

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

For Projects Abroad Ghana



What a year!



ProjectsAbroad

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Highlights of 2014

Human Rights Project

The Projects Abroad Human Rights Office embarked on several outreaches to spread the human rights message to children, students, slum dwellers and women. Key among these outreaches are the women's empowerment trainings in Abokobi; child rights and domestic violence education with Muslim girls in Nima; suspect rights education in Ghana's biggest slum, Old Fadama; and child prostitution research in Teshie. One unique programme that volunteers conducted was with the Human Trafficking Unit of the Ghana Immigration Service in Winneba in July which made it possible for volunteers to train health workers and security personnel in the municipality.



Medical Project

Our medical projects were active with volunteers in Kumasi, Accra, Cape Coast, Winneba, Koforidua and the Akuapem Hills. Volunteers worked in different hospitals and embarked on several medical outreaches to schools, orphanages and communities where they treated wounds, ringworms and malaria among others. In the hospital, many medical volunteers worked at the labour and maternity wards, theatres as well as laboratories and pharmacies. Other volunteers in Accra worked at the Fevers Unit of the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital nursing persons suffering from AIDS.

Microfinance Project

Our Microfinance Project set up community owned projects in rural communities in Koforidua. The projects – Obuotumpan Soap Factory, Salom Poultry and Salom Detergents – were set up by volunteers who, with the help of local experts, trained the community to produce soap and rear poultry. Aside these, the volunteers disbursed interest-free loans to the locals and advised and trained them on small-scale business management.

Group Trips

Laurentian Group

2014 saw many group travels to Ghana. Nursing students from Laurentian University in Canada travelled with their lecturer and volunteered on our medical project in Kumasi. They travelled to deprived villages around Kumasi and provided health education on hypertension, diabetes, sexually transmitted infections and other tropical illnesses.

They also tested for malaria, blood grouping, sugar levels and other vital signs of persons in the communities they visited.



Laurentian University Students doing a poster presentation on diabetes

University College Dublin Groups



Group 1



Group 2

We received enthusiastic veterinary volunteers from the University College of Dublin in Ireland and they came in two batches. Their collective work ensured that thousands of animals including dogs, cats, pigs and cattle were vaccinated, castrated or treated where appropriate. One noticeable and immediate benefit of their veterinary outreach was the rabies vaccination for dogs. Typically, local dog owners hardly take their dogs to the veterinary hospital for vaccination, but this free exercise will go a long way to prevent and manage possible rabies outbreaks.

University College Cork dentistry students



We welcomed students from University College Cork who are studying dentistry. They brought with them dentistry equipment and teamed up with dentists who work with the Ghana Health Service on outreaches to schools and communities within Kumasi. Overall, over three thousand students were screened and where dental problems were found, extractions and treatments were provided free of charge.

World Cup - Brazil 2014

In the middle of 2014, the world's attention was on Brazil. The Ghana Black Stars went in with high hopes and support from most of our other African countries. Unfortunately for the Black Stars, they lost their game against the United States, drew with Germany and lost to Portugal in rather dramatic circumstances. Volunteers in Accra threw their support for Ghana but were as disappointed as Ghanaians themselves.



Winter Specials



Christmas and New Year is a season that many Ghanaians look forward to each year. It is the time for merry making and that is something that our Winter Special volunteers knew was a good time to spend with the children in the New Life Orphanage in Cape Coast. They helped the children create paper work Christmas decorations and hung them on the walls of the orphanage. They played different sports with them, sung Christmas songs, and cared for the small children of the orphanage.

Note from the Editor

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Many thanks to all our volunteers who worked in Ghana in 2014. Through your hard work and selfless dedication, schools were built, wounds were healed, lives were empowered, skills were developed, love was received, and lives were improved. We wish you well in 2015.

Please feel free to contact the Communications Officer if you have any questions, concerns or comments:
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Thanks for reading!