

Herald of Hope

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ABANDONED TO DIE; RESCUED TO LIVE



An abandoned baby arrives at Hope Christian Hospital.

The shrill cries of a baby cut through the stillness of the night. Soon, the lights of nearby houses began to come on, one after the other, as the occupants filed out of their homes towards the sound of the crying baby. What they saw wiped away all sleep from their eyes.

It was the sight of a newborn baby, abandoned on the ground in front of a toilet facility, lying in a pool of blood, with her umbilical cord uncut. A concerned woman immediately produced a piece of cloth in which the baby was wrapped and quickly carried to the maternity home in the community.

The midwife who lives next to the maternity home was awoken from her sleep to attend to the baby. She cut and tied the umbilical cord and bathed the baby. That was the end of her night. She kept vigil over the baby until daybreak when she was joined by neighbors to make a report to the police. The police called the Department of Social Welfare and they, in turn, called Village of Hope. Soon, the baby was on her way to the babies' home at the Village of Hope in Fetteh.

At the Village of Hope, the hospital staff rallied around the frail baby and did all they could to keep her alive amidst earnest prayers from every home on campus. Our God is kind and merciful and our God answers prayers; and so her life was spared.

Today, if you see that lovely, beautiful, cute child, you would never know that she was abandoned minutes after she was born, and to date, no one has seen the woman who gave birth to her. She was abandoned to die but she was rescued and brought to the Village of Hope to live. Through the loving care of God's children, she is a living testimony of the goodness of God.



Nurses attend to an abandoned baby.



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

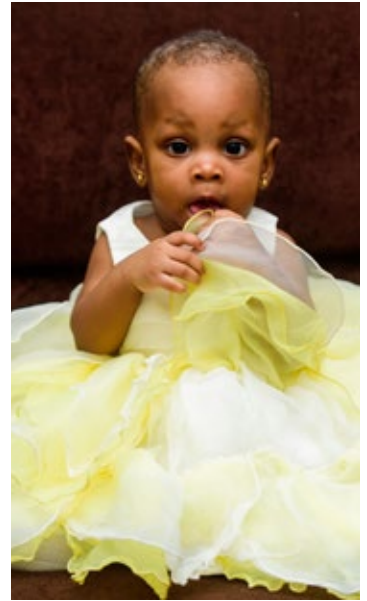
How I wish that this true story was just a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence but, alas, it is not so. Many babies are abandoned each year in Ghana – abandoned to die. Unfortunately, many of them die because when they are found and rescued, there are often no places for them to receive the life-saving care they need. That is why Village of Hope decided to lend a helping hand to save the lives of these precious babies.

When the Dreams for Orphans Pediatric Building was constructed for Hope Christian Hospital, a part of the building was reserved as a babies' home for abandoned babies. It has been a life-saver for many babies who are referred to the babies' home by the police and the Department of Social Welfare. With the increasing need to help many more babies, it has become necessary to build a much bigger facility for abandoned, destitute and needy babies.

THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE

Village of Hope has been in God's Kingdom business of caring for children for 26 years – from 1996 to date. From our cursory observation over the years, we have come to realize that caring for babies is quite difficult, time consuming and costly. Babies need special care and attention, spanning a twenty-four-hour time period. Perhaps, for these reasons, very few have ventured into caring for babies. Facilities available for babies throughout the country are grossly inadequate. This is in reference to babies that are abandoned, abused, or in distress situations and therefore are exposed to physical danger.

There is a huge demand from care organizations and institutions such as the Department of Social Welfare, the Ghana Police Service (in particular, the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit - DOVVSU) and Residential Homes for Children across the country. They often inquire whether we can accommodate and care for such babies. It is in response to this great need and high demand for facilities to care for such babies that Village of Hope is building a babies' home that will house a forty-bed facility for babies.



BABIES WITH DISABILITIES

If the situation across the country is dire for abandoned, abused and distressed babies, it is even worse for babies with disabilities. Out of our research came the finding that, besides CASA RHC located at Kwamoso in the Eastern Region of Ghana, there is no other home for babies with disabilities in the country. The second babies' home that is being constructed at the Village of Hope will be a facility for babies with disabilities. The project is a forty-bed building to house babies with disabilities, who will be referred and transported from locations across the country to the facility, for care and protection.

Staff will be trained on how to care for such babies. General medical care and specialist medical care in terms of orthopedic surgeries, aid-to-prosthesis, etc. will be provided for the babies at the facility to alleviate their hardships and sufferings and make life comfortable for them.



A NATIONAL HAVEN FOR BABIES

Both projects are designed in such a way that babies would be admitted to the facilities from across the country. We are working with the Department of Social Welfare so that the facilities become a national referral place for babies in need of protection, safety, care and nurturing.

There will be a vehicle attached to the babies' homes that will transport babies to the facilities from wherever the need arises. The babies will be cared for until such a time that the Department of Social Welfare and the police complete their background investigations, conclude the care plans for the babies, and determine the best alternative placement plans for them.

Services that will be provided at the facilities will be free of charge to the referring agencies, institutions and organizations. Christians who are the heart, hands and feet of Jesus Christ on earth will provide for the loving and compassionate care of the babies.

We invite you to take a bold step of faith with us by joining us to provide the best care and support for needy babies as we save lives and serve humanity. [🔗](#)



All the babies/children pictured on pages 2 and 3 were abandoned to die but were rescued to live at the Village of Hope babies' home.

GROUNDBREAKING FOR BABIES' HOMES

Children, pupils and students from Hope Children's Village, Hope Christian Academy and Hope College joined staff from the various subsidiaries of Village of Hope on the Fetteh campus for a groundbreaking ceremony for construction works to begin on two babies' homes in the late afternoon of Wednesday; March 23, 2022. The homes are being sponsored by the McClanahan Family of Edmond, Oklahoma and Heartbeat for Hope, a non-profit Christian organization in Edmond, Oklahoma. [📰](#)



The entire Village of Hope family gathers for the groundbreaking ceremony.



Preacher Wilson Ebo Prah prays for the successful construction of the babies' homes.



Minister Amoah Wontumi offers prayers during the groundbreaking ceremony.



Professor Williams Atuilik (with pickaxe), Provost of Heritage Christian College in Accra and President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Ghana, was the special guest of honor for the groundbreaking ceremony.



Professor Williams Atuilik breaks ground.



Children, pupils, students and staff gather for the groundbreaking ceremony.

DEDICATION OF SPECIAL WARDS AT HOPE CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

On March 23, 2022, three special wards were dedicated at Hope Christian Hospital. A male ward, a female ward and a children's ward were completely renovated and refurbished through a kind gift from Rich and Renai McClanahan of Edmond, Oklahoma.

The male ward was named the George W. "Bill" Knight Ward; the female ward was named the Anna Beth Daugherty Knight Ward; and the children's ward was named the Rich & Renai McClanahan Pediatric Ward. [📷](#)



Rich & Renai McClanahan Pediatric Ward



Professor Williams Atuilik, assisted by Josephine Nyako (Matron/Head Nurse of Hope Christian Hospital), cuts ribbon to commission the pediatric ward.



Fred Asare, Group Managing Director of Village of Hope, prays for a baby on admission at the Rich & Renai McClanahan Pediatric Ward.



Dr. Judith Efua Baffoe, Acting Medical Director of Hope Christian Hospital, gives a tour of the special wards.



George W. "Bill" Knight Male Ward



Anna Beth Daugherty Knight Female Ward

EQUIPPED TO DO MORE FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

When Village of Hope took over the running of the children's home in Bongo (now called Hope Children's Place) in the Upper East Region of Ghana, our priority was to create an environment that was safe and conducive for the nurturing of the children in the home. The buildings were renovated and furnished. A new wall was constructed on one side of the property and the existing wall on the three other sides were strengthened and made higher to improve security. Two security men were hired to join the only security man engaged at the time of our takeover.

For the care of the children, two couples were engaged to serve as house parents. The male house parents also serve as administrator and social worker for the children's home. For the spiritual development of the children and staff, Preacher Roger Ayillah, a long-time minister of the Bolga Church of Christ, was engaged as a chaplain for Hope Children's Place. He visits the home regularly for Bible studies, devotionals and worship services with the children and staff.

These early measures put the children's home on a solid foundation for the development of the children in a stable environment. However, much more needed to be done to equip the home to help more children and provide holistic care to them.

During the first quarter of this year, numerous capital projects were undertaken and facilities were provided to improve the quality of care given by Hope Children's Place. These included the following:

1. A Hyundai County bus for transporting children to school
2. A motorcycle for errands
3. A tricycle with a bucket for errands, especially shopping
4. Two water storage tanks each with a capacity of 12,000 liters
5. Ten ceiling fans for the three homes
6. Nine sets of drying lines for the three homes
7. Three dry-erase boards for the three homes
8. A cornmill that was broken down was repaired and is now in use
9. Three ironing boards and three pressing irons for the three homes
10. Three Samsung 32-inch television sets for the three homes
11. Various cooking utensils for the kitchen
12. Four 100-watt flood lights to light up the compound at strategic spots on the compound
13. Walkways to link the various facilities on the compound for easy movement when it rains
14. The septic tank which was in a bad state was repaired and two new bio-digesters were constructed.



Walkways at Hope Children's Place



Walkways at Hope Children's Place

Bus for Hope Children's Place



Tricycle




Motorcycle



Water storage tank



Cornmill

All these were made possible through the kind and generous support of the Village Church of Christ in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. May God continually bless this congregation for their compassionate care for needy children and for their whole-hearted practice of pure religion. 

LOVE FILLS THE AIR AS SARAH AND CLEMENT JOIN IN HOLY MATRIMONY

Saturday; April 2, 2022 was full of joyous celebrations as our daughter Sarah Adu-Poku married her classmate, friend and lover Clement Boateng. They met at the university where they both studied business.

Feverish preparations for the marriage began the previous day as both the home and the Hackmann Assembly Hall were decorated in anticipation of the two events that would mark the marriage. Early in the morning of April 2, a large entourage of Clement's family members arrived from Accra to perform the traditional marriage rites which included paying the dowry to the bride's family and fulfilling all marriage requirements set by the bride's family. The ceremony, which lasted for about two hours, was attended by the house parents and some adults of the Village of Hope family.



The bride and groom with their parents at the traditional marriage ceremony

Then, in the afternoon of the same day, a much larger crowd made up of family members, church members, school mates and friends of the bride and groom gathered at the Hackmann Hall on the Hope College campus for the wedding ceremony which was followed by a reception at the Becky Holloway Courtyard at Hope College. There was eating and drinking and merrymaking. Truly, love was in the air. Please remember to pray for Sarah and Clement as they embark on their marital journey together. 🙏



The bridal party



Sarah Adu-Poku and Clement Boateng at their wedding reception

EIGHT CHILDREN FROM DRC ENROL INTO HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY AND HOPE COLLEGE

Village of Hope exists to save lives and serve humanity. Wherever humanity needs help and we are able to help, we cannot turn a blind eye to human suffering and need but must assist to the best of our abilities, God being our helper. The love of God compels us to love and help humanity irrespective of race, color or creed. This is why Village of Hope recently welcomed eight children from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Central Africa. Having been orphaned and in dire need of care, nurturing and education, Village of Hope opened its doors to them to offer them total care.

They arrived in Ghana on March 15, 2022 in the company of a humanitarian from DRC and an uncle both of whom returned to DRC after a week's stay to help the children settle in their new home. The two oldest children will be attending Hope College (the high school) and the six younger ones will be attending Hope Christian Academy (the elementary school).

It is our prayer and hope that after their education and training at the Village of Hope, they will return to their country to be ambassadors of Christ, a light to their people, well equipped to lead in the transformation of that great African nation. 🙏



Children from DRC and their chaperons arrive at the airport in Accra, Ghana.



Children from DRC and their chaperons arrive at the Fetteh campus of Village of Hope.



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AN APPEAL FOR SUPPORT FOR THE BABIES' HOME

The babies' home at Village of Hope has been in operation for about two years now. It is attached to the pediatric unit of Hope Christian Hospital but it is ran by Hope Children's Village – the children's home. As you can see from the stories and pictures on the first three pages, it has been a life-saver for abandoned babies. The babies' home is constantly in need of babies' formula, diapers, toiletries for babies, medicines, and funds for their medical care and general upkeep. The babies' home also needs funds to pay the salaries of the indefatigable caregivers who have given their lives to save and serve the babies.

Please help us keep the babies' home running. Help us provide for the needs of the babies. Your gift may be earmarked "Babies' Home" and mailed to: Village of Hope, P. O. Box 670394, Dallas, TX. 75367, USA.

You may also donate online at:
www.thevohgroup.org/donate 