

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 talent 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 quest to assist the vulnerable as a way of contributing our quota to the society we live in.
Thank you.

LYDIATSOTSOO 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 mission. 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.

1.1 Agricultural Development

The Agricultural programme targets crop farming to start with. In all the communities that rescue has representation, 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 percentage 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.

ACTIVITIES

● 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 way 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 arrangement. What one gets to train in depends on each person's capabilities and inner desire.

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.

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.

Rescue guarantees for the beneficiaries who receive this 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.

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 provision of water and other sanitation projects.

● 1.4 Self Development/Literacy Program

Under self development, Rescue has a commitment to aid beneficiaries to add value 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 language 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 career have expiring dates. At least they should know how to interpret the nomenclature for manufacture 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.

ACTIVITIES



Supply of Inputs

Under the pilot program, inputs are supplied on credit to farmers and program coordinators train and monitor beneficiaries to ensure best practices for better yield. 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.

2018 Pilot Program -Teyi

The Teyi program also benefited ten (10) farmers. Nine (9) tried new method of tilling the land such that fertilisers can be avoided while one (1) used the old method with fertilizer. This was to demonstrate and introduce other modern alternative methods to farming. Yields were as expected. Pilot program in other communities in the Eastern region has started in earnest.



2018 Pilot Program-Laraganga

The program benefited ten (10) farmers. They engaged in maize farming. Before then ground nut was modelled by the only female beneficiary under the program. Yields have been good and RESCUE has recovered the input while beneficiary stores produce to attract higher price in future.

Ready Market

So far RESCUE has collaborated with beneficiaries to arrange buyers for their produce. Market is being sort both national and international for the 2019 Pilot program. Same is being arranged with other government agencies and private organisations for the anticipated higher yield and varieties that will be introduced in the coming years when the program is extended to all regions in the Northern Zone of Ghana.



ACTIVITIES



Graduation

Vocational training is offered in collaboration with private companies. Beneficiaries receive start up capital after graduation, which they pay in the form of 'susu' when they become established.

Capital Financing

Beneficiaries get seed money in the form of input for farmers and business start up funds for those that successfully complete different vocation. This gives them a head start and activities are monitored to ensure success and loan repayment



Dress Making

As part of the entrepreneurship initiatives beneficiaries get to train in tailoring and dressmaking. They are encouraged to learn modern skills and trending styles in the trade that can set them apart for higher market preferably export.

Small scale enterprise

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



ACTIVITIES



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.

Scholarship

Some beneficiaries in University and Media school. The Scholarship secretariate used to assist some of the RESCUE beneficiaries to enrol into senior secondary school till the introduction of the "free education" in 2017. Last group of senior secondary beneficiaries ends in 2020.



Literacy

Beneficiaries willing to learn are taken through literacy programs to improve their work and to interact with people outside their local communities.

Child Marriage

Some children run from Child Marriage to Accra and face a lot of hardship far away from home. RESCUE introduces ways to assist these runaways and needy victims to earn a living.



ACTIVITIES



PROJECT EXIT PROCESS

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. This takes 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 trainee. Program facilitators engage these beneficiaries according to 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).

After harvest, Rescue ensures that percentage of profit is deposited at a bank in

PROJECT EXIT PROCESS

favour of beneficiaries towards their start-up package 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 their own private commercial projects. 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.



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 for the 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 reason why some objectives may need to be changed. Items that are captured in annual reports include but not limited to;

- 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 progress and achievement 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.

MODLE PROGRAM

In Partnership with

Youth Harvest Foundation
Resource Link Foundation
Tim Africa Aid Ghana
Youth Alive Ghana
A Rocha 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.





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



Beneficiary, Resue selfcare programme