



Horizons Children's Home

"Forward Ever, Backward Never"

Issue #4

May, 2003



**Sandema, Builsa District,
Upper East Region, Ghana**

In Ghana:

Horizons Children's Home
Box 59, Bolgatanga, UER
Ghana, West Africa

In Canada:

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Toronto, ON
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June, 2003

Dearest Friends,

Warmest greetings from the Horizons Children's Project! We are a Canadian-Ghanaian partnership that supports abandoned and destitute children in Sandema, a rural town in Ghana. Just three years ago, many of the children currently under our care were living life on the streets of Sandema. Now, they are enrolled in school and participating in a dynamic household. Our mission is to equip these needy children with the education and skills they need to reach their fullest potentials.

Since our last newsletter, we have welcomed another 6 children into the Horizons home. This brings our total number of boys up to 26! With so many children living communally, you can imagine how chaotic life can be at the home. It is a testimony to the wonderful work of our Coordinator, Simon Akoba, and the House Mother, Judith Adum, who dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the smooth running of day-to-day activities at the house.

This summer, I'll be returning to Sandema to spend a couple of months with the children, Simon and our volunteer Board of Advisors. We will put our heads together to develop some plans for expanding our current program. Some areas we will explore include 1) purchasing computers for the home to provide skill-building opportunities for the children, and 2) developing a small business initiative that the children can run in order to enhance their skills and increase the home's sustainability. In the meantime, we are seeking feedback and ideas from everyone and anyone, so if you have any insights, please feel free to contact us!

In this newsletter, we've included photos of our newest household members, some pictures of life at the home, a financial statement for 2002, and some artwork and children's writing. As you read through this issue, it's easy to see how the generosity of our donors in the United States and Canada is impacting lives and shaping futures. Thank you sincerely and happy reading!

Sincerely,

Heather Menezes

Newsflash



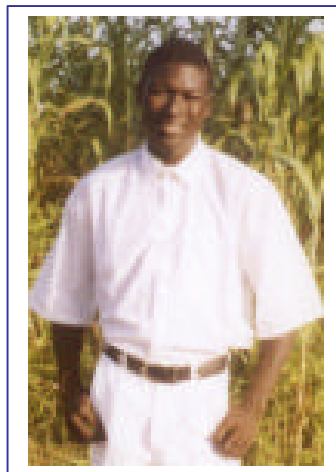
Our Growing Family

With each passing year, the Horizons family gets bigger and bigger! (Left to Right): Joshua, Sunday, Monday, Fushieni, Alhassan and Dennis all joined the Sandema home in January. They are now fully settled in, busy with schoolwork and household activities.

Celebrating Success

2003 is a great year for Isaac. He was recently selected at the Senior Prefect for his Junior High School. Isaac was also invited by representatives of the American organization Peace Corps to attend an 2-day student conference. When he got home, Isaac shared his knowledge about environmental preservation and HIV/AIDS with the children at the home. Way to go, Isaac!

Roland, the oldest member of the household, recently graduated from his 2-year vocational training program. We wish him all the best as he begins his apprenticeship with a local mason, and we will continue to keep you posted about our first graduate!



ChildSpeak

Myself

Amos Akanwarilam is my name. I come from Sandema Abiliyeri in the upper East Region of Ghana. I am a boy Thirteen years. Two Metres Five centimetres tall. I am attending Ayieta Primary School Sandema. I am in class Three. I am among the best in the class. I like Bible reading and reading story books and watching T.V. I do not like attending dance. The game I like best is football. I am very kind to people especially strangers but I'm hot tempered. All the same people love me.

Myself

My name is Emmanuel Ayognying. I come from Sandema bilinsa in upper East region Ghana. I am boy of fourteen year old, two metre five centmetres tall. I am in black in colour. I have small nose, flat face and a down cut hair. I am attending Ayieta primary School. I am in class three. I am best artist. I like Bible discussing and sporting. I do not like stealing gossiping and insulting Elderly. I am very good to people and people like me.

A Glimpse

When they are not busy with schoolwork or housework, the boys enjoy relaxing and playing in the courtyard. Right: Paul, Moses, Danzumah, Victor and their neighbours play cards.



Left: Bunkbeds have enabled us to maximize on space in our relatively small home. And of course, sharing a room with 12 boys means plenty of opportunities for kidding around!

Boys work in teams of two to do their weekly household chores. Right: Daniel and Awudu feed some hungry chickens.



Of Daily Life



Left: Moses shows off one of his favourite storybooks from the household 'library'. Most of the books in the library are from a second-hand book shop in Accra (the capital city).

Right: Daniel shows off his new glasses while weeding the garden. The extensive garden is a source of many foods, including cassava, yam, peppers, rice and other vegetables.



Left: After their evening meal, the dining table doubles as a study table and the boys busily tackle their homework.

**Horizons Children's Project
Statement of Operations
August 1, 2002 to July 31, 2002**

Revenue – All Sources \$22,248

Period Expenses

Direct Charitable Costs (Food, Education, Household)	\$ 4,952	
Local Travel	\$ 191	
Occupancy (Utilities)	\$ 200	
Office Supplies	\$ 175	
Salaries	\$ 1,736	
International Travel	<u>\$ 2,570</u>	

Total Period Expenses **\$ 9,824**

Long Term Expenditures and Prepayments (Assets)

Prepaid Expenses ⁽¹⁾	\$ 1,991	
Lease and Furnishing for New Home ⁽²⁾	<u>\$10,117</u>	

Total Long Term Expenditures and Prepayments (Assets) **\$12,108**

Total Expenses **\$21,932**

Excess of Revenues Over Expenses **\$ 316**

**Horizons Children's Project
Statement of Financial Position
As at July 31, 2002**

Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 316	
Current Assets		\$ 316

Net Assets		
Net Assets	<u>\$12,108</u>	
Net Assets		\$12,108

Net Assets **\$12,124**

Liabilities		
All Liabilities	\$ _____	
Liabilities		\$ _____

Net Assets		
Assets invested in Prepaid Expenses ⁽¹⁾	\$ 1,991	
Assets invested in Lease and Furnishing for New Home ⁽²⁾	\$10,117	
Unrestricted Net Assets – Cash	<u>\$ 316</u>	
Net Assets		\$12,424

Net Assets **\$12,424**

Notes

All statements in Canadian dollars

⁽¹⁾ Includes estimated Prepayment of Local Expenses for August and September, 2002

⁽²⁾ Includes 10 years rent plus furnishings

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the children in Sandema, we would like to thank all of our donors for their generous support!



The Stanley Francis Foundation is a registered Canadian charity which supports educational initiatives in developing countries. Donations towards our project can be made c/o the Stanley Francis Foundation, 22 Rustywood Drive, North York, ON, M3A 1R8 and marked for the "Sandema Horizons Children's Project". Receipts will be issued for tax purposes.