

# face to **FACE**

*Putting a FACE to humanity.*

Newsletter of the Foundation for African Children's Education, a division of FOCUS on Africa Society  
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## Largest Group of Volunteers on this Year's Trip



(left) Group picture with sponsored children in Bodoma village. (below) Presenting the backpacks to the sponsored children; the chief in this village joined us too.

**A** good hello to you, our loyal supporter.

We just returned from our 8th annual trip to Ghana in March with plenty of firsts and so in this newsletter we are going to try and share them with you.

On this trip we had the largest number of volunteers come with us; there was a record ten of us from Vancouver, Canada who met in Ghana the first week of March for the start of our road trip. In addition to the regulars, myself, Beverley, Joseph and Suzanne, we had Carolyne MacCallum from Port Coquitlam, BC; Leson and Iman (recent grads from Kwantlen University), Dr. Mensal Wilson from Abbotsford and Bernard Piprah and Monika Werner from Surrey. Of course as always we were joined by our Ghana volunteers Nana, Joyce and Dr. Owusu as well.

We are happy to report that for the eighth year in a row, we were able to help more children go to school

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(above and right) Volunteers preparing the back packs and loading them in our van for the start of our road trip.



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than the previous year. A record 300 children from 10 different villages, up from 270 the previous year. Each child received a backpack full of all the essentials they need to go to school: two uniforms, a pair of shoes, English, Math and science textbooks. A dozen exercise books, pens, pencils and cash of 50 cedis given to the guardian to help with school lunch. More importantly, in each village we met one on one

with each of these orphans/needy children and their parents or guardians and we chatted with them about how important school is and could be in their lives. They in turn told us what they wanted to be when they grow up, many of them mentioning, nurses, teachers, pastors and even an international soccer player.

Similar to our last edition, we wish to convey the story of our trip more in pictures than words and we hope you see hope and a brighter future in the faces of these kids, made possible by you, our supporter.

*George Addei-Piprah, FACE Board member and Honorary Consul General for Ghana in British Columbia*



(top) Nana Opoku Wereko, a long time Ghana volunteer, with children and parents in Jaachie.



(above) Volunteers Joseph Frimpong and Caroline spending time with a sponsored child and guardian.

(top) George Piprah meeting with a sponsored child and parent.  
(above) Bernard and Monika interviewing a sponsored childr and parent.

## A Report by Suzanne Eyers from Ejura, Ghana



In February, I travelled back to Ghana for the seventh time. I was truly elated to return to Ejura this year as my family and I held a most successful fundraiser whereby 17 new sponsors joined FACE in the support of a child. As a result, a total of 71 children in Ejura are now attending school and obtaining an education through sponsorships. Ejura is a small village in the Ashanti Region of Ghana close to Kumasi.

Children in Ejura would not have had the opportunity to attend school without the kindness of FACE's sponsors and donors. This year, there are 48 children in Kindergarten-P6 (Grade 6 level); 16 children in JSS1-2 (Grade 7-8) and five graduating from JSS3 (Grade 9) this forthcoming July. We also have two students who have continued through to the SSS (Grade 10-12 level). Many of the students who have reached this level have been sponsored from the beginning of their education. We are delighted to report that two students in particular, have excelled in their academics and thereby have skipped a grade, per the recommendation of their Headmasters. These students continue to do well and are a sign that given the opportunity, children can shine! Also of note this year, we are sponsoring a 20-year old who is profoundly thrilled to be given the chance to be in Grade 5.

It has and continues to be an honour to volunteer with FACE and support these incredibly needy, bright and grateful children. By providing 71 children an education, it improves their lives and offers greater opportunity for their future.

*Suzanne Eyers, Volunteer & Member of the Board of FACE*

**FOUNDATION for  
AFRICAN  
CHILDREN'S  
EDUCATION**

### Our mission

- To work to break the cycle of poverty through primary education.
- Focus on primary school children in the rural areas of Africa.
- Focus on getting 100% of sponsors' donations to children through the use of volunteers and direct action.

### Criteria for selection of sponsored children

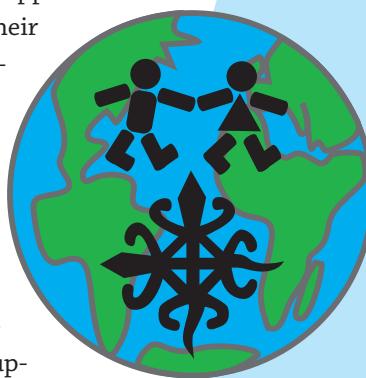
- Must be attending primary school.
- Must live in a rural area of Africa.
- Parents must be known in the community as having experienced financial difficulties.

### What your donation does for the child

- We personally deliver to the child and his or her parent a kit containing essential school supplies: 2 sets of school uniforms, a pair of sandals, 2 dozen exercise books, pens, pencils, and a dictionary all in a nice backpack. To help with providing lunches we also give \$50 to the parent.

### Criteria for on-going support of a child

- Child must stay in school. The monitoring committee in the village must certify this.
- Money must be used for the intended purpose.
- The child must continue to do well in school.



## Number of children sponsored

In 2007 .....	50
In 2008 .....	120
In 2009 .....	158
In 2010 .....	180
In 2011 .....	240
In 2012 .....	250
In 2013 .....	270
In 2014 .....	300

Focus on Africa and FACE sincerely thank all the child sponsors.



(above) Sponsored child and her family.  
(left) Our team with sponsored kids in Asokore.

## JOIN US

### Have you always wanted to go to Africa as a volunteer?

You have an opportunity to go with us on this project, next year, to Ghana as a volunteer. You will travel with us to seven villages so you will see a good section of the countryside. Volunteers pay for their airfare, etc. If you are interested in this life-changing experience, call George at 604.230.8659.

#### Donation form

Yes, I want to make a difference in the life of a primary school student in Africa.

I will sponsor (check one):

- One (1) child to go to school. Donation is \$150 annually.
- Two (2) children to go to school. Donation is \$300 annually.



FOUNDATION for  
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#### Your donation today can give a child a future!

You will receive a tax deductible receipt for your donation. You will also receive a picture of the child, their name and, if possible, a letter from the child.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

My first cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is included.

Please make cheque payable to: Focus on Africa  
and mail to: Focus on Africa c/o Ghana Consul-General  
#108 - 6741 Cariboo Road  
Burnaby, BC, Canada V3N 4A3

We are proud to say that 90% of your donation gets to the sponsored child.