

Herald of Hope

Volume 8 | Number 3 | March 2020

What Would You Have Done?



Nicholas and Sophia

There was a time when Nicholas and Sophia lived with their biological parents. Life was simple and all was well. It seems so long ago now because when Sophia was only one year old and Nicholas was three, their mother passed away. Taking care of two infants, on a daily basis, for the widowed father was difficult and so he made the decision to ask his sister for help. While Nicholas and Sophia lived with their aunt, their father visited them and provided for them financially. This became normal life for the two children.

Four years after their mother's passing, in 2017, their father fell ill and, within a short period, he also died, leaving their

aunt as the sole caregiver of the two children. For a while, the children's aunt has also been ill. In fact, while her brother (Nicholas and Sophia's father) was alive, the children's aunt did not contribute financially to their care because her illness made her unable to work. She was only able to care for Sophia and Nicholas with the funds that their father provided. His death, therefore, created a big gap in the care of the children.

Occasionally, Nicholas and Sophia's cousin (their aunt's own daughter) would support her mother and the children financially; however, in 2019, this daughter sadly died during



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USA

P. O. Box 670394
Dallas, TX 75367
Tel: 682-302-1939

GHANA

P. O. Box GP 18169
Accra, Ghana
Tel: 233-24-431-3404
Tel: 233-20-201-2229

Email: info@thevillageofhope.com

Website: thevohgroup.org

Facebook: [villageofhope](https://www.facebook.com/villageofhope)

Twitter: [villageofhopegh](https://twitter.com/villageofhopegh)

Instagram: [villageofhopegh](https://www.instagram.com/villageofhopegh)

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

childbirth and the orphaned infant also became one of the children needing help from the unemployed aunt and now, grandmother.

What does a person do under these circumstances? What would you have done, knowing that a ten-year-old, an eight-year-old and a baby depended on you for everything and yet you were genuinely unable to provide their basic needs? By the third term of the 2018/2019 academic year, Nicholas and Sophia had dropped out of school and were often hungry.

In desperation, the children's aunt went to the Social Welfare (social services) office in Tema for help. After their investigations, it was recommended that her niece

and nephew be provided with residential care at Hope Children's Village. Nicholas and Sophia just joined the Village of Hope family in 2020 and are already enrolled at Hope Christian Academy. Sophia lives with the Ayisis and the girls of Prestoncrest House A, and Nicholas lives in Boateng House with Samuel Otchere and his wife Helina.

Although this is not the same as what their life was in their early years, it is our prayer that this divine intervention will bring structure into these young lives and enable them live as children should, with caring adults around them. Becoming orphaned and experiencing tragedy should not seal the fate of any child if adults continue to step up to the challenge of healing their broken hearts.



In the living room of Boateng House, Nicholas and his brothers watch TV with their mother. Can you spot Nicholas?



Sophia and her sisters prepare an afternoon snack. Their mother is in the background monitoring activities.



Sophia (first from right) has already become used to the culture of reading/studying at the dining room table at Prestoncrest Girls House A.

Hope College Hosts German School

The first edition of an exchange program at Hope College took place from Monday, January 27 to Friday, February 14, 2020 on the theme, "Fair Life and Work." Students from St. Hildegardis Gymnasium, Duisburg, Germany made a three-week trip to Ghana for the exchange program. The German team consisted of 14 female students, 2 facilitators and the Project Manager for the exchange program (17 in all). All the students from Germany were females because the school used to be an all-female institution that has recently been turned into a mixed school. Hopefully, the 2021 edition will have some male students participating in the program.

The Ghanaian team consisted of 21 students (5 males and 16 females) and three coordinators. Participants engaged in the learning of the German language and a local Ghanaian language (Twi); workshops; educational trips; the exhibition of projects undertaken by the students (such as the design of a biodigester, the preparation of jam/chocolate spread, the design of a washing machine); and cross-cultural exchanges.

The exchange program will be an annual event. Our expectation is that the number of participants from Germany will increase for the 2021 edition owing to the success of the 2020 edition. As part of the benefits of the program to Hope College, the visiting school donated 15 laptop computers with e-learning materials to Hope College. Discussions have also begun for some of our students and teachers to make a trip next year to Germany. The program was climaxed with a grand durbar on Friday, February 14, 2020. The newly-installed Chief of Gomoa-Fetteh and the traditional council were in attendance to grace the occasion.

**-By Samuel Osei
Head of Academic Affairs, Hope College**



Exchange students learn to shop at a typical Ghanaian market.



Members of a project team made up of students



Project teams display and explain their projects to guests.



Students of St. Hildegardis Gymnasium and Hope College display a Ghanaian cultural dance during the grand durbar to end the exchange program.



A prototype washing machine put together by one of the project teams.



A student of St. Hildegardis Gymnasium and a Hope College student during one of the educational trips in Ghana.



Fettehman Senior High School girls march during the parade on March 6, 2020.



Pupils and teachers from Progressive Preparatory School march.



Pupils and teachers of Church of Christ Kindergarten/Primary School march.



Hope College Police Cadet at parade



Students and a teacher of Hope Christian Academy at parade



Hope Christian Academy boys marching



Hope Christian Academy boys being led by a teacher during the march past



Hope College Police Cadet commander joins Hope Christian Academy students to march.



Students of Rock of Ages Academy march with their teacher.



Hope College Police Cadet member joins Hope Christian Academy students to march.

Ghana Celebrates 63rd Independence Anniversary

For many decades, Ghana was a British colony until the country gained its political independence on March 6, 1957. It was the first sub-Saharan African country to do so. Since then, Independence Day is celebrated on March 6 each year, throughout Ghana, with lots of activities. In villages, towns and cities across the country, school children hold military-style parades, march past officials and listen to speeches that recount the country's history, espouse its hopes and seek to instill a sense of patriotism in them.

The Chief of Gomoa-Fetteh, the Assemblyman of Gomoa-Fetteh, and other dignitaries grace this ceremony every year. Students from Hope Christian Academy and the Police Cadet of Hope College represented Village of Hope at the 63rd Independence Day Celebration on March 6, 2020.



The Assemblyman of Gomoa-Fetteh addresses the people.



The newly installed Chief of Gomoa-Fetteh (second from right) with other dignitaries present at Ghana's 63rd Independence Celebration held at Gomoa-Fetteh



Fetteh District Assembly Primary School representative receives a certificate of participation on behalf of her school.



Hope College and Hope Christian Academy representatives receive certificates of participation

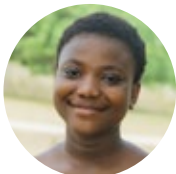


Fetteh Church of Christ District Assembly School representative receives a certificate of participation.



Fetteh District Assembly JHS representative receives a certificate of participation.

Why Village of Hope Still Needs Your Support



**Abigail Ama
Arthur**



**Prince Kwadwo
Adu**



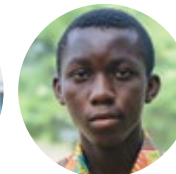
**Christiana
Agbeko**



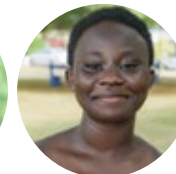
**Alex
Adu**



**Constance
Nsiah**



**Bismark
Agyare**



**Benedicta
Boadi**



**Alex
Kwetey**



**Augustus
Mensah**



**Diana
Binyimbor**



**Bismark
Yeboah**



**Esther
Anim**



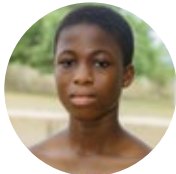
**Daniel
Koranteng**



**Einice Naana
Ampong**



**Knowledge
Drah**



**Fakor
Nugbienyo**



**Emmanuel
Obeng**



**Haniel
Donkor**



**Eric
Mensah**



**Kareen Ama
Frimpomaa Afriyie**



**Evans Kelly
Noamesi**



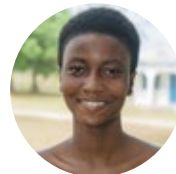
**Kerine
Kpabitey**



**Famous
Agbi**



**Isaac
Akoto**



**Maureen
Afriyie**



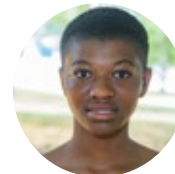
**Isaac
Baah**



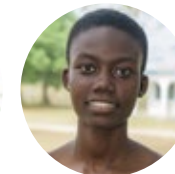
**Priscilla
Anokyewaa**



**Ivan
Brekumi**



**Millicent
Ayisi**



**Theresa
Lamptey**



**Sandra
Ayideh**



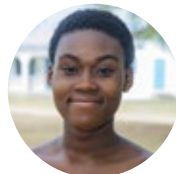
**Samuel Mensah
Luro Junior**



**Sarah
Badu**



**Kofi
Antobam**



**Vanessa
Brekumi**



**Kwabena
Aboagyee**



**Mark
Manwu**



**Moro
Kwatano**



**Seth
Dwumah**



**Stanley Said
Houngan**



**Stephen
Dwumah**



**Judith
Bonyenah**



**Illiasu
Summed**



**Michel
Mensah Luro**



**Joseph
Dogtere**



**Moses
Agyapong**



**Emmanuel
Adane**



**Emmanuel
Nimako**



**Eric Okorwu
Conutsey**



**Ramsey
Vitashie**

**Each face represents a reason (infact many reasons) why
Village of Hope still needs your support.**

Your support makes it possible for these 50 children in high school to receive care and education.

Vision of Hope 2020 Campaign

Completion of Construction of Boys' Dormitory for Hope Christian Academy

We want to be self-sufficient in our operations. Our goal is that within the next two years, Hope Christian Hospital, Hope College, Hope Christian Academy and Church of Christ School all become operationally self-sufficient.

With the help of God through your support, Hope College (the high school of Village of Hope) is now operationally self-sufficient. This was made possible because you provided the facilities needed to enrol boarding students whose parents were in search of a high-quality Christian education for their children. Hope College now has an enrolment of 456 students. Of these students, 17% are on full or partial scholarship. All the children from the orphanage who attend Hope College are on full scholarship. Other needy students are on full or partial scholarship. From the fees paid by the remaining 83% of students, Hope College is able to operate and offer these scholarships to its needy students. This is the model we want to replicate at Hope Christian Academy.

To be able to do this, we need to have a minimum of 300 fee-paying boarding students. Our permanent girls' dormitory can accommodate 120 students. Our efforts to increase enrolment of boarding students have been limited by the lack of dormitory space as well as the poor state of our dilapidated temporary boys' dormitory. If we can build a big boys' dormitory and then increase enrolment of boarding students to 300, the school can become self-sufficient. We have proven that this is not only possible but also doable by what has been achieved at Hope College. With your help, Hope Christian Academy can become what Hope College has become – operationally self-sufficient.

Please consider a gift to help Hope Christian Academy complete its boys' dormitory that is now under construction.



Current Boys' Dormitory



When completed, this dormitory will have rooms to accommodate 180 male students, and an apartment for a teacher who will supervise the students. Please help us reach our goal of \$32,000 to complete this dormitory and be on our way towards self-sufficiency.



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P. O. Box 670394
Dallas, TX 75367

VISION OF HOPE - 2020: TOWARDS OPERATIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY



I. HOPE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE (ORPHANAGE) Renovation of first 5 Children's Homes/ Cottages

	\$
1. George & Mary Chisholm House	10,000
2. Douglas & Margaret Boateng House	10,000
3. Traverse City Church of Christ House	10,000
4. Prestoncrest Church of Christ House A	10,000
5. Prestoncrest Church of Christ House B	10,000
Sub-Total	50,000



II. HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (PRE-K THROUGH 9TH GRADE) \$

1. Completion of Construction of New Boys' Dormitory	32,000
2. Renovation of Josiah & Bonita Tilton Education Building	20,000
3. Furniture for Classrooms	8,000
Sub-Total	60,000



III. CHURCH OF CHRIST SCHOOL (PRE-K THROUGH 9TH GRADE)	\$
1. Completion of Construction of Nursery Building	50,000
2. Renovation of Primary and Junior High School Buildings	12,000
3. Furniture for Classrooms	8,000
Sub-Total	70,000



IV. HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL	\$
1. Oxygen for Wards	14,000
2. Lead Door for X-Ray Room	4,000
3. Roofing & Terrazzo Floor of Walkways	20,000
4. Completion of Remodeling of 3 barnett Houses	20,000
5. Fencing-off of Hospital Facilities	12,000
Sub-Total	70,000



GRAND TOTAL: \$250,000.00