

# Herald of Hope

Volume 6 | Number 11 | November 2018

## Becoming Independent



**College Students & Recent College Graduates of Village of Hope**  
(Left to Right): Samuel, Stella, Simpson, Ellen, Emmanuel, Agartha & Bismark

Growth and change are inevitable and as caregivers for children, we deal with this continuously. There is always that bittersweet feeling that comes from seeing someone that you knew as a child become an independent adult. Sometimes, the outcome is not what you envisioned; other times it is what you hoped for and more but in all things you have to give thanks to God because He is the only one with the big picture.

Every year, at the Village of Hope, we have children graduating from ninth grade and entering high school and children graduating high school and entering college. We also have those who are not able to enter college but find a meaningful purpose in vocational training, or a decent job; then we have those who seem to be wandering for

a while, not sure the kind of future that they want for themselves. For some reason, this is the group that always gives headaches to most caring adults, especially when we see so much potential and a very bright future. It is difficult to learn to let go and allow our adult dependants to figure life out for themselves.

This is the situation that house parents, administrators, and teachers face at the Village of Hope at least annually - do we follow the laws of the country and let our now adult children continue with their lives independently, or do we continue to steer their lives for them?

No matter how many times we have to do this, eventually the hard decision must be taken, and relatives of our children must be called in to officially



**VILLAGE OF HOPE**

Rescuing. Repairing. Preparing. Propelling.

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### LOCAL OVERSIGHT

The Elders of  
Vertical Centre Church of Christ,  
Community Six, Tema, Ghana.

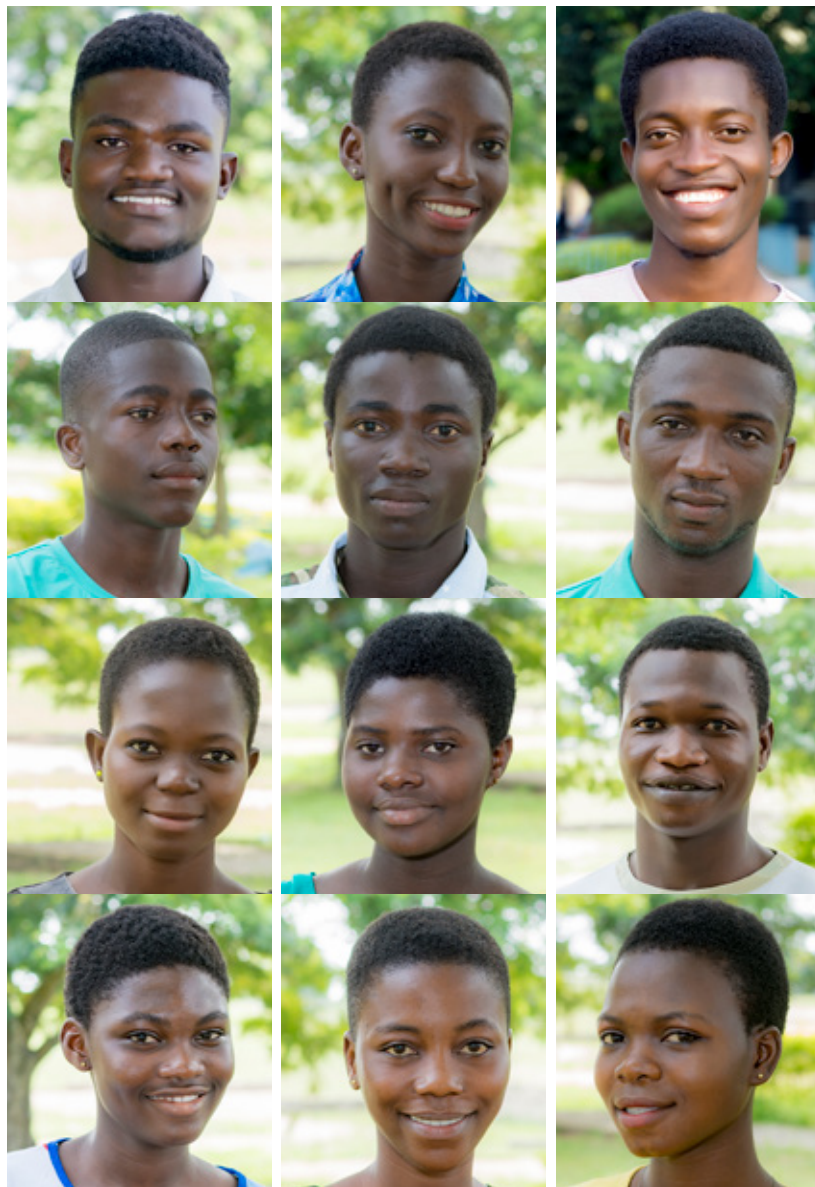
### SUPPORT

VOH-Ghana,  
A 501(c)(3) Non-profit.

### MINISTRIES

Hope Children's Village  
Hope Training Institute  
Hope Christian Academy  
Hope Christian Hospital  
Church of Christ School  
Hope College  
Agriculture  
Church of Christ at Village of Hope  
Campus Church of Christ - Ayawaso  
Evangelism  
Church Planting and Strengthening





receive them back into their families, with the hope that the good work that has been done will not be in vain. Over the course of 2018, many of our children have become independent. Some are high school graduates who will not be going to college immediately while others are in college but no longer need to be cared for by Village of Hope. Some others have dropped out of college to pursue careers in areas such as music and soccer; while others chose to leave high school and continue with their lives as adults. In all we give thanks.

Here are their names: Braimah Yakubu, Emmanuel Agbeko, Emmanuel Akoto, Gladstone Adjaho, Haggar Manwu, Kofi Kweesi Manwu, Kwaku Antwi, MaMalk Gmasulmi, Patience Donkor, Richard Adinote Okutu, Samuel Asamoah, Sarah Acquah, Sarah Esi Kow Takyi, Solomon Kumbe, Kwasi Poku, Maame Yaa Ankamah, Daniel Avorny, Samuel Amofa, Andrew Vitashie, Israel Agbovi, Joseph Earles Nyarko, Angela Ayideh, Joseph Acquah, and Ernest Asum.

There are also others who are adults but are preparing to take exams to qualify for college and so do not live with us anymore. They include Banabas Asare, Deborah Atta-Yao Bediako, Deborah Nyator, Ethel Gyan, Jacqueline Wettley, Liesilotte Anim, Portia Kpabitey, Rebekah Pueni, Vida Binyimbor, Sandra Agyapong, Stephanie Cofie, and Samuel Danquah.

What these young people need most is your prayers as they venture into lives of independence, that they make the right choices and build upon the foundation that they received in their childhood. We are particularly grateful to the individuals, families, and churches that have contributed to the growth of these young adults through sponsorship. [@](#)

#### **Portraits of some Recently Independent Children of VOH**

**[Row 1]: Joseph Earles Nyarko, Haggar Manwu, Israel Agbovi**

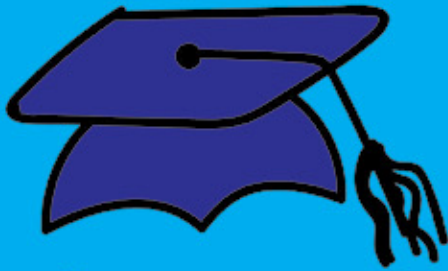
**[Row 2]: Joseph Acquah, Kofi Kweesi Manwu, Kwame Adu**

**[Row 3]: MaMalk Gmasulmi, Patience Donkor, Richard A. Okutu**

**[Row 4]: Sarah Acquah, Sarah Esi Kow Takyi, Angela Ayideh**



**College Students & Recent College Graduates of Village of Hope  
(Left to Right): Andy, Stella, Michael, Diana & Vera**



DONATE TO THE COLLEGE FUND

33

This is the current number of Village of Hope children in colleges, universities, and other tertiary institutions across the country.

15

These 15 are now in the 12th grade. By May 2019, they will be leaving high school. By August 2019, they will be ready for college and we need to be ready to pay their fees.

12

We have 12 high school graduates who are actively preparing to rewrite their Math and Science exams and complete their college applications.

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# Child Care at Village of Hope by the Numbers

## 94 Residential Children:

2 in Nursery  
2 in Kindergarten  
4 in 1st Grade  
4 in 2nd Grade  
4 in 3rd Grade  
10 in 4th Grade  
13 in 5th Grade  
8 in 6th Grade  
11 in 7th Grade  
13 in 8th Grade  
23 in 9th Grade

## 113 Non-residential Children:

5 in Elementary School  
52 in High School  
12 Preparing for College  
11 in Vocational Training  
33 in College

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Make a general donation
- Contribute to the college fund
- Pray for the children
- Pray for the staff

**[www.thevillageofhope.com/donate](http://www.thevillageofhope.com/donate)**



# Visits from Friends & Donors



Engineers from Lipscomb University visited to continue work on the prototype sanitation and filtration system on the Fetteh campus to help treat liquid waste water.



Kwasi Wusu Okyere Darko from the church of Christ in Germany, visited with his brother Kwame Poku and made a donation on behalf of his wife Francisca and himself.



Jennifer Hackmann & Kim Boston visited with the children and spent time learning more about the communities that surround Village of Hope. They are pictured above conversing with Frank Hotorwoshie (an evangelist who preaches in the area) and two members of the Woorabeba church of Christ. Below, Jennifer & Kim on the beach at Woorabeba, a small fishing Village.



# DFO Donates Medical & Other Items



Representatives of DFO, VOH, & Fetteh Royal Family with Donated Items



Nana Abor Yamoah II, Chief of Fetteh, Addresses Gathering

Since 2013, Village of Hope and **Dreams for Orphans (DFO)** have been working together, with your help, to create a safe place for sick children. As you are aware, the ground floor of the DFO Pediatric Building has been completed and we need to furnish and equip it. We have received support from **Heartbeat for Hope** to purchase some of the equipment needed to start running the pediatric unit of Hope Christian Hospital.

This November, Dreams for Orphans donated equipment and other items to Village of Hope for the pediatric unit of Hope Christian Hospital. The items included a double-door refrigerator, a



Group Photo of Representatives of DFO, VOH, & Fetteh Royal Family

# al Equipment to VOH



**Kary Doerler, Founder & Director of Dreams for Orphans**



**Dr. Alex Peasah-Koduah, Medical Director of Hope Christian Hospital Addresses Gathering**

deep freezer, a washing machine, a stove, diapers, and clothes for children.

Present at the event were staff of Hope Christian Hospital and Village of Hope; the chief of Gomoa-Fetteh and his entourage; and representatives of Dreams for Orphans. The remaining needs of the pediatric unit are listed here. Kindly support us to fully equip this unit for the children. [@](#)



**Cross Section of Attendees at Presentation of Donation**



**Children of Village of Hope Sing During DFO Presentation to Hope Christian Hospital**

## Needs of Pediatric Unit

### Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

- Respirator/Mechanical Ventilator
- Ultrasound Scan Machine
- Portable X-ray Machine
- Laptop Computers
- Furniture
- Drip Stand

### Operating Theater

- Operating Table with Lamos
- Anesthetic Machine
- Computers
- Diathermy Machine
- Surgical Instruments
- Operating Room Sandals & Boots
- Drapes
- Surgical Sutures

### Sick Child Ward

- Children's Beds/Cots
- Patient Monitors

### Nurses' Room

- Furniture
- Bunk Bed
- Air Conditioner
- Phone
- Computer
- Microwave
- Refrigerator

### Matron's Office

- Furniture
- Air Conditioner
- Computer
- Printer

### Pediatrician's Office

- Furniture
- Air Conditioner
- Computer

### Visitor's Lounge

- Seats
- Water Dispenser

### Mothers' Hostel

- Beds
- Air Conditioner

### Domestic Children's Bedroom

- Cots
- Wardrobes

### Domestic Children's Living Room

- Living Room Furniture
- Dining Furniture
- Television
- Radio Set

### Domestic Kitchen

- Cooking Utensils
- Microwave

### Hospital Kitchen

- Gas Stove
- Cooking Utensils
- Refrigerator
- Freezer
- Microwave

### Laundry

- Dryers
- Shelves for Laundry Stores
- Industrial Electric Irons



# Returning Home

In 2015, Village of Hope entered a partnership with the International Justice Mission (IJM) to provide care and shelter to rescued slave children. Through this partnership, over a period of two years, 25 rescued boys were brought to the Village of Hope campus in Fetteh while the police, the Department of Social Welfare and IJM staff worked together to investigate their cases and determine the next steps in serving justice.

After many months, the cases of 21 of the 25 boys have been completed. It was found out that the 21 boys were child labor cases and so the families involved were summoned to the courts for cautioning and signing of bonds to be of good behavior. With this done, Hope Children's Village in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and IJM have reintegrated

these 21 boys into their families and communities. One of these 21 boys is Kwame Nkrumah (originally called "Mike" during the investigations) the boy who underwent a successful heart surgery. Kwame is now at Hope Training Institute where he is learning how to make bags in the leatherworks program.

The remaining four rescued boys are still with us at the Village of Hope because investigations show that they were trafficked. For this reason, their traffickers will have to be prosecuted. Since these children are witnesses, we will need to continue to provide them with a safe place until the process is over.

We are grateful to all those who keep on supporting us to care for rescued children. We will continue to provide shelter for more children as rescues take place on the Volta Lake. [@](#)



**Kwame Nkrumah ("Mike")**

**Now that the investigations are over and Kwame has turned 18, and so is officially an adult, we can now show you his full face.**



The image above is of life on the Volta Lake as a child slave. This is what our rescued slave boys escaped from. Now that they have rejoined their families, the adjustment and reconnection process is going to be a slow and often difficult one. Please pray for the 21 boys who have returned home, and also, especially, for the four boys who have to deal with serving as witnesses in prosecutions of child traffickers.



# Our Children Give Their Lives to Christ

Across all our campuses and ministries at the Village of Hope, we do not only focus on the physical well being of the children under our care, but take time to teach them about the importance of spiritual growth and having a relationship with God. Mature Christians are always ready to teach the younger generation about God's love and providence.

Whenever a young man or woman makes the decision to be baptized, we rejoice and join them to celebrate their new life in Christ. Here are some pictures from this month of the baptism of Emmanuel, a former street boy at Hope Training Institute (first picture from left), and a student of Hope College.



## Church of Christ School in Regional Reading & Spelling Competition



**Clockwise from Top:  
Representatives of Kwahu East District**



**Competition in Progress**



**Group Photo of Competitors & Other Event Participants**

On October 19, the Ghana Library Authority organized a regional reading and spelling competition among nine districts (counties) in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Among these districts is the Kwahu East District where Church of Christ School is located. Prior to the regional competition, schools in each district had held district competitions and both

first and second places in the Kwahu East District were taken by girls from Church of Christ School. Therefore, at regionals, these two girls represented the Kwahu East District. At the end of the regional competition, Kwahu East took fourth place. We are proud of our girls and of Church of Christ School for the achievement and we hope that they do even better at regionals next time.



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**#BrightFuture**  
**Kafui: Future Hairstylist**

