

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**PEACE OF CHRIST -
HAND IN HAND COMMUNITY**

NKORANZA, GHANA



Email:
Website (English):
Website (Dutch):

handinhandcommunity@gmail.com
www.handinhandcommunity.com
www.operationhandinhand.nl



Hand in Hand

Community Ghana

Table of contents:

1. Summary
2. General review and developments in 2025
3. Background information + History Hand in Hand
4. Report on the Sheltered Workshop
5. Outreach programme
6. Organisation, staff and management
7. Conclusion and acknowledgment
8. Financial information

Annex 1: Financial statement 2025



1. Summary

The year 2025 was a year full of major challenges in the whole world and PCC, being part of this world, also noticed the effects of the geopolitical situation.

During the year PCC accepted 5 new residents, but we also had to face the passing away of 4 of our beloved residents. And we are happily looking forward to welcome 3 new residents in 2026, from Osu Children's Home

At the end of the year 88 children + young adults are living in the Community, 81 of them permanently, while 7 young adults - still having family in the villages - are developing their social and practical skills in the Sheltered Workshop.

There are about 60 workers in our Ghanaian staff, with 30+ caregivers in PCC and 30 others, including 9 caregivers working in the Daycares in the District. They all contribute to the good functioning of PCC by creating a safe, loving and caring environment for our residents in PCC as well as for all Outreach clients.

The PCC Outreach Programme, aimed to inform, advise and support children with intellectual disabilities and their parents in all the villages of Nkoranza North + South Districts as well as the Techiman South District continued very well in 2025, by offering all kind of special services, including Daycare facilities. Nowadays a total number of about 120 children with disabilities is benefitting from the services of PCC Outreach.

In 2025, like in previous years, we welcomed visitors to our Community. Still the total number of visitors is lower than before 2020 / corona, not only in PCC, but all over Ghana. The same applies to the number of volunteers coming to PCC.

Ghana is gradually recovering from its huge economic problems in the years 2022 – 2024. A new President and Government started in 2025 and they managed to bring the rising prices and the huge inflation in Ghana down. Well done! Also the exchange rate of the Cedi to the USD and the Euro improved (from Ghanaian point of view) during the year 2025.

Our Peace of Christ Foundation was able to run the Community in Nkoranza quite well during this year. Our income still mainly comes from contributions from sponsors and donors Overseas. This covered almost 85% of our running costs in 2025, while we were able to generate about 15% of the needed funds as Local Income.

In 2025 we started an operation called "Project 2027", that aims to strengthen the Board, the Management team and the Outreach team of PCC between 2025 and 2027, to enable PCC to continue functioning well on the long term with more responsibilities on Ghanaian shoulders.

At the same time our partner in Holland, the Foundation Hand in Hand, is preparing important changes in tasks and responsibilities for the so-called Network in 2027.

What started in 1992 as a small seed has grown over the years into a wonderful place full of peace, love and care for many intellectually and multiple disabled abandoned children. We are happy that also during the year 2025 our children could benefit from living in this Community, which is very much their own peaceful place on earth.

We are grateful to God for all His blessings showered upon PCC in 2025, as well as to all our sponsors, donors and workers who supported us in a wonderful way, helping us to maintain and even improve the care in PCC, still a unique and loving Community.

On behalf of the Board of PCC Ghana,
Albert van Galen, M.D.
General Director PCC – Hand in Hand Community

2. General review and developments 2025

General

After some difficult years, first because of the corona pandemic and later because of the serious economic problems in Ghana, the year 2025 was more quiet, but nevertheless a year full of interesting and important events in and for our Community.

Whatever events popped up, we still feel very happy being able to offer a safe home and proper care in a loving environment to all PCC residents and workshop children.

Almost all children seem to appreciate living in PCC, looking to their smiles. Most of them are happy and healthy, of course depending on their character, disability and nature.

For the whole year Mr. Emmanuel Amponsah Daasebre was the Ghanaian Director of PCC. He is assisted by a so-called Support Group, most of them young caregivers with the potential to take up important and special tasks in our Community in the future. The Board of PCC has now 3 members (Joe Emma, Albert and Jeannette) and is also supported by a so-called Network of 4 experts via the Dutch Foundation Hand in Hand!

Nowadays Outreach has become an important part of the work of our foundation. The Outreach programme includes a lot of special activities, including 4 Daycare centres in various places in the District, all operating and flourishing under the umbrella of PCC.

Residents

In 2025 5 new residents (Simon PK, Naomi, King Saul, Isajah and Patience) came to PCC. The first three came from Osu Children's Home, Isajah came from Kumasi Children's Home and Patience came from the North of Ghana.

Very unfortunately we also lost 4 of our residents during 2025: Peter, Hannah, Kofi Asare and Pakor. Their passing away made us very sad, it shocked our Community. Especially the death of our Music Master *Kofi Asare* was a big blow to our Community. May they all rest in Gods perfect peace.



Kofi Asare

In 2025 also 5 young adults came to PCC to join the young adults in the Sheltered Workshop for a period of some years, to improve their practical and social skills. They are Rose, Akwasi, Eric, Blessing and her brother Rocky.

By the end of 2025 PCC was caring for a total number of 81 + 7 children, that means 81 permanent residents and 7 young adults who are active in the sheltered workshop.

Outside PCC we actively support the care for about 120 children with disabilities in the villages of the surrounding Districts through our PCC Outreach Programme!

It remains wonderful to see how children, rejected and abandoned elsewhere in Ghana, are now able to grow and enjoy life very well here. They actually feel at home in our Community, where they can live together with many comparable children.

In fact, this is their own home, PCC is their Community where they can and will stay and with that philosophy in mind everyone tries to care for them in the best possible way.

Important developments in PCC during 2025

So much happened during the past year, but some important developments in 2025 are worth mentioning:

- We are very happy and grateful to have received 30 specific children's assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, walkers, standing frames, and walking aids, along with a large shipment of adapted footwear. These items were recently shipped from the Netherlands and Germany to Ghana, thanks to our tireless physiotherapy expert, Inge Maters. A huge boost for our physiotherapy capabilities!
- We were able to acquire a nice plot of land in the village Kyeradeso. This will enable us to construct a complete new Daycare in that town in 2026.



Up till now we are running a Daycare over there in a temporary building, a old school classroom, not used for some time and renovated by PCC.

Our foundation is now running 4 Daycare Centres, what a great development! In each centre every day about 10 – 14 children are welcomed, showing that we are able to offer good care to more and more disabled children also outside our PCC Community in Nkoranza.

- PCC was well able to cope with the fast rising prices and high inflation in Ghana

and we were happy that this difficult situation gradually stabilized in 2025. However, a side-effect of the improving economic situation in Ghana affected PCC, as the exchange rate of the Cedi reduced by about 20%, with the result that the Dutch Foundation Hand in Hand needed to transfer more Euro's to donate the same amount in Cedi's to PCC. Good for Ghana, but a problem for the PCC foundation in Ghana and the Hand in Hand foundation in Holland.

- The special Network, created in 2021 to strengthen the ties between PCC and the Dutch Foundation Hand in Hand, becomes stronger and stronger. Inge Maters, Sofanne Ravensbergen and Jeannette Klein all supported PCC during the year and contributed a lot to PCC in many different ways. By the end of 2025 even a 4th member, Herma Dorresteyjn, joined the Network team! It shows the strong connection between the PCC family in Holland and in Ghana!

- Few things are so strong that they can withstand the ravages of time and we can notice this happening in PCC as well.

This applies e.g. to the hundreds of meters of brick walls surrounding the entire PCC site. This wall was built decades ago and is now weathered in many places. Parts of it regularly collapse, especially after stormy and rainy weather. That's why we're planning a major renovation for our walls in 2026, to stop the walls from tumbling down, like the Biblical walls of Jericho once did.

- The walking paths in our Community are used intensively every day, not just during the daily morning walks, but also for chalk drawings and many other play activities. They are truly the lifelines of PCC! Unfortunately, over



the years, these paths had become severely damaged due to weathering, heavy traffic with building materials and roots of the trees.

But thanks to the result of a special fundraising campaign by the Emmaüs Church Congregation in Bodegraven, Holland, we've been able to repair all paths. We are very grateful to our loyal friends and supporters in Bodegraven!



- Yes, walls and paths are collapsing, and also overhead water tanks can't last forever.

Our large water tank was leaking more and more, but thanks to a generous donation and lots of efforts, it has been replaced with *a robust new water tank*.

- Two of our residents, Emmanuella and Stephen, are working hard every day while going to the Senior High School. Emmanuella goes to the SHS in Nkoranza and Stephen to the Technical SHS in Tuobodom.

In May/June 2026 both of them will complete SHS with their final examinations. A wonderful performance!

- Joe Emma, since 2024 the Director of PCC in Ghana, is supported by a so-called Support Group, to reduce the heavy burden on his shoulders. During the year 2025 2 members of the original Support Group of 6 left, while Emma Boyan from Outreach and Sheltered Workshop, joined the Support Group-team. That team now has 4 members, all active in PCC and giving their best to the welfare of PCC and all residents.

- In the past year we started with a counselling programme for our residents as well as for our caregivers, to help them understanding the human / physical needs and feelings of our residents and how to deal with it best. We were able to get the support of a very experienced counsellor James, who comes every Sunday from Techiman to Nkoranza to teach and advice our residents and caregivers on this issue. We are happy to notice that everyone is happy with his counselling.

- In 2025 we were able to complete the job that started and was funded by G8 in 2024.

By then G8 came to PCC for the construction of a *new Dormitory* for our young female residents, who gradually have grown up to young adults in PCC. In this house, they can live in a more semi-independent way.

This Dormitory got the beautiful name BERNARD HOUSE, to honour Mr. Bernard Meier, the motor behind the G8 group for already 18 years.



The big new Dormitory Bernard House

Caregivers and other workers

During 2025 10 new Ghanaian caregivers came to join our team in PCC, to replace 7 caregivers who left PCC during the year.

At 31st December 2025 there were 35 caregivers in PCC as well as 9 in the Outreach Daycares.

The total of PCC workers (including Outreach) is now more than 60. All of them are supporting the proper functioning of our Community!

One can conclude that over the years PCC has become quite a big organisation and an important local employer!

The caregivers are caring for our permanent residents as well as for the semi-permanent young adults in the sheltered workshop.

In October 2025 we organised for the **10th time** a special *Caregivers Day* in PCC, a Jubilee! This is to show our appreciation for the good work done during the year by our caregivers, when they are caring for all PCC children.

All workers also enjoyed a nice financial token of our appreciation.

It was a wonderful day and once again a great success.



Agreement with the Dutch Hand in Hand foundation

In 2017 the Board of PCC renewed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Dutch Hand in Hand foundation. The MoU was first signed in 2012.

The purpose of the cooperation between PCC and HIH is to guarantee the best possible care for all disabled children and young adults living in PCC, to get the necessary financial support for PCC, to create a continuous and stimulating exchange of expertise and ideas to support the PCC Board with Management and Administration and to develop an adequate long term policy in order to ensure good quality care in PCC for many years. This agreement guarantees the very important long term support for PCC!

Already for many years PCC receives the major part of its foreign donations for running PCC through the Dutch Hand in Hand foundation. The Dutch foundation also gets financial support from the English charitable support organisation Hand in Hand UK, from the German organisation Ananse and also from some other foundations.

Visitors

Also in 2025 we welcomed visitors to our Community, though the total number is still not the same as before the corona years, also due to more feelings of "shame for flying" with people in Europe.

Still the net income from the Guesthouses and Restaurant were about the same as in 2024.

However, the income from the Shop, where products from our Sheltered Workshop are sold, was 35% lower than in 2024.

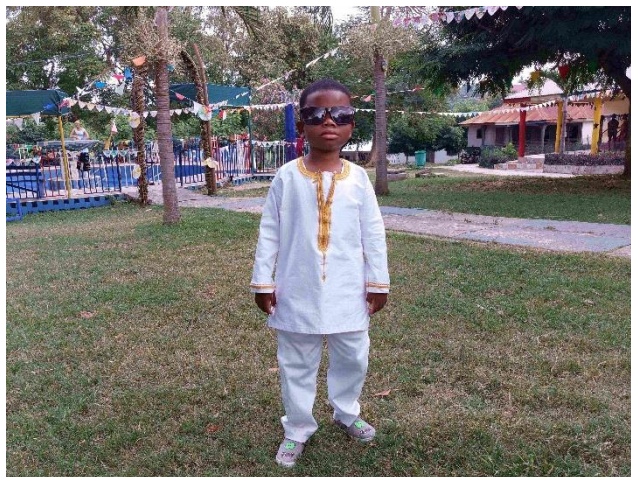
3. Background information about the “Hand in Hand Community”

In the rural areas of Ghana intellectually disabled children are sometimes still referred to as “water-children”. Local tradition claims that these children are born as a result of a woman being raped by a water-spirit. Water spirits, real or not, are thus causing havoc in people’s lives and the water-children, being half spirits and half human, are much feared. In the traditional way the disabled child is put back along the riverside where these spirits are staying. At night the spirits then submerge and take the children “back home” to the depth of the river. Luckily these traditional concepts are gradually changing.

In Nkoranza the presence of our many special children has already caused a sustained positive change.

In the beginning we had a real problem finding caregivers who could rise above the fears and family pressures of the local community and have enough courage to live with our kids.

Now, 33 years later, our caregivers form a loving and stable team and in general we have no problems anymore in finding new caregivers! We even employed 10 new caregivers in 2025!



One of the 2025 new residents, Isaiah

Apart from the dangerous traditional belief-systems, the parents have to cope with the universally experienced feelings of agony when faced with getting a disabled child. It is not surprising therefore that some of these children are abandoned somewhere, starved or hidden away in small rooms and sheds, while others are laid abandoned in public places in the hope that someone may find them and keep them alive. It is for abandoned children like these that PCC offers a warm and loving home and started the Outreach Program some years ago.

Most of the children came to PCC on transfer from a Governmental Children’s Home, e.g. from Accra or Kumasi and in good co-operation with Social Welfare Ghana.

That is where most abandoned foundlings are brought to if they are lucky enough to survive. Apart from that we sometimes accept new children seen by our Outreach team or on request of the local or regional Department of Social Welfare, or from private orphanages and even hospitals from all over Ghana.

History

Our community started in 1992 through an initiative of four health-workers. Dr. Ineke Bosman was the driving force behind the foundation and without her the Community would not have emerged and developed to what it is nowadays, a Community with an unique and appealing atmosphere.

Our premises are large, 24 acres of hilly land with a lovely natural setting. The land is beautiful with natural sources and awesome rock-formations.



The Sheltered workshop was realized in 2004 and expanded later. There is also a special room for care for autistic children and next to it is a special House of Silence for children preferring a very quiet and peaceful environment.



Esther and Jerry Ema

Our special Summer School started in 2010 and is active during the year for some groups of our children, like *Esther and Jerry Ema*. This work is done by caregivers who received a special in-service training.

Caregivers are living like parents with some of the PCC children. They sleep together, play together, bath the children and eat with them.

The caregivers also have general assignments in the groups, such as running daycare, cooking, autism room, classes, supervising the swimming-hour, etc.

Emphasis is laid on warmth, making fun and showing love.

We loyally adhere to a precise daily routine so that the children may feel safe. A good and predictable structure is a very important cornerstone of our Community.

Highlight of the daily schedule is the 4 PM swimming-time, where the children bath, exercise and have fun with the water. This "pool-happening" is also the beginning of the end of the day. Afterwards kids and caregivers will eat together and then retreat to watch TV or nice movies or go to their house. At 8 PM all are quiet and go asleep.

Since 2015 PCC is also running an steadily growing Outreach Program, aimed to support disabled children and their parents in the villages and to raise public awareness about the situation of disabled children in the Ghanaian Society. You can read more about our Outreach Programme further on in this Report.

4. PCC Sheltered Workshop Annual Report 2025

There are several divisions in the sheltered workshop and are all functioning very well under Mr. Emmanuel Boyan, the workshop coordinator who combines two functions in PCC as he is also the PCC expert for the Outreach Programme.



Akéte in the physio

Beads hall

In this hall most of our young adults are working. In general these children are very happy and communicate well with the supervising caregivers. The production of necklaces, key- holders, bracelets, hip strings and ankle bracelets has become their hobby.

Weaving Department.

In the Weaving Hall some young adults are having a good time every day with Kente weaving, creating beautiful materials for producing nice bags, purses and scarfs.

Sewing Department

This sector helps the workshop to generate extra income for PCC by producing a wide variety of products, including various types of bags, aprons, placemats, purses and picnic cloths. These products are very much appreciated by the visitors of our PCC shop as well as by clients overseas.



Enjoying the Sheltered Workshop

Autism Table

The Autistic children are enjoying their light and airy place. Caregivers have been trained and nowadays do understand more of the situation of autistic children. We try as much as possible to do things that interest them, including colouring and drawing, playing with water, painting on papers and walls, playing with sand, dancing and drumming.

At the end of 2025 12 children are gathering every day around the Autism Table.

House of Silence

In the House of Silence about 10 of our young adults from the workshop are spending a good time every day again in a very quiet and relaxing atmosphere.

5. PCC Outreach Project

In 2015 PCC started with the Outreach Programme in the Nkoranza Districts to uplift the social conditions for many children with intellectual or multiple disabilities and epilepsy, living in the numerous villages of the Districts.

PCC is not able to accept all intellectually disabled children from Ghana as residents, so we feel it's important that we are able to advise and support parents when they try to cope with the difficult situation at home.

The aim of the Outreach Programme is to support children living with intellectual disabilities by using a community based approach. We also try to create public awareness about the rights of the children and change negative perceptions that people might have.

Some important activities are: advocacy via FM radio and during visits to the villages, formation of Parent Support Groups, starting Day Care Centers in the villages, giving anti-epileptic drugs to epileptic children (who were not receiving any treatment) or support children via the livelihood program to become economically more independent.

An important target for Outreach is trying to establish some Daycare Centres in the District, centres supported by the chiefs and elders, the District Assembly and the parents of the disabled children from these villages.

The work of the PCC Outreach Programme has become more and more substantial over the years.

In 2025 we were very pleased we could open 2 new Daycare Centres! Now 4 of these Centres are in full operation every working day, to support many disabled children and their parents in the surrounding Districts.

On our PCC website there is a special page for all information about our PCC Outreach Programme. You will find there more information as well as Quarterly and Annual Reports on PCC Outreach.

6. About organisation, staff and management

Since 2010 the **Board of PCC / Hand in Hand** always had 4 members, but after almost 15 years we noticed a big change, as Mr. Samule Baffo retired in September 2024.

After his retirement the PCC Board continues with 3 members:

Dr. Albert Van Galen, chairman and General Director,

Mr. Emma Daasebre Amponsah, Director and

Mrs Jeannette van Galen, Education Director + supervisor of the workshop.

The PCC Board is also supported by an Advisory Person:
Mr. Daniel Opoku (auditor in Accra).



The aim of PCC - Hand in Hand is to give integral care to abandoned and intellectually disabled children from all over Ghana. The style is open and family like. Children live in small groups of two or three with a caregiver, who is acting as an alternative mother or father figure for these kids. Attendance to school, rehabilitation, medical care, therapy, joint meals, joint siestas and of course music and play are all part of the daily program.

The caregivers who live and work with the children receive a monthly allowance as well as free boarding and lodging with the children they are caring for.

The workshop has a part-time coordinator, Mr. Emmanuel Boyan , who is responsible for all activities in the workshop as well as for the performance of the PCC Outreach team.

The guesthouses + restaurant are 2 special parts of PCC. Our hostesses plus cleaners are supporting this part of PCC.

The "Araba memorial Internet café" is a small, separate PCC department.

7. Acknowledgment

We are very grateful to our staff members and caregivers, our many friends and supporters and to all our sponsors and donors. Without their great efforts, dedicated work and appreciated support we could not continue functioning as we are now doing for already more than 30 years! They all tried their best during the year 2025!

It is our belief that we are involved in a vision and a commitment larger than each of us individually and all of us together. We believe that the Spirit of God and the Peace of Christ are at the heart of it. This may also explain the joy and peace that many people, including our visitors, often experience when coming to our Community.

Looking back to 2025 we therefore can't say nothing else but:

Thanks to the Almighty God, who blessed our Community for another year in a wonderful way.

As people say in Ghana: Onyame Bekyere = God will provide!

8. Financial information

TOTAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURES 2025

PCC/Hand in Hand works without government aid, so the money for running PCC and for new investments comes mainly from donations and sponsorships from outside Ghana.

INCOME

- Total Regular Income Cedi 2.397.527
- Extra Income received for constructions, projects etc. Cedi 205.577

----- +
Cedi **2.603.104**

This makes a **Total Income** of Cedi:

EXPENDITURES

- Expenditures within Budget in 2025 was up to: Cedi 2.082.847
- Other Expenditures, mainly for Building activities and other extra-budgetary projects were up to: Cedi 357.714

----- +
Cedi **2.440.561**

So the **Total Expenditures** were Cedi:

The year 2025 ended with a Total Balance (ADB + GCB) of Cedi 568.525
and started with an Opening Balance (ADB + GCB) of Cedi 465.434

----- -/-
Cedi 103.091

that means that PCC had a surplus in 2025 of:



Happy M'afia

Surplus on Friendship Houses and Restaurant 2025

The surplus on the FH and Restaurant in Ghana in 2025: Cedi 58.280

The amount due in Ghana, but paid Overseas: Cedi 95.293

So the **gross result** of FH plus Restaurant in 2025 is: Cedi 153.573

However, the result on the FH bank account was **-/- 48.822**

Cedi 104. 751

so the net profit was about the same as 2024:

Income Sheltered Workshop 2025

The net profit from sales in Ghana for Sheltered Workshop: Cedi 10.000
(NB: The result on the SW bank account was Cedi -/-2.610)

The amount of products bought in Ghana, but paid Overseas: Cedi 41.785
(This includes sales to HIH foundation in Holland: Cedi 32.785)

So the Result of the Sheltered Workshop in 2025 is: **Cedi 51.785**
NB: This is 35% lower than in 2024, mainly due to less buying visitors.

Annex 1: Financial statement PCC for the year 2025

Balance at ADB Bank 01/01/2025:	335.708
+ Balance at GCB Bank 01/01/2025:	129.726

Total at Bank as per <u>01/01/2025</u> :	465.434
---	----------------

Income

Donations from HIH Holland	1.813.137
Donations from HIH for Outreach	148.396
Extra donations HIH	41.590
Friendship houses	153.573
ICT Department	45.000
Sheltered Workshop	51.785
Local donations	133.484
Other Income	10.562

	2.397.527

Transfer for constructions	119.747
Transfer for Projects	10.000
Overseas payments	61.135
Refund of special loans	14.695

TOTAL INCOME	2.603.104
---------------------	------------------

Expenditures

Allowances General	563.846
Allowances Outreach	68.901
OALB + Bonus	55.660
Costs of Feeding, Gas + Parties	621.052
Repair General, houses and car	117.961
Electricity	96.212
Personal needs	188.328
T&T	25.307
Medical	115.205
Accountant + legal	15.255
Bank charges + unforeseen	1.722
Others	66.534
Outreach	146.864

	2.082.847

FH + ICT costs via ADB	30.117
Constructions	145.895
Projects	91.500
Overseas payments	79.752
Special loans & donations	10.450

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2.440.561
---------------------------	------------------

Total at ADB and GCB as per <u>31/12/2025</u> :	568.525
--	----------------