

HOME FOR HOPE



Newsletter 2024



In this edition you find:

NEWS & SUCCESSES
PLANS & FOCUS ON EDUCATION
REVENUES & COOPERATIONS
CORDIAL GREETINGS FROM GHANA & GERMANY

ENJOY READING!

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The 2024 project year & the 13th Ghana trip

09.11.24 - 18.11.24

Newsletter 2024

Looking back on an exciting year 2024

News and successes

Home for Hope Preparatory School

- The **principal** is still Mr. Francis Arthur; we **also** employ **19 teachers** as of 12/24; we have increased all salaries by 10%; 250 pupils attend grades Kindergarten 1 - Grade 9; the **ICT Center** and the library, which we opened in 2022, are in active use, all 10 PCs had to be updated to Windows, the **school drums** purchased in 2024 are important for the culture and are used daily
- The new, larger **school bus** purchased in 2023 (donated by "Ein Herz für Kinder") is still in operation; our old school bus has been completely renovated and is used for errands and can be rented, thus serving as a source of income to cover the fuel costs and costs for the driver of both buses
- The school strongly incorporates the **opinions of teachers and parents**; there are various forums where they can express themselves and be heard
- Since 2024, all Ghanaian schools have been subject to a **new education plan**: Our teachers implemented it well and the children's results were again among the best in the whole district
- A **new school year** has started in 2024 (for us, that means getting 1,500 new exercise books, 800 pens, etc.), and there was a big graduation ceremony to mark the end of the old school year: read about both [here](#) and [here](#) on our homepage!
- **The school's 10th anniversary** is to be celebrated in 2026, and initial preparations are already underway
- The **Health Center** (donated by the Helping People Foundation and the Charity Circle) is still in its infancy. The first planned campaigns are focused on health and hygiene; the center was also equipped with all the necessary medicines in 2024

What is still needed / what we will use your donations for in 2025: Material and textbooks, more PCs, construction of another building, sports equipment, medication, costs of medical checks, especially for the dental health of the school children

Home for Hope orphanage

- There are currently 25 children and young people living permanently in the project, whose **living costs** we cover in full as usual; three educators look after everyone 24/7, cooking, washing, etc.
- 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, which are monitored by John

What is still needed / what we will use your donations for in 2025: 4 more surveillance cameras, extension of the wall around the site, renovation of roofs, food, hygiene articles, beds and mosquito nets for the children living in the project

The Ghana trip 2024

As always, it was an exhausting but great time on site in the project, which Caro embarked on with her mother; Lari will be back in 2025. The special thing about this trip was that the school was closed because it was **sports week** and there were no lessons. We were therefore able to take a good look at the empty rooms and have **in-depth conversations** with the principal and the school secretary. They told us about the previous school year, explained what went well and what went badly and together we were able to look at how everyday school life could be improved. We also spent a lot of time on the sports field and cheered on our school in athletics, volleyball and soccer.

Many 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 18 and discuss/plan/agree on their future (see next chapter for results).

Further meetings took place with the **solar company** that provided us with solar panels in 2024 and the **builders** of the school buildings. 4 more solar panels were commissioned, as well as 4 large and bright street lights to make the grounds safer. We also had a traditional day at the **market in Agona Swedru**, where we bought numerous sacks of food, medicines and hygiene

products, which we transported back to Gomoa Tarkwa in our own bus. 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 showed us a cocoa plantation took us to his church and in the evenings we danced and played with the children. As always, you can find photos and further information about this trip, as well as about previous trips, on our homepage under [THE PROJECT >> OUR GHANA TRIPS](#).

Secondary education for our young people

And here we come to what we consider to be the most important topic in 2024, which will also be our focus in the coming years: **The further vocational and university education of our young people**, whom we have known for over 10 years and whom we continue to accompany on their educational path. With your donations, we can change the lives of young people in Ghana who, without you, would hardly have a chance of secondary education and thus an independent future!

15 young people are currently in or about to start training, e.g. as electricians, glaziers, carpenters or nurses, and some are studying, e.g. medicine, journalism or business administration. We think it's great that HfH shared flats are already being formed and that our young people continue to live together! There are plans for 5 more children to train or study from 2025. However, they are still waiting for their grades and have to apply. Incidentally, a year of training or university costs the equivalent of around €1,000 per young person. That's a lot, but we want to promote the children's talent, commitment and hard work and give them a secure future

And four of our young people, whom we have fully supported financially, have successfully completed their training and are no longer financially dependent on us - a huge success for our project!

What is still needed / what we will use your donations for in 2025: Funds for rent for the young people's residential buildings, food, university/training fees and tools for the training/university

Foundation work

- Our **2023 annual financial statements** were again accepted by the Fürth tax office in 2024 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 [here](#)
- In 2024, 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 for donations of €300 or more*
- We continue to be part of the **Transparent Initiative**

Public relations and fundraising

Social Media

- 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 [digital Advent calendar 2024](#) and the [Christmas campaign 2024 "Give the gift of education"](#) (both will therefore be available again this year in the run-up to Christmas :-))
- The Musikverein, the Frauenbund and the Catholic parish of Westhausen, among others, donated the proceeds from concerts, old clothes collections and other events to us, raising €3,000. This was even reported in the local press - read more [here!](#)
- We have had a number of **fundraising campaigns** organized by you for us - this is great support for us! For example, donations were collected for us at birthday parties - we have listed what else you can do for us [here](#)

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 main goal of quality education. For example, we have expanded solar energy in the project and continue to try new ways to make the project more sustainable. Feel free to contact us if you have any ideas or tips!

Events and cooperations

- We finally have a **German partner school**, the Karl-Kisters-Realschule in Kleve (KKRS)! This partnership came about thanks to a dedicated teacher and HfH fan, Evelyn. KKRS now has its own HfH club, there will be e-mail friendships between schoolchildren from KKRS and our schoolchildren, and KKRS raises funds through various charity events, which we in turn use for our school operations - for example, almost €1,800 was donated to us at a cake sale at KKRS! We are sure that this school partnership will bring the worlds of German and Ghanaian schoolchildren closer together and thus contribute to a good global education. Read more [here!](#)
- In February 2024, we took in an incredible fundraising campaign at a home game of **FC Heidenheim**. Caro and Lari were able to introduce Home for Hope and our work to the entire stadium during the half-time break - and fans were able to donate their cup deposit to us afterwards. A sensational €1,200 was raised! We would like to thank our loyal supporter Tati and our team of volunteers who helped us so energetically in the stadium that day! HfH simply lives from our network of great people. Read more about this campaign [here](#)
- We want to cooperate with the university in Osnabrück for the first time this year, as it worked out so well with their students at the RHW University in Künzelsau in 2023

Revenue

2024 was a very good year for us financially - we have a full 367 items under income in our account. With **40,735 €**, 2024 was a very successful year for donations! 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. With you, we were able to more than cover our fixed costs of around € 20,000 (mainly for the salaries of our employees in Ghana and costs for secondary education) and other individual costs in 2024. We will report on our expenses in more detail as soon as we have the figures from the 2024 annual financial statements. However, as all our work in Germany continues to be done on a voluntary basis, we can still assure you that almost 97 cents of every euro you donate will actually go to the project, i.e. to education for children and young people in Ghana. Hardly any other NGO can achieve this!

Words of the 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. This time, we would also like to pass on a few words from our local project manager, John, and his assistant, Bright: For them, the most important things in 2024 were the salary increases, the solar energy and the constant use of the computer lab. And, of course, they just want to thank you from the bottom of their hearts.

Your Caro & Lari



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