



15th Anniversary Message from the President of AUNN

I want to thank you for coming tonight to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the African Union of Northern Nevada (AUNN). Fifteen years ago, many of you who are still active members recalled the conversations in the corridors of your homes that helped give birth to this organization.

An organization that has lasted a decade and half years is a sustainable and viable organization. We've come from being a social and entertainment club to a beautiful caring and charitable organization.

In these years that we now measure in decades and counting, we've done a lot together. We have built a solidified structure and system around our organization. We contributed to the Children cabinet through Adopt a Family program. We have begun to help support our title 1 elementary schools with school supplies items. This year, we donated school supplies to Libby C. Booth Elementary school. Our winter coat donation is underway to help the homeless. We support our kids to stay in school by recognizing and celebrating their graduation from high school. We also fellowship and support one another live event cycle like weddings, birthdays, and milestones. But most importantly, we launched the anti-malaria bednets campaign to raise funds to help purchase mosquito bed nests that would prevent malaria taking the lives of another innocent child in Africa. Last year, we donated all proceeds to UNICEF-USA Fund to support this endeavor. This year, with your generosity, we are determined to double our donation.

We learned to be happy with one another. Of course, there have been challenges along the way. Like a good wine, our organization is becoming better, and better with every passing year. We come from different cultural backgrounds and ethnic groups. Our membership comprised of immigrants from Liberia, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Cameroon, Kenya, and Mauritania to name a few. Under the banners of AUNN, we see ourselves as one people without geographical boundaries united for peace, progress and tranquility.

It is no small sacrifice of time, money and family that we all continue to make to keep this organization alive. Our competitive advantage is you, and your contribution is priceless! I want to sincerely thank you all for embracing the spirit of community organizations, and to be our brothers and sisters keepers in a small but impactful way.

I want to close by extending an open invitation to all those who are still sitting on the fence to join us to help impact our community and to speak with one voice that can help break glass ceilings.

Happy 15th anniversary AUNN! May the love of Liberty, Freedom, and democracy that brought us here continue to keep us here in the pursuit of love, peace and happiness!

**Oliver Saah, B.SC, LL.B; MBA
President, AUNN**