

President Message

1.6.2025

Happy New Year to all our honorable Iccobites.

I want to begin by thanking all of you who have contributed generously towards the financial welfare of our association as due paying members, convention donors and board of trustee members. We are very grateful to you for your commitment. The charity demonstrated by the members of the board of trustees is truly appreciated and cannot be overstated. When this body was first envisioned six years ago, there was ambivalence in its efficacy. Thank God that the board of trustees end up being exactly what our association needed at this historical period to achieve financial solvency.

Congratulations to the Midwest (Chicago) Chapter, Canada Chapter and New England (Boston) chapter for their successful end of the year parties. It is important that we continue to find ways to grow our local chapters. I am encouraging all the other chapters to please think seriously about implementing the same in the coming years.

Thanks to the Texas Chapter and members from North America who showed up and bid farewell to our fallen brother Dr. Gregson Oghafua during the burial services. Thanks to all of you who generously gave during the fundraising for his burial. May his soul rest in perfect peace.

Also, thanks to the Midwest chapter president Mr. Dala Iguodala, the executive team and members for all the preparation they have made thus far to welcome Iccobites worldwide to Chicago on July 11-13, 2025, for the 8th Annual ICCOBA North America Convention. The hotel has been identified and the contract has been signed. A flyer detailing all relevant information has been produced and posted on our association website (iccoldboysassociation.com) and WhatsApp platform. So, it is time for us honorable Iccobites to make hotel reservations, pay the convention registration fee and take an advertisement page on the convention brochure. Thank you all for your support.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for giving me and the current executive team the privilege to serve you for almost six years. It has truly been an honor that this team members cherished. Collectively, our term comes to an end after the convention in Chicago on July 11-13, 2025. A new body of executive team will be elected at that convention. So, it is very important that those who are interested in any of the leadership positions begin to make their interest known. We are asking the local chapter presidents and their executives to please be instrumental in this recruitment and/or solicitation processes. Your efforts will make it possible to elect leaders that will take us to the next level of development and improvement. Please send your interest to our **Secretary General Mr. Kenny Giwa-Osagie (630.362.1700)**. **Positions available are president, vice president, secretary general, asst. secretary general, treasurer, financial secretary and social/publicity director.**

It is very important for everyone to understand that if you are not registered and paying dues annually, you are not a member constitutionally and not qualified to either vote or hold an executive position. So, I strongly urge you to please do all that is needful to meet the constitutional requirements. Please refer to Article 5 of the ICCOBA North America Constitution on Membership and Membership Dues on our association website. Also, refer to Article 8 and 9 for the roles and responsibilities of our association executive officers. **For further information please call Morrison Osifo, the financial secretary (347.330.2572).**

Thank you and have a fruitful year.

Sunday Uwumarogie
President
ICCOBA North America