

Message from AFJN's Executive Director



Dear Friends and Partners,

This edition of the AFJN eBulletin reflects an important principle at the heart of our mission: lasting change begins when we listen to communities and help carry their voices into the places where decisions are made.

Across Africa and here in the United States (US), AFJN continues to connect grassroots experiences with advocacy and action. In Ghana, our engagement with cocoa-growing and land-dependent communities enabled us to hear directly from farmers and traditional leaders about unfair compensation, delayed payments, threats to community land, and the challenges facing rural families. These encounters remind us that responsible investment must protect human dignity, community rights, and the livelihoods of those at the beginning of global supply chains.

In Nigeria and Ghana, women are demonstrating that inclusive leadership and community empowerment are essential to building a more just society. Women religious and community leaders are calling for greater representation in governance while also confronting child marriage, trafficking, child labor, and domestic servitude. By combining advocacy with practical economic opportunities, these initiatives address both the immediate dangers facing children and the economic vulnerabilities that place families at risk.

Our work in Cameroon to help vulnerable children obtain legal identities is another powerful example of how justice can transform lives. A birth certificate is more than a document; it can open the door to education, healthcare, protection, and full participation in society.

AFJN is also bringing these community realities into broader advocacy conversations. Whether addressing the Ebola outbreak, peacebuilding in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), women's political participation, or the ethical responsibilities of investors, we remain committed to building partnerships that respect African knowledge, leadership, and priorities.

These stories demonstrate what becomes possible when communities, faith-based organizations, policymakers, institutional members, and supporters work together. I invite you to read, reflect, share these stories, and continue walking with AFJN as we transform community voices into collective action for justice.

Thank you for your partnership and faithful support.

Steven Nabieu Rogers, PhD
Executive Director
Africa Faith and Justice Network



Donations



Membership



Upcoming Events

Catholic Task Force on Africa Guest Speaker Series



Mr. Jacques Bahati, AFJN Senior Policy Analyst

"If You Want Peace, Cultivate Justice: The Role of the African Diaspora in Peacebuilding in the Light of Ecclesia in Africa"

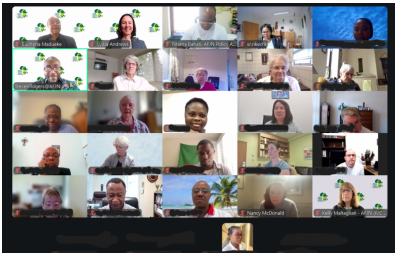
On Tuesday, **September 29, 2026 10:30 ET**, Mr. Bahati will be the guest speaker during the [Catholic Task Force on Africa \(CTFA\)](#) Meeting. He will be speaking on his recent presentation "If You Want Peace, Cultivate Justice: The Role of the African Diaspora in Peacebuilding in the Light of Ecclesia in Africa." All are welcome to join this free online gathering to hear his presentation. For more information email lydia@afjn.org.

AFJN Fall Institutional Briefing



AFJN will be holding our Fall Institutional Briefing on Thursday, **November 19, 2026** for our Organizational Members and Grantors. There is still time to become an Organizational Member and enjoy the benefit of the biannual briefings offered. For more information on our different membership tiers, visit: <https://afjn.org/members/>.

Our Spring Institutional Briefing, held in May, featured presentations by Dr. Rogers; Sr. Eucharua Madueke, SNDdeN, AFJN Women Empowerment Project (WEP) Coordinator; Sr. Teresa Anabuike SNDdeN, AFJN-Nigeria WEP Coordinator; Mr. Ulimwengu Biregeya Bernardin, Researcher-Consultant in Conflict Management and Peacebuilding; and Ms. Massa Ferrancie, AFJN-Cameroon Coordinator. The welcome and opening remarks were given by AFJN Board Chair Sr. Nkechi Iwuoha, PHJC.



Spring Institutional Briefing presentation topics:

- "Expanding US - Africa Advocacy and Public Engagement"
- "Inclusive Governance: An In-Depth Look at Women Participation in Nigeria"
- "Confronting Ethnic Division Through Art and Music in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)"
- "Invisible No More: Expanding Access to Legal Identity for Vulnerable Children in Cameroon"

AFJN to Join SECAM's Justice and Peace Congress in Seychelles



AFJN has accepted Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM)'s invitation to participate in its Justice and Peace Congress in Seychelles, **December 7-11, 2026**. Building on its recent engagement with SECAM in Ghana, AFJN looks forward to working collaboratively with SECAM to strengthen the Church in Africa's response to bad governance, conflict, injustice, and corruption. [Read the full article.](#)

AFJN launched our [new website](#) in September 2026. Last year AFJN contracted [Perisphere Media](#) to redesign our website following feedback from our members and supporters. This new version of the website is cleaner, more mobile friendly, and easier to navigate (especially when locating older posts). Please check it out and try using the the "Keyword Search" in the [Latest News page](#) for archived documents. Send issues to lydia@afjn.org.

US Advocacy

Ebola Awareness and Advocacy Raising through Two Online Events

AFJN in collaboration with the Advocacy Network for Africa (AdNA) held two webinars highlighting the current ebola outbreak featuring doctors on the ground. Read Mr. Bahati's August 21, 2026 article "[Ebola: Prevention, Trust, and the Case for Preparedness](#)".



["The 2026 Ebola Outbreak – Understanding the Crisis"](#)

["From the Current Crisis to Shaping Africa-Led Health Partnerships: What Ebola Can Teach Us"](#)



The African Diaspora and Peacebuilding in the Light of Ecclesia in Africa

On September 12, Mr. Bahati delivered a timely and well-received keynote address at the celebration of "Ecclesia in Africa" and "Africa's Gift to the Church." Organized by the African Catholic Association of DC, Maryland, and Virginia, the event featured a demanding yet hopeful presentation centered on the theme: "If You Want Peace, Cultivate Justice: The Role of African Diaspora in Peacebuilding." [Read the full story here.](#)



Empowering Young Advocates for Justice: AFJN's 2026 Summer Intern Program

This summer, AFJN interns transformed lessons from the 2026 Ecumenical Advocacy Days into research, outreach, and advocacy on issues of human dignity, peace, justice, and immigrant rights. [Read the full story here.](#)

AFJN Interns Take the Call for Peace in the DRC to Capitol Hill

AFJN interns also brought the urgent crisis in eastern DRC to Capitol Hill, urging US lawmakers to intensify efforts toward a durable, people-centered peace. [Read the full story here.](#)



Anti-Trafficking US Advocacy on the Hill

In July AFJN attended the in-person congressional briefing on two key pieces of legislation "HR 1144 - Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act" and "S 1748 - Kids Online Safety Act" that, if passed, would help to prevent human trafficking, strengthen survivor support, and protect children online. The event was sponsored by Alliance to End Human Trafficking (AEHT) and the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd (NAC).



Congratulations Leadership Conference of Women Religious on 70 Years of Service!

In August AFJN exhibited during the "[Many Charisms One Spirit, One Call](#)" 70th Anniversary Celebration of the creation of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious in Orlando Florida. The "historic encounter [brought] together women and men religious" from around the world. During the meeting our Dr. Rogers was able to connect with both our Current and Former Board Chairs and other AFJN supporters. AFJN used this opportunity to share our mission and advocacy work in the US and in Africa with those present. We are so grateful for your service, prayers, and support.



25-Year Vision for the Church in Africa

In April AFJN staff attended the USCCB's "2025-50 Vision for the Church in Africa" presentation by Fr. Rafael Simbine Junior, Secretary General of SECAM who laid out the 25-year Plan for the African Church. Much of what was discussed is in line with AFJN's Strategic Business Plan.



Just Governance

Cameroon

307 Children Receive Birth Certificates in Foubot

Bringing justice closer to families. AFJN and local partners helped secure and hand over 307 birth certificates to children in Foubot, Cameroon, giving them legal recognition and strengthening their access to education, public services, and future opportunities. The achievement reflects AFJN's ongoing work to expand access to civil registration and legal identity for vulnerable communities. [Read the full story here.](#)



Children in Ngaoundéré and Yagoua are Gaining Legal Identities

The collaborative birth registration program Ngaoundéré and Yagoua are securing legal identities for vulnerable children. Read Mr. Bahat's April 29, 2026 "[Restoring Identity, Unlocking Futures: AFJN's Birth Registration Initiative in Cameroon](#)" article.

Ghana



Protecting Land, Livelihoods, and Food Security

AFJN traveled to communities in Kpetoe, Ziokpe, and Akatsi Municipal from July 17–18, 2026, continuing its work to prevent land grabbing and promote responsible investment and accountable land governance. Through community-and-traditional-leader engagements, AFJN emphasized the importance of protecting agricultural land, livelihoods, food security, and the rights of communities to participate in decisions affecting their land. [Read the full story here.](#)



Beyond the Price of Chocolate: Three Ghanaian Farmers on Fairness and the Future of Cocoa

What does the global chocolate industry mean for the farmers who grow its essential ingredient? During a July 2026 fact-finding mission in Ghana's Afadzato South District, AFJN listened to cocoa farmers, women, young people, and community leaders about falling prices, delayed payments, limited access to farm inputs, and other challenges facing cocoa communities. Their stories highlight the need to put farmers' dignity, livelihoods, and economic security at the center of discussions about a fair and sustainable cocoa industry. [Read the full story here.](#)



Sierra Leone



From Dialogue to Action in Sierra Leone

AFJN's sustained engagement in Baomahun is bringing affected communities, FG Gold and public authorities into an emerging dialogue on responsible mining. Through training and community-led advocacy, residents are strengthening their ability to monitor commitments, protect their rights and shape decisions affecting their future. [Read the full article.](#)



Uganda

From Import Dependency to Health Sovereignty: Investing in Uganda's Herbal Medicine Heritage

At an August symposium organized during Gulu University's National African Traditional Medicine Day, Dr. Rogers and Mr. Bahati, presented "From Import Dependency to Health Sovereignty: Investing in Uganda's Herbal Medicine Heritage", a draft paper arguing that investing in African



herbal medicine is not merely a health intervention but a justice imperative — one that honours African indigenous knowledge, creates economic opportunity, and strengthens national self-reliance. [Read the full story here.](#)

These projects are made possible by funding from the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and organizational and individual members.

Women Empowerment Project (WEP)

Ghana - WEP



Life-Skills Training to Safeguard and Empower Youth in Tamale

In September, AFJN held a life-skills-training program for six communities in Tamale. During the program the 20 participants learned about early and child marriage and domestic servitude, safeguarding and 'safe reporting' for the monitoring groups they were leading, and different economic opportunities. The potential victims are trained with a twelve-step curriculum. Graduates from the electrical program (earlier in the year) gave testimonies of their personal transformations noting that many girls previously had never considered the electrical trade to be something they could do. They have shared how, though challenging in the beginning, the community and even the government is now supporting girls helping to break gender stereotypes in the workforce. Participants left with a stronger self-knowledge and worth, and a new realization that their talents and gifts are not limited.



Community Engagement on Early and Child Marriage, and Domestic Servitude in Bolgatanga

AFJN with the Dominicans for Justice and Peace held a three-day-townhall-style engagement with three communities near Bolgatanga. During the visit the team emphasized the dignity of every person, the importance of protecting children and vulnerable populations and ending child exploitation. The Sekoti Chief pledged to join with the eight neighboring chiefs to establish committees to eliminate child marriage, domestic servitude, and trafficking in their communities.

Watch the AFJN-Ghana video "[I am Special Child of God](#)".

Article

- July 9, 2026, "[AFJN and Dominican for Justice and Peace Fight Child Marriage and Domestic Servitude in Ghana](#)" *AFJN-Ghana*



Economic Empowerment of Women through Agriculture

From May through July, trainers from Savanna Agricultural Research Institute visited a community in Tamale that had chosen to grow yams and soy beans. This community wanted to provide economic opportunities and financial stability for women to keep their children in school instead of marrying them off or sending them into domestic servitude. The community had donated land and the Institute certified that the soil was approved for cultivation. Though some women were inexperienced in farming, they learned quickly and are yielding a good harvest. By strengthening the financial capacity of women and families, the hope is to strengthen the family unit and reduce the need for girls to be married early or sent into domestic servitude.

Articles:

- July 24, 2026, "[AFJN Ghana Women Yam Project Participants Build Capacity in Modern Seed Yam Production at Chirifoyili](#)" *AFJN-Ghana*
- June 30, 2026, "[AFJN-Ghana Advances Women Empowerment Initiative with Yam Planting in Chirifoyili](#)" *AFJN-Ghana*
- May 1, 2026, "[AFJN-Ghana Empowers Women Through Sustainable Agriculture: The Hilton Project in Action](#)" *AFJN-Ghana*



Advancing Economic and Social Goods through Networking

In August AFJN visited several government agencies and nongovernmental organizations to explore opportunities for partnership in six selected communities in Northern Ghana and enhance the girls (soccer) club program and the skills training/apprenticeship initiative, and to encourage girls education.



Girls (Soccer) Club

The National Sports Authority Administrative Representative, impressed by the girls club (soccer) initiative, asked the group to send a formal letter requesting what was needed for the soccer programs in the six communities. The Regional Director of the National Youth Authority said he supports them but they have to go through the appropriate channels for assistance. They now must register for and receive a certificate from the Authority which will open up more opportunities for them in the future.

Apprenticeship Opportunity

The Regional Director also informed the group about an apprenticeship program for the various trades that could be beneficial to the communities, and encouraged the group to do a follow up visit to the ACCRA CEO.



Education

In Kuli a new six-unit-classroom block and a six-unit-teachers' quarters is being built by GetFund following the media coverage of last-years initiative encouraging over 300 children to attend school. Youth from the community have been working with the contractor to gain skills in masonry and laying a concrete foundation. The school is now part of the **National School**

Feeding Program and the community has their own feeding program by providing meals to the children twice a week.

Articles:

- September 7, 2026, "[AFJN Ghana Strengthens Partnerships to End Child Marriage and Domestic Servitude in Northern Ghana](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- August 10, 2026, "[AFJN Ghana Strengthens Education and Empowerment Opportunities Across Tamale Communities](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- July 29, 2026, "[AFJN-Ghana Raises Awareness on Human Trafficking at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Ziokpe](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- July 6, 2026, "[Speak Up Against Slavery: Defending Human Dignity and Freedom](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- June 23, 2026, Sr. Eucharika Madueke, SNDdeN, "[Monitoring the Progress of Soccer Girls in Tusani Ghana](#)" Africa Faith and Justice Network
- April 10, 2026, "[AFJN Ghana Graduates Five Young Women from Electrical Wiring Skills Training](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- April 4, 2026, "[AFJN-Ghana Champions Advocacy Against Child Marriage and Domestic Servitude in Sekoti](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- April 4, 2026, "[AFJN-Ghana Champions Collective Action to End Child Marriage and Domestic Servitude](#)" AFJN-Ghana
- February 7, 2026, "[Communities Empowered to Stop Early Child Marriage and Domestic Servitude](#)" AFJN-Ghana

- January 28, 2026, "[AFJN-Ghana and AVERU PAWA Electrical Works Partner to Equip Girls with Electrical Wiring Skills](#)" *AFJN-Ghana*

Nigeria - WEP



Inclusive Leadership Press Conference

In April an "[Inclusive Leadership: Women Representation in Governance](#)" press conference was held in Abuja where they issued a [press statement](#). Many media outlets covered the event sharing the realities of this important issue with their audience. While in Abuja, the group also made advocacy visits with the League of Women Voters, to key government offices like the Nigeria National Assembly, dropping off letters and calling for a special seat at the National Assembly. They also met with the Chair of the Labour Party. During their advocacy visits they called for inclusion in policy formulation and a more-people-centered governance noting that one barrier to entry for women is the high costs (both to be listed as a candidate and campaign expenditures). Additionally, the sisters created a jingle to broadcast on Radio Nigeria and other media outlets to spread awareness nationwide.



Conference Media Video Coverage:

- May 21, 2026, "[AFJN-Nigeria Press Conference Coverage](#)" *ASO News*
- May 12, 2026, "[PRESS CONFERENCE \(Africa Faith and Justice Network Nigeria\)](#)" *The Catholic Voyage-Africa*
- May 7, 2026, "[AFJN Nigeria Advocates for Women Participation in Politics, Calls for Special Seat](#)" *Catholic Television of Nigeria*
- May 6, 2026, "[AFJN Nigeria Press Conference](#)" *Notre Dame Catholic Media*

Conference Media Print Coverage:

- May 11, 2026, Abah Anthony John, "[Catholic Officials Concerned About Women's Marginalization in Nigerian Politics, Call for Inclusive Governance](#)" *ACI Africa*
- May 8, 2026, Kelvin Nwabueze, "[LP Committed To Increasing Women Participation In Politics – Nenadi Usman](#)" *Radio Nigeria Abuja*
- On May 6, 2026, Musa Umar Bologi's "[2027: Women group urges swift passage of special seats bill](#)" *The Nation Newspaper*
- May 6, 2026, Emmanuel Oloniruha, "[2027: Christian group urges reforms for women's political inclusion](#)" *News Agency of Nigeria*
- May 5, 2026, Adedayo Akinwale, "[2027: Reverend Sisters, CSOs Demand Structured, Enforceable Actions that Guarantee Inclusive Governance](#)" *THISDAY*
- May 5, 2026, Solomon Odeniyi "[Women group urges passage of special seats bill](#)" *Punch*
- May 5, 2026, Igbo Oyoyo, "[2027: Coalition Demands Special Seats For Women](#)" *Leadership*
- May 5, 2026, "[Christian group urges reforms for women's inclusion in politics](#)" *Peoples Gazette*
- May 5, 2026, Ameh Gabriel F., "[Nenadi Usman: Money Politics, Weak Female Support Hindering Women's Electoral Success in Nigeria](#)" *Media 360 Impact*

- May 4, 2026, Tokunbo2, "[Financial constraints disenfranchising women in politics; Benani Usman](#)" *The Sun*



AFJN provided life skills and vocational training for 66 girls in Ebonyi and 23 girls in Akwa Ibom by partnering with local experts and businesses. The life-skills-training sessions covered safeguarding, child protection, and how to respond when these adolescent girls' (at risk of early marriage and domestic servitude) safety and rights are at threatened. They learned about the Group Monitoring Committees, the Memorandum of Understanding, and the proper documentation that the community requires to protect them against these practices. They were also trained in 'safe reporting' for when they report to community monitoring groups and they received contact information to the

different reporting agencies. The training gave the girls a safe space to learn their rights, build life skills, and know where to turn for help.

Additionally these girls are learning vocational training in cosmetology (hairdressing), chandlery (candles), saponification (soap), and sewing. By exposing them to learning a trade, they gain self-confidence and a new self-awareness that they are able to economically support themselves and do not need to enter into marriage or domestic servitude. They can be financially stable by working for themselves and becoming self reliant. Additionally, they are learning entrepreneurial skills by creating a business plan for how to start a small business and financial management.

Watch the [FaceBook video](#) following the training.



AFJN-Nigeria Strengthens Community Action Against Child Marriage and Domestic Servitude in Enugu State

On June 5 AFJN and AFJN-Nigeria (Enugu State Chapter) conducted a one-day “Capacity-Building Training on Community Monitoring Systems (CMS), Safeguarding, and Social Norms Transformation” at Ndeabor Community, Aninri Local Government Area (LGA). The Traditional Ruler, cabinet members, village heads, women and youth leaders, town union executives, religious sisters, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) officials, community stakeholders, and representatives of AFJN from Enugu and Ebonyi States explored the causes and consequences of child early marriage and domestic servitude. They learned about the child protection laws, safeguarding principles, and referral pathways. They also discussed the importance of establishing CMS to strengthen community-led protection of vulnerable children. Community leaders and stakeholders committed to work with AFJN and NAPTIP to prevent child exploitation, challenge harmful social norms, and promote safer communities for children and young people.

June 24, 2026, [“AFJN-Nigeria and NAPTIP Strengthen Community Protection Systems in Ndeabor Community, Enugu State”](#) AFJN-Nigeria



Empowering Women, Protecting Children, Building Stronger Communities!

In May AFJN and AFJN-Nigeria visited Oko Mita, Calabar to discuss the harmful effects of child labour, child marriage, and domestic servitude, and the critical role communities play in protecting the rights, dignity, and future of every child. In addition to the sensitization workshops on these issues, the women participated in practical skills training in soap production. These valuable skills provide women with new opportunities for income generation to help strengthen their households to become more economically self-sufficient thus reducing a key vulnerability that often places

children at risk. These women showed enthusiasm, determination, and a strong commitment to become champions for education their children and ending child exploitation.

Media Coverage:

- March 23, 2026, "[Capacity Building Training on Safeguarding & Community Monitoring Systems \(CMS\)](#)" AFJN-Nigeria
- February 7, 2026, "[AFJN Nigeria Secures Community Commitment to End Early Marriage and Domestic Servitude in Ebonyi State](#)" AFJN-Nigeria

Tanzania- WEP

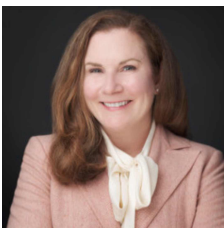


Sr. Eucharia participated in the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation's "Catholic Sisters Initiative Convening" in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The gathering brought together over 130 participants from around the world to grow in faith and learn about the great works being done. One of the main themes this year was safeguarding. Sr. Eucharia met many religious who had previously been trained in AFJN's Women Empowerment Project. Some of these women have started their own advocacy organizations to address their local community's needs. AFJN hopes to hold a 'reunion' for the women religious trained in Ghana in the future.

This project is made possible by grants from the Conrad Hilton Foundation, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Base Communities, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Ministry Support Fund and other organizational and individual members.

News

Ignatian Volunteer Corps



Ms. Nancy McDonald

This summer AFJN welcomed Ignatian Volunteer Corp Member, Ms. Nancy McDonald, as our Grants and Development Volunteer. [Read more about her work here.](#)



Ms. Kelly Maltagliati - Thanks for Your Years of Service

AFJN would also like to thank Ms. Kelly Maltagliati for her 3 years of service to AFJN. During her time as Ignatian Volunteer Corp member at AFJN she was a strong advocate for our brothers and sisters in Africa and worked diligently and passionately to keep our office running smoothly. We wish her

many blessings and fun adventures in the future and will be forever grateful for her contributions to AFJN.

AFJN Thanks Our Summer Interns



AFJN thanks our Summer Interns: Makelah Arzu-Porter, Peaches L. Dargbeh, Riley DeSarbo, Aiden O'Connell, and Arthur Santana Queiroz for their hard work this summer. Learn more about them here: <https://afjn.org/2026-summer-interns/>

Interested in our internship program learn more: [AFJN's Internship Program and apply online here.](#)

Connecting Xavier University Students to African Women's Liberation Theology in Practice



In September Sr. Eucharia gave an online presentation to students at Xavier University on African Women's Liberation Theology by connecting the theology to the work of AFJN's Women Empowerment Project and religious life. The students were enthusiastic to learn and hear how AFJN incorporates the Gospel values through the lens of African Women's Theology into our work with the women and children in Africa. If you are interested in learning more about these speaking engagements please contact info@afjn.org.

Missionary Appeals

In 2026 AFJN participated in the Missionary Cooperative Plans of the [Diocese of Erie](#) (PA) and the [Diocese of Arlington](#) (VA). These opportunities allowed AFJN to share our mission and the work being done in the US and in Africa. This is a great way to connect with lay Catholics and share how we, as a faith-centered organization, put Catholic social thought into practice. Read Sr. Eucharia's article "[A Missionary Cooperative Plan Reflection - Advancing Justice through Mutual Learning](#)".

CTFA Past Guest Speakers



Dr. Chioma Ananihu, SLW D.Min (June 2026)

"Global Migration and Faith: Insights from Religious Women Serving Across Cultures"



Dr. James Jay Carney (April 2026)

"Small Christian Communities and Synodality in Kenya"



Mr. John Ashworth (February 2026)

"Thoughts on the Current Situation in Sudan"

25th Anniversary of ACCCRUS Honoring AFJN's Fr. Aniedi Okure, OP and Sr. Marie Prefontaine, SNDdeN



AFJN staff attended the 25th Anniversary of the African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States (ACCCRUS). The event honored the contributions of AFJN's Women Empowerment Project Consultant and Former Executive Director, Rev. Aniedi Okure, OP and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur's Sr. Marie Prefontaine, SNDdeN. Read Sr. Eucharia's "[Reflections on the 25th Anniversary of ACCCRUS](#)."

AFJN Annual Memorial Mass



On August 19, 2026 AFJN held our annual Memorial Mass celebrating the profound contributions of our late donors, board members, staff, and supporters. Watch the Mass and read Fr. Barthelemy Bazemo, MAfr's homily here: <https://afjn.org/2026memorialmass/>.

AFJN Day of Service

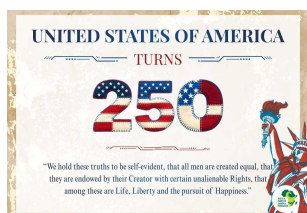


In June staff and interns participated in our second annual [Day of Service](#) distributing food to the Montgomery County Maryland Community. Read AFJN Summer Intern Riley DeSarbo's "[AFJN Day of Service Immerses Interns in Living Out the Mission](#)" article and see photos from the event.

AFJN Walks with the Camino of Maryland



See photos from the June 17 One-Day Walk with the Camino of Maryland in support of the "Day of The African Child" here <https://afjn.org/2026-camino/>.



250 Anniversary of the USA

"[Reflecting on 250 Years of Independence](#)"
by Dr. Steven Nabieu Rogers



Juneteenth 2026

2026 graphic: <https://afjn.org/2026juneteenth/>

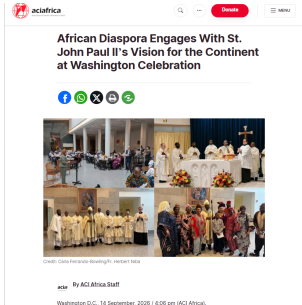
AFJN in the News

See additional media mentions above in the Women Empowerment and Just Governance Sections.



AFJN WEP Featured in *The Orange Newspapers*

On September 24, 2026, the Women Empowerment Project life skills training was featured in *The Orange Newspapers'* article "[AFJN Trains Adolescent Girls on Child Protection, Life Skills in Essien Udim.](#)"



AFJN Mr. Bahati Quoted in *ACI AFRICA* on "Ecclesia in Africa"

On September 1, 2026, Mr. Bahati was featured in the "[African Diaspora Engages With St. John Paul II's Vision for the Continent at Washington Celebration](#)" article in *ACI AFRICA*. The article covered the second annual celebration of Pope's legacy and his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Ecclesia in Africa."



AFJN WEP Featured in *Global Sisters Report*

On September 10, 2026, Patrick Egwu "[Sisters support Nigerian girls escaping domestic servitude and child labor](#)" article in *Global Sisters Report* highlighted the work of the Women Empowerment Project.



AFJN Dr. Rogers Quoted in *The Calabash Newspaper*

On April 20, 2026, Dr. Rogers was quoted in James Tamba Lebbie's "[AFJN Chief Urges Global Leaders to Integrate Faith into Africa's Development Agenda at Brussels Summit](#)" article in *The Calabash Newspaper*.

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