

RESTORING HOPE

2017 GHANA STREET CHILDREN PROGRAMME
TESTIMONIES, ACCRA, GHANA.



Name: Ophelia Adjei Boatema

Age: 17 years old

Vocation: Dressmaking

Ophelia is the second of four siblings. She completed her JHS* education and wanted to further her education to the SHS*, but her parents couldn't cater for her because of financial constraints.

Ophelia says she has been a Christian throughout her life. Though life was a struggle for her, she believed deep inside that one day God would breakthrough for her. After Junior High School she had to fend for herself hawking bread. Ophelia says her dream is to become a fashion designer.



A volunteer of AE, Pastor Isaac, introduced her to AE, and Ophelia was enrolled in the dressmaking centre. She is very happy and gives all thanks to God and AE.

Name: Mary Esinam

Age: 23 years

Vocation: Hairdressing

Mary's story is very sad. She has never been to school, and her parents are extremely poor. She lived with an aunt and helped her to sell kenkey (a local food made out of corn). Mary was maltreated until she couldn't take it anymore, and left to stay with her parents. Life was a struggle; and her faith in God was really shaken because of what she was going through.

Mary left her parents and came to stay with a family friend in Accra as a house help. The lady promised to register her to learn hairdressing, but the promise never came through.



Mary was introduced to AE by Mrs. Sandra Buernor. AE enrolled her in a hairdressing training centre and she is happily learning her dream vocation.

Name: Jessica Ademena

Age: 18 years

Vocation: Dressmaking

Jessica had the desire to go to SHS* and onward to college, but because of financial constraints she had to abandon those dreams. After completing JHS*, Jessica spent her days at home idling aimlessly, and nearly got herself entangled in bad company.

Jessica was staying with her aunt, who went to church with Madam Grace Amoah (a fashion designer). Madam Grace brought her over personally to AE office. Jessica was registered and was enrolled to study dressmaking.

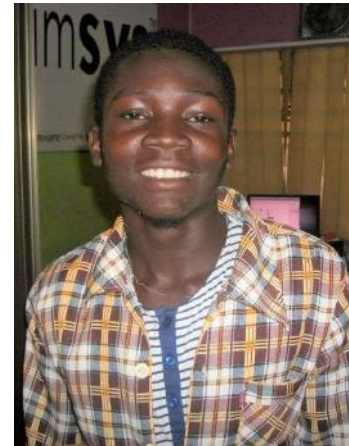
**Name: Yakubu Wadah**

Age: 20 years

Vocation: ICT

Yakubu completed SHS* last year 2016, after that he couldn't further to college because of financial constraints. Yakubu is a Christian and attends church regularly. His parents never got married. His father was highly irresponsible, and it was his mother who was the sole bread winner of the family, with three other siblings. A friend of his, who was a beneficiary of AE introduced AE to him. He is enrolled in an ICT training centre in Accra.

Yakubu continues to give glory to God for his continued mercies and faithfulness, and is very grateful to God and AE.

**Name: PrincellaGyan**

Age: 23 years

Vocation: ICT

Princella completed her SHS* education but couldn't continue to study at secretarial school because of financial constraints. She is a Christian.

Fortunately for Princella, she attends church with AE beneficiary. She spoke to this friend about her desire to learn ICT or secretarial lessons. Her friend introduced her to AE and took her to register for the programme. After a couple of months, AE called her and was finally enrolled into an ICT training school. Princella says she is so grateful to God and to AE, and to the donors who gave towards this project to enable her trained in ICT.



Name: Prince Praise Gbekua

Age: 21 years

Vocation: ICT

Prince has completed SHS*, and would like to one day pursue photography. His dream to upgrade his knowledge in photography by using modern software, but he couldn't afford to go to a computer training school.

Fortunately an AE Team leader chanced upon him, interviewed him, and Prince was enrolled to do ICT training. Prince is a Christian and has a strong belief in the Lord Almighty.

**Name: Lordina Osei**

Age: 19

Vocation: Dressmaking

Lordina completed JHS*. She couldn't continue her education to the SHS level because of financial difficulties (her father passed away, and her mother who is a baker, fell sick and never regained her strength). Lordina says her faith in God is shaken at times because of the struggles she has to face in life.

Pastor Isaac, a volunteer of AE, introduced Lordina to AE. AE interviewed her, registered and enrolled her in a dressmaking centre.

**Name: Favour Adeve**

Age: 24 years

Vocation: Dressmaking

Favour completed JHS*. Her father is deceased, but her mother and 4 other siblings in the Volta Region. Favour lives with her sister at Kasoa, and she is a Christian.

When Favour completed JHS*, she couldn't continue with her education because there was no financial assistance. Favour stayed with several people serving as house help, but unfortunately couldn't save enough money from her meagre salary to pay for a dressmaking apprenticeship.



One day, Favour met a friend who happens to be a beneficiary of AE. Favour's friend introduced her to AE, and by the grace of God Favour was enrolled in a dressmaking centre. Though she has faced a lot of struggles, Favour's faith in God remains steadfast.

Name: Dora Bekoe

Age: 17 years

Vocation: Dressmaking

Dora comes from a large family of 11 children. She completed JHS*, but because both her parents are subsistence farmers, there was not enough money to allow her to complete further study. When Dora completed school, she became a picker on a cocoa farm for a year, before finally coming to Accra to stay with an aunt.

She sold pure water at Kasoa to support herself.

Fortunately for Dora, her aunt is a friend to a woman whose daughter is a beneficiary of AE. The woman brought Dora to AE office where she was interviewed and was registered in a dressmaking centre.

Dora is a committed Christian who always trusts in God's provision, despite her struggles in life. She is so happy and very grateful to AE.

**Name: Grace Mensah**

Age: 21 years

Vocation: Dressmaking

Grace's father has passed away and her mother is deaf and dumb. From a young age Grace worked as house help to help her pay for school to the end of JHS*.

After school, she told her guardian she wanted to become a dressmaker. Grace's guardian couldn't raise the money for the apprenticeship, so Grace left to stay with her maternal uncle. Unfortunately Grace's uncle couldn't afford to pay her tuition fees either. She felt much challenged by the things that happened to her and questioned God, though continued to trust in his plans for her life.

In God's providence, a neighbour of her uncle is a dressmaker, and this woman introduced Grace to AE. The woman brought her to the AE office, and Grace was interviewed and registered. Grace was enrolled at a dressmaking centre and is learning her desire vocation. Grace is full of gratitude to God and to the donors.



Name: Martha Afful

Age: 18 years

Vocation: Dressmaking

Martha's father is a fisherman and her mother is a petty trader. Martha completed JHS* and wanted to study dressmaking, but her parents could not afford the tuition fees for the whole programme. Martha said she left her parents and came to Kasoa to stay with an auntie whose daughter is a beneficiary of AE.

But, it was a volunteer of AE, Pastor Isaac, who introduced Martha to AE. She was interviewed and registered into the dressmaking apprenticeship programme. Martha is very thankful to God and to the donors.



Name: Jemima Doe

Age: 20 years

Vocation: Beautician – Fixing Nails and Make-up

Jemima is a Christian. Her mother was a single parent and had a difficult life trying to care for eight children, including Jemima. Jemima's dream was to become a beautician.

After completing JHS*, Jemima took to selling ladies used bags on the streets of Kasoa to save enough to put herself through beautician training. Unfortunately, she couldn't save enough money for training, because she was also trying to support her young siblings.



Through God's provision, Jemima is now enrolled in a training centre for beauticians. She is happy and gives thanks to God.

Name: Susan Doe Yeboah

Age: 18 years

Vocation: Hairdressing

Susan completed JHS*. She is a Christian. Her story is the same as Jemima Doe because they are siblings. Susan wanted to become a hairdresser but because of financial difficulties, she was helping a woman to sell popcorn by the roadside for a meagre commission.

A volunteer of AE brought Susan to AE office and she was registered and enrolled in Hairdressing. Susan and Jemima's mother was grateful and thank God profusely.



* JHS stands for Junior High School, and SHS for Senior High school.