

# face to FACE

Putting a FACE to humanity.

Newsletter of the Foundation for African Children's Education, a division of FOCUS on Africa Society  
c/o Ghana Consul-General • #108 - 6741 Cariboo Road • Burnaby, BC, Canada • V3N 4A3 • 604.230.8659 • [www.faceforafrica.com](http://www.faceforafrica.com)



Spring 2016 • Volume 10

## No Champagne... But 10 Year Milestone is Celebrated



**T**his year myself and two other volunteers left Vancouver, Canada for Ghana on February 26, 2016. After the usual three days in Accra for buying school supplies and arranging and sorting the textbooks, pens, pencils, shoes and uniforms into the backpacks, we set off on the road in two buses. There were ten of us by now, having been joined by our long time Ghana based volunteers.

Our first stop, was Bodoma, a remote village in the Ashanti region about a four hour drive from the capital. Our coordinator in this village had gathered a large crowd filled with the school children, their parents or guardians and the village chief and his council of elders. Together we shared a drink of palm wine (a local beverage) and we celebrated our tenth year sponsoring children in Ghana! It was in this village that we started with 20 children, ten years ago.



Now at this gathering was 42 children who FACE is sponsoring dressed nicely in their school uniforms. Among them was Kwasi Bruce, an orphan whom FACE began sponsoring when he was in Kindergarten. Kwasi is now in primary six, full of hope about to graduate from primary school. There was

*continued on page 2*

(right) With the sponsored children in Agbozume



(above) Our FACE Ghana Directors at our meeting with the children in Abore Village: from right to left Nana Opoku, Dr. Ebenezer Owusu and Dr. James Adomako from University of Ghana, Legon. (right) Making sure the children receive a bag with the appropriate supplies in Agbozume village.

*continued from page 1*

also Joyce Owusu, one of our first sponsored kids, also an orphan, who is now about to graduate from senior High School. Ms Owusu gave a speech of how FACE sponsorship has changed her life: She is graduating from Senior High soon and the school is considering giving her a job as a teacher's assistant.

FACE has quite a lot of reasons to celebrate our 10th anniversary. From one village we are now in ten villages across Ghana. From 20 children, we are now giving hope for an education to 380 children. Not just the numbers but village after village we received testimonies of how our sponsored children are doing well in school. Many of them are in the top of their class, according to their school report cards that they showed us. From despair they have hope of getting an education and a very real chance of breaking the

cycle of poverty they find themselves in.

Back in 2006 when this idea was formed in the backyard of Ro and Lindsay Lal in North Vancouver, we could not have envisioned this success. All this has been achieved in 10 years only because of the loyal financial support and prayers we have received from our FACE supporters. We will always be grateful to you and hope that as we look forward to the future, we can grow this charity to be able to impact more children in the developing world. We hold on to the collective belief that we can help these children by teaching them how to fish, rather than "giving them the fish".

Best regards,

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

## A Report by Suzanne Eyers from Ejura, Ghana

**M**y time in Ejura this year was both jubilant and apprehensive. We were privileged to host another FACE tea in October 2015 with great interest in our work in Ghana and generated a great interest in sponsorship. This led to 125 students being sponsored this year. Meeting with each family is vital to our program and takes a significant amount of time — but is incredibly valuable both for FACE and the students themselves.

On March 10 we presented 125 children in Ejura with their school uniforms and all of their school supplies. Most students happily arrived wearing a pair of new shoes we had purchased in the local market. The presentation was an exciting day and was attended not only by the students but the families and guardians as well.

This year, we are pleased to share that two students will graduate from Grade 12 — a bright future lays ahead for them! Both students have been sponsored for many years and their success was made possible by FACE.

In addition, a student sponsored since grade 7 will obtain her Nursing Degree in December 2016. Her graduation will provide her a profession but also is a moment for Ejura to rejoice and celebrate the bright sponsored children. While FACE works tirelessly to sponsor, the children work hard to learn and create successful communities of advancement.

Over 115 children in Ejura are currently attending school between grades 1 and 9. Of note, two 'children' are especially elated to be at school as they are 17 and 22 years old and have not had the opportunity to attend previously.

These children have been offered a better future thanks to our sponsors. In gratitude, these children have spoken of sponsoring their younger siblings to obtain schooling. Thus we have hope that education can occur for all.

I am overwhelmed by the appreciation of the impoverished children as well as overwhelmed by the number of our sponsors.

What more can I say? Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*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

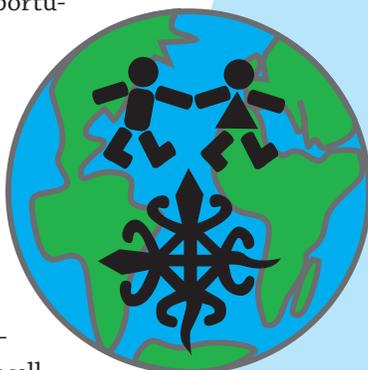
- Must be attending primary school.
- Must live in a rural area of Africa.
- Parents must be known in the community as having experienced financial difficulties.

### 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.





### Newsflash!

One of our own sponsored students, Ebenezer Asamoah, won first place at a Math and Science Competition in the Gomoa District of Central region in 2015.

## By the numbers

### Our amazing growth in 10 years

In 2007 ..... 50

In 2016 ..... 380

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



# 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 \$165 annually.
- Two (2) children to go to school. Donation is \$330 annually.



**FOUNDATION for  
AFRICAN  
CHILDREN'S  
EDUCATION**

### 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.**  
"Check us out at [www.faceforafrica.com](http://www.faceforafrica.com)"