



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
GHANA

Issue No. 15

mmofrado

OCTOBER 2018. OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

for the love of children



www.sosghana.org



EDITORIAL

Welcome to another issue of the Mmofrado Magazine. This publication will emphasize our two main programmes, the projects we run within the communities where we are located, our partners who have made these initiatives possible and the new strategic direction of our organisation.

Partnership is what drives our cause; it is what makes us, and for SOS Children's Villages Ghana, it is key to reaching the underprivileged children and their families in our societies with the needed care and support. Effective Partnerships enable us to support society's less privileged and help them stand on their feet to eventually contribute to the development of their society. We want to extend our gratitude to all our friends and sponsors (individuals,

religious groups, corporate entities and social groups). You have made it possible for us to continue to make an impact.

This edition of Mmofrado offers greater insight into the outcome of key projects being implemented with support of our invaluable partners. Together, we are focusing our energies on touching lives and making a difference where hope is non-existent.

The support of our sponsors and partners is what has sustained us and we are hopeful that this will only get stronger as we aim to reach even more underprivileged children and their families. We entreat you to share your views and suggestions with us after enjoying the articles via email – sos.ghana@sosghana.org, public.relations@sosghana.org, nanaaba.sampson@sosghana.org.

To this end, we hope you enjoy this edition and may it inspire you to offer your support- however small- to the work we do so we can effectively work towards our goal that: "No Child Should Grow Up Alone".

From your partners with our heartfelt appreciation!

Editor
Nana Aba Sampson-Adogla

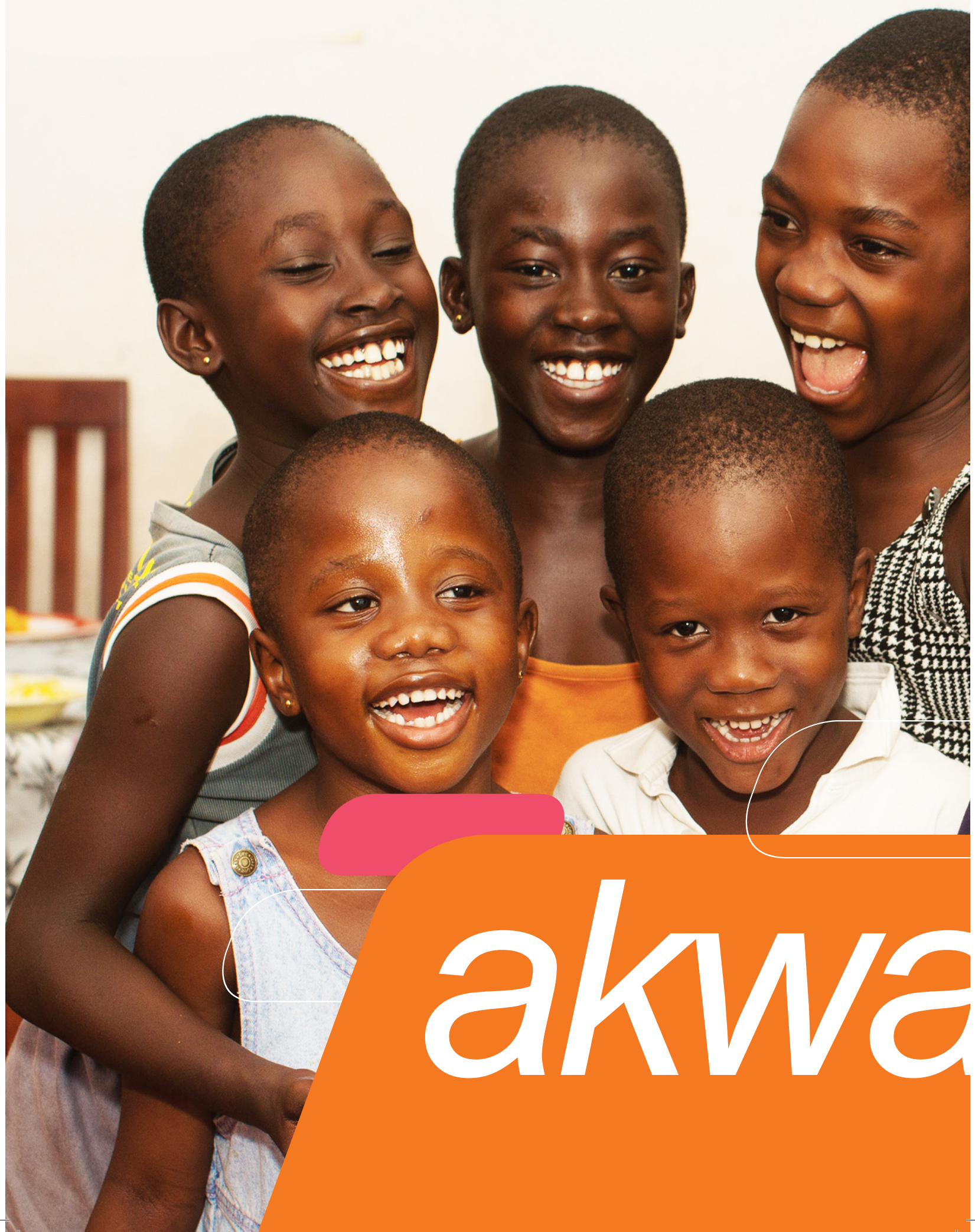
CONTENT



- 06** Message from Board Chair- Increase partnership levels
- 07** Message from National Director- The Youth In Focus
- 12** SOS Alternate Care
- 14** SOS youth donate to Nsawam prisons
- 16** Family Strengthening Programme
- 18** Bringing smiles to a hundred faces
- 24** Teenage pregnancy could not stop me: story of a teen mother
- 34** Her Excellency Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo inducted as patron
- 36** SOS Board Members
- 47** Institutional Partnerships

IMPRINT

SOS Children's Villages Ghana, Fundraising & Communications, P.O. Box 16657, Accra North, public.relations@sosghana.org, +233 302 222 867, +233 302 233 089. **Responsible for editorial content:** Alexander Mar Kekula. **Editorial Team Leader:** Nana Aba Sampson. **Editorial team Members:** Anthony Owusu Gyamfi, Adwoa Mename Fosuhene, Theophilus Quaye, Josiah Nortey, Edris Asiedu. **Design & Printing:** Eighth-Wonder Co. Ltd +233 201 807 108, Accra - Ghana. **Photography:** SOS Children's Villages Ghana Archives. Copyright © 2018. All rights reserved by SOS Children's Villages Ghana. SOS Children's Villages Ghana on the internet www.sosghana.org



akwa



aaba

WELCOME



INCREASE PARTNERSHIP LEVELS

Mr. Kojo Atta-Krah , Board Chair, SOS Children's Villages Ghana

On behalf of all members of the board of SOS Children's Villages Ghana, I welcome you all to another edition of our Mmofrado magazine. This magazine is a great opportunity for us to engage our beloved friends, internal and external stakeholders in a hearty and colourful update of activities by the organisation in the past year.

This edition has streamlined its content to vividly enrich your knowledge in our programme activities geared towards working in the interest of vulnerable children in Ghana and bring to light the various opportunities available for partnership and sponsorship.

As the Chair of this esteemed board of the organisation, it is a privilege to first of all express my profound gratitude to the existing partners and sponsors who have over the years supported us in reaching out to vulnerable children.

I am hopeful that they will continue to offer support as we introduce new strategies to facilitate child care services under the organization's 2030 initiatives.

By influencing the lives of these children and using corporate networks to present them with opportunities to upgrade their individual selves, we have seen many children grow to live their dreams and contribute effectively to societal development.

While acknowledging the immense impact of our care on vulnerable children nationwide, we cannot dispute the unique role of partnerships and corporate collaboration in facilitating the work we do as a child focused organization.

National development is only possible through shared responsibility and the willingness to incorporate policies and structures to benefit our future leaders. I believe in Corporate-NGO partnership for a sustainable

development.

Our government cannot assist the growing number of vulnerable children on the streets alone and will need the support from NGOs and relevant stakeholders.

Let us remind ourselves that the business world is also rapidly engaging in pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations and this calls for innovative partnership at all levels. SOS Children's Villages Ghana has implemented strategic measures to engage interested companies who share similar charitable quests or responsibilities for vulnerable

“Just like government depends on us to complement their efforts, we also need your able assistance to uproot poverty in our local communities.”

children in Ghana to undertake community projects as a way of reaching out to these vulnerable children and their communities.

Let me use this opportunity to invite Corporate Bodies, Community Based Organisations, Religious Groups and other stakeholders to join us in working to ensure that vulnerable children are not left out of national development. Just like government depends on us to complement their efforts, we also need your able assistance to uplift poverty in our local communities, so that children can have equal opportunities to good health, education and basic care. Community's needs are numerous and its problems are complex.

Let us join hands to make it a better world for vulnerable children so that they can unearth their potential and explore the opportunities for their development.



The Youth In Focus

Alexandar Mar Kekula

National Director, SOS Children's Villages Ghana

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. The popular quote goes to explain that even the most challenging journeys always have a starting point and everything big starts small.

It is however with determination, irrespective of the odds that runners are able to finish the race ahead. By not wavering and not giving up on our core values, mission and vision, we as an organization are sure to reach out to more vulnerable children in Ghana.

This journey starts from the day young children enter our programme until they become independent to exit our care. We support these children knowing that the early years of a child's life is crucial for their future development. This is why we provide them with a loving home and family, a supportive caregiver, brothers and sisters, good nutrition, quality education, access to healthcare and empower them to build resilience.

I take this opportunity to salute our young people. They inspire us with their successes and achievements. This is especially so with the many graduations and career advancement of our young people in the last few years. In view of this, we are committed to support every young person in our programme in taking steps towards independent life.

The Youth are the best to advocate for their rights and responsible for building their future. This is why central to our experience, we are committed to support them to acquire skills to prepare for independent life and strengthen their employability. In the long run, they will become not just responsible adults but contributors in society.

Over the years, the youth who received support in our programme have achieved tremendous feats in different spheres of life and career. We are proud of their accomplishments and we are convinced that gradually, these youth have become mentors for their younger siblings who are focused on pursuing their education,

obtain skills in order to perform extraordinarily in different fields of work. On the other hand, the few less successful youth, have been supported with targeted (case-by-case) interventions to improve their situations.

For the responsibility that awaits these young people in the future, we are committed to establishing a Youth Empowerment Programme now. The programme will be supervised by professionals to guide and mentor the youth who are currently under our programme in their career planning and preparation to enable them succeed in life.

The focal areas in the mentoring of the youth will include:

- Building strong work ethics and entrepreneurial skills
- Participating in community service and discourse
- Taking productive and rewarding risks
- Active networking, team building and exchange programmes
- Knowing the environment/labour market and opportunities that exist
- Soft and hard skills development

As a driving force with a lot of passion to arrive at their goals, we believe that every child or young person is unique and must be treated with respect in that regard. For this reason, at the individual level, we ensure active child and youth participation in the decisions concerning their lives; including lending them a listening ear as they grow and deal with life. It is significant to note that this has also enabled young people to participate in shaping care practices in the organization to respond to their situation and prepare them for future independent living.

Furthermore, we promote equal access to education and other essential services; address discrimination of all forms; advocate for their rights and empower them with critical life skills to ensure their full inclusion into social, economic and even political life. Knowing that it takes only an efficient human resource to achieve these milestones, training programmes for our core care co-workers have focussed on how to prepare children and young people to succeed in life.

Nevertheless, all of us- caregivers, governments, teachers, local authorities, policy makers, civil societies, families and mentors need to do much more to help young people to reach their potential and have the future they deserve. We believe that the participative approach involving all stakeholders, will no doubt result in the emergence of a new generation of resilient young people who are not only economically productive, but are also socially responsible citizens contributing to the development of their communities and nation.



OUR VISION

Every child belongs to a family and grows up with love, respect and security



OUR MISSION

We build families for children in need
We help them shape their own future
We share in the development of their communities

OUR VALUES

COURAGE: We Take Action

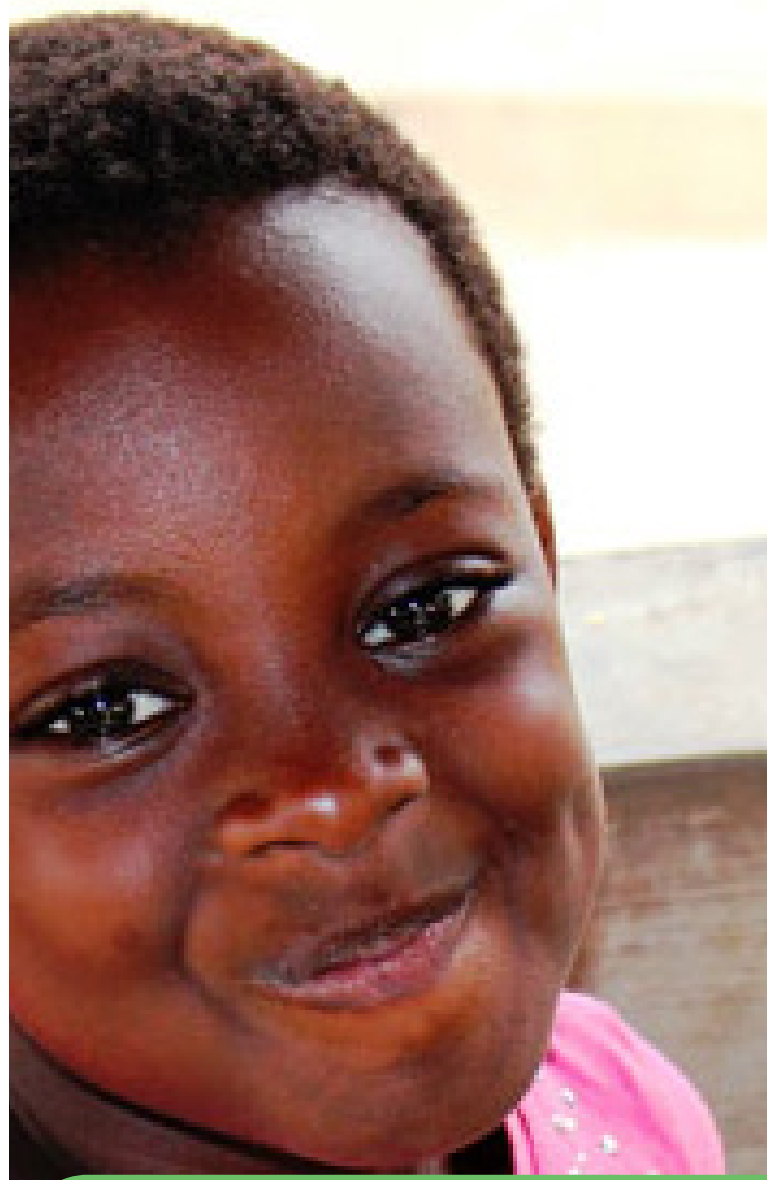
COMMITMENT: We Keep Our Promises

TRUST: We Believe in Each Other

ACCOUNTABILITY: We are Reliable Partners

A loving home for every child





MESSAGE FROM THE CHILDREN

Hope for the future

We the children of SOS Children's Villages Ghana count ourselves as the few fortunate ones to be given the chance to be a part of this big family organisation.

Our survival so far has been as a result of the strong values guarding this philanthropic child centered organisation, whose works have been complemented by the compassion and humility of individual and corporate sponsors both home and abroad.

Circumstances leading to us being vulnerable are often born out of several crisis situations such as absolute poverty, child neglect, destitution and abuse in many forms; while some of us are orphans who never even got to know our parents right from birth.

The real joy in being under the care of SOS Children's Villages Ghana, is living with the hope of a brighter future irrespective of the gory situations we faced in the early stages of our lives.

The feeling is unique, especially when some of us have

had a dosage of the bitter life lived on the streets or the harsh moments of not knowing whether we were going to survive the next day.

Indeed, such unfortunate circumstances have made some of us grateful for the little things we receive and we therefore cherish each passing moment spent at the various family houses in the SOS Children's Villages.

Although support for orphans is being provided by a variety of communities and non-governmental organizations, this act of benevolence reaches only a small percentage of the hundreds of vulnerable Ghanaian children like us.

Many of these centers focus on providing shelter and care; unlike SOS family houses that prioritize a long term family-like setting to ensure that each of us do not lack a normal upbringing practiced at the traditional homes.

So when we meet our friends at school, we tell them that we also have a mother at home, many brothers and sisters to play games with and a father to run to in times of need.

You can also feed, clothe and shelter us by supporting this organisation to cater for our education and basic needs at our family houses in the SOS Children's Villages.

Always remember that no charitable gesture is too small to maintain a smile on our faces. We leave you with these two simple quotes.

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."
-Mother Teresa

"Love cures people-- both the ones who give it and the ones who receive it." -Karl Menninger

OUR ALTERNATIVE CARE

“**NO CHILD SHOULD GROW UP ALONE**”, the central message of our global SOS Strategy 2030, reinforces the commitment of SOS Children’s Villages Ghana to the belief that all children should live in a loving, caring, supportive and protective family environment that helps them develop their full potential; and offers each child an equal chance to succeed in life.

Over the years, however, we are confronted with the dire situations of a number of children who have lost parental care due to varied socio-economic circumstances. Our unique response, traditionally, is to provide quality alternative family-like-care within SOS families in our villages for these children who can no longer live with their biological families.

Today, in line with changing global trends; the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children; SOS Strategy 2030 and Ghanaian laws regulating childcare, we are innovating to provide and support a range of cost effective and locally appropriate alternative care options for children who have lost the care of their parents. Drawing on our wealth of experience in childcare; and backed by our knowledge of the local Ghanaian environment, the care options we have chosen and committed ourselves to implementing, include SOS Family-Like-Care (in SOS families), Foster Care, Kinship Care, Emergency Care, Transit Homes and other locally appropriate care arrangements.

SOS FAMILY-LIKE-CARE

SOS Children’s Villages Ghana is implementing its family-like-care through SOS families living in a total of 51 family houses in four (4) programme locations countrywide; namely Tema, Asiakwa, Kumasi and Tamale. We have in these family houses 51 SOS Mothers who are supported by Aunties to take care of the children. Significantly, each child is listened to, and encouraged to participate fully in their own personal development plan, including the decisions concerning their lives.

All the children and young people in SOS families have access to quality education at various levels to ensure

optimal development. In addition, quality healthcare is ensured for all children and young people in the care of SOS families through the provision of quality preventive and curative health services rendered by the four (4) SOS medical centres and other health facilities.

FOSTER CARE

This is a care arrangement whereby a child is formally placed in the domestic care of one or two adults acting as foster parent(s).

Reunification with Biological Families

A comprehensive assessment exercise is conducted with all our children and their biological families to ascertain the most appropriate alternative care option for each child; our guiding principle currently is that SOS family-like-care will only be chosen for a child as a measure



All the children and young people in SOS families have access to quality education at various levels to ensure optimal development.



of last resort; after the community-rooted options have proved not to be in the child’s best interests.

YOUTH CARE

In recent times, the youth care programme of SOS Children’s Villages Ghana has been focused on strengthening care and coaching to enable young people to gain self-reliance, integrate properly into the wider society and better succeed in life. Through its partnership with DHL and other corporate bodies (who offer coaching, internship and mentoring opportunities among others), we engage in programmes that have the potential of strengthening the employability and entrepreneurial skills of young people.

It is significant to note that we ensure the highest standards of care in all our programmes by collaborating with children, young people, families, communities, civil society organizations and the government.



A MOTHER'S STORY

Working for children is the best decision I ever made - Hajia Meri

In every facet work is always viewed in terms of employment, vocation and an avenue to make income to sustain one's life here on earth. But for someone like Hajia Meri, her work as a mother at SOS Children's Village Tamale is more of a calling than being driven by financial or any other motivations.

Hajia has a deep affection for children and has basically dedicated much of her life to serving and caring for vulnerable children. Although she started working as a mother with SOS Children's Village Tamale when the village first started in 2010, and has spent the last 8 years caring for children and offering them the kind of love and affection that any mother will offer her biological children, her journey to childcare did not start today. Prior to joining SOS Children's Villages Ghana, Hajia Meri dedicated much of her time and life to caring for street children within Tamale metropolis.

Keeping vulnerable children away from the streets and danger by offering them alternative care was something she did with so much zeal and passion. By doing these, she invariably contributed in furthering their cause and giving them hope for a better future.

Although she later ventured into the business of trading in children's clothing, she did not derive the needed fulfillment until she had the rare privilege of working for children again as a mother.

She therefore gladly welcomed the opportunity to work for SOS and has since then devoted much of her time to care for these children. She currently cares for ten

children as a mother in the SOS Children's Village Tamale and has deep affection for them as though they were her own.

She recounts with joy the challenge in caring for many children simultaneously. The sad times of welcoming children in their most vulnerable state and the hurdle of combining that with one's own biological family.

"When I was told I will be admitted to the SOS Children's Villages Ghana I was worried. I was not sure I would get the same level of affection that my parents gave me when they were alive. My SOS mother made me forget that I was in the SOS Children's Village. She takes good care of us and we love her as though she is our biological mother."- Hawa the eldest child in her home had this to say about her.

"Mum wakes me up every morning and helps me brush my teeth; she baths me and sends me to school. She cooks and makes sure I eat to my satisfaction. She always makes sure I and my siblings do our homework before we sleep". - says Victor her youngest child in the home.

Hajia loves her children and her children love her too. She generally believes that children irrespective of their social standing must be given the needed care and guidance to reach their full potential.

"SOS Children's Villages Ghana is an organization I have come to love so much. Their concept of childcare is remarkable. I am always grateful to the sponsors and donors for making it possible for people like me to realize my dream of caring for children"-Hajia Meri

Just like Hajia, several other SOS mothers have dedicated selfless services to the care of these children. They see it as more of a calling to serve.



GIVING BACK: SOS YOUTH DONATE TO NSAWAM MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON

Community Service and giving back to society is a cardinal part of our youth development. We teach the youth to be sensitive to the plight of others and support them accordingly.

Youth of SOS Children's Village Tema this year, decided to as part of the Hermann Gmeiner Day celebrations, give back to society, as their little way of fostering goodwill and community development.

The 'Hermann Gmeiner Day' is a special day to commemorate the legend and founder of the SOS Children's Villages, Dr. Hermann Gmeiner. The day is widely celebrated by all the children and youth of SOS Children's Villages. SOS Children's Villages Ghana is a social development organisation with strong emphasis on child welfare, youth development and community empowerment.

This year, the youth at the SOS Children's Village Tema decided to give back to society. They donated assorted items to the Nsawam Medium Security, as part of efforts to support the provision of basic necessities to inmates of the prison. After a brief presentation ceremony to formally handover the items to officials of the prison, the leader of the team, Mr. Emmanuel Aduako, said that the donation, was meant to

temporarily relieve the prison of its huge responsibilities in providing for the basic needs of inmates.

"We acknowledge the challenges faced by the prison in recent times and it dawns on us as a social development organisation to compliment government's role in ensuring that these inmates receive adequate support in the areas of basic care" he said. He stated that although SOS depended on national and international benevolence for sustenance, the youth deemed it fit to extend a helping hand to inmates as part of their social responsibility to society, in the event of celebrating their founder.

Some of the items donated included loaves of bread, crates of energy drinks, clothing and toiletries. In receiving the items, Rev. Father Paddy, Chaplain of the Prisons, commended the benevolent gesture by the team and said the items would go a long way to ease the pressure currently experienced by the prison.

"These items come as a relief for us and we assure you that the items donated will serve its intended purpose in the lives of these inmates. We however plead with you to consider making this gesture a consistent aspect of your community outreach programmes" he noted. He further called on other benevolent individuals, religious groups and organisations, to emulate the kind gesture portrayed by the youth

in supporting inmates and the prison service, in general. Rev. Father Paddy was pleased with the initiative taken by the youth and was full of praise for their thoughtful gesture, which he believed was a true reflection of the good values the social development organisation stood for.

After fulfilling the required security checks and processes, the team was taken on a brief but insightful tour around the various compartments of the prison to include the school block, administration block, visitation block, the diagnostic center, trade or vocational block, reception office and the football field, all of the male prison yard. The Public Relations officer of the prisons, ADP Nana Antwi, also briefed the youth on the history and evolution of the prison that was established by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah to house 817 inmates but which now accommodates an estimated number of 3,800.

He also briefed the youth on the various categories of inmates in conformity with the respective crimes they were sentenced for at various stages and degrees. ADP Antwi took advantage of the tour to enlighten the team on crimes normally common among the youth. He took advantage of the presence of the SOS youth to offer them advice on possible crimes associated with bad relationships and the quest for fast cash.



Pan-African Youth Empowerment Conference: Supporting young people to shape their own future

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 21 August 2017 – The African Union Commission (AUC) and SOS Children's Villages International collaborated to host a Pan-African Youth Empowerment Conference in Addis Ababa from 22-24 August 2017. The conference featured high-level officials, private sector representatives and young people from 47 African countries to lead the process of formulating a roadmap that seeks to foster youth employability and entrepreneurship on the continent.

According to recent figures from the African Development Bank, there are 480 million young people on the continent today (the number is expected to grow to 850 million by 2050), with 10 to 13 million entering the job market every year. But only 3 million are getting wage employment.

“Across Africa, young people are facing challenges finding decent employment and climbing out of poverty. With more than 65% of the population being under the age of 35, securing employability and self-employment for young people, achieved through innovative approaches, could be the best weapon to fight against poverty and the numerous associated challenges,” said Ms Prudence Ngwenya, Head of Human Resources and Youth Development at the AUC.

Ms Ngwenya went on to state that, “Active participation of young people in shaping their future

is pivotal to put in place policies and strategies with sustainable solutions. The exchange will bridge the gap that exists between policies and young people's interest.”

Mr Dereje Wordofa, then International Director for the Eastern and Southern Africa Region of

“

Across Africa, young people are facing challenges finding decent employment and climbing out of poverty

”

SOS Children's Villages International, further explained: “The conference will allow young people to share their perspectives with key stakeholders on the opportunities and challenges they face, and also explore opportunities for job creation, entrepreneurship and self-reliance. This will enable them to be effective contributors to their communities and national development schemes, as well as to be competitive at a global level.”

The three-day conference formed a basis for the African Union Commission, SOS Children's Villages and partners to address Africa's high levels of youth unemployment while contributing to goals set out in Africa's Agenda 2063 and the global Agenda 2030.



FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAMME

Under the Family Strengthening Programme (FSP), we target families in the communities with children who risk losing the care of their parents. The focus has been on the key elements for preventing family separation and the strengthening of parents' ability to take care of their families and guide the development of their children. We deliver these key elements via the models of direct family empowerment (which includes parental skills training and economic support) and community empowerment (supporting Community-Based Organizations, so they can in turn strengthen families).

FSP currently operates within but not limited to our four programme locations, namely, Tema, Asiakwa, Kumasi, Tamale, Chorkor, and Zuozugu among others. By the close of 2015, the programme had supported over 5,000 children. In 2017 alone, the programme supported a total of 1,587 children and 452 caregivers. Some forms of support include the provision of school fees and learning materials, parental skills training and engagement of Community Based Organizations

(CBOs) in capacity building programmes.

In the coming years (leading to 2030), in addition to the above, our focus will include:

- boosting the quality of, and scaling up family strengthening to reach more children according to the local situation and cultural context
- establishing our preparedness and capacity for emergency response to affected families and unaccompanied children
- and collaborating with various stakeholders to ensure that families have access to education, health and economic empowerment services.

support for

5,000 children

1,230 families

18 communities

with partnerships of

28 basic schools

12 community
based organisations

26 community
institutions & groups

Highlight of the MFS II Project

SOS Children's Villages Ghana runs a Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) that serves as a community outreach programme, geared towards vulnerable families with children who stand the risk of losing parental care.

In efforts to widen the scope of the FSP to reach out to more vulnerable Ghanaian children, our organisation sought and received funding from the alliance 'Together4Change' co-financed by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs to implement the MFS II Programme in Ghana.

This came as a timely intervention to strengthen the capacities of vulnerable children and their communities and was centered in four major areas namely economic development, access to social services, child protection and a strong civil society.

A notable achievement include 5,000 children and 1,230 families in 18 communities were supported, with the partnership of 28 basic schools, 12 community based organisations and 26 other community institutions and groups.

Consistent communication and collaboration with school children and basic schools revealed a huge gap challenging the attainment of quality education by vulnerable children in some public school as compared to private schools; hence paving way for the emergence of the Quality Education Now! which supports 26,000 children in 74 schools.





BRINGING SMILES TO A HUNDRED FACES: the untold story of Zuozugu 100 children go to school project

When the future story of Ghana's next generation is being told in a decade to come, certainly there will be a hundred children if not more in far away Zuozugu who will have a fascinating one to tell.

Their story will be different; it will be one of an uneasy journey yet full of excitement, hope and the possibility of changing the destiny of time.

SOS Children's Villages Ghana with assistance from its funding partners have always been in the forefront of making an impact in the lives of children in the most inaccessible and deprived parts of Ghana and bringing smiles to the faces of several amazing children. The "Zuozugu 100 children go to school", a Bengt and Barbo Oldmark social intervention initiative is one of such impactful projects in Zuozugu community in the Tamale Metropolis of the Northern Region.

PURPOSE

The objectives of the project is to address the inherent challenges of perennial child labour in the community, children had to either join their parents on the farms or in

the market. Others moved to the cities in search of non-existent jobs at an early age. It was also common to see children loitering about as they were not in school and the female child stood the risk of early child marriages at the expanse of school.

Spearheaded by SOS Children's Village Tamale, the project was also instituted out of the dire need to basically address the inadequate and unavailability of educational facilities, teaching and learning materials and to provide a platform to build and sustain the livelihood of parents and caregivers of these children within the Zuozugu community.

INTERVENTION

Realizing the urgent need to address the challenges in the community and give the children a future, the project therefore set out to encourage parents and caregivers to enroll their children in school and motivate them to remain and progress to higher levels of the academic ladder. In doing this, the first phase of the project scheduled from 2011 to 2015 focused on supporting a hundred children with learning materials, sandals, school uniforms and bags. Children who attended school outside the community were also given bicycles to enable them get to school early. Also, several community sensitization programmes were organized which focused on educating parents and



caregivers on the importance of school, developing their parenting skills, so that they can better care for their children.

It was also critical to build the financial capacity of parents and caregivers in order to sustain their livelihoods through meaningful income generating activities.

Parents and caregivers were trained in financial management to build their economic status to enable them cater for their children. Various income generating activities were initiated and some of which are on-going. 36 women have been supported so far to establish an active Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) in the community.

It is also important to note that Community networking opportunities with the Parent and Teachers Association (PTA) of the school, chiefs, traditional authorities, opinion leaders and other stakeholders is held occasionally to fashion out the best form of care for the children.

IMPACT

These significant interventions by SOS Children's Villages Ghana with support from its funding partners led to an increase in enrollment and interest in school. Unfortunately the only educational facility available was a 3-unit Kindergarten classroom block which faced serious congestion and could not accommodate all the children enrolled making learning a challenge as most of the classes were held under trees.

There was therefore the urgent need to put together a new school facility. The phase two of the project therefore saw to the construction of a six-unit primary school block, a twelve-seater toilet facility and the renovation of the existing three-unit kindergarten block. It is interesting to note that, this singular intervention led to a significant increase in enrollment from eighty (81) pupils in 2011 to



two hundred and sixty one (261) by close of 2017. With time it also became obvious that this intervention could not also mitigate the growing student population as a result of an increase in enrollment. Many of the children after completing Primary School could not make it to Junior High school (JHS) because of the absence of a Junior High in the Zuozugu community. The nearest JHS at the time was located in Tamale Metropolis, which is ten kilometers away.

As an important part of the basic education in Ghana, it therefore became imperative to construct a JHS block to address this growing challenge even though the project provided thirty (30) bicycles to those who completed Primary to attend JHS in Tamale. Committed to the task of putting a smile on the faces of the children of Zuozugu, SOS CV Ghana with continued support from Bengt and Barbo Oldmark initiated a third phase of the project in 2016 which saw to the construction of a three-unit JHS block with a library, computer laboratory, a lobby for pre-technical skills training, a playground for the children and a pavilion to serve as a kitchen for the children. This was recently commissioned on 27th March, 2018. The "Zuozugu 100 Children go to School" project has in no doubt impacted meaningfully on the lives of children in the Zuozugu community. The project has reached 304 children of which 7 are in Senior High Schools, 3 are in tertiary schools and 9 are awaiting their 2018 Basic Education Certificate Examination results and 195 are in the basic level. In addition, 56 have also enrolled for the Technical, Vocational Education Training (TVET) and 34 are not of school going age and are part of those whose parents are receiving training in parenting.

This project has obviously impacted hundreds of lives within the Zuozugu community and its environs leaving many of the children and their caregivers with hope for a brighter future.

ZUOZUGU SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

Before SOS CV Ghana's involvement



After SOS CV Ghana's involvement





SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES GHANA COMMISSIONS 26 SEATER BIO-FIL TOILET FACILITY EACH AT BUNSO & OSINO COMMUNITIES

SOS Children's Villages (CV) Ghana as part of its series of community interventional schemes dubbed Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) has commissioned a 26 seater bio-fil toilet facility each at Bunso and Osino communities.

The FSP seeks to promote societal development by targeting vulnerable families with children who stand the risk of losing parental care. By partnering with Community Based Organisations, Traditional Leaders and other stakeholders, we seek to provide vulnerable families with needed support by way of economic empowerment and skills acquisition. This is to strengthen the capacities of youth and caregivers, in providing for the basic needs of their children. In 2017 the project reached out to 1,587 children and 452 caregivers supported in 18 communities within the 4 SOS Children's Village programme locations.

POOR SANITATION IN OSINO AND BUNSO COMMUNITIES

Sanitation issues are paramount to a child's growth and

development. As a social development organisation with strong emphasis on child welfare, we support and strengthen communities to take charge for the total well-being of children by providing them with some basic necessities.

Both communities were challenged with limited access to toilet facilities and this led to open defecation and disposal of human waste in the area. This unhealthy



By partnering with Community Based Organisations, Traditional Leaders and other stakeholders, we seek to provide vulnerable families with needed support by way of economic empowerment and skills acquisition.



practices by community members gave rise to cholera outbreaks and its associated disease conditions which threatened the life of children in the community.

This sanitation issue caught the attention of the Family

Strengthening Programme at the Asiakwa location. This necessitated the construction of a 26 seater bio-fil toilet facility each in Osino and Bunso to address the poor sanitation practices.

EMBRACING SDG GOAL 6

As part of the commitment to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 that advocates for 'clean water and sanitation', SOS Children's Villages Ghana sought to address the appalling hygienic situation in deprived communities. This is with the belief that children are the worst affected when the community lacks basic sanitary practices that foster good health.

Therefore the facilities are to improve on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in deplorable communities in Ghana. This is in line with the organization's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a way of complementing government's efforts to national development while focusing on promoting good health and living conditions of vulnerable children.

The Chiefs and community members of Osino and Bunso expressed their appreciation to SOS CV Ghana for these facilities and guaranteed a good maintenance culture to enable the facilities serve future generations. They called on other organizations and individuals to emulate the good gesture by SOS CV Ghana.

The National Director of SOS CV Ghana, Mr. Alexander Mar Kekula mentioned that the provision of the facilities in Bunso and Osino communities indicate clearly the organization's desires to be a lasting partner when it comes to the welfare of the underprivileged children, their families and ultimately the community's development.

Mr. Kekula urged community members assigned to operate the facilities to exhibit clear honesty and competence. He tasked the traditional rulers, District Assembly, Heads of Schools, Teachers and community members to maintain the facilities to serve their intended purpose and address issues of sanitation and hygiene.



TEENAGE PREGNANCY COULD NOT STOP ME: STORY OF A TEEN MOTHER

Teenage pregnancy continues to be a problem in most local communities in Ghana due to poor sex education and stigmatization. Many young girls fall victim to this as a result of ignorance or lack of proper preventive measures & education on sexual issues.

The commonest consequence is school dropout and single motherhood or parenting. In very deprived communities, children of young mothers suffer immeasurable harm owing to a broad array of unexpected outcomes.

Children of teen mothers are exposed to varied risk factors that inhibit their growth and development. Worst, society is quick to write such mothers off in terms of their potentials in developing the lives of their children.

This was the life 17-year-old Cynthia was going to live after she discovered she was pregnant for a fellow student in her school, during her first year in senior high school. This was not the kind of news she ever anticipated and neither was it the kind of news that she believed would enable her achieve her dream of being a chartered accountant in future.

“I had dreams of improving the poor living standards at home and this was definitely not part of my plans to achieving that goal. My dream was to be a chartered accountant in future” she said.

It was a very devastating moment for her paternal grandmother who was her sole caregiver, after her father abandoned her in their village called ‘Tsito’ in the Volta Region of Ghana; following the death of her biological mother.

“She was disappointed, furious and made me understand that life was going to take a turn for the worse, considering the fact that she now had to work harder to provide for me and my unborn child, since the father of my baby was also a student in school” Cynthia lamented.

ESCAPE TO THE CITY

In a local community with limited opportunities, where

farming was the main occupation of the people, Cynthia decided to migrate to the capital city Accra to seek greener pastures after she dropped out of school.

“After the birth of my son, I was left with no other choice than to assume the role of the breadwinner of my family. I left my village with my six month old baby to hustle in the big city of Accra where I sought refuge with a friend who resided in a community called Chorkor” Cynthia recounted.

However, life as a single young mother proved more challenging when she and her baby were thrown out of her friend’s single room apartment and struggled to find accommodation, while making ends meet.

Catering for herself and her child was a huge burden and she resorted to return her child to her grandmother in the village, since she could not meet the demands of single parenting.

A day’s meal was dependent on the proceeds of menial jobs or petty trades and she struggled to source enough finances for the continuous upkeep of her son and grandmother back in the village.

From being a cleaner to a waitress, Cynthia undertook several menial jobs in anticipation of securing the life and wellbeing of her young son who depended on her proceeds to a large extent.

In 2008, Cynthia had to recover her son from her grandmother considering the latter’s old age and the emotional vacuum created due to long distance. Her son was four years then and the sole motivation for all her endeavours.

A BEAM OF LIGHT- SOS FSP INTERVENTION

In a moment when failure seemed like the end of the road for the young mother, she was introduced to SOS Children’s Villages Ghana (SOS CV Ghana) by a friend within the community, with the hope of being assisted in trade.

Luckily for Cynthia, SOS CV Ghana runs a community intervention programme called the Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) that seeks to among other things, reach out to vulnerable children by empowering their caregivers through various support and coaching



Cynthia and her son

systems to be self-reliant & enable them cater for the needs of their children.

Chorkor is one of the 18 communities being supported by the FSP and as at 2015, the initiative had reached out to 5,000 beneficiaries.

“When Cynthia approached us for assistance, she was frail looking and after several encounters, we identified several risk factors associated to the secured growth of her son. She was at the brink of losing hope. Her son was also thin and lacked some basic necessities such as good food and clothing” Mr. George Boateng, National FSP Coordinator said.

He further disclosed that Cynthia lacked the proper parental skills and was ignorant to some childcare basics in raising her son, who was already exposed to living under harsh conditions that robbed him of nutritious meals and quality healthcare.

A NEW DAWN

In 2009, Cynthia approached SOS CV Ghana with the hope of securing a loan to start up a jewellery business on a small scale basis, however, she was enrolled into the FSP initiative and was exposed to more opportunities to improve her life and that of her child.

“We assessed her and after a background check into her life and family, we realized that her child’s developmental growth was at risk under her care due to economic insecurity and instability” Mr. George Boateng said.

Also, knowing the relevance of quality education in the life of every vulnerable child, Cynthia and her 5-year-old son were enrolled back in school to enable them

develop their capabilities for a brighter and sustainable future.

“It was like life had given me a second chance to provide for the childcare needs of my son. I was glad that my mistakes would not rob him of quality education” Cynthia said.

For starters, SOS CV Ghana engaged Cynthia in series of counselling sessions and entrusted her under the supervision of a caretaker for mentorship and coaching. In 2009, the organisation enrolled her in a remedial school and aside the payment of mother and son’s tuition fees, they were provided with textbooks and other learning materials.

Cynthia was determined to explore these new opportunities and in 2010, she excelled in the West African Examination Council- a winning ticket to successfully being admitted to a good tertiary institution of her choice. But it didn’t end there, as SOS also provided her with good accommodation to house her son in a safe environment, while providing her with diverse forms of support to meet his basic needs such as nutritious food, clothing and good parenting skills.

In September 2011, Cynthia gained admission into the University of Management Studies to pursue a course in Bachelor of Science in Accounting- a step towards achieving her dream profession.

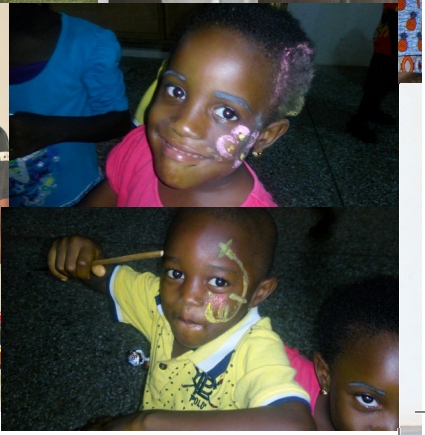
“While in school, I felt the need to gain a casual employment as a way of complimenting the support I was receiving from SOS and soon enough, I was able to land a job as a waitress in Alisa hotel- a five star hotel in the city of Accra” Cynthia said.

Cynthia defied the odds associated with a young single parent and successfully completed her tertiary education. She was proud to work as an accounting clerk at Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) during her National Service.

Cynthia is now capable of sustainably providing for the needs of her son and family without external support. She also volunteers as a youth ambassador to educate young girls on pregnancy preventive measures.

“It feels good to know that an organisation such as SOS CV Ghana exists to give hope to vulnerable families and will stop at nothing to put us back to our feet and enable us contribute effectively to societal development” Cynthia said.

In February 2017, Cynthia was gainfully employed as an Accountant at the Accra Metropolitan Assembly. Her employers have acknowledged her quality and meritorious work within her short period of engagement. She continues to be a shining example and an inspiration to many young FSP beneficiaries, particularly, girls.







SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE ASIAKWA CELEBRATES 79TH BIRTHDAY OF FORMER PRESIDENT J. A. KUFFOUR



Children from SOS CV Asiakwa joined former President of the Republic of Ghana Ghana, John Agyekum Kuffour to celebrate his 79th birthday.

The children were very excited to be invited to be at this distinguished gathering. Ex-President Kuffour treated the children to a banquet and some fun activities. He also advised them to study hard at school, show love to others and be humble.

Ex-President Kuffour presented about 180 books together with school bags to the Asiakwa Programme location.

QUALITY EDUCATION NOW



Sustainable Quality Education delivery through empowerment at school, community and district levels.

As part of efforts to promote quality education among vulnerable children in Ghana, in order to compliment government's efforts in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SOS Children's Villages Ghana runs a special project dubbed 'Quality Education Now' (QEN).

The QEN project was as a result of challenges identified in the educational sector, especially at the grassroots level or more specifically public schools sector in Ghana. These findings were realized during research and report accumulation at the end of the MFS II project.

'Quality Education Now' (QEN) has successfully reached out to about **26,000 children**, covering a total of **74 basic schools** and trained **465 teachers**.

 **26,000 Children**

 **74 Basic Schools**

 **465 Teachers**



END CHILD, EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGE NOW!

OUR CHORKOR PROJECT

Our vision is to see a world where every child grows with love, respect and security. However, according to UNICEF 2015 report, 1 in 4 women in Ghana married before the age of 18, representing 27% of the population. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) places Ghana among countries with the highest prevalence rates of child marriages in the world.

Child, Early and Forced marriage (CEFm) is a clear violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' article 16 which states that marriage must be contracted with the full consent of both parties. These girls are at an age where they lack the resources and ability to make a decision of consent. CEFm also infringes on the rights of the child as enshrined in the UN's Convention on the 'Rights of the Child' which ensures the protection of a person less than 18 years from all forms of violence, sexual exploitation and abuse as spelt in articles 19 and 34.

CEFm as a practice is characterized by violence, sexual exploitation and abuse; and this results in physical and psychological scars on the bride. The community and family are also affected with illiteracy, ill health, family disputes and intergeneration cycle of poverty.

Child marriage is a very alarming characteristic among dwellers in Chorkor and its surroundings. This became apparent when SOS CV Ghana embarked on its ongoing Family Strengthening Programme (FSP) within the community. Although, the area is situated very close to the cosmopolitan capital of the country, prevalence of CEFm was higher than the national average of 21% and consistent with the rural average of 36% (MICS 2011). SOS CV Ghana secured funding from the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) of the Canadian High Commission in Ghana to support FSP Chorkor to undertake actions to end child marriage in the location in September 2016. End Child Marriage Now! Let girls live as girls.

Purpose

The overall objective was to strengthen families and local institutions response to end Child, Early and Force marriages in Chorkor. The project specifically sought to:

- Empower and mobilize community based organisations and local authorities to respond to end early child and forced marriage
- Empower girls and women to be agents of change



- Facilitate access to psychosocial support services to vulnerable girls and women

Successes

On gender equality, more girls have become aware of the fact that, they need to and can be in school even after they have given birth. 85% of girls contacted in the school have been encouraged to continue their education and gain financial independence so they can be independent in future while contributing to community development. Boys supported by advocating and appealing to parents, opinion and traditional leaders for girls to live as girls. As a result of the awareness creation, they have become enlightened on ending child marriages and unions especially in Chorkor.

In the course of programme enrollment, a CEFm victim was identified in the community and engaged in series of discussions concerning circumstances surrounding her current state. With the support of the FSP team, she was encouraged and supported to go back to school and will be writing her BECE in June 2018.

SAGNARIGU PROJECT

Due to the successful implementation of the project in Chorkor, another grant from CFLI was secured to

implement the End Child Marriage in Sagnarigu in 2017-2018.

Sagnarigu, is among the 5 districts in the Northern Region that has the highest rate of child marriages according to a survey Songtaba (2017), a Non-Governmental Organization promoting gender-equality in the Northern Region. The survey revealed that poverty, teenage pregnancy, inducements and girl child insecurity are some of the remote causes of child marriage. The negative effects of CEFm led the District Assembly and traditional authorities to appeal for SOS CV Ghana's intervention in the district.

Outcomes

- A 5-year community action plan has been developed to end CEFm in the Sagnarigu municipality
- 20 Child Right Clubs in schools have been formed to educate and empower children to demand for their rights
- Village Savings and Loans Associations were formed to empower caregivers economically and reduce poverty among vulnerable families
- There is an increase in the community understanding of CEFm and its effect on the child, family and community



OUR SCHOOLS

SOS Children's Villages Ghana runs educational facilities at all four (4) locations (Tema, Asiakwa, Kumasi and Tamale) from KG to the Junior High School level. SOS Herman Gmeiner Schools (SOS HGS) are normally the preferred choice by most parents in their respective communities. This is because of the high academic standards, qualified teachers and good infrastructure that provide children with increased opportunities to fully acquire knowledge and improve skills; to enable them successfully continue their education to the Senior High level.

The development of children in the SOS Family Care starts with early quality care. Emphasis is placed on the Kindergarten (KG). We use the Froebel method of teaching. Here, emphasis is on developmental areas (academic, social, emotional, spiritual and physical). It has 4 main compartments: Free self expression, Social participation, motor expression and Creativity. Children

learn through play; games that probe their intelligence and interactive group lessons with emphasis on participation by qualified teachers. Modes/ method of teaching: interactive, demonstration, role playing, discussions and Montessori (rarely). What makes our Kindergartens highly competitive is the safe and clean environment, focus on total development of the child, provision of well balanced meals, dedicated staff and child protection.

Performance at BECE: the SOS HGS are known to be competitive in terms of performance at the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE). For instance at the 2017 BECE, SOS HGS Kumasi achieved 100% distinction while SOS HGS Tamale achieved 90% distinction; and this was followed up by SOS HGS Tema with 78%. Eventhough HGS Asiakwa got 100% passes, there were only 16% distinction. It is evident that Programme Directors and School Authorities are doing an excellent job at the respective locations to achieve good academic standards.



'NO BUSINESS AS USUAL'

THE PROJECT

As part of SOS Children's Villages Ghana's (SOS CV Ghana) continuous effort to foster continuous empowerment of local communities so that they achieve self-reliance to take charge of their development, the organisation commenced the EU 'No Business as Usual' project at the Kumasi programme location. This partnership seeks to create job opportunities for 500 youth for a period of 4 years (March 2017- February 2021) and funded by the European Union.

This came as a timely intervention to reduce youth unemployment rate in Asokore-Mampong.

The project seeks to stimulate inclusive socio-economic growth through joint stakeholder collaboration in the Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly (AMMA) between the Assembly, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and private sector.

Many of the youth targeted in this project are disadvantaged youth, aged 15-35 years, such as youth who have lost or are at risk of losing parental care, including vulnerable groups e.g. marginalised females, the disabled, etc. The consortium partners are SOS Children's Villages Netherlands (SOS CV NL), Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly (AMMA), and SOS Children's Villages Ghana (SOS CV Ghana). The European Union (EU) is the lead donor of the project.

What are the key objectives of this project?

- To improve sustainable local economic growth and expand job creation by enhanced collaboration of civil society organizations, the Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly and other stakeholders.
- To enhance the capacity of Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly to collaborate with civil society and private sector to mobilize revenues for local development while promoting transparency and accountability to citizens, and piloting 2 social businesses and 3 public private partnership (PPPs).

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

As of September 2017, the organization had signed an MOU with the Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly (AMMA) to ensure effective collaboration, partnership and financial commitment for the NBU project.

The SOS CV Ghana also secured a new Hub facility for the project, built an effective and strong collaboration with the Key staff of AMMA i.e. Coordinating Director and the Municipal Chief Executive, developed a comprehensive 4-year training schedule targeting 500 youth and a comprehensive 4 year event schedule targeting 4,240 youth in and around the Municipality.

The SOS CV Ghana also consulted 5 training service providers to solicit ideas for training the youth on the NBU project, recruited key staff for the NBU project, signed contract for an economic research to be undertaken for the project as well as signed contracts with service providers (i.e. web developer, graphic designer, etc).

HER EXCELLENCY MRS. REBECCA AKUFO-ADDO INDUCTED AS PATRON OF SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES GHANA

The First Lady, Her Excellency Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo was inducted as Patron of the Organization in February 2018 at the SOS Children's Village Tema Programme Location. This followed an earlier visitation by the Board of SOS CV Ghana to formally introduce the organization and its operations as well as to officially extend a hand of invitation to Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo to partner the organization.

The partnership aims at combining efforts with the Office of the First Lady to raise funds to reach out to many more

vulnerable children living in our country.

Present at the ceremony were Board and Association members, Staff and children of SOS Children's Villages Ghana, Brand Ambassador for SOS Children's Villages Ghana, Mr. Nathan Kwabena Anokye-Adisi (Bola Ray), Municipal Chief Executive for Tema, Hon. Felix Mensah-La, MP for Tema Central, Hon. Kofi Brako, the Chief of Tema, Dr. Nii Adjei Kraku II, Corporate and individual Friends of SOS Children's Villages Ghana.

TO OUR CHERISHED MOTHER AND PATRON

Poetry Recital by Children at the Induction Ceremony of Her Excellency Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo as Patron of SOS CV Ghana.

Our First Lady, our mother, mother of mother Ghana, our homeland, a sweet mother. You are class personified; it has been our honour to have you by our president's side. With high standards and values, a class act you are. We know behind the scenes the challenges have been great But with your poise and strength you're the president's perfect mate.

She is a mother. She is a scholar. She is the full package, complete with poise and class Like Africa, she is the mother of our future. Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo is not just your name, it's your way of life; You have to run your home, your state and be the President's wife. Oh Madam Rebecca, we look forward to the day that we can sit and have more time with you. We ponder the thought of being in your presence, amongst such greatness. We are privileged to see you mum, our first lady, President, Mrs.

You are but a woman with high self-esteem; firm and assertive, Strong and courageous. Focused and determined. You always earn respect for your charisma. You seduce the world with your sense of moderation; Your ability to comfort yourself gets you fame and respect in

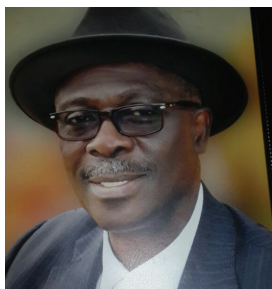
return Your intelligence strengthens your assertiveness.

This makes you unexplainably attractive; More of a leader than a follower. Bold and firm and leaves nothing to chance. You set heroic goals as short term and view it from the angle of infinite possibility. With courage and perseverance you see God as the reason for your existence; And the source of your knowledge. You have been found on the world corridors of power. And you see the sky as the platform of your success. You lay foundation upon the peak of an average man's success, And you live by choice and not by chance

Our first lady, we love you with all our hearts, what do we say. You are so natural at being our First Lady, When it's time to help out you say "yes", never no or even maybe. You have shown us that you are just a phone call away. And when you speak, you know what to say. You are right by our president's side, come what may. Even though you know this job comes with a lot of sacrifices. Our only plea is that continue to demonstrate this humility in everything you do.

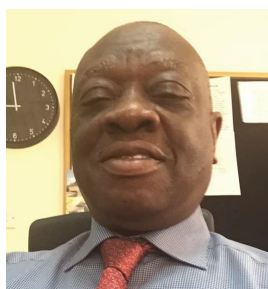


BOARD MEMBERS OF SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES GHANA



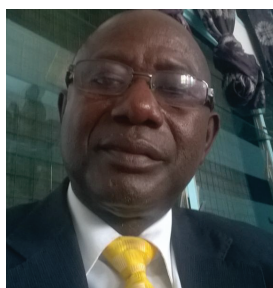
Mr. Maxwell Kojo Atta-Krah

An Agriculturist and Development Economist by profession. Corporate Executive in occupation. He was in public service for over forty years. Recently retired, and currently engaged in farming.



Mr. Israel Titi Ofei

Principal of SOS HERMANN GMEINER INTERNATIONAL College and Member of the International Senate of SOS – Kinderdorf



Mr. Christian Appiah

He has over 40 years working experience in various industries including manufacturing, logistics, construction, consultancy, education, print media and real estate. He is a Chartered Global Management Account and recently retired as Head of Corporate Planning and Communications.



Mrs. Theodosia Jackson

A retired Educationist who worked for forty years in the Ghana Education Service. A Marriage and Youth career development guidance counselor in Ghana and abroad. Principal of Jackson College of Education. The only privately owned college of education by distance learning in Ghana. Established in 2009 and have graduated over 8000 students who are teaching in all rural areas of the country.



Mr. John Abbeo

A B.Comm graduate from UCC with over 28 years public service. He holds an EMBA degree from Gimpa. Currently a director at the Office of the National Security. A proud farmer and joint owner of Jokat Farms with his wife Kate (John & Kate). They are blessed with five lovely kids including twins. He enjoys traveling and is a deacon and a marriage counselor at Calvary Baptist Church. Happy to be on board.



Mrs. Truedy Osae

A lawyer of twenty-two years standing with four years experience in private legal practice and eighteen years in the banking industry. She is currently a Senior Legal Counsel of GCB Bank Limited.



Mrs. Nana Abena Kwakyi

She has worked in the Education Industry for 30 years in teaching, research and administration. Former Director, Academics at The Morning Star School and currently the Managing Director. She is a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, USA and a member of the Management Committee for School of Educational Leadership and Research, College of Education, University of Ghana, Legon. She is also a member of the Bible Society of Ghana. Married with two daughters.



Alhaji Akeem Afaa

A Businessman with investments in the construction industry. Managing Director and Proprietor of ABC and Maltima Forex Bureaux Ltd.



Miss Christiana Coffie

CEO of Double C Enterprise (Key Distributor for Guinness Ghana Breweries Ltd), Eastern Region



Matilda Owusu-Ansah

SOS CVI Representative for Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Somalia and Somaliland based in Johannesburg





TALENTO EXPO

children.

The talent expedition show was first introduced by SOS Children's Village Tema in the year 2010 as an educative platform for children to display their unique talents while securing support from the public to harness other potential skills.

During such yearly events, children from the SOS Children's Village Tema and nearby communities engage in series of choreography performances, cultural dances, modelling, poetry recitals and stage drama amongst others. Other highlights include debates on general knowledge and healthy competitions to encourage knowledge sharing among children.

Talento Expo is a big boost to child development in an entertaining manner. The SOS Children's Village Tema is the venue for this event and is largely patronized by schools within the Tema community, the media, children and their families. Over the years, different but consistent corporate organisations and reputable individuals have supported the programme in varied ways.

Forms of support are mainly in cash, donated items, free service deliveries, volunteer works & free product supplies from companies as a way of patting the back of contestants and encouraging innovations from other

Winners of the various categories take home educational materials and souvenirs from some sponsors, while the remaining contestants are given other consolation prizes to boost their morale for future competitions, while appreciating their efforts.

However, most corporate organisations also see this as a form of Corporate Social Responsibility towards promoting child development in the society. As organisations, they go the extra mile to partner SOS Children's Villages Ghana in ensuring the overall success of the day's event each year.

This initiative also presents an opportunity for them to be associated with a credible organisation like SOS Children's Villages Ghana that belongs to a federation of 135 countries worldwide.

Our reputable brand offers partnering corporate entities or companies the chance to be featured on our heterogeneous communication platforms as a way of recognition of their brands and acknowledgement of their immense efforts.

Over the years, some reputable sponsors such as GTP NuStyle, Nestle Ghana Limited, Bel-Aqua mineral water, Brain Motors, Royal Nick Hotel and Golden Chopsticks Restaurant have contributed immensely



towards this yearly event.

On this note, we want to appreciate the efforts of all our sponsors for this year's Talento Expo edition and also take the opportunity to invite new individuals and companies to come on board in working with us to ensure that children explore and develop their hidden talents and skills to support their general well-being as they grow. Let us continue to put a smile on their faces and ensure that they enjoy moments of happy childhood, to enable them keep good memories for the future.



Sponsors



Mayflower Catering Services
Home of Good Food





2 MINS 2 TIMES A DAY

Oral Health Project reached 164,775 children in the 10 regions of Ghana

Oral health is a critical component of health and must be included in the provision of health care. Studies indicate that development of cavities in milk teeth (baby teeth) increases the risk of tooth decay in permanent teeth. As such establishing good oral care routine early in life is vital to development of strong and healthy teeth.

In Ghana, it is estimated that about 40 percent of children aged 12 and below suffer from tooth decay, missing, stained teeth and bad breath. Poor oral care among children remains a matter of concern. Worst still, oral health education and sensitization especially in deprived communities has been low.

The introduction of the Oral Health project in 2013 sponsored by Wrigley, Sweden came as a timely intervention to reduce risks of poor dental care as well as improve quality of life, self-esteem and academic performance of children in deprived communities.

IMPACT

The Oral Health Project was initially targeted at reaching 16,000 children in 18 deprived communities within Tema, Ashiaman, Chokor, Asiakwa, Kumasi, Tamale and ZuoZugu. , however due to the tremendous impact

2 MINS 2 TIMES A DAY SEEKS TO

Instill in children good oral care practices by providing the following services:

Educate children and parents on the importance of regular brushing of teeth, at least twice daily

Distribute to schools information, education and communication (IEC) materials such as posters, leaflets, charts which teachers use to reinforce the need for maintaining good dental care.

Provide counselling to children who have dental problems

Refer children who have serious dental issues for treatment

Distribute to children free tooth pastes and brushes as incentive package

of the project, 164,775 children from several communities within the 10 regions have benefitted and many more will continue to benefit from the project in the coming years.



Negligence and ignorance on the part of parents and care givers of 'when' and 'how' to brush teeth properly makes it extremely difficult to transference the habit of regular brushing of teeth to children.



OUR OBSERVATIONS

A number of issues are linked to the problem of poor dental care in children.

Whilst acknowledging that, knowledge about oral health related sicknesses and the need to adopt healthy oral care habits from infancy is gradually taking root among the educated in the Ghanaian society, traditional beliefs and inherited practices which make children vulnerable to dental diseases still exist in rural areas. Some still use plantain stalks and concoctions for cleaning their teeth.

Negligence and ignorance on the part of parents and caregivers of 'when' and 'how' to brush teeth properly makes it extremely difficult to transmit the habit of regular brushing of teeth to children.

Due to poverty, parents are unable to regularly provide brushing materials for their children. Again related to poverty, children lack nutrition necessary for formation and development of strong and healthy teeth.

Oral health is intertwined with other medical conditions. For example mental health and oral health are cyclically related. Children with mental conditions lack the 'normal' understanding of the importance of maintaining good oral care. Such children most likely suffer from poor self-care and neglect which results in poor oral care.

FINALLY

Oral health education especially in deprived communities is essential to promoting and maintaining the overall health and well-being of children. When children have access to the right oral health education, they are more likely to develop healthy habits that will prevent the occurrence of poor dental health and its associated consequences. It is therefore important to channel resources to providing education on oral health.





SAVE MY MOTHER: PREVENTING CERVICAL CANCER

ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be carried out to achieve the stated objectives and outcomes:

Save my Mother (SMM) is a collaborative project between SOS Children's Villages Ghana and the Female Cancer Foundation of the Netherlands. The project aims at creating awareness on cervical cancer with emphasis on prevention through regular screening and treatment of precancerous lesions in a single visit using the "see and treat" approach. The project started in 2012 following approval from Ghana's Ministry of Health the same year. The project was initially operational in 2 location in Kumasi and Tamale. Screening initially began at the 2 SOS Children's Villages as static clinics, but the reach was expanded to ensure a wider coverage of the cervical screening services. The project now has 4 centres; 3 SOS Children's Villages (Kumasi, Tamale and Asiakwa) and one quasi-government hospital, St Joseph's Hospital (Jirapa), there continued to be a number of women travelling from the Upper West and Upper East Regions to Tamale for the screening. This is the first cervical screening centre in the Upper West Region. The activities of the 4 centres are coordinated and managed by one Project Manager (obstetrician/gynaecologist stationed in Kumasi) with a representative/coordinator in each centre. The project manager pays periodic visits to the various centres to ensure the consistent provision of quality service.

OBJECTIVES

To create community awareness on cervical cancer, and sexual reproductive health in general.

To offer cervical cancer screening using visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) and treatment of precancerous lesions with cryotherapy using the "see and treat" approach

To expand programme locations to include other SOS CVs and selected health facilities

To train health care workers in facilities that can offer cervical cancer screening services using the "see and treat" method

To foster collaboration with governmental and non-governmental organisations to ensure sustainability of the programme and that cervical cancer screening and treatment services especially using the "see and treat" approach are available at an affordable cost for more women in Ghana, as stipulated in our national reproductive health policies.

Our awareness campaigns are carried out through talks to organized groups (including churches, mosques and educational institutions), person-to-person and house-to-house campaigns, community and radio broadcast, mounting of banners and posters, and distribution of

flyers. Person-to-person and house-to-house campaigns are done using community and other volunteers.

Cervical cancer screening takes place at medical centres of the SOS Children's Villages or St Joseph's Hospital on specific days, at least once a week in each centre and through outreach programmes to various communities including rural and deprived populations and organized groups (eg health care facilities, churches, prisons, educational & other institutions) within and outside the regions of these facilities. Our target audience are women between the ages of 21 and 49 years.

The screening is preceded by health education session given by a midwife. The health education talk discusses the risk factors, signs and symptoms and prevention of cervical cancer with emphasis on regular screening, as well as other general sexual and reproductive health issues such as safe sex and family planning.

Cervical screening is done using VIA, in accordance with World Health Organization's guidelines. All women with abnormal premalignant lesions (VIA positive) are offered immediate treatment with cryotherapy or thermal coagulation. Hence, "see and treat" approach. If the screening points to suspicious cervical cancer/lesion or any other gynecological condition, the women are referred to a designated obstetrician/gynecologist in a nearby teaching hospital. We have expanded our screening centres from 3 to 4 by purchasing equipment and consumables, and organizing both training and refresher training for health care providers in these centres to provide screening and treatment services to women.

Advocacy and sustainability especially after the funded period are central to the project. We engage with governmental and private stakeholders (including communities) to discuss the successes and explore avenues for collaboration

SUCCESSSES

Since 2012, our awareness campaigns have reached nearly half a million (472,062) individuals comprising about 307,449 (65%) females and 166,413 (35%) males. We have screened over 36,000 women for cervical cancer in 9 out of the 10 regions in Ghana (including prisoners and deprived rural communities). About 4,600 of these women were positive for premalignant lesions of the cervix (VIA-positive) and immediate treatment with cryotherapy was provided to about 75% (over 3,500 women) of these VIA positives. We have also referred over 800 women with various gynaecological conditions to designated gynaecologists for expert management, almost all of whom were evaluated and treated by the

gynaecologists.

On the average we screen about 6,700 women each year. These services have been offered free of charge by our teams at the 3 SOS medical centres and during outreaches. Our collaborating centre at St Joseph's Hospital introduced modest fees right from the onset and this has sustained the project in Jirapa. We have trained a total of 49 health care providers (including doctors, midwives, nurses and other health workers) in cervical screening and treatment with VIA and cryotherapy using the "see and treat" approach.

We recently purchased thermal coagulators for treating precancer lesions to circumvent the use of gas. These devices have comparable treatment outcomes as cryotherapy. We have also trained our midwives in the use of these thermal coagulators, which have become our treatment modality of choice.

Nationwide rollout of functional and sustainable



The screening is preceded by a health education session given by a midwife and registration of the clients.



cervical screening services is the ultimate goal of this project. To this end, the National Project Manager is part of a 3-member core group that has been tasked with developing a national cervical screening programme for Ghana. The first meeting was held in June 2017 to draw up a cervical cancer prevention programme for the country including vaccination, screening, treatment of precancer, and training. This programme aims at providing cervical screening services at all levels of the health care delivery system in Ghana including a community-based approach using the Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) concept.

LESSONS LEARNT

Outreach activities reached higher numbers of women than the clinic-based services, and in particular helped to provide access to the hard to reach and the poorest segment of the population.

Building partnerships with local and international organisations and institutions can widen the scope and coverage of our services including hard-to-reach populations, and also ensure sustainability of the programme.





Annual General Meetings in pictures



OUR SOCIAL MEANING VISUALS (SMV)



CHILD AT RISK

Sometimes parents are, for various reasons, not able to care for their children alone; sometimes children lose their parents or never knew them. These are the children we help



HOME

We help families create a loving and nurturing environment where children can always feel at home- a place to which they can always return



VILLAGE

Each child should have a good place to grow up- a familiar environment, where their needs are put first, and where they can build their confidence and learn in a positive way.



MOMENTS OF HAPPY CHILDHOOD

We make it possible for children to live as children- to feel loved, protected, and comfortable enough to build good memories



MOTHERHOOD

We know a child should be at the heart of a secure, loving, long-term relationship with a parent or caregiver, who provides positive guidance, trust and support



CHILDHOOD IN CULTURAL DIVERSITY

We work to ensure that every child is able to form his or her own convictions- following beliefs, being true to cultural roots and respecting those of others



BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Our aim is to keep families together. We strive to ensure that brothers and sisters grow up together, so that they can keep their own shared history and build a shared future



EDUCATION AND PERSONAL GROWTH

Our aim is to enable children to develop into adults who have the skills to take responsibility for themselves and contribute to their communities



FAMILY

All children should live in a family that will support them reach their full potential

PARTNERSHIPS

SOS Children's Villages Ghana is a social development organization that provides a safe, stable and loving home for underprivileged children. This we do with the help of benevolent donors, corporate organizations, individual or groups through sponsorships and donations. Our sponsorship packages are designed to suit the ability, CSR goal and devotion of our donors and these include:

- Adopt a house for donors who want to adopt any of our 51 families countrywide to mentor and support the welfare of the children in our care.
- Sponsoring a child's education.
- Sponsoring an event.
- Sponsoring a child general welfare.
- Become a friend with a committed amount of money.
- Become a corporate friend.
- Advertising in our brochure.
- Patronising our facilities
- Payroll Giving

Over the years, we have partnered some organizations, groups and individuals who wish to contribute towards our cause in providing a loving home for every child.



PARTNERSHIP TO BRING GOOD NUTRITION TO CHILDREN IN NEED

The Herbalife Nutrition Foundation (HNF), a non-profit organization committed to helping vulnerable children has announced the opening of its first Casa Herbalife programme in Ghana in partnership with SOS Children's Villages. HNF is providing support towards the nutritional needs of the children cared for by SOS Children's Villages Ghana.

The grant provided by HNF will help to create a better environment by supporting the renovation of the family kitchens and tools to support the development of the children in the SOS Children's Village Tema.

To celebrate the launch of this new Casa Herbalife, twelve Independent Herbalife Nutrition Members in Ghana, from the various cities of the country visited SOS Children's Village Tema and hosted a nutrition day. In a relaxed and fun environment, Herbalife



Nutrition Members interacted with the children and the staff of SOS and showed them the value of good nutrition and how to lead healthy active lifestyles. Herbalife Nutrition Member, Millionare Team Evans Obour said: "It was a privilege to see how our funding and volunteerism can assist these children in getting good nutrition which helps them in their development."

"HNF was established in 1994 and is committed to improving the lives of children around the world by supporting charitable organizations that provide one

of life's most basic necessities – good nutrition. Our Casa Herbalife Programme provides millions of dollars in funding and volunteer assistance each year to more than 100,000 children in over 50 countries on a daily basis. On behalf of the Herbalife Nutrition Members and staff who have raised funds to make this donation possible, I would like to welcome SOS Children's Village Tema into our Casa Herbalife Family," said Fred Amissah, Herbalife Nutrition Ghana Country Director.

“

It was a privilege to be here today to see how our funding and volunteerism can assist these children in getting good nutrition which helps them in their development.

”





THE SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROJECT

Chorkor is a peri-urban fishing community in the Accra Metropolis and it is a home to about 25,000 people. Although, SOS Children's Villages (SOS CV) Ghana has achieved significant gains in safeguarding the rights of children especially that of the girl child, there are still cases of child marriages, teenage pregnancies, school dropouts and child labour in this community. These are due to factors such as negative cultural practices, parental neglect and high poverty rates among caregivers especially among women and the youth.

In a bid to reduce the feminized poverty and safeguard the rights of children in Chorkor, the Executive Women Network (EWN) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SOS Children's Villages Ghana to undertake the Sustainable Livelihood Project (SLP) from 2017-2021. This is in line with EWN's mission to 'Promote women's rights in support of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 5 – 'gender equality and empowerment for all women and girls'. The partnership valued at GHS 100,000 forms

an integral part of community intervention projects by SOS Children's Villages Ghana to strengthen families and support children. This project is supporting 200 children at risk of losing parental care and 57 caregivers in Chorkor.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Sustainable Livelihood Project is to support children to live and develop in their communities



The vision of SOS Children's Villages Ghana is that "Every child belongs to a family and grows with love, respect and security" and in achieving that, we, in fulfilling our mission to "build families for children in need, we help them shape their own futures and we share in the development of their communities".



with their parents or an appropriately identified caregiver.

The funding by EWN is to ensure that children have access to essential services that are required to support their development. These are realized through educational, nutritional, health and psychosocial support. The project supports children to access health services through supporting families to register under the National Health Insurance Scheme and payment of treatment where necessary. It also supports families to provide their children with a balanced and nutritious diet through provision of supplementary food packages for the short-term. The project also gives caregivers interest free loans to expand and develop their business alongside trainings in financial literacy and parental skills.

The Executive Women Network is a non-profit organization of women in senior management and executive positions in private organizations/institutions and women entrepreneurs of well established businesses in Ghana.

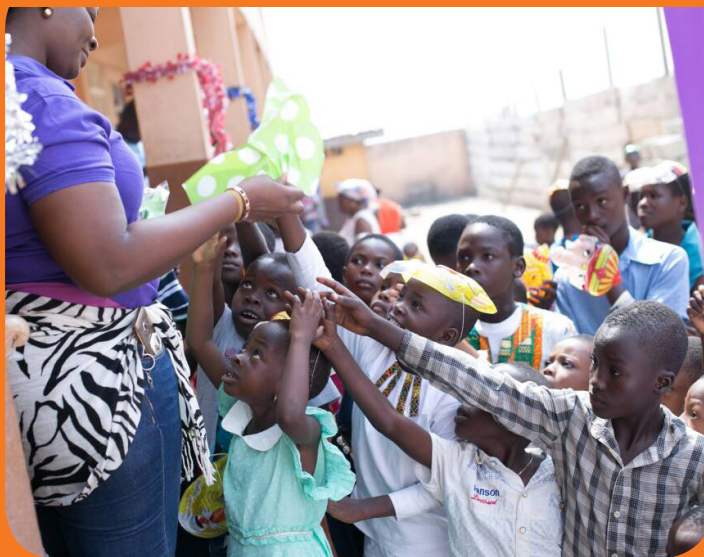
OUR PROGRESS SO FAR

A total of GHC 21,400 was disbursed to twenty caregivers (interest free) at the initial stages, based on an assessment of their business plans. Reports from the Innovative Microfinance Limited (i.e. the organisation contracted to facilitate the microcredit process) indicate that, the women were able to pay off as expected; and this led to increments in the second loan cycle.

Educational support need in the form of school fees and educational materials have been given to some children.

On mentoring, two hundred and forty (240) school girls drawn from schools in Chorkor and Korle-Gonno were taken through series of mentoring workshops and were sensitized on topics which included; Decision Making, Building Healthy Relationships, Choosing a Career, Planning your life as a Teenager and Time Management;. This was spearheaded by the EWN.

Caregivers are frequently visited in their homes as well as their places of work to ensure they are applying skills acquired from the series of workshops organized for them. With those who have businesses running, the project volunteers visit them to assess their businesses progresses.



ACTIVITIES

The project sought to educate children and their families on Child Rights and Protection and also empower them to become self-reliant through child and family development planning:

- Ensuring children have access to essential needs (e.g. education, good nutrition, clothing, legal support, health).
- Building the capacity of caregivers to financial sustainability through financial literacy and access to soft loans.
- Promoting the use of services for social protection available in the community among vulnerable caregivers and children.
- Empowering children to participate in the protection of their rights through coaching and mentoring.
- Supporting families in building stable relationships through counseling, workshops, etc.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

HERBALIFE NUTRITION FOUNDATION

The Herbalife Nutrition Foundation (HNF) established in 1994, is a global, non-profit organization that funds grants to existing charitable organizations to ensure children receive healthy nutrition, education and the support of community volunteers. The partnership which commenced in July 2017, is aimed at improving the health of underprivileged children in the SOS Children's Village Tema. As part of the partnership, Herbalife Nutrition Foundation has renovated the 15 family kitchens in our SOS family houses located in Tema.

In addition, the partnership offers education and training on nutrition for the SOS Mothers and also educates children on healthy lifestyle practices through exercise and games.

GHANA NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY (GNPC)

The Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC) is Ghana's National Oil Company (NOC), established in 1983 by PNDC Law 64, to support the government's objective of providing adequate and reliable supply of petroleum products and reducing the country's dependence on crude oil imports, through the development of the country's own petroleum resources. In 2017, GNPC partnered SOS CV Ghana to mentor its youth as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. Mentorship programs are tailored to expose the youth to new skills to enable them develop and build their capacity for future employment under the direction and advice of a seasoned experts and volunteer mentors.

EXECUTIVE WOMEN'S NETWORK

Executive Women Network (EWN), is a non-profit organization of women in senior management and executive positions in private organizations/ institutions and women entrepreneurs of well established businesses in Ghana. The vision of the organization is to Inspire, Empower and Support women executives to be successful and influential both at the local and international level. The organization is funding the SOS CV Ghana's 'Sustainable Livelihoods Project' which seeks to support 200 selected children and their families within the chorkor area in Accra to empower caregivers to effectively care for their children over a period of 5 years.

EVERPURE GHANA LIMITED

Everpure Ghana Limited was founded in 2008 with a mission to provide the best purified water to customers, based on a process that is unique and of the highest standard in water purification technology, utilising best practices, backed by the highest customer service. Everpure has been a corporate friend of SOS CV Ghana since its founding

EMPIRE FOUNDATION

Empire Foundation under the wings of ace broadcaster Nathan Kwabena Anokye Adisi commonly known as Bola Ray adopted a family house at SOS Children's Village Tema in 2016. Bolay Ray is also the Brand Ambassador for SOS Children's Village Ghana

TT BROTHERS CO. LTD.

TT Brothers was established in 1988 with the purchase of imported flavors for resale to local production facilities. The company also operates a successful distribution company supplying the market with various bottled and canned beverages. TT Brothers Company Limited is a corporate friend to SOS CV Ghana and supports the activities of the organization.

FIDELITY BANK	STANLIB GHANA	TEMA LUBE OIL
Fidelity Bank was issued with its universal banking license on June 28th 2006. With a team of high calibre professionals with diverse skills and experience, the bank envisions to become a world-class financial institution that provides superior returns for all stakeholders. Fidelity Bank is guided by the values of integrity, passion to serve, culture of excellence, a can do attitude and the drive to serve the community. Under the SOS CV Ghana corporate sponsorship, Fidelity Bank adopted a family house in the SOS Children's Village Tema in 2014 to pledge their support for the community.	STANLIB Ghana is a multi-specialist asset management entity that connects retail and institutional clients with multiple investment opportunities across asset classes and markets. Licensed with the Ghana Securities and Exchange Commission and registered with the National Pensions Regulatory Authority, it was incorporated in 2007 and became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Liberty Holdings in 2014. In 2017, Stanlib Ghana adopted a family house at SOS Children's Village Tema to support the cause of caring for underprivileged children in the community.	Tema Lube Oil Company (TLOC) was established as a result of a decision of the Government of Ghana in 1986 to build a Lubricant Blending Plant in the country. In line with Government's policy on privatization, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) operating in Ghana at that time were invited to form a Company to buy the Plant and operate it. The OMCs agreed and established Tema Lube Oil Company (TLOC) on October 9, 1990 to acquire the Plant and subsequently, blending of lubricants commenced in 1992. Tema Oil Lube Company is a corporate friend of SOS CV Ghana
STANBIC BANK	CHRIST APOSTOLIC CH. INTERNATIONAL (CACI)	PETRA TRUST
Stanbic Bank is an internationally renowned bank with 26 branches in Africa, America, Europe & Asia Pacific. Stanbic entered the Ghanaian financial market about 10 years ago. Since its inception, the Bank has earned a well-deserved reputation as a customer oriented, business friendly and socially relevant bank. In February 2016, Stanbic Bank Ghana Limited entered a partnership with SOS CV Ghana, as part of corporate sponsorship to adopt two family houses in the Asiakwa & Tamale Villages.	The Christ Apostolic Church International, founded by Apostle Peter Anim in 1917. From little beginning in Asamankesse in the Eastern Region of Ghana, has grown and has become the mother of all Pentecostal churches in the country with about 3000 assemblies in Ghana and overseas. In January 2017, CACI and SOS CV Ghana entered a partnership to support a family house in the Asiakwa location. This partnership caters for the welfare of underprivileged children to equally experience a loving childhood.	Petra Trust which is built on a foundation of operational and service excellence is a company set up to provide trustee services to Ghanaian employers and individuals under the Pension Act 2008. In 2017, Petra Trust adopted a Family house as part of its corporate social responsibility.

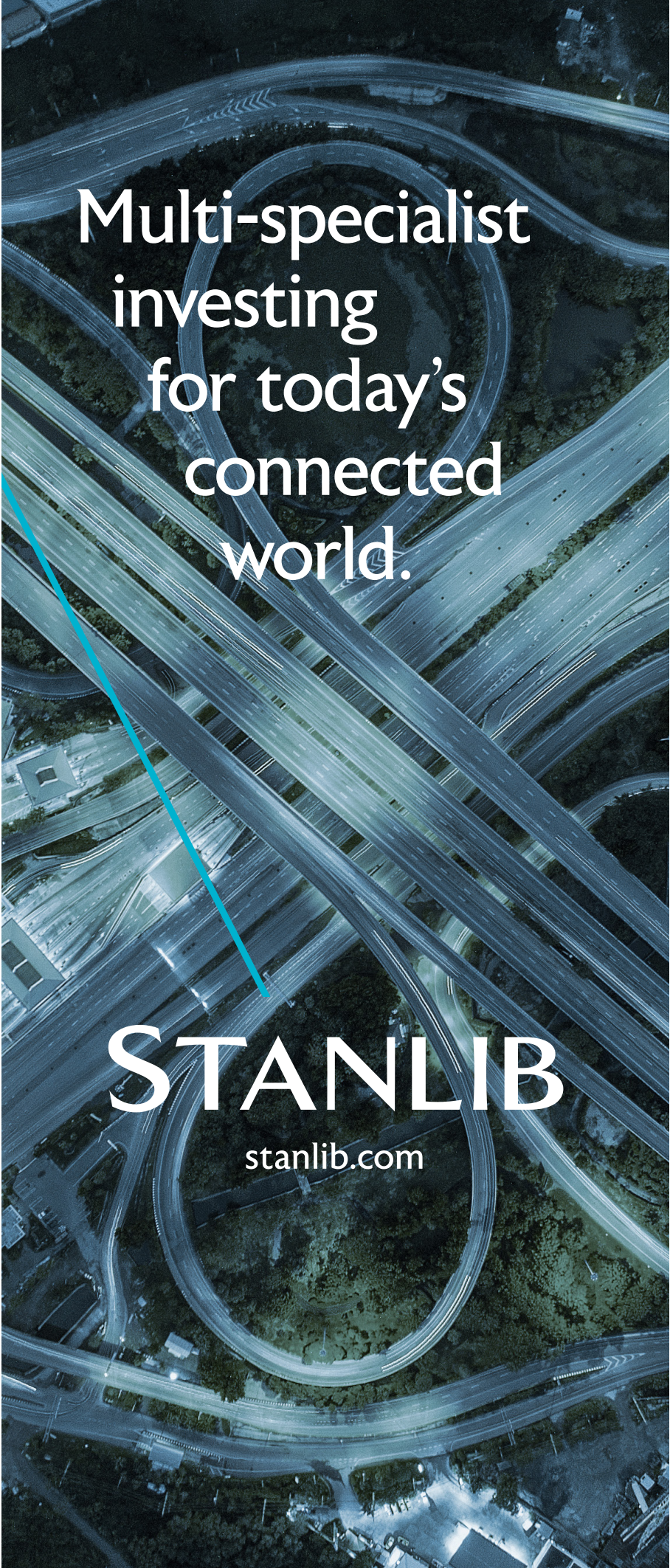
DHL	MRS HELENA GAISIE STEPHENS	MERIDIAN PORTS SERVICES (MPS)
DHL is part of the world's leading postal and logistics company Deutsche Post DHL Group, and encompasses the business units DHL Express, DHL Parcel, DHL eCommerce, DHL Global Forwarding, DHL Freight and DHL Supply Chain. DHL partnered SOS CV Ghana in 2011 to undertake mentorship programmes to empower the SOS Youth and equip them with employable skills.	In 2016, Mrs Stephens, Managing Director of Kaysens Gaisie, pledged her support for quality care for underprivileged children by adopting a family house at SOS Children's Village, Tema.	Meridian Port Services Limited is a joint venture between APM Terminals A/S and Bollore which was founded in 2002. It operates a container terminal that handles seaborne freight traffic in Tema. MPS adopted a house in the SOS Children's Village Tema in 2014 as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility.

CHURCH OF PENTECOST CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Pentecost Children's Ministry, trains children through the use of games, quizzes and sword drills along biblical precepts of balanced spiritual growth. These lessons focus on salvation, worship and obedience. Additionally, it ministers to primary schools as well as orphans and organizes vacation Bible schools, media evangelism and camp meetings. The ministry also conducts counselling sessions and other specialized children-related functions. The Ministry came on board as a partner in 2014 and adopted a house in the Tema Village to support the underprivileged children. In 2015, the Asiakwa Village was selected to benefit from the Ministry's sponsorship leading to the adoption of a family house and in 2017, two family houses were adopted in Tamale and Kumasi.



Apostle Fred Tiakor, Director of Children's Ministry, Church of Pentecost, receiving a plaque from SOS Board Chairman



Multi-specialist
investing
for today's
connected
world.

STANLIB

stanlib.com

ADOPT A HOUSE



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
GHANA

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION TO
PARTNER US IN PROVIDING QUALITY CARE FOR
THE LESS PRIVILEGED CHILDREN

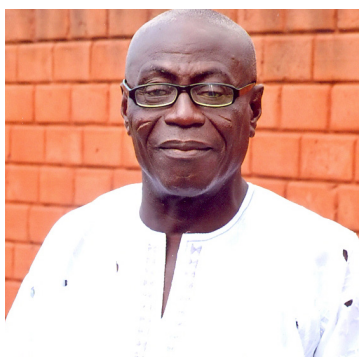


"What the orphaned and abandoned child needs first and foremost is a family - a family in which he or she can develop normally"

*Dr. Hermann Gmeiner,
Founder of SOS Children's Villages*

Call us now:
0302 222 867

www.sosghana.org | public.relations@sosghana.org



GIVING HEARTS

HEART-TO-HEART WITH MR ALLOTEY

Editorial Team (ET): Good morning Mr. Allotey. How are you doing?

Robert Allotey (RA): Good morning, I am doing well by the grace of God.

ET: First and foremost, we are grateful that you have been a supportive friend to SOS Children's Villages Ghana (SOS CV Ghana) and for believing in our cause to provide a loving home for underprivileged children. Kindly tell us a brief about yourself.

RA: My name is Robert Allotey. A retired civil servant. I worked with Ghana Post for 37 years out of which I spent 7 years as District Manager at Oda District Office. I am blessed with 4 children.

ET: Kindly tell us about your relationship with SOS CV Ghana.

RA: My relationship with SOS CV Ghana started about 23 years ago (around 1995) while working with Ghana Post. Some officers from the organization came around to post letters often, and made envelopes available for donations. I decided to help every time they came by and that is how it all started. Later, I got to know of the office in Accra and made an effort to visit the office and commit some money consistently to support this worthy course.

ET: Sir, are you satisfied with the work of SOS and what do you think we can do better?

RA: Before I come to that, let me use this opportunity to commend SOS CV Ghana for the good work in making sure that no child is left behind in development. I admire the commitment and loyalty exhibited towards your partners and friends. It is a step in the right direction towards building stronger relationships. I am also particularly happy about how structured and organised the organization performs its operations. This alone informs me that you are responsible and can be trusted. I encourage management to continue in this direction.

ET: Finally, your word of motivation to other individuals to consider supporting SOS CV Ghana.

RA: I must say, it is important to extend a little of your resource to others in need. We live to support each other and once you are fortunate to have, remember to help the needy children and this will never go unrewarded. I encourage all to come on board to support a trusted organization as SOS CV Ghana to help these children become responsible adults.

ET: Thank you very much Mr. Allotey, our children appreciate your consistent support and we look forward to a stronger relationship with you in the coming years.

We wish you good health and long life





A CHAT WITH MR YAW OSEI

Editorial Team (ET): Good morning Mr. Osei. How are you doing?

Yaw Osei (Y.O): Good morning to you. Am doing very well.

E.T: Before we proceed with the interview, we will like to express our appreciation as an organization to you for your unfailing support towards the welfare of the underprivileged children in our care. We are grateful.

Y.O: Thank You for giving me the opportunity as well.

E.T: Sir, what motivated your decision to help underprivileged children?

Y.O: First, it is very difficult to grow up alone without proper care and a family to support. In our part of the world, we believe strongly in the family system and how it is responsible for the upbringing of children. If the family fails in its duty to cater for a child, that child struggles and may not end up a responsible adult. And I believe, every child deserves the chance to life and to be taken care of. That is why I do my best to assist these children anyway I can. Also, as a Christian, I believe giving to the needy in addition to being a good example to emulate from Jesus Christ, it is a call we must fulfill while on earth.

E.T: Tell us about your relationship with SOS Children's Villages Ghana (SOS CV Ghana).

Y.O: The relationship dates back as far as 1984. I heard

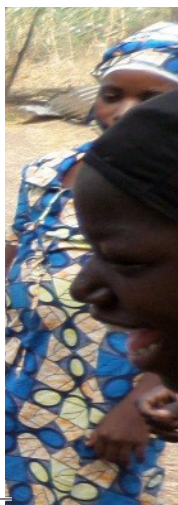
about the work of SOS CV Ghana and visited the Tema Village to make some monetary and 'in-kind' donations. I made it a point to be consistent in my donation. This I did together with other commitments I made to some underprivileged groups of people like the cripple, blind and needy children in other orphanages. I have always respected SOS CV Ghana for the quality care they provide the children. I must confess, I have not seen the children shabbily dressed or look hungry anytime I pass by. They always look cheerful and enjoying their childhood and this gladdens my heart and motivates me to support.

E.T: In a few words, kindly share a word of motivation to others to consider supporting SOS CV Ghana.

Y.O: Believe me, SOS CV Ghana, is a reliable partner and doing a wonderful work in the lives of underprivileged children and I will encourage all to commit something, regardless of how small it is, to support these children enjoy a happy childhood. As a Christian, the bible says it is more blessed to give than receive and God rewards a cheerful giver as well as opens doors unto one who helps the needy.

E.T: Thank You Mr. Yaw Osei for the opportunity to speak to you. We celebrate your long term relationship with us and our children are happy to have you as a friend who cares and loves them so much.

We are sad to announce that Mr. Osei passed on in June 2018 before the Issue No.15 of Mmofrado went to print. Our condolence to his family. May his soul rest in peace.



Every big thing in the world only comes true, when somebody does more than he has to do.



Activity supported by the
Canada Fund for Local Initiatives
Activité réalisée avec l'appui du
Fonds canadien d'initiatives locales



Mrs. Helena Gaysie Stephens



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands



TEMA LUBE OIL
COMPANY LIMITED



STANLIB GHANA LIMITED



Edgars



OUR FOOTSTEPS

KEY



Hospital



School



Village



Family Strengthening Programme Centre



National Office

•Kabonayili



•Asokore Mampong



•Asiakwa



•Ashaiman



•Mataheko



•Tema



•Chorkor



•Accra



MAKE SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES GHANA YOUR CSR PARTNER



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
GHANA



- *We acknowledge the fact that organisations today focus on humanitarian activities in local communities as an attempt to facilitate community development.*
- *Indeed, children are the worst affected when the community fails to support their overall growth and development.*
- *The numbers of underprivileged children and families continue to increase each year. This makes our reach to such children possible only with consistent partnership with individuals and corporate institutions.*
- *Together, we can put a smile on the faces of these underprivileged children through community interventional schemes.*

BY MAKING SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES GHANA YOUR CSR, YOU ARE :

Providing a home to an orphan or underprivileged child

Making it possible for children to go to school

Giving underprivileged children a second chance to achieve their dreams for the future

Giving children an opportunity to shape their own futures

Making it possible for guardians (caregivers) to better care for their children and support in the development of their communities

Advocating for Child Right & Child Protection

No Child should Grow Alone
