dauki lokaci a gaban kotu, **ALKALI** yana iya bayar da **BELINKA**, wanda zai kunshi biyan wani adadin kudi kuma wani da ya san ka ya tsaya maka koda za ka nemi guduwa

Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law (ACJA/L)

This law na to make sure say pesin wey dey do law and order (like police, Judge, lawyer) handle the matter well-well, sharp-sharp and to protect everybody wey join for the matter



If police or anybody arrest you, dem no go put handcuff or tie your hand...



...unless you dey struggle or fight.



If police or anybody wan arrest you, dem must tell you wetin you do or why dem wan carry you go police station



De police officer in charge **MUST** tell you all your right to:

- No talk till **LAWYER** come ;
- Follow **LAWYER** talk before you go write statement or sign anything;
- Dem go give you **LAWYER** for free from Legal Aid Council of Nigeria. if you no get your own.



ARREST PROTOCOLS

Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law (ACJA/L)

Police no fit arrest you say dem no see pesin wey dem dey find.



Apart from police dem, Oga Judge and Oga Magistrate get power to arrest suspect. Ordinary pesin too fit arrest suspect wey him catch dey damage or steal him or him oga property.



Him go carry am go report for police.

Dem must to carry you go court go see oga **JUDGE**



if not dem go free you conditionally

or unconditionally



Police suppose show pesin wey dem arrest respect, and dem no fit **torture** or do you something wey go reduce your level like say you no be pesin.

POLICE STATION



For say dem wan arrest you, dem fit follow you reach any part of Nigeria.



When Police arrest pesin, them fit SEARCH you



and your HOUSE with your permission or if JUDGE order (Search Warrant)

SEARCH PROTOCOLS

Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law (ACJA/L)

If Police arrest you dem go write all the tins wey you get keep dem for you apart from de cloth wey you wear



Na only pesin wei be woman fit search another woman

If police see say you no do anything, dem go give you all your property wey dem bin collect



If no be big matter like say you kill person, dem go dig the matter then free you if dem no fit carry you go see Oga JUDGE inside 24 hour

If na big matter, dem go detain you, tell oga JUDGE



Depending on de matter, you fit need pesin to stand for you (Surety) or you fit no need de surety



BAIL

Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law (ACJA/L)



Pesin wey go stand for you fit be man or woman wey don mature .



Matter wey go tay for court, oga JUDGE go give you BAIL with small money and pesin wey sabi you go stand for you say you no go run

The ACJA which was translated into Hausa and Pidgin were distributed to participants during the awareness to enlighten them on their rights.

Materials were also given to the community leaders to distribute to other community members who were not present at the event. Lawyers from PWAN and some law clinicians from NILE university were also on ground to attend to cases from some participants.

Translated sections of the ACJA increases community engagement

PWAN, in an effort to address the issue of lack of information and knowledge of the law with people in Kuje communities, translated sections of the ACJA into Hausa and Pidgin languages.

It was discovered that some people meant to implement the ACJA are not fully aware of the its provisions and most citizens are not aware of their rights.

The ACJA helped enlighten citizens of their rights during the planned awareness programs. The flier breaks down aspects that deal with the citizen's rights.



A FEW STUDENTS HAD THIS TO SAY AFTER THE PRE-TRIAL DETAINEE LAW CLINIC SESSION:

Alexandra Nene Atabong, UNIABUJA Law Clinic, Faculty of Law:

"...In the middle of the interview our attention was drawn to a prisoner who was being hit was a humungous log of wood as if being in prison wasn't enough punishment. As they narrated their stories I realized that some of these prisoners were locked in this dungeon for the most trivial issues...."

Nnaji Samuel, UNIAbuja Law Clinic, Faculty of Law:

"The pre-trial detainee programme was really worthwhile for me. I had the opportunity of interacting with different categories of people that I never thought I would interact with...."



Cross section of the law clinicians.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

A LIFE IS NOT IMPORTANT EXCEPT IN THE IMPACT IT HAS ON OTHER LIVES.

- JACKIE ROBINSON



Cross section of members at the KPCC meeting.





Comptroller General of NPS
- Ja'afaru Ahmed

As of July - August 2018, "A total of 936 case files and 881 biometrics of inmates have been uploaded out of which 55 inmates were released". This was disclosed at the data input workshop organised by NULAI to test the effectiveness of the National Prison Information Management System (NPIMS). The NPIMS was officially launched in January 2019 by the NPS, and recent research shows that data changes on a daily basis and as of when this present enquiry was made, there were 793 open cases with 634 awaiting trial.

It was disclosed at the launch that the Nigerian Prison Service has been operating smoothly thanks to the National Prison Information Management System (NPIMS) and Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA). There have been great and positive changes since its awareness and implementation. So far, it is easier to track and monitor case files, detention rates have reduced and the NPIMS aided in improving their Network and ICT departments.

Prior to this, NULAI had facilitated a round table meeting with PWAN, ROLAT and the Records and Welfare Staff of the Nigerian Prison Service in July 2018 to help support the implementation of a new case management system (CMS) known as "The National Prison Information Management System" (NPIMS). The meeting also intended to get a status update on the CMS, discuss coordination, and scheduling of data entry workshops that the NPS staff will use to enter into the CMS backlogged detainee and inmate data. The workshops and meetings were held over a 6-month period, between August 2018 and January 2019, and aimed to ensure that approximately 800-1,000 files would be entered into the CMS. Priority was given to new prisoners and prisoners who were not in the CMS.



Officials at the launching of the NPIMS

UPCOMING EVENTS

More awareness sessions will be carried out in other area councils and radio programs will be held – June 2019;

A two-day strategic communication workshop for criminal justice actors – June 2019;

3rd Quarter KPCC meeting – June 2019.

Court representation of Kuje inmates- Ongoing basis.

ACJA

LAW WEY DEY PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS



Partners West Africa Nigeria:
Rule of Law & Empowerment Initiative



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