# HOME FOR HOPE



Newsletter 2023



In this edition you find:

News & Successes Plans & Goals Income & Expenses Words from heart

## ENJOY Reading!



www.home-for-hope.de



### The 2023 project year & the 12th Ghana trip

18.11.23 - 25.11.23

Newsletter 2023

# Of (your) donations that change the lives of our children and youth to a record-breaking 2023

#### News and successes

#### Home for Hope Preparatory School

- The new principal is Mr. Francis Arthur since 9/23; we employ 20 teachers as of 12/23, 2 new teachers joined in 1/24; we have increased all salaries by 20% due to inflation; 250 students attend grades Kindergarten 1 Grade 9; the ICT Center and the library, which we opened in 2022, are in active use.
- A great success: the new, larger school bus was financed by Ein Herz für Kinder and is in operation; our old school bus remains in use for errands, but needs to be repaired.
- The second big success: The Health Center, financed by the Helping People Foundation and the Charity Circle, was opened during the Ghana trip in 2023. The greatest thing: one of our "children", who has now completed her training as a pharmacist financed by us, will be employed in our Health Center from 1/24! So the circle is complete.
- And here is the third major success: our school was once again voted the best of 8 schools in the region!

#### Home for Hope orphanage

- There are currently 30 children and young people living permanently in the project, whose living costs we cover in full as usual; two educators look after everyone 24/7, cooking, washing, etc. their children can of course also live with us in the project.
- Even though our village is very safe, we have had surveillance cameras installed on the project site to offer our children and young people the greatest possible protection. The extension of the wall around the site will provide additional protection.

#### The Ghana trip 2023

As always, it was an exhausting but great time on site in the project. The festive surprise welcome ceremony, which the whole school had rehearsed for us, was particularly special for us this year. Caro and Lari had a few tears of joy! In addition, all the young people who are currently in their secondary education were on vacation and on a home visit to the project, and so we were able to sit down with each of the 10 and discuss/plan/agree on their future (see next chapter for results). As always, our schedules were packed with further meetings with our staff, other villagers and solar companies. But despite all the appointments, we also found time for what is very important to us as a project team: time together, in which we continue to discover Ghanaian culture together. John took us to his orange plantation and told us a lot about the effects of climate change on the region and his role in the project (see episode 1 of "Home for Hope meets..."). We also agreed to accompany John to his church community for worship on Sunday morning - and had quite a dance with the worshippers there! As always, you can find photos and more information about this trip on our homepage under THE PROJECT >> OUR GHANA TRIPS and <u>here</u>.

#### Secondary education for our young people

And here we come to what we believe will be the greatest success of 2023: The young people we have known for over 10 years, and have completely funded their further education since they graduated from high school, are doing well! We can only say: your donations are changing the lives of young people in Ghana who, without you, would hardly have had a chance of secondary education and thus an independent future. 8 young people are currently undergoing training, e.g. as tailors, glaziers or bus drivers, and one young person, Jessica, is even in her first semester at university in Cape Coast to study linguistics - you can find an interview with Jessica on our homepage. Incidentally, one year of education or university costs the equivalent of around €1,000 per young person. In 2024, we will even be able to send two more of our young people to university: Their final grades from high school are so good that we can fulfill Dominic's dream, for example, and he can study medicine! We are very proud.

#### Foundation work & cooperations

 Our 2022 annual financial statements were again accepted by the Fürth tax office in 2023 without objection, so we are still a non-profit organization. As transparency is very important to us, you can find the entire JAB on our homepage under ABOUT US and linked <u>here.</u>

- In 2023, we once again had numerous **donation receipts** sent out by DT Deutsche Stiftungstreuhand, which has provided us with administrative support for the foundation's work from the very beginning. *Remember: you only need donation receipts for your tax return if you donate €300 or more.*
- We have become part of the **Transparent Civil Society Initiative** (more on this on our homepage under TRANSPARENCY).
- We had another great **cooperation with Reinhold Würth University in Künzelsau**. For one semester, students on the Business Administration and Social Management and Business Administration, Marketing and Media Management 6th semester courses at the Künzelsau campus used our foundation as a practical project, and they developed great, innovative concepts for our public relations work (you can see the redesign of our newsletter here as a first result).

#### Public relations and fundraising

Social Media

- We have launched a new series "Home for Hope meets...". In the first episode you get to know John you can find more on facebook and instagram!
- We now have over 400 followers on **instagram** and over 1,000 on **facebook**; since this year, we are also represented on **LinkedIn** under "Stiftung Home for Hope" feel free to follow us there! Here we post many overarching topics, e.g. on the topics of development cooperation and sustainability.

Further media & campaigns

- These **campaigns** went down best with you: The <u>digital Advent calendar 2023</u> and the <u>Christmas campaign "Spende</u> <u>schenken"</u> (will therefore be available again this year in the run-up to Christmas :-))
- There was a new newspaper article about us in November 2023 read it here and on our homepage under "Media".
- The Musikverein, the Frauenbund and the Catholic parish of Westhausen, among others, have donated the proceeds from concerts, used clothing collections and other events to us.

#### Plans and goals

#### School & Education

We are planning a kindergarten and a training center so that we can offer a full range of education in our project.

#### Sustainability and climate change

We have added this section to our newsletter. The background to this is that we as a project also want to contribute to climate protection and the sustainable use of resources, in addition to our major goal of quality education. For example, we are planning to use traditional knowledge in Ghana to produce and sell soap from the remains of cocoa pods. We also want to install solar energy in the project.

#### **Events and cooperations**

This year we are planning to set up a school partnership with a German school, in February we have a fundraising event with the first division soccer team FC Heidenheim, and we would like to cooperate with the University of Künzelsau again. If you have any ideas or would like to organize events yourself: We are open to anything, just get in touch!

#### Income and expenses



2023 is clearly a record year - we recorded 389 account movements, of which 348 items alone were under income and 40 under expenditure. With € 92,292, 2023 was by far the most successful donation year in our history! This is due to the great old and new permanent donors who donate a fixed amount every month by standing order. But it is also due to the numerous individual donations we have received and some corporate donations that have reached us.

And in 2023, some larger amounts were added through funding applications, e.g. to Ein Herz für Kinder and the Helping People

Foundation. We are very, very grateful for your support!

But we also made a splash on **the expenditure side** and were able to implement many more activities in 2023 than usual - we spent almost **€ 80,000** on this. We are extremely proud of ourselves and our work, for which we (gladly) give up a lot of our free time, and the team in Ghana!

#### Words from heart

We, Caro and Lari, would like to thank you once again. We know that with so many trouble spots in the world at the moment, it is becoming increasingly difficult to decide where to donate. However, we would like to let you know once again that every euro goes directly to the project in rural Ghana and that by donating to us you know directly what your money is being used for - that

still makes us relatively special. If you have any questions, we will always make time for you.



#### Appendix

#### Movie and media tips

Movies, documentaries, series, podcasts
Knowledge:
Get to know the country:

ARTE documentary: Ghana from above (you can find it for free in the ARTE media library)
Understanding global connections with Ghana:

ARD-Podcast: Chocolate without exploitation - Ghana wants to enforce fair cocoa prices (free in the ARD Audiothek)
BBC podcast (in English): Why is Ghana 'swimming in trash'? (free of charge in the BBC audio library)

Entertainment:
Get to know the upper class of the glittering metropolis of Accra:

- YouTube series "An African City"

Best of Ghanaian literature 2023 (from our point of view):

- Peace Adzo Medie - Nightbloom and His Only Wife

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