

INGH PARTNERS UNICEF/UNFPA TO CREATE SPACES FOR 1,200 GIRLS

A project to create safe spaces for 1,200 out-of-school girls in 12 communities in the Cape Coast Metropolis and Komenda/Edina/Eguafo/Abirem Municipality of the Central Region of Ghana has started in earnest.

Promoting Adolescent Safe Spaces (PASS) is a 15-month project funded by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). It is being implemented by International Needs Ghana.



Some participants of the project with their children.

A holistic approach of targeting and empowering children themselves, parents and families, traditional/religious leaders, community level structures and state institutions will be adopted. Key activities to be embarked on include the creation of adolescent girls' club, that will serve as safe spaces for girls in the selected communities. The project participants will be engaged on issues relating to Gender-based Violence, Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) Psychosocial counselling, Building Self-confidence and other life skills

employing the child protection community facilitation tools developed by UNICEF and the Child Marriage Advocacy Toolkit developed by UNFPA.

Apprenticeship and coaching programs will also be introduced to out-of-school adolescent girls above 15 years who require employable skills to start small businesses. In partnership with the Ghana Health Service, a broad spectrum of adolescent reproductive health related services will be made available to adolescents in the selected communities. This will include screening for Sexually transmitted Infections (STI), provision of National Health Insurance cards for at risk victims/survivors of child marriage and teenage mothers.

To create awareness on adolescent issues, sustain interest and ensure the sustainability of the adolescent girls' club initiatives, debates, quiz, intercommunity games among others will be organized.

At the community level, representatives of existing structures (Traditional authorities, Faith Based Organizations, fish mongers' association, women's groups among others) will be identified and engaged through a consultative forum to lead the process of community mobilization around issues of safe spaces for adolescent girls. Community wide sensitization programs will be organized for these identifiable groups with support from relevant state institutions.

Baseline information will be collected to serve as basis to assess project intervention as well as end-line information collection at the end of the project to measure progress.

In Pursuit of GOOD HEALTH for the Less Privileged

About three thousand people mostly school pupils, benefitted from a free medical outreach in six communities in the North and Central Tongu Districts of the Volta Region. The medical outreach was a collaboration between International Needs Ghana (INGH) and International Needs Canada (INCA).

Twenty-one medical personnel made up of doctors, pharmacists, nurses and laboratory technicians took part in the exercise.

The beneficiary communities were Kebenu, Mepe, Lasivenu and Anawoekope where four of INGH Partner schools are located as well as Morkplikpo and New Bakpa, communities implementing the Growing up Free (GUF) Project.



Health personnel attending to school pupils at the outreach programme.

Evangelical Family Church (EFC) starts at Sogakope

The first urban branch of Evangelical Family Church (EFC) has started in Sogakope, the capital of the South Tongu District of the Volta Region of Ghana. Construction of the first phase of the one-storey complex is underway and is scheduled to be completed and commissioned in April 2019. The project is being undertaken with support from Christ Church Lake Forest in Illinois, USA. EFC evolved from the church planting efforts of International Needs Ghana.



The EFC Chapel project at Sogakope

Where are they now?



This edition, we throw the spotlight on John Anum Tetteh, A PhD student and an Alumnus of Amrahia Community School.

John Anum Tetteh, enrolled at the Amrahia Community School (ACS) from the kindergarten and finished top of his class at the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE), a national examination to mark the completion of a nine-year basic education in Ghana.

Anum, (meaning 5th boy) as he is affectionately called, the last of eight children had it quite tough while growing up. His father, a peasant farmer and mother a petty trader could hardly meet his basic needs.

Through International Needs Ghana and its partners, the Lord brought help to Anum and his family. He was enrolled on the International Needs Child Assistance Programme (INCAP) and was supported with the requisite assistance to receive quality Christ-centred education.

From ACS, Anum gained admission to Teshie Presbyterian Senior High School in Accra. Prior to his admission at the Senior High School (SHS), intelligent Anum had lost all hope of furthering his education beyond the basic level due to financial constraints. Even before his results were released, his elder sister with whom he lived, had discussed alternative options available to him aside formal education because she couldn't afford to enroll him in SHS.

While he was praying to find open doors to enable him further his education on the release of the examination results, he received a call from ACS that totally changed his life; he had received full scholarship from INGH to further his education because he excelled in the BECE. Throughout his four-year study in secondary school, he received support for his upkeep and other educational materials through INCAP. During vacations, he volunteered at ACS to help some of the children with their studies. He graduated with good grades and gained admission to the Kwame Nkrumah University of

Science and Technology (KNUST) in Kumasi to pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry.

Anum was awarded a First Class Honours Degree in Chemistry and got the rare opportunity of working as a Teaching Assistant for his mandatory one-year National Service.

He proceeded to the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland for Graduate Studies and graduated with a Master of Science Degree in Pharmaceutical Analysis with distinction. The Master's programme was made possible through a Commonwealth Scholarship. John Anum Tetteh is currently undertaking a doctoral programme in Analytical Chemistry at the St Louis University, Missouri in the United States on a scholarship.

