

PEACE OF CHRIST FOUNDATION

FIRST QUARTER REPORT-2022

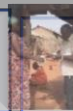
OUTREACH



A NEW DAYCARE FACILITY
COMPLETED AT NKWANTA



FARM PROJECT STARTED AT
JERUSALEM



3000 TABLETS OF ANTIEPILEPTIC
DRUGS DISTRIBUTED



12 NEW IDENTIFICATIONS MADE



2 CHILDREN BENEFITED FROM
LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT



2 YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES
WHERE SUPPORTED TO UNDERGO
APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



SEVEN CHILDREN WHERE REFFERED
FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY ACCESSMENT
AND SUPPORT



PUBLIC AWARENESS CARRIED OUT BY
OUTREACH TEAM IN 5 HEALTH
CENTERS.



MOHAMMED WAS SUPPORTED TO
GO FOR PLASTER OF PARIS AT
DUAYAW NKWANTA HOSPITAL



2 MEMBERS OF THE OUTREACH
TEAM ATTENDED A STAKEHOLDERS
MEETING ORGANIZED BY INCLUSION
GHANA.



1.AVERAGE OF 35 HOMES WERE
VISITED ON MONTHLY BASIS BY THE
OUTREACH TEAM.

INTRODUCTION

The outreach project was started purposely to identify, register and support children living with intellectual disabilities using community-based approaches. The project also aims to create public awareness about the rights of the children and change negative perceptions people have about persons with intellectual disabilities using multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary approaches.

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The overall objective of the project is to improve the social conditions of children and young adults with intellectual disabilities within the Nkoranza South and north Districts.

The specific objectives are:

- a.To activate community members to accept and respect the rights of children with intellectual disabilities
- b.To erase the negative perceptions people, have about intellectual disability
- c.To encourage community members and parents to take responsibility for their children with intellectual disabilities
- d.To form parents, support groups and empower them to take good care of their children with intellectual disabilities
- e.To undertake small scale livelihood projects for young adults with intellectual disabilities.
- f. To advocate for the inclusion of issues concerning children with intellectual disabilities in policy decisions

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers a period of January to March, 2022. It outlines in details the various activities undertaken by the outreach team in respect of our goal to improving the general wellbeing of children and young adults living with disabilities within our operational administrative districts (Nkoranza North, Nkoranza South and Techiman South in the Bono East Region of Ghana). The various thematic areas contained in the report are:

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- ❖ **Introduction**
- ❖ **Executive Summary**
- ❖ **Home Visit**
- ❖ **Antiepileptic Drugs**
- ❖ **Livelihood**
- ❖ **Apprenticeship**
- ❖ **Daycares**
- ❖ **Referral for Physiotherapy**
- ❖ **New Identification**
- ❖ **Public Education and Awareness**
- ❖ **Orthopedic Support**
- ❖ **Farm Project**
- ❖ **Stakeholder's Engagement**
- ❖ **Challenges**
- ❖ **way forward**

Some of the salient interventional highlights contained in the report are outlined below:

1. Average of 35 homes were visited on monthly basis by the outreach team.
2. 3000 tablets of carbamazepine were distributed to our clients with epilepsy.
3. 2 young adults with disabilities were supported to undergo apprenticeship training.
4. 2 children benefited from livelihood support
5. The new daycare facility in Nkwanta is completed and in use.
6. Our farming project initiative has been revived after the initial challenges.
7. 12 new clients have been identified.

8. 7 children were referred for physiotherapy assessment and support.
9. Mohammed was assisted to undergo Plaster of Paris procedure at Duayaw Nkwanta Hospital
10. Public education and awareness were done by the outreach team in 5 different health facilities,

Going forward, the outreach team will continue to look for suitable candidate with disabilities who are desirous of learning a trade under of apprenticeship support program. We will also access master artisans with disabilities and support them under the grants and loans scheme.

HOME VISITS



i Home visit at Abdul at Siika

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Home visits are very much essential activities of the outreach work. The visits are the surest means of finding out about the general health and social wellbeing of our clients. In the first quarter of 2022, an average of 35 homes were visited per

month. The communities visited are under three administrative districts; Nkoranza North and South, as well as the Techiman south districts. The outreach team interacted with parents and their children to find out their challenges and collectively proffered some solutions. Some of the proposed solutions were inter-sectorial and needed referrals to be made. In the period under review, we referred some of our clients to the mental health unit for proper assessments and prescriptions due to the upscale of their seizures.

ANTIEPILEPTIC DRUGS



The distribution of antiepileptic drugs to children and young adults living with epilepsy in very poor homes, is one of the foremost interventions of the outreach project. The team members do this on monthly basis to prevent the beneficiaries from relapsing or getting into crisis situations.

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During the period under review, the team distributed 3000 tablets of carbamazepine. This include a 1000 tablets donation made to the Bosunya health facility to cater for our clients in the Fiema and Dromankumah enclave in the Nkoranza north district. The distribution in cumulative terms, cover 50 beneficiaries. The 60 tablets per month per individual beneficiary is the recommended dosage by the health practitioners we have been partnering with over the years.

LIVELIHOOD



iii Emma presenting Goats

Azumah from Beposo and Kyeradeso respectively.

The livelihood support intervention aside being a poverty reduction measure, is also intended to get the beneficiaries engaged and give them a sense of responsibility in contributing to their families. The outreach project has since its inception, supported a lot of children to undertake some income generating activities under this intervention.

In the first quarter of 2022, the team has identified and supported two children with goats. They are Godfred and

APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT



- 1. CHRISTIANA BEETO**
- 2. BOAHEMAH ELIZABETH**

The outreach team has also identified two more young adults to be supported in the 2nd quarter of the year.

In the bid to scale up our activities and touch more lives, the team introduced a set of new interventions in our 2022 annual plan of activities. One of the interventions is dubbed, **APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM**. The rationale behind this intervention is to support young adults with physical disabilities from poor families who are desirous of learning a trade. The nature of the support includes providing the tools required for the training and also paying for the cost of the training. We also, with technical support from the Business Advisory Board, a state body under the ministry of trade and industries, gave career counselling to prospective beneficiaries and their families.

During the reporting period, the outreach team successfully identified and supported two female young adults to undergo training as seamstresses. The two beneficiaries are:

DAYCARES



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The provision of daycare facilities for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities has been a cardinal part of the outreach project in the last couple of years. We currently have two of such facilities in Nkoranza and Donkro Nkwanta. The centers offer functional education and serve as safe places for parents to keep their disabled children while they go out to fend for their families. The parents are not required to pay fees neither feeding grants for the children. The children are given one hot meal each day.

The management of PCC with support from donors started a new building project at Donkro Nkwanta last year. This was after the children were evicted from a government facility that was initially used to start the daycare center. The new facility has been successfully completed and the children have started using it.

The outreach team with prior approval from the PCC board, has engaged the services of a new caretaker (**ESTER**) to support in the care of the children at Donkro Nkwanta. She is currently undergoing a two week orientation training at PCC. The outreach team also presented additional learning aids such as soft toys, building blocks, bubbles, puzzles, shading books and color pencils to the center.



Figure 6 Ester the new caregiver at Nkwanta

NEW IDENTIFICATIONS



vii. new identification at Bomene

The outreach team undertook an identification drive in the first three months of 2022 in two communities: Bomene in NKoranza north and Forikrom in the Techiman south municipality. In all, a total number of twelve clients were identified and registered. Some of the clients have multiple disabilities and others have single disability.

The outreach team has since the identification, taken steps to do individual needs assessment and intervention

plan to ensure far reaching impact on the beneficiaries.

We have assisted those with epilepsy through our free antiepileptic drugs intervention. Some of them will be included in our ongoing interventions in the second quarter of 2022.

REFERAL FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY



viii. Physiotherapy session with Inge

Many of our clients with cerebral palsy have contractures or mobility needs that require the expert attention of a physiotherapy. But due to the unavailability of physiotherapy services in the municipality and the lack of residential facilities for parents to stay and ensure their children get physiotherapy services at the Holy Family

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Hospital at Techiman, most children are left unattended to.

In view of the above scenario, the outreach team continually refer children to PCC for physiotherapy services especially when our expatriate physiotherapist (**Inge**) visited.

In the month of January 2022, seven children from different communities received expert advice and attention from Inge. Some of them were given orthopedic shoes or walkers or both.

The outreach team subsequent to the intervention, made follow ups to find out if parents adhere to the advice by taking the children through the prescribed exercises. Our findings reveal a positive trend as most of the children have improved.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS



ix public education session with pregnant women

During the period of reporting, the outreach team embarked on public education and awareness drive in a number of health centers and Community Health Planning Services (CHPS) facilities in both Nkoranza south and north districts. Some of the facilities include: Ayerede health center, Africa Libra, Salamkrom Health post, pinihini Health

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post and Sika CHPs compound.

The purpose of the education drive is to alert pregnant women and nursing mothers about some of the behavioral causes of childhood or infant disabilities so as to minimize their occurrences. We also stress on the need to delink disability and curses so as to do away with stigmatization.



x Elijah doing public education

Some of the childhood disabilities that we most often emphasize are: Cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, ADHDs and Autism.

The public education in the various health facilities and public places like churches and mosques has

largely been impactful over the years. However, to improve on our approach, we suggest that the

outreach team gets a projector to enable us project the various topic areas for the better understanding of our audiences.

ORTHOPAEDIC SUPPORT

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The outreach team in the period under review, supported the family of young Mohammed to send him to orthopedic Hospital at Duayaw Nkwanta for Plater of Paris to be done on him to correct his club foot. The child was identified in 2021 and after consultation with the PCC board and our expatriate physiotherapist, he was referred to see an orthopedic specialist.

The procedure involves the child to go through the POP for eight consecutive times. He has so far done with two and hopefully the third one will be done in a couple of weeks.

The support from outreach was mainly cash amount to pay for transportation, accommodation and feeding.

FARM PROJECT



xii Tractor ploughing farmland at Jerusalem

After the first phase of the farming project failed at Donkro Nkwanta last year, the team has made frantic effort to make the project rebound. The failure was occasioned as a result of land dispute and the lack of commitment of parents. During the first quarter of 2022, the team has been able to acquire a one-acre land at Jerusalem where the

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project has started in earnest. The team has met with parents and their wards to discuss the way forward for the project. We agreed to go into planting of maize in the interim as advised by experts. At the time of reporting, the ploughing and planting has been done.



STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT



xiii Stakeholders meeting at ICT center

In the month of February, two members of the outreach team attended a one-day stakeholders meeting organized by Inclusion Ghana for various state and non-state institutional heads. The purpose of the meeting is to foster synergy in the various activities of the institutions for the ultimate good of persons living with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their parents and caretakers.

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Some of the institutions represented include: Ghana education Service, department of Social Welfare and community Development, National Health Insurance, National commission for Civic Education, the municipal Assembly, and Parents support Groups and Ghana health Service.

At the end of the meeting, all stake holders made a firm commitment to include issues concerning persons living with IDD in their annual plans of activities and to advocate for their inclusion in all facets of our national live. The parent's groups were empowered to sponsor a representation onto the Fund management committee of the District Assembly Common Fund and to push for a percentage of the fund for their children.

CHALLENGES

- ❖ Incessant increases in the prices of food items has affected the feeding budget for the daycare centers
- ❖ Fuel prices hikes

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WAY FORWARD

The outreach team will continue to look for suitable candidates with disabilities who are desirous of learning a trade under the apprenticeship support program. We will also access master artisans with disabilities and support them under the grants and loans scheme in subsequent months.