

# Herald of Hope

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## A NEW HOME FOR BABIES



**Babies and their caregivers at the new home for babies**

For many years, the care of children at the Village of Hope has not included many babies. There have been a few babies who have passed through in transition to an adoptive family but, generally, our facilities and available human resource have not enabled us to admit babies. With the partnership of Dreams for Orphans (DFO) in 2013, however, the situation stood to change. This is because DFO funded the construction of a pediatric unit for Hope Christian Hospital, which included a separate wing designed specifically for the care for orphaned, abandoned and destitute babies, infants, and toddlers. With the help of many supporters we were able to equip this home to the point where we could employ caregivers/nannies and begin admitting children.

The first baby to arrive was a girl. At one day old, this helpless child was abandoned in a shallow pit in a farm, covered only with palm fronds. In the early hours of the evening, the farmer heard a baby's cry, followed the sound and discovered the baby girl. Had she not cried at the right time, perhaps

that would have been her end. As custom demands in most rural areas, the farmer reported the incident to the village chief who authorized the removal of the baby from the pit. She was immediately sent to hospital, and then the case was reported to the office of the Department of Social Welfare (social services) in the area. The social welfare office in turn reported the issue to the police for investigations to begin. The next step was to find shelter for the baby so when she was discharged from hospital, she was brought to the babies' home at Village of Hope.

The next child to arrive was a one-year-old boy. On a Monday morning at about 10:30, a fire service officer was walking along a footpath near a church building when she heard a frail cry coming from the bushes along the path. Startled by the cry, she called out for help and, together with those who showed up, she went into the bushes and found a little boy alone and crying. The group picked up the child and continued to the chief's palace. Efforts to identify the little boy failed and he was handed



**VILLAGE OF HOPE**

Rescuing. Repairing. Preparing. Propelling.

### 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](mailto:info@thevillageofhope.com)

**Website:** [thevohgroup.org](http://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

over to the police. Investigations suggested that the little boy was most likely brought from a neighboring town and abandoned in the community and, therefore, until his family could be found, the Department of Social Welfare would have to ensure his safety. The place of choice for the boy was Village of Hope.

Not too long after our one-year old boy arrived, we were called by the Department of Social Welfare about the admission of yet another child. It was becoming apparent that the need for a babies' home in our region was great. This third child was a lively 18-month old girl. Thankfully, she had not been completely abandoned; however, her safety was at great risk. Her case reached the Department of Social Welfare when the police received a report that a suspicious young man in his twenties had showed up in the community, traveling alone with a small child and looking for accommodation. At the police station, the young man's story was that he had broken up with his girlfriend with whom he had this little girl. They had originally met as hustlers in Accra, both working menial jobs to make a living. They started living together in a kiosk and soon, our little girl was born. Before she was a year old, the mother became pregnant again. All this time, they did not know much about each other's backgrounds. As life became more difficult, the young family traveled from town to town looking for work and accommodation and getting ejected several times. They decided to move back to Accra and that is where, about six months ago, the child's mother abandoned them after they had a fight. She was still pregnant with their second child. According to the young man, his mother refused to take custody of his daughter while he looked for work and so he had traveled to the Gomoa West District with the child to work the illegal mining business. Being homeless, he spent most nights with the child on the bare floor on the porches and in the kitchens of benevolent strangers.

Other nights, he would give the child to someone for the night and sleep at the lorry station. To the police and the Department of Social Welfare, there were gaps in the young man's story and the strangers with whom he left the child, all complained that he would become extremely irritable whenever they asked about the child's mother and then start looking for a new person to leave the child with. With a father unable to take proper care of her, a missing mother, and poor living conditions that kept changing for the worse, the Department of Social Welfare determined that the child needed to be taken away and placed in safety while the investigations continued; so she was brought to Village of Hope.

Our newest child, as at the time of writing this article, arrived at just about one week old. In the early hours of October 27, a report was made to the staff of a radio station that a baby had been found in front of a store in the community. The person at the radio station who was informed, followed up and confirmed the story. He arranged for the child to be sent to hospital and made a report to the police and the Department of Social Welfare who took up the case. When the child was discharged from hospital, he was brought to our babies' home.

Each of these cases occurred in the Central Region where the Village of Hope is located. More importantly, each of these stories represent a life that, had it not been for God's providence, could have been lost by now. We believe strongly that it is part of God's plan that our babies' home was ready just in time for these first four children to have a place to stay. It means more work and a drain on our resources but all that is nothing compared to saving the life of a precious gift from God. Please give a gift in the name of these four young lives, also bearing in mind that there will be many more to come. [t](#)



**First baby's day of arrival**



**Second baby's day of arrival**





**Third baby's day of arrival**



**Fourth baby's day of arrival**



**The Village of Hope family welcomes the first baby with a prayer.**

**The Village of Hope family welcomes the fourth baby with a prayer.**

**Every new baby undergoes a full medical examination at Hope Christian Hospital.**



**Babies' caregivers (left to right) Florence Lartey, Anna Effah Nkyi, Faustina Kusi and Augustina Effum**



## TIME TO CARE

# Village of Hope Children Join Constant Boty to Record a Song

**M**usic comes to me by divine means so I am just striving to give back the divine in myself to the divine in all," says Constant Boty, Ivorian guitarist, international jazz artist, songwriter, music educator, and multi-talented musician.

This year 2020 has been the most eventful year this generation has ever seen and yet, by God's grace, the children of Village of Hope are still alive and well. If the year has been a struggle for people with means, it has certainly been a greater struggle for vulnerable children. While we are beginning to see some normalcy coming back to a few countries and locations, economies are yet to recover from the harsh changes that were caused by the new coronavirus. These are truly the times that human beings need to support each other – it is time to care.

For this reason, Constant Boty has partnered with London-based Russian/Polish jazz vocalist, Tamara Raven, and the children of Village of Hope to release *Time to Care*, a piece of music for our current times. The song's lyrics, written by a young poet, Dzidzo Johnson, an alumna of Hope Christian Academy, contain a simple message: We all need to join hands and provide care to those who need it the most.

The purpose of *Time to Care* is to raise funds to purchase desperately needed equipment for Hope Christian Hospital's newly constructed pediatric wing. What better way to care for abandoned infants, sick toddlers

and preterm babies who are the future of this world, than to have the best equipment and facilities in a rural area such as Gomoa-Fetteh where Hope Christian Hospital is the only healthcare facility for tens of thousands of people.

From Destiny Studios in Accra, a group of 12 children from Village of Hope rehearsed with Constant Boty and recorded the backing vocals for *Time to Care*; from her studio in London, UK, Tamara Raven recorded the lead vocals; Alfred Djarah, sound engineer, produced the final mix; and the mastering was done in France.

Tamara Raven is an award-winning singer and vocal coach who has performed all over the world. Although her career started in opera, she has actively performed jazz pieces and collaborated with many famous artists on the international stage. From the start of his career, Constant Boty has played with several award-winning and top musicians across the globe, produced highly acclaimed compositions, created albums of high quality, and educated many people all over the world about music.

The children of Village of Hope are the most excited about this project because they get to be a part of a compelling message that brings people together to give to a cause that many young lives will benefit from. They are greatly anticipating the release of their song in November 2020. Constant Boty is generously giving all the proceeds of the song to Village of Hope. It's Time to Care! [📞](#)



**Constant Boty rehearses with children at the Village of Hope campus in Gomoa Fetteh.**



**Theresa, Daniella and Kwabena record their bit of "Time to Care."**



**Adwoa, Nana and Martha record their bit of "Time to Care."**



**Constant Boty signs an agreement to give all proceeds from "Time to Care" to Village of Hope.**



## HOPE COLLEGE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN VIRTUAL LIVE2LEAD GLOBAL LEADERSHIP EVENT

Live2Lead is an annual leadership training event held by the John Maxwell Team to provide continuous training to current and upcoming leaders in all spheres of life. Usually, in Ghana, it is facilitated by CTL Africa at a simulcast viewing event in a location in Accra. This year's Live2Lead was mostly virtual and so this gave more people the opportunity to attend. Hope College students were included this year and had the unique opportunity to listen to Alan Mullaly speak about rescuing the Ford brand from bankruptcy; Kat Cole give

lessons on heart and hustle in leadership; Steve Harvey make a passionate case for mobilizing generations to greatness; and Craig Groeschel teach about practical ways to adapt in a crisis. Host, John Maxwell, set the tone for the entire event with a delivery on consistency in leadership. He later wrapped up the day's sessions with a plea for a movement of people who want to make a difference, working with people who want to make a difference, living values that make a difference, and taking action that makes a difference. [@](#)



## 8TH AND 11TH GRADERS BACK IN SCHOOL

Owing to COVID-19 changes, our schools open or close depending on directives from the Office of the President of Ghana. After 29 weeks at home, the President announced that all 8th graders and 11th graders across the country should go back to school in October to complete their

academic work by December. Following this directive, we opened our doors to our dearly missed 8th graders at Hope Christian Academy and Church of Christ School, and our 11th graders at Hope College. [@](#)



8th grade Mathematics class at Church of Christ School



8th grade Mathematics class at Hope Christian Academy



11th grade Physics class at Hope College

## BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST

We all rejoiced with heaven when our son Augustus Mensah made the decision to be baptized. His second birthday is September 20, 2020. Please keep young Augustus in your prayers as he begins this journey as a newborn Christian. [@](#)





## KWEIKROM CHURCH OF CHRIST MEET IN NEW BUILDING

**W**est Side church of Christ in Searcy, Arkansas, has funded the completion of a meeting place for the church of Christ in Kweikrom, a community within the area that the Village of Hope campus is located. After years of the Kweikrom church worshipping in a public-school classroom, they now have their own building. The West Side church of Christ has been supporting evangelism the Kasoa-Awutu-Gomoa-Effutu (KAGE) area over the past two decades. We are grateful for this blessing. [1](#)



**Members of Kweikrom church of Christ worship in their new building (pictured on the left).**

## HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL WALKWAY ROOFED

**T**he appeal for equipment and the completion of projects for the hospital expansion is ongoing. One of the needs listed in this appeal was the roofing of the new walkways connecting all the buildings of the hospital. We are grateful that the support received so far has enabled us completely roof the walkways. The construction of the terrazzo floor of the walkways is ongoing. Thank you for your support for the roofing of the walkways and the construction of the terrazzo floor. [1](#)



**Work on terrazzo floor of walkway continues.**



**Various sections of Hope Christian Hospital walkway now shield patients from harsh weather conditions.**

## DR. JUDITH BAFFOE JOINS HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL



**Dr. Judith Baffoe**

**W**hen Judith was in high school it was always her dream to become a doctor. She studied hard towards making that dream come true but the major barrier was financial. Village of Hope was able to step in at the time that she needed financial assistance to fund her medical school education. Today she is Dr. Judith Baffoe, a medical doctor. After finishing her residency training, she is now part of the team at Hope Christian Hospital. We

are always glad when those who have benefited from the Village of Hope come back to join us to continue in our mission to save lives and serve humanity. [📞](#)



**Dr. Judith Baffoe examines a pediatric patient at the NICU.**

## OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY DONATES BOREHOLE TO HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

**T**he Omega Psi Phi Fraternity has been on a mission to provide life-saving and much-needed water to the people of Ghana by providing boreholes in 24 communities throughout the country. Village of Hope is a beneficiary of the generosity of the fraternity as borehole

number 21 was drilled for Hope Christian Hospital. This new borehole will greatly beef up water supply at the hospital. We are grateful for this kind gesture by the fraternity. [📞](#)



**Omega Psi Phi team and Village of Hope/Hope Christian Hospital Staff**



**Village of Hope team officially receives borehole from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity**

## REMEMBER THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

*The following members of the Village of Hope family are in need of your prayers.*

### Sick



**Samuel Afriyie  
(House Parent)**

*He is suffering from pain due to lumbar spondylosis.*



**Juliet Asumeng  
(House Parent)**

*She is in a lot of pain from lumbar spondylolisthesis.*

### Grieving



**Isaac Ampah  
(Security Man)**

*His 78-year-old father passed away.*



**Betty Afriyie  
(House Parent)**

*Her father died at age 95.*



**Isaac Essel  
(Grounds Man)**

*His son, 16 years old, died after an illness.*





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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. 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**

#### **III. HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL**

	\$
1. Completion of Remodeling of 3 Barnett Houses	20,000

**Sub-Total** **20,000**

**GRAND TOTAL: \$140,000.00**

