

A-DN NEWSLETTER

No. 1, November 2008

Dear Member,

Welcome to our first edition of the A-DN newsletter. One year has now almost passed since we founded the organization and we can say with confidence that we have been able to establish a good start for African-Danish Network.

We have now established a forum to promote integration possibilities for Danes, Africans, Africans-Danish-and other ethnic minorities in our communities. We have been able to create a closer and better environment for cultural exchange, social networks and friendships for all who would like to participate.

However, we have also had strong challenges and at times difficult to cope, without any financial support. It has also been a challenge to find motivated and interested voluntary workers, which is a necessary prerequisite for the success of A-DN's daily work. Having said that, we think, we have made a necessary change and positive progress towards achieving A-DNs intended goals.

We convey our thanks and gratitude to all volunteers for making our work possible. We also thank all personnel at De Frivilliges Hus for their great support and assistance, especially for offering A-DN a cosy office in their house, making our daily work possible and much easier. We hope to continue having these relationships and once again, thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

In the first content in this A-DN News there is a call to our general assembly, Wednesday, 26th November 2008. All members are requested to attend, so as to make the meeting exciting and productive. Please don't miss out.

Enjoy reading our newsletter!

Best regards,

A-DN Executive Committee

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1.0 Notice for General Assembly

A DN Executive Committee would like to invite all A-DN members to our annual General Assembly to be held on Wednesday, November 26th 2008 from 19:00-22:00 hrs at De Frivilliges Hus, Mølholmsvej 2, 9000 Aalborg.

Agenda

- Election of the moderator
- Report from the board for the past year's work
- Presentation of accountings
- Establishment of quota
- Election of board members and deputies
- Appointment of auditor and deputy auditor
- Consideration of proposals
- Other

Proposals for the agenda should be sent to the Executive Committee latest by Thursday the 20th November 2008.

Proposals should be sent to info@african-danish-network.dk or hh@african-danish-network.dk or be submitted to A-DN's office, De Frivilliges Hus, Mølholmsvej 2, 9000 Aalborg.

In connection with the meeting, dinner will be served at 18.00hrs. We kindly ask you to forward your *registration* not later than Monday, November 24th to the above addresses.

Best regards,

A-DN Executive Committee

2.0 Traineeship

A-DN is now looking for interns from 1st January 2009, to a 6-month training period. The internship is unpaid.

We presume that the applicant:

- has a bachelor degree from a Higher Education institution
- is fluent in Danish and/or English both written and spoken
- has basic knowledge of IT
- has interest in the issues of integration, cultural exchange, creating social networks, friendships, development and international work.
- has good mediation skills and mastery of text production
- is innovative and can work independently as well as in cooperation with others
- is open minded, flexible, enterprising and self-confident

We can in turn offer an intern a working day with multiple functions in a small cosy team. The daily tasks of the intern will be, among others, to:

- look for partners in Denmark and Africa
- correspond in Danish and/or English
- program, design graphics and update A-DN's website
- produce brochures, posters, flyers and power point presentations
- plan, prepare and participate in activities such as summer markets, workshops, seminars, conference etc.
- prepare A-DN newsletter as well as produce daily electronic newsletter
- maintain internal database and other ad hoc work

3.0 Volunteers

A DN is still recruiting voluntary workers:

- Do you want to work for social and cultural integration? Then become a volunteer with A-DN
- Do you have time and talents? Would you like to be with young people? Do you know something about hiphop, African dance and sewing? Or do you simply have great interest in these fields? Then there is now an opportunity for you to help and teach young people to dance Hip-hop, African dance and sewing
- Learn more about how you can make a difference
- Please call A-DN's office on +45 43 33 10 47 or send an email to info@african-danish-network.dk

4.0 The purpose of A-DN

African-Danish Network was founded on November 28th 2007. It is a non-profit organisation. It is a culturally and socially-based humanitarian organization and non-political and non-religious with the following objectives:

- To promote mutual cultural and integration opportunities between Africans, Danes, African-Danes and other minority groups in our communities
- To build awareness and promote understanding about fundamental African and Danish values and through participation in our cultural activities such as African dance, folkedans, music, hair styles, textile and design, art and food, etc.
- To promote a common understanding, acceptance and respect for each other's differences, identities, personalities and nationalities
- To create a strong social network and secure environment for the exchange and social interaction in our communities
- To aid through activities that provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable, marginalized, disadvantaged children and families in developing countries, especially in Africa

Vision - to promote a multicultural society!

As you well know, A-DN has established its office at De Frivilliges Hus, Mølholmsvej 2, DK-9000 Aalborg, with three office days. All information about A-DN and its activities can be found on our website www.african-danish-network.dk and all information can be sent to info@african-danish-netowrk.dk

5.0 Membership

At the General Assembly meeting on 28th November 2008 it was agreed that membership quota should be as follows:

- *Regular membership*: Price 100, - kr.
- *Students/Unemployed/Pensioners*: Price 50, - kr.
- *Family Membership*: Price 150, - kr.
- *Institutions and organizations*: Price 200, - kr.
- *Associate membership*: Price 75, - kr.

Registration can be done by transferring your fees to:

Jyske Bank

Reg. no. 5079

Account no. 1455764

At the same time, you can fill the membership form available on our website and send it to info@african-danish-network.dk

We are appealing to all A-DN members to recruit new members. As a member of A-DN you are and will be entitled to the following:

- Monthly newsletter, including other information on oncoming A-DNs humanitarian and integration activities
- 25% discount for hair cut at Salon Cut and Colour
- Discounts to all A-DN's arrangements

6.0 A-DN's ongoing projects

- Ziwani Primary/Secondary School: Ziwani project was planned for the period of 6 months. As the established deadline for the project is approaching (December 2008), we are still appealing to all members and other well wishers to make their last contribution. You can still assist or support Ziwani project by making your donation in the form of cash or used school equipments, furnitures, computers, including transportation of these items to Pemba.

You still have time to improve the lives of vulnerable children of Ziwani!

Kindly contact info@african-danish-network.dk for any contribution. What has been collected, achieved from this project or any other future plans will be announced in the next edition of our newsletter.

- Sønderbroskolens Cultural Activities: In the meantime our activities at Sønderbroskolen have been postponed until February 2009. We are in the process of starting a new pilot project in cooperation with Sønderbroskolens Ungdomsklub. More details will be announced later.
- We are also in the process of arranging other projects with other actors in Aalborg Øst and Skelagergården. We will keep you informed

7.0 Upcoming events

Summer Market – Saturday, May 30th 2009 at Gammeltorv 10, 9000 Aalborg

A DN would like to invite everyone to an exciting summer market:

- **Theme:** To promote cultural exchange, social networks and friendships in our communities

- **Dato: Saturday, 30 May 2009** from 12:00-22:00, followed by entertainment from 22:00-03:00. The venue for the evening entertainment and the program will be announced at a later date.
- **Place:** Gammeltorv 10, 9000 Aalborg
- **Registration:** Registration is open to anyone who would like to have a booth at Gammeltorvet. Booths are free to all who want to sell various traditional African and Danish environment friendly handcrafts, such as textiles and design, music, cuisine, art, etc. Application for registration should be sent to info@african-danish-network.dk or hh@african-danish-network.dk
- **Deadline:** The registration deadline is April 30th 2009
- Profits from the summer market will go to support A-DN's works in humanitarian and development projects in Africa

8.0 Partners

A-DN is also trying to build a good friendship and cooperation with various private and voluntary organizations in Denmark and Africa: So far A DN has managed to establish a good cooperation with:

Salon Cut and Colour, Rantzausgade 13, 9000 Aalborg. Salon Cut and Colour offers the following discounts to all A-DN members:

Members discount: Up to 25% for the choices of different hair cut

Family discount: 1 adult and 2 children = 1 child free

Pensioners discount: Monday-Friday up to 25% discount

A-DN is also in the process of establishing other good contacts with the following actors:

- Elikvir, Lille Kongensgade 6, 9000 Aalborg
- Marafiki – Østfrikas Venner, Suså Landevej 84, 4160 Herlufmagle
- Sønderbroskolens Ungdomsklub – Aalborg
- Project Image Ethiopia - Ethiopia
- Africa Nazarene University – Kenya

9.0 Traineeship

- In October 2008, A-DN had its first student trainee to assist with the tasks of the organisation. The purpose of the traineeship is to help A-DN's daily activities, while complementing trainee's theoretical knowledge with practical experience. The trainee will be in office until January 2009. A-DN is calling for more trainees and volunteers to join us in our humanitarian and integration works.

10.0 Previous events

- On the 2nd August A-DN held a summer party at Vesterkær in cooperation with TZWEBDOTBIZ. The purpose of the event was to support the Ziwani School project in Pemba.
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- TZWEBDOTBIZ had promised the audience and A-DN to give 5% contribution of their earnings to the school project. Sadly to inform you that A-DN has so far received nothing from TZWEBDOTBIZ. However, we send our thanks and gratitude to Gihan, Anita from Børns Voksenvenner, Elisabeth and Johannes for making this event possible.
- On the 30th October A-DN was invited to attend the GO-Global event in Hjørring. The prime objective was to promote cultural integration, through African cuisine and world music. A-DN prepared African cuisine enough to meet the demand of about 200 visitors. We thank Ramla, Anita from Børns Voksenvenner and others for their help with this arrangement.
- In September A-DN had been busy in fundraising activities to support Ziwani School in Pemba Tanzania. A DN staff did their best to create awareness about the project. A DN managed to do the PR material for the project.
- On the 4th September A-DN was invited to participate in the "Integrationsråd" event organised by Aalborg Kommune. The event was intended to promote good integration in Aalborg and Denmark in general. A-DN was invited due to its guiding vision of creating a multicultural society. In this event A-DN's efforts were well received and appreciated by a very interested audience. We were able to make very useful contacts and also meet with members of other organizations. We exchanged views and received inspirations as well.
- That same week, on the 6th of September A-DN participated in "Frivilligmarkedet" which was organised by De Frivilliges Hus. The event had a positive impact to the development of A-DN as it provided another forum where we could share and learn more about volunteer works and groups. Thanks to the Frivillighus for the invitation and we are looking forward to the next year's "Frivilligmarkedet".
- On the 4th October A-DN held another fundraising party for our school project in Pemba. A-DN was very grateful to Paul-Opuku Mensah for his contribution and participation in this event. Unfortunately the results were disappointing. The money raised from this party could not even cover the costs incurred in arranging it so it was another sad moment for A-DN as well as the pupils and students of Ziwani School. Once again, thanks to all who helped and showed their interest and support to A-DN's work.
- On October 10th the Culture Night event took place in Aalborg. A-DN is grateful to Elikvir and DJ Dully One for making the event possible. It was another opportunity for A-DN to participate in one of the most important events in our community, hence showing its eager intention to promote integration. We succeeded in making a productive initiative and a potential contribution for A-DN and our community as well. Bad weather and

location, though, might have been the reason for less number of people who showed up. But in overall account, our efforts were a success.