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Content

- 4 A Message from our Founder
- **6** Why we are here
- 8 Mission, Vision, Strategy and Values
- **10** Family Support Services
- 12 Meet Gladys: Foster Mother
- 13 Education Support
- **14** Foster Family Care
- 16 Young Adult Support Services
- **18** Care Reform
- 19 Community Development
- **21** Beneficiary Tracker
- **22** Leadership
- 23 OAfrica: Europe and USA
- **24** Major Contributors
- **25** Major Partners
- **26** Goodwill Ambassadors
- **28** Notes
- **31** Contacts

A Message from our Founder



When we are asked the question: "Do you want the bad news or the good news first?" research shows that most people choose to hear the bad news first, so here goes! The year 2013 was the second year when the money that **OAfrica** had available for projects in Ghana decreased as compared to the previous year. Since the founding of **OAfrica** in 2002, we have been able to maintain a vigorous growth curve that allowed us to branch out beyond providing centralized care services to offering tracing, resettlement, reintegration, education and support packages to children and their families within their communities.

This financial reality impacted us negatively in terms of our investment into supporting the government of Ghana on Care Reform, one of the key areas of our 5-year Strategic Plan for 2013-2018. The lack of funds did, however, promote crucial internal slimming down processes and much soul searching in terms of sustainability moving forward. In the end, as you can appreciate in this Annual Report, we have emerged even stronger than before.

Now for the good news! The year 2013 was a key year in terms of the evolution of **OAfrica** on the ground. We were able to maintain all services to beneficiaries, we held an all-staff retreat to revisit our strategic plan, we adopted a new logo and mission statement, and we introduced the income generating activities program to create greater financial sustainability for our families. We are also incredibly excited that we were able to begin fully using our new specially designed interactive database for case monitoring.

In October, I stepped down as CEO in Ghana in order to focus on fundraising and address the financial downturn of the organization. We were extremely excited to welcome Bianca Collier back to **OAfrica** as the new CEO. Bianca first volunteered with us in 2003 and returned as a staff member in 2007 as our Financial and HR Manager, before leaving to serve as the Program Manager of Asia and Africa for Save the Children. Now that she is back with us in Ghana, we know we are in very safe hands and in good shape to affront the exciting opportunities, increased income and growth that the year 2014 will bring.

Thank you to our partners who help us keep children in families every day!

Sincerely,

Lisa Lovatt-SmithFounder of **OAfrica**







Our Services

- PARENTS TRAINING
- **■** CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFERS
- HEALTHCARE
- **INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITES**
- **EDUCATION SUPPORT**
- SANITATION

- LIFE SKILLS AND TRAINING
- REHABILITATION
- HIV/AIDS SUPPORT
- NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT
- FINANCIAL LITERACY AND BUSINESS TRAINING





Our Mission

OAfrica empowers children and young people whose rights have been compromised due to institutionalization, poverty, violence, trafficking, HIV/AIDS, abuse and discrimination.

We help them become productive members of their communities by strengthening families, and reintegrating them into safe, stable and loving environments.

Our Values

CHILD CENTERED

FAMILY ORIENTED

CHILD PARTICIPATION

PRO POOR

GENDER EQUALITY

PROMOTION OF AUTONOMY

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Our Strategy

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

FOSTER FAMILY CARE

YOUNG ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES

CARE REFORM

Our Vision

OAfrica is committed to ensuring that children grow up in safe, permanent family settings with appropriate care and protection with equal rights and opportunities. We accomplish this by focusing on:

Deinstitutionalization

OAfrica supports care reform in Ghana by advocating for stricter regulations of orphanages and children's homes in hopes that these types of institutions will be closed down or used only as a last resort and, even then, only serve as a temporary placement for children in transition. We support appropriate sanctions for those proven guilty of abuse and trafficking.

Tracing and Reunification

OAfrica is a strong advocate for families. Knowing that at least 80 percent of children in orphanages have living family members, our specially trained social workers trace the families of abandoned children and reunify them. We then continue to provide reintegration services based on the specific needs of each child and family.

Training

OAfrica supports extensive skills training for social workers to promote tracing, reunification and deinstitutionalization so orphans and vulnerable children that have been inappropriately placed in orphanages can live in family-based care. We also provide training for parents and foster care providers in order to ensure that children receive appropriate care and protection within the home. Training is also offered to media, civil society and government workers.



Family Support Services (FSS)

Support provided to families includes:

- Regular visits from specially trained social workers
- Conditional cash transfers
- Income generating activities
- School fees and materials
- Nutritional support
- Housing within local communities
- Parent skills training
- Access to government social services
- Legal support
- Medical care support
- Counseling and psychological care, specialized care for children with disabilities

Children that are deemed orphans are often placed in institutions without exploring alternative care options. Many children are placed in institutions by their own families due to a lack of resources in hopes that they will receive adequate nutrition, clothing and education. In reality, however, these institutions are detrimental to the physical, emotional and intellectual development of the children. OAfrica's Family Support Services (FSS) program is our main initiative implemented to keep children out of orphanages and in their own families. Specially trained social workers locate families to assess whether or not the child can be reunited within them, and then an individualized care plan is developed to ensure the child receives the necessary care and support to be healthy and happy within their own home. Ongoing assessments by the assigned social worker help to maintain the quality of care for the children. Through the FSS program, families can stay together and thrive.

Stella was found living on the street with her mother who was suffering from severe psychological issues and unable to care for her. She did not attend school, was at extreme risk of abandonment, was malnourished and had little hope for her future. **OAfrica** rescued Stella from the street, located her extended family and was able to place her with her grandmother. Stella's family now receives financial and educational support to ensure that she is well cared for and that she is attending school regularly. She is now living a happy and healthy childhood within her own family.





FSS OAfrica impact 2013

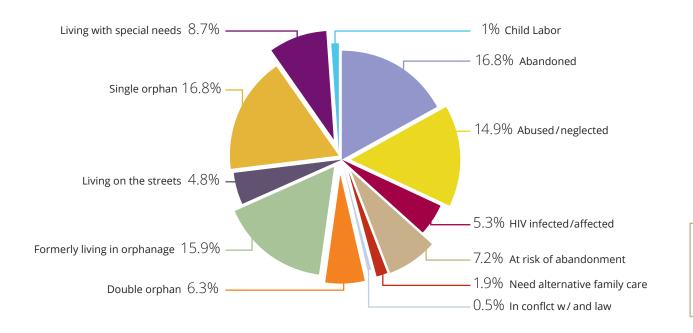
59

VULNERABLE CHILDREN WHO
WERE FORMERLY LIVING IN AN
ORPHANAGE OR AT RISK OF
ABANDONMENT ARE LIVING
IN A SAFE, STABLE AND
LOVING FAMILIES

FAMILIES WHO ARE NOW ABLE
TO REMAIN TOGETHER AFTER
RECEIVING FINANCIAL, MEDICAL
AND SOCIAL SERVICES SUPPORT



VULNERABILITY STATISTICS (12.2013)



Income Generating Activities Program

Ma Gladys started working for **OAfrica** in 2003 as a full-time caregiver for a special needs child. Over time it became obvious that she had an incredible ability to provide love and care to the most vulnerable of children.

She became famous within the organization for bringing life back to many malnourished children living with HIV, who had little chance of survival. As a single mother, Ma Gladys was doing an amazing job looking after her own children as well as those supported by **OAfrica**. Since then, she has been the foster mother of three of our most at-risk children.

Initially, **OAfrica** provided monthly financial support for Ma Gladys to care for the children and to encourage her to continue her efforts. After some time, **OAfrica** helped Ma Gladys to develop her own business in order to make enough money to support her family herself, without the need for the monthly financial support.

Ma Gladys attended many **OAfrica**-run classes that focused on savings, loans, investments, best business practices, customer care and pricing of goods. In addition, **OAfrica** provided her with financial support to kick-start her business so she could increase profitability and provide a greater level of support to her children. These efforts have really paid off and Ma Gladys, her business and her children are prospering.

She has proven that through hard work, determination, love and compassion you can achieve business success and a growing, healthy family, while providing much needed assistance to someone in need.

.... through hard work, determination, love and compassion you can achieve business success and a growing healthy family



Education Support

One of the most significant barriers for families staying together is access to quality education. Though primary and junior high school education are free in Ghana, many families cannot afford the costs associated with sending their children to school, which includes transport, textbooks, pencils, uniforms, and other associated fees. If a child does successfully complete primary and junior high school, many families cannot afford to continue their child's education through senior high school, which is not free in Ghana.

OAfrica supports impoverished families to pay for their children's education in order to ensure that families can stay together and to provide greater opportunities for success of the child. Educational support has proven to be the cornerstone of prevention of child abandonment to orphanages. In addition, increased education levels promote other positive life impacts, including improved health, higher wages and economic growth, democracy and political stability.

Children are sponsored from primary school to tertiary education or vocational programs and apprenticeships. Those with learning disabilities or who have been delayed in their education receive extra classes and tutoring or receive extensive career counseling to identify professions that meet both their qualifications and their interests.



OAfrica impact 2013

214

VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS ARE SUPPORTED TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION IN LOCAL PRIMARY, JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Including:

150

STUDENTS ATTEND THE AYENYAH PRIMARY SCHOOL OPERATING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GHANA EDUCATION SERVICE

38

STUDENTS ATTEND THE AYENYAH
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WHICH
WAS BUILT BY **OAFRICA** IN 2012
AND INTEGRATES AN
INTERNATIONAL QUALITY
EDUCATION WITH THE GHANAIAN
STANDARD CURRICULUM

2613

CHILDREN OF STAFF
MEMBERS ARE SUPPORTED
TO ATTEND SCHOOL



Young Adult Support Services (YASS)

As children in orphanages grow up, their level of vulnerability does not reduce enough to allow for stability and productivity into adulthood. Instead, they become vulnerable young adults with limited opportunities for success for their education and vocational futures. Compared to other young adults, worldwide data shows that youth in care are more likely to be homeless, incarcerated, unemployed and unskilled. When youth do not have parents or extended family to depend on, oftentimes they become a permanent addition to the ongoing cycle of poverty and, according to the NGA Center for Best Practices, they are also more likely to experience physical,

developmental, behavioral and mental health challenges. In partnership with The Stern Stewart Institute (TSSI), **OAfrica** addresses this important issue through its **Young Adult Support Services** (YASS) program to provide the following support for vulnerable young adults: financial support to cover school fees and school needs, health and psychological support, transport and housing support, career counseling and placement, and life skills training. Young adults are supported to find their passion and follow their dreams in order to become healthy and productive adults who contribute to society and raise strong families in Ghana.

Mary lived with her family who earned a living by herding cattle. When her father left them, her mother was banned from their home and Mary was given to her uncle's family where she was removed from school and forced into child labor. Mary and her siblings were referred to **OAfrica** by the local authorities and placed in foster care where she gained confidence and had a newfound hope for her future. After being delayed in school, Mary worked hard to catch up in her classes and is now completing her final year of university to become a psychologist. Her goal is to help other children in Ghana who have suffered from abuse and dream of a better life.





YASS OAfrica impact 2013

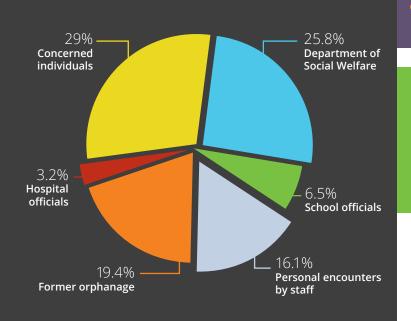
YOUNG ADULTS SUPPORTED TO DEVELOP INTO CAPABLE, STABLE AND PRODUCTIVE ADULTS AS THEY TRANSITION INTO INDEPENDENT LIVING; ALL YASS BENEFICIARIES ARE IN FULL-TIME EDUCATION OR TRAINING PROGRAMS

YOUNG ADULTS STARTED HIGHER EDUCATION OR VOCATIONAL TRAINING, INCLUDING UNIVERSITY, NURSING SCHOOL, POLYTECHNIC, CATERING AND FASHION SCHOOLS



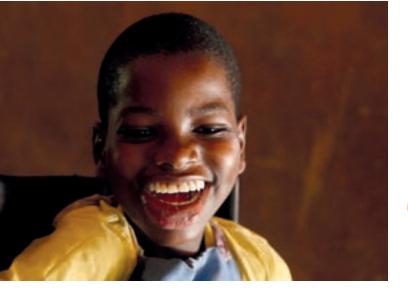


REFERRAL SOURCES (12.2013)



YOUNG ADULTS HAVE OPENED AND ARE NOW MANAGING THEIR OWN BANK ACCOUNTS

Circa 350 young adults have graduated from **OAfrica** support since 2002



Foster Family Care (FFC) for special needs

For children who cannot be placed within their own families, **OAfrica** has established the **Foster Family Care (FFC)** program. In these cases, a child may not have living family members who can care for them or the child has been abused or mistreated in the home. Several of these children have been abandoned due to the fact that they have special needs and the family is unable or unwilling to provide longterm care. For these children a safe, stable and loving environment is essential to their wellbeing as steps are taken to find more permanent care. Children are placed in foster care with a specially trained foster mother

who provides for their daily physical needs and, most importantly, offers love and encouragement that is essential for children that have oftentimes experienced instability, neglect or even abuse when they arrive. Two FFC homes are for children and young adults with severe special needs, including cerebral palsy, autism, psychosis and other disabilities. Children that are a part of this family attend a specialized school and receive rehabilitation services daily. **OAfrica** works hard to ensure that each foster family care placement will provide the essential love and support that these children need in order to thrive.

Kwame was born with severe mental disabilities and his family, not knowing how to care for him, placed him in a local orphanage. In the orphanage, he was locked in a closet for entire days with little human contact, even being served food from the crack at the bottom of the door. When Kwame was rescued by **OAfrica**, he was severely traumatized and could not even speak. He was placed with a foster mother who cares for him as if he was her own and, today, Kwame is thriving. He attends school and is one of the friendliest and most outgoing children at **OAfrica**, he loves a good thumb war and always has much to say.





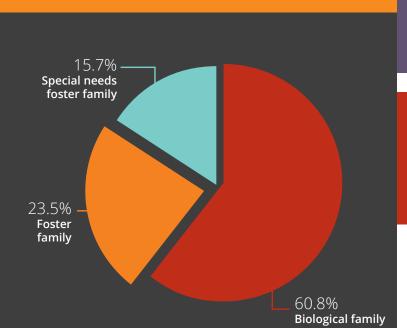
FFC OAfrica impact 2013

GHANAIAN FOSTER MOTHERS
TRAINED TO CARE FOR CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

ORPHANS, VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WHO NEED SPECIAL CARE HAVE BEEN PLACED IN FOSTER CARE



CARE ARRANGEMENTS





CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS
LIVING WITH HIV ARE RECEIVING
LIFE-SAVING TREATMENT AND
COUNSELING

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ARE
ATTENDING A HIGH-QUALITY
PRIVATE SCHOOL WHERE PROGRAMS
ARE TAILORED TO THEIR SPECIFIC
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Care Reform

The Care Reform Initiative (CRI) launched in 2006 as a joint venture between the Department of Social Welfare (DSW), **OAfrica**, UNICEF and other child protection agencies in Ghana. It involves the provision of various forms of support by **OAfrica** and other partners to enhance the capacity of the DSW to encourage family-based care. The initiative seeks to de-emphasize overreliance on care systems for the 4,500 vulnerable children that are currently living in institutions and move towards a range of integrated family- and community-based childcare services. The goal is a more consistent and stable approach to caring for vulnerable children in Ghana so that each child will be assured of a permanent home in a supportive and loving family. The main components of care reform in Ghana seek to prevent the disintegration of families through

linkages with strategies that strengthen families, such as the social grant program – Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) – scholarships, food packages, access to national health insurance and other support programs.

In line with the Care Reform Initiative, **OAfrica**'s mission advocates for reintegration of children with their own families, whether with their biological parents or with extended family (kinship care), or to place children in foster care when they truly do not have family members who can appropriately care for them. **OAfrica** is proud to have been one of the main actors behind the adoption of National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (NPA) in 2010 and was the only NGO mentioned as an implementer in the actions matrix of the original plan.

Care Reform Goals

Prevent

- Creating social safety nets that prevent child abandonment
- Supporting vulnerable children to live with their families
- Providing social protection interventions and improvements to health and early childhood development services

Protect

- Improving commitment and focus to child protection
- Implementing social work and specifically targeted social protection mechanisms to identify and care for at-risk children
- Supporting children who are separated, exploited or exposed to abuse to return to their families or be placed in foster care

Transform

- Improving capacity of the state and other child protection agencies to promote the rights and wellbeing of OVC
- Requiring orphanages to officially register or face closure
- Utilizing orphanages only as a last resort to provide temporary placement for at-risk children in transition to family-based care

Community Development

OAfrica's head office is located in a small village called Ayenyah, about 40 kilometers (25 miles) outside of the country's capital of Accra. The village has a population of approximately 371 people, the majority of which are women and children. With limited employment opportunities in the area, the Ayenyah community experiences challenges in the areas of education, health and economic development. Since arriving in 2005, **OAfrica** has made community development a high priority, installing toilets and water faucets, and building a primary school, junior high school and health clinic for community members. In addition, a laterite road was completed to facilitate easier transportation to and from the community.

In 2013, **OAfrica** continued to implement the sports development program for the community children, in partnership with Laureus Sport for Good. This program offers physical education and sports activities including volleyball, basketball, and football (soccer). With support from Laureus, **OAfrica** was able to commission a new football pitch that is now rented out to neighboring communities and local football leagues. Sporting equipment, boots and uniforms were purchased as well. Extensive life skills training is integrated into all sports activities, whereby youth learn about leadership skills, confidence building, hygiene and the importance of healthy living.

In partnership with the Ghana Health Service, **OAfrica** has provided a health clinic for use by Ayenyah's families and those in surrounding communities. The clinic provides antenatal, maternity and postnatal care, as well as first aid and treatment for communicable diseases, child health and nutrition, general health treatment and community outreach and education.

Finally, **OAfrica** has provided employment to 12 local community members who serve as drivers, cooks, maintenance and cleaning staff, sports coaches and security guards, thereby contributing to the local economic development of the village.



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

HELEN KELLER



Beneficiary Tracker

An important aspect of social work is the records that are kept for each child and family to ensure proper monitoring and evaluation efforts and effective follow up by the **OAfrica** leadership staff and social workers. In October 2013, OAfrica launched a customized database called the Beneficiary Tracker. The Beneficiary Tracker is a web-based application carefully designed to manage our beneficiary information, and was developed taking into consideration all required standards of records keeping in social work. This information includes general demographics, background and history, school performance, counseling progress, general status and tasks that need to be undertaken by the staff to ensure the greatest care for the child. The features of the Beneficiary Tracker include:

- Beneficiary profiles are updated faster than the usual paper filing system
- PDF file of beneficiary information can be printed and submitted as a report similar to a Social Enquiry Report (SER)
- All financial transactions regarding a particular child are recorded to monitor cost per child data
- Emergency situations are reported quickly so necessary follow up actions can be taken
- Tasks are assigned to specific social workers and reminders sent via email upon due date
- Reports and statistics on demographics, vulnerability level, referral sources, etc. are automatically generated as the data is entered
- Relevant documents such as Care Orders, Birth Certificates, health records, etc. are uploaded for each child



For privacy reasons the above image has been manipulated.



Leadership

International Advisory Board

Management Team Ghana

President

Lisa Lovatt-Smith

Ed Asante Fernando Masià Martí Jonathan Hooker Luca Magni Jamil Maraby

GHANA BOARD

President

Lisa Lovatt-Smith

Executive Committee

Jamil Marby Edward Boateng

Secretary

Naa Okailey Adamafio

CERTIFICATES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Orphans and Vulnerable Children Committee of the Government of Ghana

Ghana Association of Social Workers

Coalition of NGOs on the Rights of the Child

Chief Executive Officer

Lisa Lovatt-Smith (up to November) Bianca Collier (as of November)

Chief International Finance Officer

Robert Mensah Dakwa

Chief Development Officer

Miracle Abena Damanka

Chief Fundraising and Advocacy Officer

Remy Toussaint (up to February)
Cori Deterding (as of July)

Chief Education Officer

Zoe Lewin

Young Adult Support Services Manager

John M. Appiah Achaempong

Family Support Services Manager

Jacinta Atakora

Social benefits for local staff

OAfrica staff in Ghana are offered education scholarships for up to three of their children (biological, adopted or foster children). This scholarship covers 100 percent of the fees if the child is in a government-run school. They are also offered a stipend to help towards the purchase of books and other necessary items. OAfrica staff receive performance bonuses, Christmas bonuses and national health insurance, as well as funeral support at the loss of family members. Staff also enjoy paid holidays every year and other statuary advantages as per the Labour Law. We offer study leave to our staff as opportunities for professional development training, both internal and external, throughout the year. OAfrica is an equal opportunities employer.

OAfrica: Europe & USA

2002

OAfrica Spain

C.I.F.G-62986971

BOARD

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Fundraising & Advocacy Director

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56-2617512

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(up to October)

Carrie Stultz

Fundraising & Advocacy Director

(as of October)

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Sarah Rasby

Kou Moore

2007

OAfrica Germany

143/235/63005

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Petra-Alexa Heinze

Sandra Klinger

Lukas Rosenkranz

2013 Major Contributors

This list recognizes our generous supporters of \$2,500 or more, as well as those who provided in-kind donations. We regret that space limitations prevent us from listing all our supporters, including the 470+ monthly donors from around the world. To all of our supporters, we thank you!

GHANA

Apoil **Bollore Africa Logistics** CFAO Ghana Ltd. Golden Earth Foundation French Marine Nationale Imexco Ghana Ltd. Laureus Sport for Good Foundation Moet Chandon Novotel Accra City Centre Orsam Ltd. Society of Engineers Société Générale Ghana **Sparkling Oasis** Sylva Global Technip Total Petroleum

IN KIND

3M&C Ghana Ltd. Aduah Rausford Alejandro Monegal Ali Bukari Amoabeng Frempong Jenison **Apostals Continuation Church** Beniamin Natteh Blanca Hartmann Chris Odametten & Family Divine Alpha & Omega Bible Church Dream! Child Foundation Elohim Praise Sanctuary European Union Family Hope Chapel Faty Sako Fifi Baiden George Tweneboa Ohene Issa Henscheid Jerome Kojo Aleaglo Kobay Media Morto Cerro Nene Adjeanor Otumfuo IV Nii Okocha NMS Infrastructure Ltd.

Novotel Accra City Centre

Orphans Cake Fund

Owusu Koranteng Pentacostal Miracle Grounds Pra Home Ltd. Rebecca Amoah Spencer Ofosua Asare Spring Life Ministry Vistalet

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Accor, Fondation

Agence BRMP Alvarum Clarins CE Laboratoire Clarins Crédit Suisse **Endemol Production** Etnia Barcelona French Coffee Shop Troyes Hotel Montalembert Isabel Marant Isabelle Weill (EFHE) Lemarchand, Fondation Nature and Découverte Société Générale, Fondation Yves Klein Archives

SPAIN

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UNITED STATES

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GERMANY

Ameranger Klöpferlsinger Art of Quality GmbH Axiocon GmbH BG Phoenics GmbH and employees Billi-Bolli Kindermöbel GmbH Familie Iglhaut Klara Apotheke Louis Internet GmbH Opus 5 interaktive medien GmbH Profilingvalues GmbH Star-Trademarks GbR Teamware GmbH The Stern Stewart Institute Unterbrunner Blaskapelle and guests

SWITZERLAND

Jonathan Chait Sylvie Deschamps

> Every effort has been made to ensure a complete and accurate list. We regret any errors or omissions and ask that they be brought to our attention at africa@oafrica.org

Annual Report photo credit Eric Don-Arthur and Nyani Quarmyne Annual Report graphic design Kat Orgallo **Printing**

Grafiche dell'Artiere S.r.l



Goodwill Ambassadors

OAfrica would like to thank our Goodwill Ambassadors from around the world who have dedicated incredible talent, time and finances to the children and families of our organization.



Victoria Abril France



Inés de la Fressange France



Rossy de Palma Spain



Margherita Missoni Italy



Bianca Li Spain



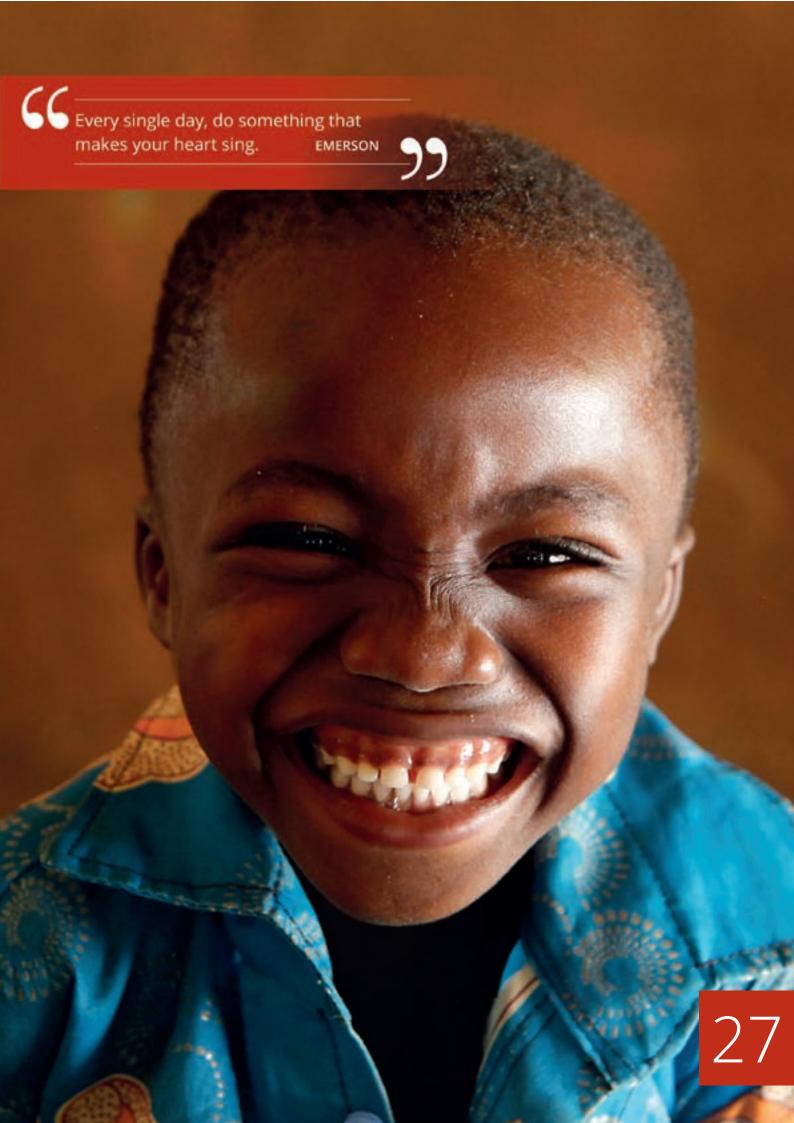
Rachel Roy USA



Marcel Desailly International



Eric Don-Arthur Ghana



2013 Consolidated Financial Statements

Ghana

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	(GHS)
Income	1,578,388
International contributions	1,402,864
Local contributions	175,524
Project Expenses	1,112,215
Family Support Services	400,325
Young Adult Support Services	296,890
Ayenyah Junior High School	101,162
Special Needs Children Services	97,930
Fundraising & sustainability	66,863
Foster Family Care	64,129
Ayenyah Primary School	29,457
Sports Development & Life Skills Program	14,876
General expenses	9,653
Communications	8,765
Care Reform Initiative	7,525
Workshops, trainings & meetings	5,728
Repairs & maintenance	4,206
Agriculture Project	4,000
Utilities	706
Administrative Expenses	168,743
Deprecitation expenses	110,610
Audit fees	15,000
Bank and interest charges	14,012
International travel expenses	13,711
Professional fees	13,224
Amortization	2,186
Administrative Staff Expenses	298,149
Salaries and wages	298,149
Total Expenses	1,579,107
Surplus	(719)
Balance at 1 January	940,217
Balance at 31 December	939,498

2013 Financial Statements

International Fundraising Offices: France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and the United States

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	(EUROS)
Total Income	681,146
Private donations/corporations	286,823
Foundation donations	160,580
Individual/monthly donors	100,509
Events	83,721
Other	38,777
Government grants	10,736
Project Support	501,999
Transferred to Ghana	441,627
Spend on behalf of Ghana	60,372
Fundraising Expenses	77,070
Advocacy and awareness	46,757
Administration and general expenses	30,313
Administrative Staff Expenses	117,875
Salaries and wages	72,423
Professional Services	23,846
Social charges	21,606





Contact us

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