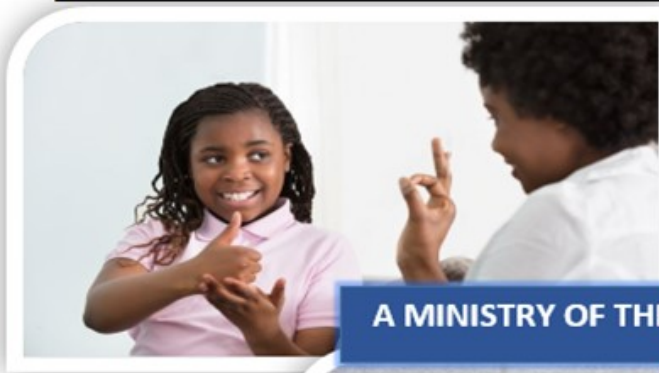




THE CHURCH OF PENTECOST- GENERAL HEADQUARTERS



MINISTRY TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)




A MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH OF PENTECOST



PREPARED BY THE PWD COMMITTEE


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- ▶ Can you imagine that there are some people who do not have the opportunity to share in the joy we find in Christ?
 - ▶ Because we have not given them the equal opportunities to experience the love of God.



INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Impairment: any loss or abnormality of psychological, physiological or anatomical structure or function.
- ▶ Disability: any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being.



➤ Disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives.



TYPES OF DISABILITIES

- **Physically challenged: Paralysis, amputation, diseases-polio**
- **Hearing Impairment**
 - **Deaf, Hard of Hearing**
- **Speech: Speech impairment**

➤ Vision Impairment

➤ Blind

➤ Low vision



TYPES OF DISABILITIES

► Albinism

lack of melanin pigment in their hair, skin and eye.



► Neurological: Epilepsy, Cerebral Palsy



➤ **Developmental disabilities/intellectual disability**

➤ **Autism,**





CAUSES

- Hereditary
- Medical
- Accidents
- Environment
- Etc.



➤ **Sylvia's story**

➤ **The man who has become deaf**

➤ **Michael's story**

➤ **There are members who have relatives with disabilities but are hiding them.**




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THE PROBLEM

- ▶ Most persons with disabilities are not reached with the gospel of Christ even though they so close to us.
- ▶ The number people who become acquire disability is so huge and if no plans are put in place to reach out to them, they will die unsaved.
- ▶ We tend to underestimate their abilities.

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- ▶ **PWDs are persons with souls created by God.**
 - ▶ **God's standard of righteousness and holiness, as well as judgement will not be lowered because a person has some form of disability.**
 - ▶ **The church's Vision 2023 has as part of its objectives, to intensify ministry to Persons with Disability.**



4. Disability affects 15-20% of every country's population (WHO, 2019)

5. Human Rights Watch 2012 Report estimates that over 5 million Ghanaians have some form of disability.

OBJECTIVES

- To intensify the ministry to PWDs
- To win more PWDs for Christ.
- To build persons with disability who are matured in Christ to be able to disciple others and influence their spheres of life with Kingdom principles.
- To effectively include PWDs in our services and the church.



WHY SHOULD WE REACH OUT TO PWDS

- PWDS are souls that need to be saved
- PWDS have relations and if we reach out to them, their relations will also be saved.
- There are great God-given gifts in every human being.

THE YOUTH AND PWDs

- ▶ Inculcate in the youth, the love for PWDs. Once the youth hold to the passion, it will become part of the church.
- ▶ The youth will be encouraged to assist PWDs to develop emotionally, spiritually, psychologically.
- ▶ Encourage the youth to voluntarily engage in the ministry to PWDs.
- ▶ Build teams among the youth; evangelism, awareness creation, publicity team.
- ▶ The youth will lead the campaign in making Sign language popular within the church; the formation of sign language clubs within the youth ministry if possible.

STRATEGIES ADOPT

- ▶ **There shall be committees and Coordinators at all levels (Area, District, Local) to spearhead the ministry to PWDs**
- ▶ **Every District will be required to have at least one Sign Language interpreter.**

TRAINING

Committees and coordinators shall be taken through training to enrich their skills in reaching out to PWDs

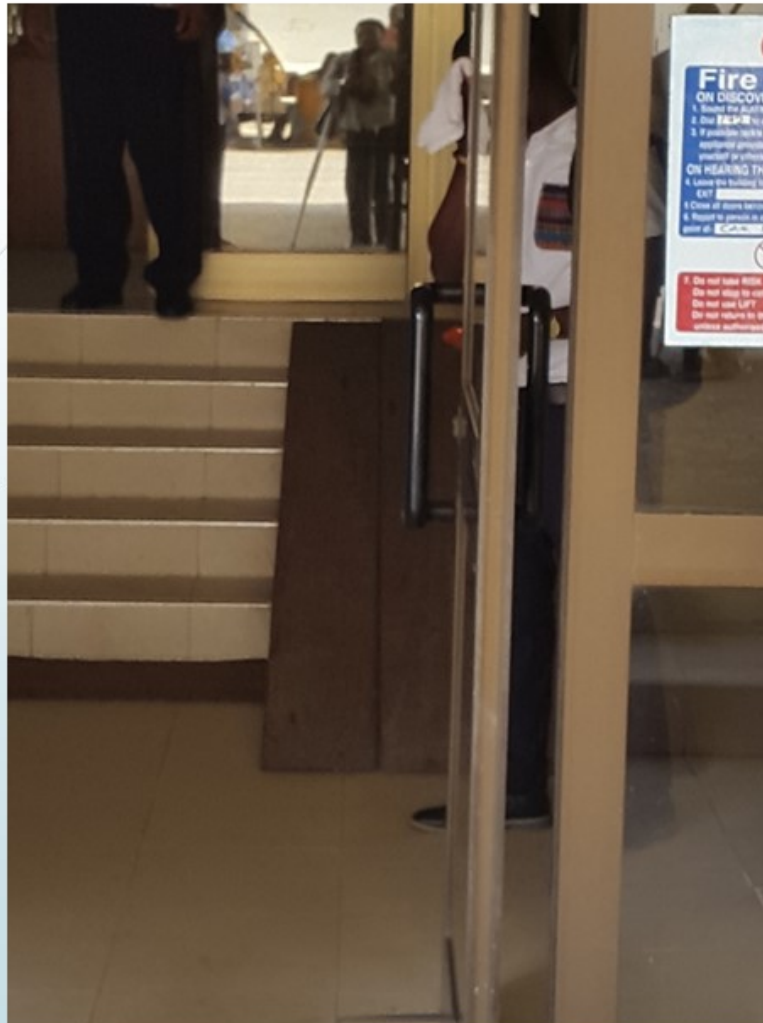
- ▶ **Training Ushers, ministers and members on;**
 - ▶ **How to welcome PWDs to church,**
 - ▶ **How to Communicate with PWDs; the appropriate language to use.**
 - ▶ **How to assist PWDs**
 - ▶ **Training will commence God willing in December 2019.**

CREATION OF AWARENESS

- **Disability awareness campaigns shall be planned and carried out to sensitize members and the general public at Area/District/Local levels**
- **Education on issues of disability..**

ACCESSIBILITY (STRUCTURAL CHANGES & TECHNOLOGY)

- **All Chapels and other purpose-built facilities such as Mission houses and educational institutions of the Church shall be made disability friendly by the provision of appropriate ramps with rails, use slip resistant floors, wide entrances, disable - friendly toilet facilities and parking spaces, appropriately laying cables.**
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- **Proper lightening and sound levels during church services**



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DISCIPLESHIP TO REDUCE SPIRITUAL DEPENDENCE

All major church programmes, preaching and discussions aired on Pent TV shall be interpreted in sign language and/or given sub-titles.

- ▶ **All study materials shall be translated into audio files for persons with visual impairment.**
- ▶ **Teachings and prayer meetings for PWDs.**
- ▶ **Read out information on visual projectors**

EVANGELISM

- The Area, District, Local teams and other interested members shall be trained and encouraged to reach out to and evangelise persons with disabilities.
- Intentionally look for Persons with disabilities




RESOURCE MOBILISATION

- Mobilise funds and assistive devices at Area, District and Local level to support PWDs

Some assistive devices



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- **“ Persons with disabilities are not problems to be solved”;**
 - **“They are relations to be loved”**
 - **They are souls to be saved**
 - **People with special abilities.**



Thank you

May God continue to bless you



INTERVENTIONS SO FAR

- ▶ Pensa is working on sponsoring about 100 persons with disability to Pensa Conference.