



Newsletter 24, April 2022

Dear friends,

When looking around it seems the world is changing at an ever-rapid pace. After having had to deal with all kinds of negative side effects of two years of an unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, which, fortunately, seems to be on the wane at least for the time being, we are confronted with a faltering economy in Ghana (not only here, by the way...), which is accompanied by tremendous price increases.

Fortunately, also in 2022 life in PCC-Hand in Hand is continuing "calmly", and our residents enjoy the peace and quiet, the good care and personal attention which is given to them in our Community each and every day.

In this 24th Newsletter we would like to inform you about the things that have happened since the publication of the Newsletter of November last.

Life in Ghana and PCC

Most fortunately, not many people in Ghana fell victim to coronavirus and even fewer in PCC. However, since the start of the new year we have had to face a new and immense problem: prices in Ghana have gone through the roof. Partly because of governmental policies and partly because of the huge increase in the prices for oil and transport and the prices on the world food market. Our budget for PCC in 2022 has already fallen short, even before the new year has started off properly.

Daycare a great success!

At the start of 2021 we opened a new Daycare building in Nkoranza. In the mean time, about 20 children from

Nkoranza and its surroundings are coming to this centre. So, a great success!

Also, this year we were able to open a new Daycare building in Donkro Nkwanta, which is situated in the District. There was much positive response from parents and the clear and apparent support of the Chief and his elders of the village, which is most fortunate!



Beautiful New Daycare in Donkro Nkwanta

An extraordinary Christmas

It is good custom in Ghana to not only concern yourself with your family and relatives during Christmas, but to also take an interest in those people who are in need of some extra support, for instance the residents of our Community. Last Christmas we were flooded with the attention of not only people from our surrounding neighbourhood, but also from various other places in Ghana, like Kumasi, Accra, Sunyani, Wenchi and so on.

The manner in which PCC was thought of was overwhelming: more than once we enjoyed a terrific buffet, which had been prepared and cooked by the benefactors themselves and all our residents loved eating. On top of that, we were given many presents and gifts (more than ever before) by different groups of people and individuals, mainly large amounts of food: big bags of sugar and rice, jerrycans of baking oil, cartons full of tins of fish and also bags filled with rolls

of toilet paper, washing powder, exercise books and so on and so on.

It feels like the recognition of the importance of PCC in Ghanaian society is continuously increasing!

New resident

Since January 1st M'Afia II is a permanent resident of PCC. She had already been living in our Community on a temporary basis for some time, after she had been "dropped" by her relatives in Nkoranza a few years ago.



M'Afia II

It does not feel right if parents tell us to accept their child like this: "here you are and good luck with her...". We did try to find her parents, but without success and we did not want M'Afia II to be a victim of her circumstances. She is a darling of a young woman with special needs, though.

Visit Inge Maters and family

Since 2015 Inge Maters, our expert on physiotherapy, has been coming to PCC almost every year to support PCC with her excellent and much regarded physiotherapeutical expertise in this particular target group.

In January 2022 she and her family, consisting of her husband Frank (who is greatly contributing to our "Hospitality Policy") and their three daughters Sofie, Jasmijn and Anne, came to PCC for the third time. These young ladies have also been very supportive this year, each in their own way.

Inge is asked, apart from all kinds of practical questions about the children in PCC, for physiotherapeutical help for children who come forward via PCC Outreach, too. There is a need for both expert advice on exercise therapy for children with special needs and the availability of various medical devices like wheelchairs, braces and orthopaedical shoes.

Christening

What a ceremony: in January 2022 all 13 children, who came to PCC as new residents in the past few years, were finally baptized during a very festive service.

Because of several circumstances (e.g. coronavirus) it was 5 years ago that children had been baptized in PCC for the last time. We have amply amended for this in only one session!

Thanks to Father Enoch, pastor of our local hospital, and the various baptismal Roman Catholic rituals, it became an emotional afternoon, which we and all who were present, will not easily forget.



Surgery for Baffo

2021 appeared to be a less fortunate year for the Board of PCC although one might say eventually: "all's well that ends well".

After Jeannette had had to undergo major surgery in April 2021, it was Baffo's turn in November that same year: he had to undergo major surgery on his prostate.

The prospect filled him with dread, but there was nothing he could do about it and fortunately he came through fine. Meanwhile we are safe to say that he has recuperated well, and we are grateful for the positive outcome.



Baffo on his return in PCC

Annual Report PCC 2021

Each year we publish an Annual Report (in English) on the ups and downs of PCC during the last calendar year.

You can read the report on 2021 on our website or via the following link:
<https://operationhandinhand.nl/wp-content/uploads/2021-Annual-Report.pdf>

Annual Report PCC Outreach 2021

There is not only an annual report on PCC, but also a separate one on our Outreach work. This is most important work for the many children with special needs who are living in a very large region around Nkoranza, work which is becoming increasingly important in size and purpose.

You can also find this report on our website or via the following link:
<https://operationhandinhand.nl/wp-content/uploads/Annual-Report-2021.pdf>

Would you like to help us, too?

There goes a great deal of time and effort into the work for our charities in Ghana and The Netherlands / Europe, which is done by volunteers on things

like PR, fundraising, administration, selling jewelry and so on. Would you also like to make a contribution and/or do you have some useful skills: please, let us know!

Our email address is:
info@operationhandinhand.nl
Do not hesitate to message us by email!

Sponsoring

There are still some children for whom we are looking for a full or partly sponsoring. Please check our website, for instance at the Homepage. You can also get more information from our sponsor administrator Jeannette Klein via:
sponsors@operationhandinhand.nl or via handinhandpcc@gmail.com

Finally

So far for this Newsletter. We hope you are now fully updated again.

You can find regular updates about the weal and woe of PCC in the column "Alberts Corner" on our website:
www.handinhandcommunity.com

Cordial greetings and heartfelt thanks for your support and interest in our work, on behalf of Baffo, Joe Emma, Jeannette and all residents and employees of Hand in Hand!

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Some of our children dancing in PCC