

# RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

## PROFILE



*helping the needy*

## MESSAGE



### MESSAGE OF THE COUNTRY COORDINATOR

I believe that, it is just right to give back to society some of what others helped us to achieve in life. You can only offer what you possess. This is not a competition at all, because everyone is unique in his or her own way. It is just a matter of soul searching and believing in oneself that you can focus on your God given talent(s) and harness them to the best of your ability to first develop yourself and then to be of benefit to others.

I have therefore pledged my support to the needy in Ghana and any other place I may find myself to assist them find their talents that can be turned into career for life. I believe everyone has a unique gift and capability that can be developed to help the individual and society as a whole.

Join RESCUE in our quests to assist the vulnerable as a way of contributing our quota to the society we live in.  
Thank you.

LYDIA TSOTSOO ODAI-TETTEY



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## BACKGROUND

Rescue is a non-profit organisation that believes that everyone has a talent that can be used commercially for self benefit and for the benefit of others. believe that everyone has a talent to assist in God's missions. In effect, Volunteers are assigned onto tasks according to their strengths and talents in areas including Care for the Aged and Orphans, Campus Fellowship, Counseling and Outreach Programs. Rescue engages in other projects to complement the mission work in its holistic focus. Listed below are four (4) main project areas meant to stir passion in the needy and encourage them to fend for themselves:

- a. Agricultural Development (Farming and Non Timber Forest Products)
- b. Entrepreneurship (Vocational Training and Capital Financing)
- c. Health Services (Medical Assistance, Water and Sanitation)
- d. Self Development (Community Libraries & Non-formal Education)

The first two are commercial in nature and generate income to fund the Ministry work of Rescue Volunteers.

### **a. Mission**

Vision is to be a household name in Ghana and beyond in defending and helping the vulnerable / needy. Our Mission is to ensure the vulnerable / needy in deprived areas and inner cities are adequately empowered socio-economically to be self-reliant.

### **b. Objectives and aim**

The programme seeks to:

1. Promote self reliance
2. promote an increase in domestic food production for consumption and export
3. Provide productive alternatives to employ the youth to reduce crime and other social problems and reduce rural-urban migration
4. Improve health and nutrition status of the youth and children in the rural areas
5. Reduction in poverty levels
- 6 Assist orphans to get access to basic needs.
- 7 Assist orphans who wish to further their education to access scholarship.
- 8 Encourage single parents and needy to join vocations that will improve their living standard.
- 9 Encourage community members to learn to read and write.
- 10 Assist beneficiaries to form the habit of savings.
- 11 Ensure that participating individuals and communities adopt and live a healthy life in a cleaner environment.
- 12 Attempt to create spirit of brotherliness and kindness in beneficiaries.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENT

RESCUE was born out of empathy for the needy in deprived areas of Ghana. This dates back to 2005 when Lydia, the founder visited Larabanga mosque as a tourist guard and a research associate to Richard Douglass an American then in Ghana on an assignment for Ashesi University. The short stop over looked beyond the physical presence of the rural poor who rushed to the car to welcome total strangers with the hope to receive alms. It went further to find out what happens to the hungry crowd after the visit. The answer is none other than RESCUE hence, our motto; 'helping the needy'.

Rescue looks out for life's basic needs of a community at a time. (i.e. food shelter and clothing). We believe that every person deserves the chance to live a quality life so we encourage the attitude of teaching the hungry to fend for themselves rather than encouraging them to beg for alms which cannot sustain them.

We also believe that POVERTY needs to be tackled from its root cause to create sustainable WEALTH. The needy are our main concern so our attack is directed towards some negative elements that create poverty which affect innocent folks of our communities, such as:

- Ignorance that allows diseases which in turn rob the community of its wealth in the people (active work force – quality labour). Ignorance is being separated from that which needs to be known. This is one dangerous element that is able to render people poor in the midst of plenty.

The question here is “... how shall they hear (know) if there is no preacher?” – Romans 10:14c.

Action Plan – Advocacy and Healthcare Rescue takes upon itself the duty to assist in provision of information and direction to the beneficiary communities to appreciate and together tap community wealth. We also endeavour to attract foreign healthcare services to complement local effort.

- Dishonesty and Dependency are social problems that lead to poverty. In a situation where community leaders due to lack of concern exploit the people by diverting community wealth for personal use or concealing vital information from

the people, the community loses more than is taken by the few people in power. Ignorantly, the people will beg for little of their own wealth and hold in high esteem those that take from them. This could plant the spirit of dependency in the community making them poorer each day. Taking money from the rich (donors) and giving to the poor (beneficiaries) alone do not

alleviate poverty, it worsens it.

The question here is “ how can a community with atmosphere of apathy fight poverty?”

Action Plan – Volunteering for Honesty and Truth Missions Rescue also believes that initiating model programmes where selected people from the community could be trained to lead developmental projects with community resources backed by donor funding could serve as a sure way to make community folks self reliant, empowered to break the dependency chain and fight poverty.

#### Target Group

- Orphans, Widows & Single parents
- Aged
- Handicaped, Street Child, and Dwellers of Inner Cities &Ghettos
- Illiterates, Junior High and Senior High school drop outs
- Unemployed youth

#### Project Areas

1. Agricultural development (Farming and Non Timber Forest Products)
2. Entrepreneurship (Vocational training and Capital Financing)
3. Health Services (Medical Assistance, Water and Sanitation)
4. Charity (Community & Individual development)





# **RESCUE VOLUNTEERS**

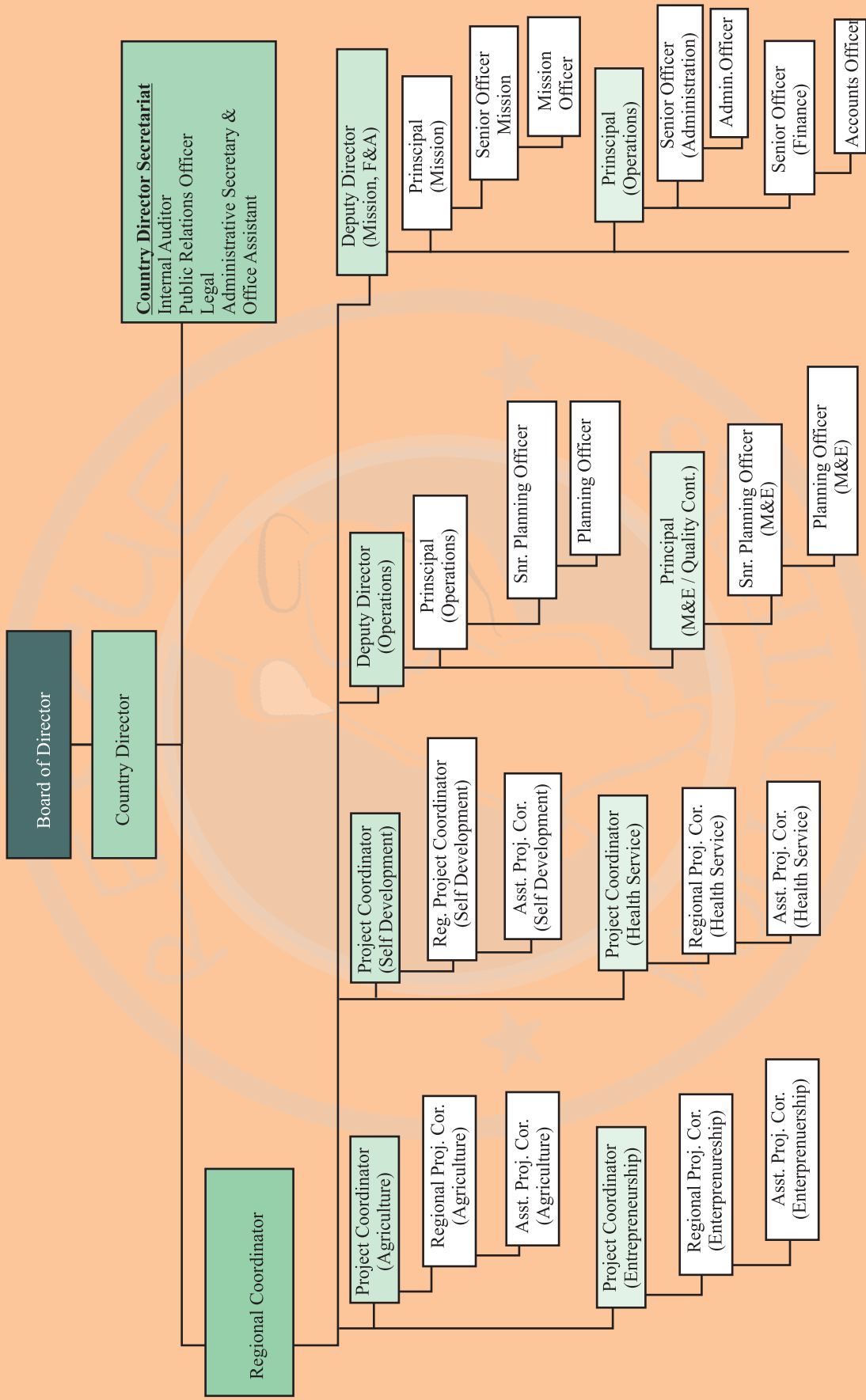
## **ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

Rescue Volunteers is a charitable organization in Ghana with branches in New Jersey, USA and Liberia. The organization is headed by Board of Directors (Executives) elected in the various countries. Duties of the executives include periodic review and approval of strategic plan and projects of the organization. Quarterly meetings are also held to assess the performance of the organization.

For effective running of the organization, Country Directors are appointed as part of the Executive body and are assigned the duty of coordinating operations in the countries they head. They are the first point of call in matters pertaining to the countries they head. The Country Director has a secretariat with positions including; Legal, Public Relations, Internal Audit and Executive Secretary.

Rescue Volunteers runs a Holistic Ministry with main Charity Unit supported by Admin/Finance, Operations/Quality Standards and Ministry. The various Units are headed by Coordinators at regional levels. They answer to the Country Director. All Correspondence are routed through the Country Director who then reports operational performance to the Board of Directors at Executive level. Commercial activities that Rescue Volunteers undertake to supports its charity work are also headed Managers who report through their regional heads to the Country Director. All other officers under the various Units have analogous titles equivalent to Principal, Officer, Assistant Officer and Junior officer grade in the public service.

Rescue Volunteers as the name depicts, we encourage and create opportunities for people to volunteer their skills and talents to assist the vulnerable and the marginalized. In effect, most members are volunteers in their own right according to what they have to offer as and when need be. The grades are reserved for permanent workers of the organization. Following from the above, Volunteers are not the lowest grade on the organogram.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENT

### Rescue Volunteers, Liberia Initiative

Rescue Volunteers hard work was recognized by a group of people from Liberia on a working visit to Ghana back in 2016. The group visited some project areas of Rescue Volunteers Ghana and were impressed by what they saw. Back home they invited the organization to extend its entrepreneurial activities to Liberia to empower the youth and other vulnerable groups of persons to develop themselves. Rescue Volunteers Ghana, being a charity organization, engages in some commercial activities to sustain its work. With years of experience in the field of providing for the vulnerable, Rescue Volunteers responded to the call with a model program in Agriculture. In 2019, cocoa was modeled under the Wondei Agricultural Project at Gbei Duayee town, in the Saclepea Mah District, Nimba County. A little over six thousand (6,000) cocoa tree were nursed for planting in 2019 during the farming season. Below are pictures of the said project in Liberia.





The 13-acre land project was reviewed after a year and it is progressing sturdily. The project take-off schedule was distorted by the COVID 19 pandemic nevertheless, efforts were made by officers from both countries to sustain the model project and kick start the main project in selected communities in the country. Similar to other projects under the organization's Agricultural Program, the project was monitored and evaluated by officers from the Head Office in Ghana. In this case, Major Alex K. Wondei, the country representative, is assisted by the Agricultural Project coordinator from Ghana. Periodic field visit is scheduled half yearly as the project progresses.



Alex K. Wondei (Major)  
Member of the Armed Forces of Liberia serving since 2007.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENT

### Rescue Volunteers, Initiative in U.S.A

On the other hand, Rescue Volunteers in Irvington, New Jersey has more of charity work than commercial. Their activities run from organizing classes for the less privileged youth to prepare them for GMAT and SAT. They also organise and feed the homeless and the needy in the community. They hold food fairs and visit the less privilege in their area of abode. Periodic distribution of clothing and other household items to needy students in the community. The organisation partners the First Presbyterian Church in Irvington to do this.



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### 1.1 Agricultural Development

The Agricultural Programme targets Crop Farming to start with. In all the communities that Rescue Volunteers has representations, Crop Farming happens to be the appealing choice that could start with less capital as compared with other agricultural choices. Rescue is currently into Maize, Tuber Crops and Vegetables. Poultry focuses on Birds (Layers) for now. Infrastructure is being put in place to accommodate Broiler and Guinea fowl in 2020.

Under the Agricultural project, land is usually donated by the community for experimental work and initial training of farm apprentices. Subsequently, land is leased from community members for beneficiaries to engage in serious commercial farming. Where RESCUE ensures that proceeds are sold to defray cost and some percentages saved for beneficiaries towards future personal (individual) Commercial Farming Projects. Training and fund raising period is stipulated at 2-3 year depending on how well the market does.

### Supply of Inputs

Rescue Pilots its Agricultural projects before the start of the main program in the community. Under the pilot program, inputs are supplied on credit to farmers and program coordinators train and monitor beneficiaries to ensure best practices for better yields. People willing to farm are also trained to become commercial farmers. Existing farmers with challenging finances benefit as well. RESCUE pays upfront for inputs supplied under the “planting for food and jobs” which farmers pay after harvest with farm produce.

*Seeds and Agro products donated to farmers by Rescue*





## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### 2018 Pilot Program

In 2018 Rescue Volunteers piloted maize program in Larabanga in Savannah Region & Teyi in The Eastern Region. The program benefitted ten (10) farmers in each Region. Before then ground nut was modeled by the only female beneficiary under the program. Yields were good and RESCUE recovered the input cost and beneficiaries were rewarded



*(Rescue Monitoring Team inspecting a new variety of maize )*

At Teyi, both Organic & fertiliser based farming was tested concurrently to ascertain the viability of organic farming in that region This was to demonstrate and introduce other modern alternative methods to farming. Yields were as expected.



*(Harvesting at the end of the planting season )*



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Main Project

Projects starts with registration and training of beneficiaries in the chosen farming methods. Training entails Pre Planting methods, Land Preparation:- (Ploughing/Harrowing) Method of Sowing /Planting seeds, Handling of Equipment/Spraying of Herbicides and Fertilizer Application, Farm Maintainace, Harvesting and Preservation.



*( Rescue Team Teaching Farmer on Precessing of Farm for planting at Teyi )*

### Ready Market

So far RESCUE has collaborated with beneficiaries to arrange buyers for their produce. Market was ready for the agricultural produce in 2019 Pilot immediately after harvest. The same has been arranged with other government agencies and private organisations for the anticipated higher yields and varieties that will be introduced in the coming years, when the program is extended to all Regions in the Northern Zone of Ghana.

**OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES**



*Northern Development Initiative*



*Manya Krobo NGOs*



# PROJECT EXIT PROCESSES



*(Rescue funded Poultry project at Somanya)*



*(Awarding customer loyalty )*

## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES



*Shea Butter Production At Larabanga*



OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES



Processing of agric products (Casava into Gari)



OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES



Processing of agric products (Casava into Gari)

## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES



Processing of agric products (Casava into Gari)

### 1.2 Entrepreneurship

Rescue's Entrepreneurship Programme focuses on Vocational Training and Venture Capital Financing. Under Vocational Training, beneficiaries are put into apprenticeship with Vocational Training Institutes within the community they reside. We prefer to assist people realise their dream by helping them to bring out their abilities in unique ways that is peculiar to them alone. Rescue leads beneficiaries to search themselves until they are able to find what they would love to do for a life time. Engagement under the Entrepreneurship Programme is therefore not a stereotyped one or a one-size-fits-all kind of arrangements. What one gets to train in depends on each person's capabilities and inner desire.



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

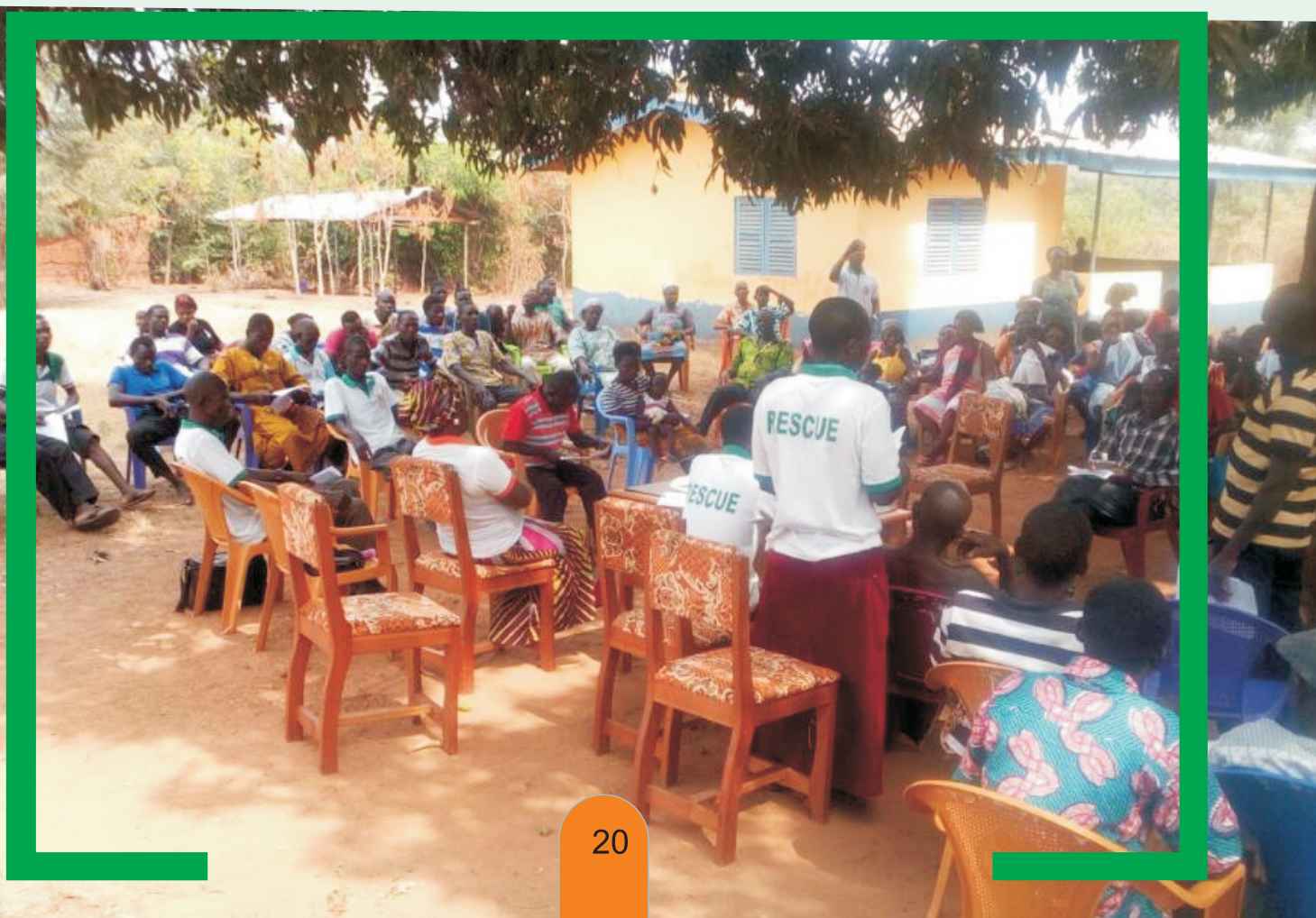
The difference that this makes is that, beneficiaries end up responding appropriately to the strong feeling of being destined or called to undertake a specific type of work. This kind of work called “vocation” demands special commitment that must come naturally from the worker. If beneficiaries are led into realising that Special Vocation, they are bound to succeed no matter the difficulties that come along with it.

### Registration of beneficiaries

Registration is done during the first month of every year at the various communities Rescue Volunteers operate. Rescue Volunteers keep looking for avenues to put beneficiaries into apprenticeship throughout the year as and when funding is available. Period of training differ depending on ability of the apprentice.

### Training of selected beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are placed in different training centres that Rescue Volunteers partner with. Aside those designated training centres, Rescue Volunteers also ran training programs for its trainers at its centre at Osu in tailoring and dressmaking. Steps are underway to train beneficiaries and trainers at Rescue centres in all the regions we operate. Beneficiaries are trained in beauty and cosmetology, tailoring and dress making, catering and table waiting, masonry, plumbing and carpentry, interior, exterior decoration and landscaping, salesmanship, commercial driving and farming.





## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Graduation

After a successful training program, graduation ceremony is organised mostly at the training centres to raise funds for the graduands to cushion them in their preparation to start their own businesses.



### Employment

Employment takes the forms below:

- Recruitment of qualified graduates
- Capital financing for self employed graduates
- Attachment and volunteering

Some get recruited by companies to work for salaries. Others also are attached to companies for some time to sharpen their skills before going solo or are made permanent workers in the companies they were attached to. The rest move straight on to own their businesses with start-up capital obtained from Rescue or Micro finance companies which they pay in the form of 'susu'.

### Capital Financing,

By Venture Capital Financing, Rescue refers to the idea of assisting people with entrepreneurial ideas to access start up capital (seed money) to enable them put the ideas into action. Here, Rescue raises money by seeking for individuals that are comfortable to invest for returns pegged a little above the prevailing Treasury bill rate.



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Rescue guarantees for the beneficiaries who receive these monies for various undertakings. A grace period is offered for a maximum of two months depending on the situation to enable beneficiaries start earning something on the capital. Afterwards, a 5-day a week or weekly loan repayment programme dubbed 'susu' is scheduled for the beneficiaries for a period of time that the start-up capital can be paid back.

### Small scale enterprise

Beneficiaries already in businesses are taken through refresher causes in their area of trade to enable them improve upon their work. Some also receive funding for business expansion.





## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### 1.3 Health Service

Focus here is on Medical Assistance, Water and Sanitation. In every community, Social Amenities are necessary for the development of the community. Rescue assists beneficiaries to generate funds and undertake individual projects to enable them contribute voluntarily towards projects that will benefit their communities.

There are also percentages out of the returns on specific model programs for beneficiaries in their various communities, that is, voted for community development projects under water and sanitation. Under this focus is on bore holes and/or affordable latrines. We also look forward to partner with organisations in Ghana to channel their social responsibilities towards the provision of water and other sanitation projects.

Health of Rescue beneficiaries is placed first in all our endeavours. In effect all community members are engaged in the initial presentation of health benefits to the community. The traditional council / authority is then engaged to discuss the health needs of the community members. This is followed by discussions with community health facility/post of resources needed to meet the health needs of community members. Due to this Rescue health interventions differ from one community to the other. All health projects in communities are done in collaboration with the traditional authority and existing health post or other benevolent group(s) or individual donors in or outside the community.



*Rescue Sponsored Health Screening At*



OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES



*Fencing the entrance of Larabanga Health Post*



OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES



Wheel Chairs for hadicap ( funded by Rescue)



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Volunteers for health programs are trained either as community health nurses, social workers or first aiders. They assist the community health facility/post in the delivery of health services to members of the community. Rescue Volunteers also supply logistics from internally generated funds or donor support to the specific communities that donors choose. Some of the initiatives are fencing of health facility/posts, supply of boreholes, wheel chairs, clutches, family planning materials and other health facility consumables. Rescue Volunteers also organise health walk, safety campaigns and community health talks to ensure that all communities that Rescue operate in maintain healthy living and practice good sanitation.

### Community Health

Rescue collaborates with other NGOs to organise community health screening and sanitation exercises in the operating communities. Community health posts also benefit from voluntary services and donations to support their work.



*Portable water for Community ( funded by Rescue)*

## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### 1.4 CHARITY ACTIVITIES

#### a. Rescue Approach To Women And Girl's Rights

Rescue Volunteers Ghana is a female led organisation that happens to advocate for women and girl right. We are sure to ensure gender balance in our selection of executives and volunteers for the various activities that we engage in. Rescue Volunteers assists many more women and youth than we do men in our activities. We believe women have been marginalised for long in our society and the culture itself is male driven which relegate issues on women and girl right to the background. The Country Coordinator and Founder of the organisation herself is a woman.

Rescue Volunteers therefore trains its women and girl beneficiaries to advocate for rights of the female race in their communities and work places. We have a policy to work with queen mothers to pass our message across to the traditional leaders to consider right of women in their decision making processes. The organisation organises durbars and musical shows led by female artist to drum home our messages and also to encourage other females to join in the effort to empower women and girls. Head porters and street hawkers, normally women are trained in various vocations and sent home to integrate with their community members and encourage other girls who may fall victim to child marriage or societal neglect to also take advantage of Rescue Volunteers programs.



The objective of this initiative is to eliminate violence against women and girls and sustain respect for women's bodily integrity and autonomy. Some women and girl's rights issues that Rescue Volunteers consider in its work are:

- Young women's empowerment
- Violence against women and girls



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Economic security and justice
- Foster parenting and community integration
- Women's health (including sexual and reproductive rights)
- Women and technology
- Arts, Culture & Sports

Women play vital role in the establishment and operations of Rescue Volunteers Ghana. The organisation has more women than men on its board of directors to aid decision making which obviously are women and girl child centred. Most self-development programs are female led to encourage more women to join the campaign for female empowerment. Once the leaders are trained, they are given room to make decisions that will enhance and sustain the work in the area they lead. This makes most of the leaders bring out innovative ideas that travels far among women and the youth since most of our training programs are on train the trainer basis. Beneficiaries so trained become ambassadors for the program.

Management level decision making, also, consider issues of women because the organisation has a fair number of women at management level as it has men, quite a balanced number to aid the work. Most women occupying management positions are also experienced in their field which makes their contribution at management level very critical for decision making. Women serving on the Board of Directors have roles among others to assist in decision making that promotes the welfare of women, youth and people living with disabilities. They join other members of the board to review management procedures of the organisation and advice on matters that are supposed to be carried out by management.

### b. Rescue Approach To The Rights Of Street Children

Rescue Volunteers Ghana prides itself with the history made by Ghana in 1990, when Ghana was named the first country to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The country has many more policies in place to seek the welfare of



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

children yet, children remain in the streets of the major cities in the country to date. These children engage in many forms of economic activities to earn a living and in the process are abused by opportunist in many ways that affect their human existence.

Rescue seeks the right of such children who are willing to be developed and reintegrated into their communities through the various capacity building programs we run. Street children who have 'masters' that lure them into begging, windscreen wiping, selling of stolen item, petty thievery, pick-pocketing and finally spying for robbery find it difficult to report the inhuman punishment meted to them when they try to get close to government officials. Some therefore finds organisations like Rescue Volunteers Ghana, safe place of abode since our activities are continuous till beneficiaries are developed and integrated into their communities back home. One-off programs are therefore not attractive to these street children since the 'hawker-masters' will be waiting on their return to prey on them.

### c. Rescue approach to the right of Orphans

Orphans are dear to the heart of Rescue Volunteers hence, we applaud the Government of Ghana and other private entities that build and run orphanages in the country. Our interest lies in the total development of orphans and this has initiated our partnership with orphanages to advocate for and ensure the right of orphans. Their right for shelter is what we seek most in our partnership with the orphanages. This follows from provision made in Section 19(3) of the United Nations Convention on Child Right which mandates it's contracting Governments to remove a child in need of care and protection to a place of safety. Orphans brought to Rescue Volunteers are treated with care from the day they are discovered till they are finally developed. To ensure that operating standards are met, Rescue Volunteers partner with Domestic Violence





## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Victims Support Unit (DOVVSU) and Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and Orphanages in the communities we operate to handle cases of orphans. The benefit derived by orphans under the existing formal care system does not fully satisfy Rescue Volunteers need for orphans. Most orphans and vulnerable children who are lucky to benefit from the formal system of orphanages and government drop off centres are mostly sheltered far away from their families and communities. This results from the minimal formal foster care available in Ghana.

Rescue Volunteers also believe that the rights of orphans go beyond the provision of shelter, clothing and food. In effect, we seek to satisfy a peculiar psychological need of the orphan; sense of belongingness, duty and purpose. To this end, the organisation goes beyond putting orphans in orphanages and encourages relatives of orphans to assist in offering informal foster care. Orphans, who benefit from this informal arrangement, stand to benefit from family life. They do not see themselves as different from others who belong to a family. They also learn to use the words; sister, brother, uncle, aunt and more family specific words that show sense of belongingness. They take directions and life lessons from close relatives who would have remained distant from the orphanages they otherwise would have grown in.

Rescue Volunteers propagates orphans right to informal foster care firstly because the Word of God warns us against taking advantage of the fatherless in Exodus 22:22-24. Any act in that direction will not be overlooked by their creator if the orphans cry unto Him. Secondly, Ghanaian culture regards children as part of extended family with primary responsibility for their welfare and the constitution of Ghana makes provision for the Ghanaian child to be entitled to **“special care, assistance and maintenance as is necessary for its development”**. Rescue finds the informal foster care as the perfect way to assist and maintain the Ghanaian orphan for complete development.

Further, there comes a time also in the life of an orphan who grew in a formal foster care home to leave the foster home and be self dependent. At age 23 (i.e. the maximum age to remain at the orphanage), the orphan is expected to live a life that he or she has not experienced. For instance, they are expected socially to settle down, make family and relate with children and other families. This becomes a real socio-cultural challenge since children learn better through observation and the orphan from the orphanage is robbed of that opportunity. What happened to the Ghanaian “Hospitality” value being advertised by Ghana when our children are growing up in orphanages where they cannot experience the rich Ghanaian family culture in their formative years?

### Monitoring of Informal Foster Care

Social workers are trained to monitor the orphans that are left in the care of family members to offer informal foster care. Reason being that the kinship foster care arranged by Rescue and the extended family, do not guarantee automatic protection for the child. Rescue Volunteers therefore monitors the carer and offer financial assistance and advice on care giving to ensure that the child is offered adequate care.

## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Rescue Ghetto Ministry

“From the streets to Rehab and finally to Society as a reformed person”. Rescue regards people living in Ghettos as equal to those in the streets. They have many things in common. The only difference is that the ghetto provides shelter which the streets do not have. People who become convinced that the ghetto is not home and will be willing to return home are handled with care. Rescue Volunteers approach is **transformational and protective**. They lack social sense of direction. They are comfortable with their peer groups and are forced to exhibit characters that are accepted by the group whether they like it or not. The stigma attached to them when they make attempt to return to normal family life become so challenging that some return to the ghettos where they are welcomed. Friends are always ready to share what they have with them. They get to smoke left over cigarettes and they are offered free drinks at pubs and “akpeteshi” joints that they visit at night in groups.



Rescue Volunteers ensure the provision of psychological and religious assistance needed by the families and victims to make sure the latter integrates comfortably into the society they belong and live responsibly. These include access to funds and clothing and direct visit by health care specialist, evangelists and social workers to ensure improvement in the life of the beneficiary. Beneficiaries are also introduced to religious bodies with branches in their catchment areas to offer them alternative way of fellowshiping with believers who will accept them as family. This is to ensure that they do not go back to the ghetto to satisfy their need of belongingness.



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Anti-Child and Forced Marriage Project

Child Marriage Robs the youth of life opportunities. Most needy people migrate to cities to look for greener pastures. Among issues that bring some children to Accra, the capital city is child marriage. Some of these girls gather courage and escape from their husband's house. They find it difficult to go back home since they will either be recaptured or their own family will return them to their husbands. They therefore find solace far away from home where they go through so many tribulations before they find their feet in a strange environment.



Some of these girls that are unlucky and remain in this marriage after they are mostly kidnapped are so young that they are ignorant to everything marriage. They face so many challenges; formal education halted, maternal issues ranging from pregnancy to child care, and poverty become their companion.

This is why Rescue Volunteers Ghana finds it necessary to assist these victims through national programs that allow for the victims to learn trade or engage in other economic ventures while campaigning against the act and guiding children and youth to develop themselves.

Rescue Volunteers consider this as harmful socio-cultural practice that is unfortunately embraced by some communities in Ghana.

Rights of women that Rescue Volunteers Ghana seeks to advance through this initiative are:

- Women right to health,
- Women right to choice of spouse,
- Women right to education,
- Women right to work,
- Women right to decision making,
- Women right to own land and properties.

## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

This program aims at curbing child and forced marriage in the northern zone of Ghana and to change the negative narrative on women right to health in the area of reproduction. Projects considered under the program include the following:

- To get traditional leaders to include women in decision making to address issues that affect women for sustainable solution
- To empower women in the communities to be ambassadors for the program
- To economically empower victims of child and forced marriage to be self-reliant and support their family
- To increase women contribution to per capita income
- To assist in alleviating poverty in the northern zone of Ghana
- To contribute to female education
- To change the negative narrative on women health especially, their reproductive right
- To assist women in the northern zone of Ghana to contribute to the promotion of art and culture of Ghana
- To encourage women to adapt to modern technology to enhance their work and increase their income levels.

Steps to achieve objectives :

- Program launch in problem areas in the Northern zone of Ghana and the inner cities.
- Community meetings with traditional leaders on the subject..
- Sustainable activities to create awareness on the subject matter.
- Showing of documentaries on local television as well as airing on radio.
- Music festivals on anti-child marriage.
- Settings up training centres to train victims in various skills to enable them contribute to their family demands.
- Setting school clubs on anti-child marriage for advocacy at the root level.

### **Achievement in Anti-Child Marriage program**

Yes Rescue Volunteers Ghana has launched the program in Accra and attracted a lot of community leaders, queen mothers and opinion leaders that hail from the northern zone of Ghana who also share in the belief that child and forced marriage curtail the future prospects of the victims and infringe on their human right. They have pledged their support to the program in the north.

Rescuing of victims has started in earnest. Some victims have received training in various skills and are ready to be integrated to their communities. Some victims have been identified at Ahafo regions and Duu Walewale where the program was launched in 2020. Victims so identified are prepared and encouraged to remain focused while they wait for the start of the self-empowerment program for victims of child and forced marriage and some needy girls who could be forced into such marriages at tender age.



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Indirect beneficiaries of the program are:

- Families of victims that will receive skills for commercial gains
- Supplies to the community clinic for planned parenting will serve community members as well as direct beneficiaries
- Education and school clubs will create awareness and reduce the number of future victims

### 1.4 Self Development/Literacy Program

Under Self development, Rescue has a commitment to aid beneficiaries to add values to themselves through education. Consequently, Rescue takes the initiative to team up with churches to run weekly literacy program to all that agree to the need for education but cannot enrol into a formal education system.

Our target is mainly on people engaged in Trade and other Vocations. They are taught to read and write first in their native languages and then complement that with English Language and basic mathematics. English language is important in this programme because it is the formal language in Ghana. For the beneficiaries to step out of their communities and formally relate with others, they need to express themselves in the English language. The course is structured according to various vocational studies that beneficiaries train in.

Secondly, almost all products acquired for use by the beneficiaries in their careers have expiring dates. At least they should know how to interpret the nomenclature for manufacturing and expiring dates of products. This will go a long way to get many products off the shelves when they are due. Similar issues in connection with illiteracy could be addressed by the project as well.



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Ia. Registration

Registration is opened for the various programs during the first month of every year at the various community centres Rescue Volunteers operate. The doors of Rescue Volunteers remain open to the needy after the first month but their needs are attended to as per the availability of funds. Those that register after the first month are not able to join budgeted schedule programs for Rescue that normally takes off within the first quarter. So far, a good number of applicants receive help before the year ends.

### Ib. Training the Trainer

Training takes the form of training the trainer for the instructors. Rescue Volunteers are trained to meet training standards in the area they are to teach. Refresher courses are arranged for trainers at intervals to ensure they are abreast with modern procedures and systems.

### Ic. Formal Education

Some needy students gained scholarship with the National Scholarship Secretariat through the effort of Rescue Volunteers. Many of such students were on government bursary till the introduction of the free Senior High School program in 2017. Beneficiaries are mostly orphans and vulnerable children who are under the care of Rescue through elementary school system. Only a handful of such vulnerable children gets enrolled into schools that benefit from government capitation grant. Some come with severe health conditions that demand their enrolment into private schools that have special care logistics for their condition. This put much burden on the finances of Rescue Volunteers.





## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### II. Anti-Child Marriage Victims Development Program

Self development program for the child marriage victims take a different model. There is a special program tailored to the need of each victim since their situation may not be the same. Their development first go through counselling stage with is done on one-on-one basis with qualified counsellors affiliated to Rescue work. When beneficiaries finally settle on the path to develop themselves, they are then moved to either join the formal or non-formal education program depending on what the case may require. They are assigned also to social workers who check on them periodically to ensure that they remain on the path they have chosen to acquire employable skills to earn livelihood.

### III. Non-formal Education

Majority of adult beneficiaries that have not been through any formal education, benefit from Rescue Volunteers literacy program that is offered in a non-formal way. This is customised to meet the need of each skill group (i.e. beauticians and cosmetologists, tailoring and dress making, catering and table waiting, masonry, plumbing and carpentry, interior, exterior decoration and landscaping, salesmanship, commercial driving and farming) under the entrepreneurship program.

( Variety of teaching aide for Formal and Non-formal Teaching for beneficiaries )



## PROJECT EXIT PROCESSES

Rescue's training programs have a minimum of three years and a maximum of five years. Beneficiaries engaged over the years have different level of skill requirements. For this reason, project exit periods and packages differ for beneficiaries.

### 2.1 Vocational Skills

In most cases, Rescue partner with other establishments in communities where beneficiaries reside to train beneficiaries in various vocational and technical programs. These take the form of apprenticeship.

Apprentices under the various Vocational Training Programs exit in 3-5 year period. An average of 3-year period is for those training in Catering, Carpentry, Tailoring, Cosmetology and Dressmaking. Other Trades are taught within a year (i.e. Salesmanship, Driving and refresher courses in the various vocations listed above). After successful completion of the project, each beneficiary is set-up according to their basic needs under the program of choice. Some receive full start-up package with all the needed materials necessary to start that trade with. Professional drivers who graduate from this program are aided to get cars on hire purchase termed 'work and pay'. This system of practice gradually enables them to own cars within 18 months to 4 years. Others who benefit from refresher courses under the various vocations and already have some materials are assisted to obtain additional materials payable upon successful start-up of their personal businesses. Payment is in the form of instalments (susu) at the convenience of both parties.

### 2.2 Commercial Farming

Under the Commercial Farming Program, beneficiaries are enrolled unto the program as farmer trainees. Program facilitators engage these beneficiaries according to their farming seasons, usually twice a year for main farm crops like maize. These are major and minor season within a year. All together, period of actual farming for maize, and some vegetables could be 4 – 8 months and that of cassava could go for a year (12 months).



## PROJECT EXIT PROCESSES

After harvest, Rescue ensures that a percentage of profit is deposited at a bank in favour of beneficiaries towards their start-up packages when they actually exit the program. From the amount accrued to each beneficiary, farm lands are leased for the start of individual private commercial farming. Beneficiary trainee for poultry and livestock farming will use the start-up capital to establish his or her own private commercial project. These are yet to be introduced to beneficiaries after the proposed pilot program in 2019.

Rescue continues to supervise private start-up projects of graduates for two years after which help becomes available upon request. Beneficiaries who graduate from various programs and are properly set up are expected to make voluntary monthly contribution to a fund to cater for other needy ones.



*Allocated land for farmers*

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

Projects that Rescue undertakes are for individual donors and beneficiaries, so it is obvious that Rescue is just an overseer and a facilitator in the interest of all parties. Monitoring of projects is done by Rescue volunteers living in the communities with beneficiaries who have development of their individual communities at heart.

To ensure local presence of other partners, Rescue sends updates to them periodically and invites them to sites as and when they are available. Their representatives could also co monitor some projects that they directly sponsor.

Our projects are designed to follow a plan that allows follow-ups and continues self evaluation as the project enters new phases. At this time, performance is properly measured against real figures and not estimated figures as is often used first phase of the project.



At the end of all the cycles that are underway, or all proposed production periods, performance is assessed and Rescue forwards report to all Stakeholders of the project including other donors and community Leaders. Quarterly and annual reports also focus on events and activities for the period under consideration. Performance of beneficiaries at such short intervals will also be considered. They also talk about how far each of the intended objectives have been met and reasons why some objectives may need to be changed. Items that are captured in annual reports include but not limited to;



## PROJECT EXIT PROCESSES

- the effect of the project on the beneficiaries
- achieved results as compared with planned objectives of the project
- reason why some objectives may not be achieved and
- other activities that can help Rescue measure its progresses and achievements and identify available choices for future actions.

In addition, a detailed audited financial report is presented to supporters and donors of various projects. This accounts for all monies received, where they came from and how they were expended. It also includes reason for over or under spending and assessment of how well the expenditures contributed to reaching the stated objectives of the project.



*(Rescue Volunteers on Cassava Piloting Farm in Odumase)*

# MODLE PROGRAM

In Partnership with

**Youth Harvest Foundation  
Gonja Youth Association  
Tim Africa Aid Ghana  
Youth Alive Ghana  
Save Ghana**

Introducing Lean Season Farming in the Northern zone of Ghana.

Infrastructure is being prepared for a smooth take off of the project in 2020. Crops to be added to the maize and cassava will be yam and ground nut. Other vegetables to be considered under the project are onion, sweet pepper and okra. The program starts from one district in the five Regions of the Northern Zone.

Rescue is also taking steps to partner other investors and NGOs to add value to the farm produce to earn more income from the Agricultural Activities. Bee keeping and tree planting (Shea & Cashew) are also going to be major part of the work in the Northern Zone. This is to offer opportunity to a lot more beneficiaries under Rescue program in the North. In all our programs Rescue travels from the market to the farm, we arrange for inputs for farmers and apply best practices to ensure good results. Currently we have large market for our cassava making it necessary for us to increase our production. Investors are therefore being solicited for to partner us on this journey.



*Dugout dam for lean season farming By Rescue Volunteers*



## KEY ACHIEVEMENT

Rescue Volunteers have economically empowered young women, youth and people living with disabilities by turning some into commercial farmers, salesmen, drivers, tailors, seamstresses and cosmetologists, who have now settled and are currently training others. Many more have been trained and set up to run their own micro economic enterprises. On the political front, girls and young women have been groomed to take leadership positions in their communities and schools and to advocate for the needs of the poor and vulnerable in society.

Arts and Culture has been an integral part of Rescue work and therefore Rescue Volunteers has joined hands with the National Art and Cultural centre in Accra to train head porters (Kayayei) in artistic designs for economic gains. The organisation also fosters a good relationship with the people of Larabanga, a Community in the Damango District in the Savannah Region to promote the culture of Ghana through series of activities at the Rescue training centre. Some of our young women have been mentored to promote the Ghanaian culture through their music as artists.



*Affecting the needy positively - (Donations)*



*Affecting the needy positively - Introducing New apprentices into dress making*



*Affecting the needy positively - Introducing New apprentice into hair dressing*



*Affecting the needy positively - A Beneficiary Graduating*

## KEY ACHIEVEMENT

Rescue has also started advocating against child and forced marriages that occur among some communities in the northern zone of the country. We hope also to take far our advocacy program on women's reproductive right for healthy living.

Rescue has continuously spread its tentacles to other parts of the country. As at the end of 2019, rescue Volunteers have volunteers and works in the 12 communities in the Eastern Region, Three regions in the five regions of the North and operates also in 5 communities in Greater Accra. Active operation is in Greater Accra, Eastern, North-East, Northern and Savannah Regions.



*Acknowledging support from Richard and Marian*



## KEY ACHIEVEMENT



### Handicap

Rescue Volunteers believes that the handicap is not disabled. We say this with confidence based on our experience in working with the handicap. The human body is endowed with parts that support each other. A defect in one area does not incapacitate other parts of the body. Rather, other parts of the body can be developed to their full potential to make up for the affected part. This is why the blind can go about their duties perfectly once they know their environment and start seeing with their mind's eye.

In Rescue Volunteers association with the handicap, those with defects in the limbs are equally capable of all vocations they are introduced to. The Organisation can boast of handicap teachers, sales persons, beauticians, office and factory workers and even those pursuing formal education to graduate school level.

You are encouraged to join Rescue Volunteers in our attempt to assist the handicap to develop their full potential. Let us challenge the negative narrative that declare handicap (i.e. people living with disability) as disable.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENT



### Providing for Elderly

There comes a time in one's life when he or she grows to become a senior citizen (elderly). Rescue Volunteers believes that this is a privilege that must be enjoyed and not lived in suffering. The organization therefore try to identify elderly with socio-economic challenges in our operational communities to be offered necessary assistance. Most of the elderly in difficulty compound their situation with the care of orphans and 'grandchildren' whose living parents have abandoned them.



Health discussion with the elderly



KEY ACHIEVEMENT



Visit and donateion



setting the elderly up in business



KEY ACHIEVEMENT

Widows funded by Rescue Volunteers to engage in small businesses





KEY ACHIEVEMENT



Monitoring welfare of the handicap beneficiaries of Rescue Volunteer's Self Care programmes



Beneficiary of Rescue selfcare programme



# KEY ACHIEVEMENT

Donation of Wheel Chairs to the Health Post and Individuals at Larabanga, Savannah Region





## COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

Rescue Commercial activities generate good proceeds that put us in a position to pay high returns on investment to our clients. We are the primary users of the monies invested with us. Even the amount that goes to support the trade and activities of Rescue trained individuals, attract an average of 40% returns into Rescue coffers enabling us to meet our guarantor's obligations. Our agricultural activities are in the Eastern Region: Aseewa and its suburbs and the Northern Zone of Ghana. We also cultivate vegetables in commercial quantity in Accra where some of our training facilities are.

Most of the Agricultural activities yield an average of 100% returns on investment per annum. The vigilant monitoring and evaluation systems that Rescue uses ensures that field officers report on every phase of the project as and when they take actions. These are centrally monitored for accurate reporting. Details of our commercial activities are available for investors on the website where they can log on with personal identification numbers to monitor their investments. Investors also receive reports upon request.

We are able to realise such returns on our agricultural activities because we encourage block farming where farmers form cooperatives to work on a sizeable farmland for cost effective use of input for better returns. Farmer cooperatives are mostly eager to work with us because of our favourable terms of returns sharing. After all costs are deducted, earnings are shared in a ratio of 1/3 for Rescue and 2/3 for farmer cooperatives. The minimum land size per farmer is 1 hectare (2 1/2 acres). Our non-profit nature enables us reward our partners very well because the measure of our progress is more towards lives that are positively affected and not monetary.

Rescue is a Charitable Organisation that invests in people to get them out of poverty and hardship. Rescue raises capital through grants, loans or direct investment by individuals and corporate bodies, As a non-profit making organization, we are not registered to trade in the financial market and that is not our aim. However, as a progressive credible institution, our operations



## INVEST WITH US

include providing seed money to beneficiaries under our various programs. These beneficiaries are trained and monitored to use best practices which meet industrial standards and yield positive results. We have therefore maintained partners that are satisfied with the returns on their investments through our various programs that yield positive interests. Examples of such programs are Agriculture and Antrepreneurship. The former, offers opportunity for people to be trained as commercial farmers while the latter provides seed capital for beneficiaries and invest in Rescue Training Centres. We therefore welcome partners who are either interested in supporting our work financially or materially through grants and loans, or partners who are seeking long term investment with reasonable returns on their investment.

### **Grants**

As a charitable oriented organization, we welcome support and grants that will enable us achieve our desired vision. We are committed to best financial working practices and therefore promise to use your money responsibly and efficiently towards the purpose for which it was donated

### **Loans**

The nature of our operation requires us to recoup whatever money we invest. We seek soft term loans from other charitable institutions or institutions that aims to support charities to advance our ambitions help many more people out of poverty.

### **Investment**

Based on the successful model of our operations over the years, we now have huge scope for expansion. we encourage interested persons and oraganisations to invest with Recsue for good return on investment as well as assisting the vonurable.



## INVEST WITH US

### Objectives/ strategy

We focus on long term growth and development of Rescue beneficiaries. That notwithstanding, we do not lose focus on current income ventures that attract good investment returns for those that invest with us of partner us in undertaking some of our major activities. We also believe that individual situation differ so we endeavour to offer custom-made services that demand modified solutions

### Method of payment

- Investment contributions made to Rescue could be in one time deposit or regular (i.e. monthly) transfers.
- Partners could set up standing orders.
- Cash and cheques are also acceptable options.

### Investment Benefits

1. Safe and stable earnings
2. Flexible investment offer tailored to client goal
3. Diverse investment options
4. More attractive earnings on investment as compared to bank savings rates.
5. More than one deposit can be made by the investor.
6. Opportunity to invest in people
7. Contribution to the development of communities other than your own
8. Optimal/competitive returns in the long term
9. Investment statements provided half year, annually and upon request

### General Requirements:

Rescue requires its investors to register with the organization with the following materials:

1. **2 passport size photographs**
2. **Proof of identification (i.e. driver's license, passport or voter's ID)**
3. Residential address preferably GPS address



For more information on  
**RESCUE'S PROGRAMS**

and details on how to partner with us,  
please contact

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For more general information on Rescue  
please visit us on [www.  
rescuevolunteers.org](http://www.rescuevolunteers.org)