Volume 9 | Number 12 | December 2021

# ABANDONED BABIES' CAREGIVERS CAN NOW LIVE ON VILLAGE OF HOPE CAMPUS



Commander Larry Kwame Awuku reads plaque on the wall of House of Charity.

ovember 7, 2021 was a special day for us at the Village of Hope because it was the climax of various events that culminated in the commissioning of a new building. It all began when Commander Larry Kwame Awuku, a retired commander of the Ghana Navy, philanthropist and co-founder of Dada Kwame Charity Foundation, visited the Fetteh campus. Commander Awuku cares deeply about children and, on his first visit, what tugged at his heartstrings the most were the precious babies who had been abandoned but now had shelter at the Village of Hope. He wished to help in any way possible and this led him to a decision to fulfil the need of housing for the babies' caregivers.

On April 22, 2021, we broke ground for the construction of a one-bedroom duplex with the purpose of bringing the babies' caregivers closer to the children they care for. Currently, most of the caregivers live off campus and have to trek back and forth every day in order

to provide 24-hour care to the babies. In addition, during emergencies, caregivers who are off duty are called for assistance. During these situations, the fact that caregivers live off campus complicates matters and poses a huge challenge.

One can only imagine what a blessing it was that Commander Awuku, through Dada Kwame Charity Foundation, committed to funding the construction of this duplex which was finally commissioned, seven months after we broke ground, on Sunday, November 7. Commander Larry Awuku and his family and friends joined the Village of Hope community to celebrate the commissioning of the House of Charity - the duplex for the babies' caregivers and ther families. Each of the units in this duplex has one bedroom, a living and dining area, a kitchen and a bathroom.

See Page 2 for pictures of the commissioning ceremony on November 7, 2021. ①



#### **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
Twitter: villageofhopegh
Instagram: 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



Newly constructed House of Charity



Section of audience at commissioning ceremony



**Students of Hope College** 



Commander Larry Awuku speaks to the audience.



Commander Larry Awuku cuts tape to commission House of Charity.



Commander Awuku and his friends and family meet babies currently in the care of Village of Hope.

### STAFF OF VILLAGE OF HOPE DONATE BLOOD TO SAVE LIVES

s the nearest hospital available to the residents of the Village of Hope campus in Fetteh, the people of Fetteh, and residents of many other nearby communities, Hope Christian Hospital is the first point of call for many emergencies; and the primary medical care facility for thousands of people. For this reason, one of the things that the hospital needs a ready supply of is blood for transfusion. Sometimes, blood is in short supply and the hospital must arrange for a drone-dropoff from the National Blood Bank. Other times, relatives of the patient in need of a

blood transfusion must be tested for ability and compatibility, and have blood drawn for immediate processing and use. In light of this, management of Hope Christian Academy, led by Faustina Asare (Managing Director of the Academy), spearheaded a week-long blood donation drive among the staff on the Village of Hope campus in Fetteh. This was the Academy's way of helping to save lives as part of the ongoing 25th Anniversary celebrations.

From Monday, November 22 to Friday, November 26, the hospital laboratory staff facilitated the testing and blood collection process of staff of all the Village of Hope ministries on the Fetteh campus. Blood screening was done to ensure each volunteer donor's fitness level and ability to give blood. Each potential donor then came back after about an hour to hear the outcome of the screening stage and proceed to get blood drawn, if declared fit to do so.

As of the end of Thursday, November 25, 27 pints of blood had been collected and stored for future use at Hope Christian Hospital to save lives. ①







Individuals get screened by laboratory staff of Hope Christian Hospital before they are allowed to donate blood.











Staff from various ministries of Village of Hope get their blood drawn to help save lives.

## RENOVATIONS IN PROGRESS AT NKWATIA



Masonry work in progress at the front of the primary school building: ramps for accessibility are constructed.

he items on our "Vision 2020" wish list included, for our school in Nkwatia, funding for the construction of a nursery school building, new furniture for classrooms, and the renovation of our existing primary and junior high school buildings. We initially only received funds for the construction of the nursery school building, and then we got the donations for the classroom furniture. We have now received funds for the renovation of the existing buildings. Masons, carpenters, painters and other artisans have been engaged to do the renovations and we hope to complete the work by the end of the November.



Steps and skirting at the back of the primary school building are complete.



Paint job at the back of the primary school building is nearly completed.



Painters prepare new battens for the windows.



Masonry work in progress at the front of the primary school building: steps are repaired.

# NINTH GRADERS AT FETTEH AND NKWATIA WRITE THE NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS



Morning assembly at the Fettehman Senior High School exam center involves Hope Christian Academy and five other schools.



Some students of Hope Christian Academy settle down for that day's exam.

rom Monday, November 15 to Friday, November 19, all ninth graders in Ghana gathered at various examination centers across the country to write the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE), an exam that currently determines entry into high school but will soon be phased out. Hope Christian Academy's 45 ninth graders went to Fettehman Senior High School every day to write their exams while the six pupils at our school in Nkwatia went to St. Peter's Senior High School. Now that the exams are over, join us to pray for the safety of these children as they wait for the results and prepare for high school in 2022. 10



Students of Hope Christian Academy and other schools share the exam hall.



Some students of Hope Christian Academy get ready for that day's exam.



Six ninth graders of our school in Nkwatia pose for a photo outside the exam hall at St. Peter's Senior High School.

## GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD AT HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



Hope Christian Academy's graduating class of 2021.

he 15-year-old tradition of holding graduation ceremonies for ninth graders of Hope Christian Academy continued on Saturday, November 20, 2021, right after the children finished their exams. The event also doubled as a graduation ceremony for the kindergarten class preparing to start first grade in January 2022. In all, there were 45 children in the 9th grade graduating class and 30 children in the kindergarten graduating class.

The short ceremony took place at the Hackmann Hall on the Hope College campus, creating excitement on an otherwise regular Saturday morning. The outgoing kindergarten class performed poetry and informative recitals, and sang songs to show the audience what they had learned over the years.

Hundreds of family members attended the graduation ceremony to support all the children, and subsequently take their own children home after the celebrations were over. There is always euphoria surrounding these celebrations and this year was no exception. Family and friends cheered the graduating classes on as they collected their certificates and awards.

Our fervent prayer is that the years that the ninth graders spent at Hope Christian Academy will yield positive results in their lives. We also hope that all our children who have graduated kindergarten will come back to school in January 2022 to start the first grade at Hope Christian Academy. ①



30 children graduate from preschool.



Ninth grade class speaker addresses the audience.



Faustina Asare, Managing Director of Hope Christian Academy speaks to the graduating classes and their families.





The graduating kindergarten class performs various poetry recitals, songs, and dances to showcase what they have learned in nursery school.



A section of the audience at the graduation ceremony in Hackmann Hall



Janet Akuayi, Headteacher of the nursery school, presents a certificate to a graduating kindergarten pupil.



Daniel Frimpong Amponsah, school counselor, presents a certificate to a graduating ninth grader.



### Remember the Children

As the year comes to an end, remember the children.
As you spend time with friends and family, remember the children.
As you enjoy the festivities of the season, remember the children.
As you celebrate the blessings in your life, remember the children.
It is your gifts that keep them thriving.

