

SERVICE

During a routine check up at the ophthalmologist back in September, I could not help but notice two boxes with the inscription “Give a second life to your glasses!”. I inquired as to what these boxes were and the ophthalmologist explained that there was an eye glasses recycling program whereby used prescription and non-prescription glasses were sent off to Burkina Faso.

One of the main organisers of the program is a French optometry franchise called Optic 2000 which ships the glasses to Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso.

With this information, I headed to the local Optic 2000 in Aix and inquired about getting three recycle boxes to collect glasses. I placed one at my high school, one at the English Bookstore ‘Book n Bar’ in Aix, and another at the Anglo-American Association of Provence (AAGP) library near Aix.

I was able to inform people of the program through both my school and the AAGP newsletter. IBS, my school, sent a mailing to all parents which included a leaflet regarding the programme. The school also mentioned the recycling program on it’s website. The AAGP was kind enough to run a short paragraph calling all members to donate used glasses.

Over the course of a month, through generous donations, I was able to collect 100 pairs of glasses which I then delivered to Optic 2000 in Aix. I trust they will reach their destination soon enough, and that 100 Burkinabé will see better very soon.

