STREET CHILDREN EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

DESIGNED BY COMMUNICATIONS AND ADVOCACY OFFICER YAKUBA ISSAH

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What began as a year like many others, transformed into something quite different when the COVID-19 epidemic struck the entire world, forcing us to shift our working environment from the office to the home in order to prioritize the health of our staff, children, donors and partners. That was the dynamic with which everyone in the world had to contend. I'm happy to say that the Street Children Empowerment Foundation rose to the situation admirably.

It was a year that required us to adapt quickly, move nimbly, and be especially attentive to detail, from the beginning of the year with the goal of celebrating our 10th Anniversary as a fundraising dinner with donors and partners to the end of the year with all of our activities taking place virtually.

SCEF was on hand to provide a variety of remote learning options, including home delivery of education, as schools were closed along the way. We also created an Offsite Community Program for our Volunteers' where they can gain experience with hands-on training on a part-time basis amidst COVID-19. There was a well-functioning and growing network of locally trained volunteers who actively participate in SCEF's operations such as fundraising, advocacy, event planning and assistance, and business ideas and guidance.
Thanks to the support of all our donors, there was a disbursement of an amount of GHS 51,450 as a COVID-19 Alleviation Fund by Ghana Enterprise Agency, making a significant difference in parent and children support. Of course, there were numerous other achievements, which you will see in the body of this report, of which would be noteworthy in a regular year. Despite the obstacles posed by the coronavirus, we never wavered in our commitment to the children and families we serve, thanks to the tireless efforts of our board, employees, donors, and partners. I hope you appreciate reading this summary of some of SCEF’s most notable achievements and learning more about the many ways the organization is expanding and evolving. With this year as a milestone, our sights are set even higher for the future.

Sincerely,
Paul Semeh,
Executive Director,
Street Children Empowerment Foundation.
Children in Hazardous Work (CHAW)
As part of implementing the mission of SCEF, a 5-year strategic plan has been developed to deliver programmes aimed at rescuing children who are in street situations. The strategic plan will ensure to provide full scholarships to identified street children involved in hazardous work as well as develop a sustainable means of funding for parents involved in hazardous work.
In the year under review, 100 children received scholarships, and the recipients benefited from our Back-to-School initiative. Currently, the social service team is working with 68 scholarship recipients made up of 32 females, and 36 males. Out of the 100 scholarship recipients, 27 are active at their junior high level, 8 at a senior high level and 33 are in their primary level supported by the social work team.
It is important to point out that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated closure of schools, social service workers who work in schools were redeployed back to the streets to rescue more children whose families have been financially affected by the effects of COVID-19. As a result, 37 children were rescued through our quarter rescued mission, exceeding our 25 target margin for the year. Out of the 37, 28 are undergoing rehabilitation while 9 have been reintegrated into mainstream schools.

The Smile Project
The Smile Project is a haven for academic excellence with a central focus on becoming a model school for children in street situation. The Smile Project incorporates the service of social workers and health workers to address issues such as physical, physiological, and cultural norms/behaviours which have the potential to impede students from reaching their fullest potential.
SCEF works in collaboration with the Smile Project and there is an agreement for SCEF to recommend a maximum of 100 street children annually to the project. In the last year, 24 street children were recommended to the Smile Project, however, when COVID-19 intensified an extra 18 children were identified and referred making the total of 42 children referred to the project in the year. Out of the initial 24 referred to the project, 6 children completed their rehabilitation, while 18 are still undergoing 3-month rehabilitation. Six out of the 42 children are now full scholarship recipients.
Grassroots Entrepreneurs Empowerment Program (GEEP)

GEEP program seeks to empower 100 street-connected families (mothers, teenage mothers, and youth) to be financially self-reliant. The entrepreneurship package for recipients includes a start-up capital, coaching, and training on financial literacy, work readiness as well as business support services for the identified grassroots parents. In the year under review, SCEF secured GHC 10,000.00 financial support from the Ghana Social Workers Union, UK (GHAWSU-UK) and additional micro-grant of 1,029.00 from NBSSI. SCEF provided entrepreneurship training for 50 participants who also received grants to support them get their business back on track from the impact of COVID.

Urban Savings and Loans Association (USLA)

This project is designed to support and encourage participants to understand the ethics of savings for a rainy day. The goal was to have a total membership of 150 on the USLA program, by the close of the year. Although SCEF was unable to meet the target number of 150, we are proud to say that the interest accrued was reassuring and the number of participant increased in the following year from 29 to 58 participants. SCEF advised parents of our beneficiaries to cultivate the habit of saving separately for their children to secure financial security should they exit the SCEF scholarship program.
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**Reading is Basic Project (RIB)**
SCEF in collaboration with BookAid International, UK (BAI) is to deliver an inclusive supplemental learning intervention that will establish and promote reading in schools.

**The RIB has drawn success**
in seven phases namely:
needs assessment (baseline) report, shipment, and clearance of books, library management training, and distribution of logistics, school prefect training, midline survey. Periodic monitoring is scheduled to encourage the patronage of the setup library by students and teachers.

The initial work plan for the commencement of the Reading is Basic project were;
- For the project to run for a year from 2020-to 2021 until COVID revised the scheduled timelines.
- Provide library management training for headteachers, teachers, and P.T. Officials.

The project had benefited more than 5,000 children in 15 schools and trained 30 librarians from the selected schools/institutions.

**Advocacy**
Advocacy has become an integral part of SCEF’s mission to transform the lives of street-connected children in James Town and Accra central. In the year under review, both traditional and social media were engaged to help SCEF achieve the desired visibility and reputation in Ghana.

Over the last year, the communications unit in collaboration with the office of the Executive Director of SCEF have been leading advocacy efforts consistent with SCEF’s 2030 strategic plan. In the year under review, SCEF’s use both systematic and case advocacy, focusing on legislation and policy, individuals and small groups to transform the lives of street-connected children. This resulted in many successful activities. Through the use of social media, traditional media, and the website, we were able to reach a total number of 277,059 people during the celebration of International Day for Street Children. This increased the awareness and attention on the needs of children in street situations.
The Learning Hub

The SCEF learning hub is a haven for children in the Jamestown community for supplemental learning. The hub serves two major purposes namely, a 3-months rehabilitation program for newly rescued children in street situations and also provides an after-school supplemental learning program for school-going children in the community. The learning hub comprises the classroom, craft lab, library, and play space. The hub is also used to host several events including birthday parties and seminars.

Due to the continual spread of the COVID-19 virus and lockdown in Ghana, the learning hub was closed from March 2020 until it was partially opened from September to October 2020 serving an average of 25 children every day. In January 2021, patronage increased to 30 a day.

From September to October 2020, the learning hub has been utilized by 50 children whiles January 2021 to May 2021 had 193 children making the total of children who visited the learning hub 243.
In addition, the hub has seen birthday celebrations reaching an average of 100 children in attendance.

CENTER FOR GRASSROOTS ENTERPRISE (CGE)

Omanyé Coffee Shop
Provides employment, an avenue for marketing products of beneficiary business ventures, and generates revenue in support of CGE operations. The coffee shop which offers employment to Sarah Braide, a beneficiary, can generate an average profit margin of GHC 70 monthly. The coffee shop has not undergone any major changes since the beginning of the year and is not expected to undergo any significant changes for the next two quarters.

Yehowa Nyonmo Da Bakery
Provide employment opportunities for beneficiaries and generate revenue in support of CGE operations through the production and sales of bread and pastries. The Yehowa Nyonmo Da Bakery has been dormant for some time now. All attempts to find a professional baker proved futile. The CGE lacks resources to fund the bakery and this made it reviving process slow.
Omanye Business Centre
Generate revenue in support of CGE operations through the provision of secretarial services to potential clients in the Jamestown neighborhood and beyond.
In the year under review, the Omanye Business Center has not generated enough funds due to the availability of multiple printing centers in the area. Our marketing drive with the schools and organizations around has not been successful as they either have printers in their schools or offices.

EVENTS
Take Me Back To School
Supplies For Dreams
Take Me Back to School saw 68 current scholarship recipients and 37 newly rescued street-connected children participating in this year’s event. As part of the supplies for dreams program, funds were raised to purchase back packs which contained: new school bags, pencils, pen, 10 exercise books, 5 notebooks, sharpener, ruler, rice. In addition items received from our Germany NGO partner, send a smile e.V. included toys, totty bags, and books were added to the back packs for all the children.
Values Clarification on Adolescent Reproductive Health

Male and Female Reproductive System

Gender Roles and Gender Stereotypes

Self Esteem and Assertiveness.

In the review year, SCEF in partnership with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), provided training to young people on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health. The training was to create awareness, empower the adolescents, and also provide them with resource materials. The program was in response to the increasing rate of sexual abuse and teenage pregnancy caused by lockdown and the closure of schools.

The training took place at the RCAA Conference Hall at SCEF’s headquarters in James Town on 29th November 2020. The training was facilitated by the UNFPA Youth Fellows (YoLe) on topics such as:

- Values Clarification on Sexuality
- Adolescent Reproductive Health
- Male and Female Reproductive System
- Gender Roles and Gender Stereotypes
- Self Esteem and Assertiveness.

The adolescents were given information on reproductive health and burning questions such as menstruation, wet dream, and how pregnancy occurs were all addressed. This also helped address false beliefs on adolescents that they held prior to attending the training. The training also empowered children to be confident about who they are and to follow any career choice they want to achieve regardless of gender biases ascribed by society.

Children also received the resource material containing questions and answers section about sexual reproductive health.

YES For Adolescent Sexual Health (YASH)

YASH is a SCEF project which aims to increase awareness on sexual health education to young people to prevent issues such as sexual abuse, STIs and subsequently to prevent children from dropping out of school.
“I did not know how menstruation occurred. Now I know that adolescents have eggs in their reproductive system and when they are unfertilized, they come out as blood every month and we call it menstruation”- Emmanuella, 13 years (right corner).

“I was told by my neighbours, friends, and family that wet dreams are caused by evil spirits but now I know that wet dreams are normal to occur at the adolescent stage because it a natural process”- Herbert, 14 years

Age and Gender of the 26 adolescents who participated in the training
Water Sanitation And Hygiene (WASH) clean up at Jamestown Amamomo With The Kenya High Commission

SCEF in collaboration with the Kenya High Commission, led by His Excellency Eliphas Barine, Amina Ali Mohammed (CEO of African Brand Warrior; Chair, Agribusiness Sector, Association of Ghana Industries; and President of Ghana Women International Chamber of Commerce India), and the Assembly member of Jamestown Amamomo (Honorable Ziyad Musa) embarked on a clean-up exercise at Jamestown Amamomo on 21st September 2020.

During the clean-up exercise, chocked gutters along the stretch of roads in the community were distilled, the community was swept and the refuse in the homes of community members was collected and taken to the appropriate waste collection site.

This was an effort to educate and remind community members to maintain environmental hygiene which is also very important to stay safe from the COVID-19 pandemic.

His Excellency Eliphas Barine on the day admonished the children, community members, and sundry to take care of their environment stating “The environment does not depend on us humans but we as humans rather depend on the environment” and specific to the children he advise them stating “Regardless of your circumstances as a child, you can reach your fullest potential. Just be real, be determined, and be yourself.”

His Excellency donated stationery to SCEF, to support the education of the children the organization serves.
Sharing is Caring

Sharing is Caring is an annual event of SCEF that educate children about sharing, showing love, and maintaining personal hygiene. This event usually occurs in February every year. However, in 2020, the event did not come off because of COVID 19. In 2021 the event eventually came off and it was dubbed Mask Up, Step Out, and Show Love.

This year’s event adopted an outreach approach instead of the usual indoors event. The target population was not for SCEF beneficiaries alone but included the vulnerable street-connected children at Kwame Nkrumah Circle- De Mod.

“The focus of Sharing is Caring 2021” was to use play to educate children about the COVID-19 and how to stay safe. Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), hygiene items, and educational and play items were given to the street-connected children living at the railways of Kwame Nkrumah Circle-De Mod.

On the day, children who were rescued from Circle De Mod led the team to the shelters, and homes of other children living in the area so that the children themselves can share the items with their friends and neighbors.

A total of a hundred street-connected children received sanitizers, nose masks, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps, books, pencils, pens, colors, clothes, and toys.

"It felt very good as I was giving the bags with the items to my friends. I was excited to share things with other people who did not have what I had. I now have a sanitizer I can use at school and home to protect myself and my mother from the COVID-19 pandemic. I will throw away my old toothbrush and use the new one you have given me. I will brush my teeth every morning when I wake up from bed so that my mouth doesn’t smell. Thank you”- Dede Stella
Meet Nii Teiko
A young vibrant and energetic young boy. He is the fifth born amongst seven children. Nii Teiko has gone through a lot of hardship as a young person. Nii Teiko lived with his father who is a landlord at Chorkor. Nii had to come to his mother at James Town because his father wasn’t taking good care of him. His mother sells plastic for their daily bread. The young boy had to drop out of school to sell toilet rolls and cigarettes at a public toilet to help cater to the family since the selling of plastic waste wasn’t lucrative on the path of his mother.

“Due to the hardship at home, myself and siblings sleep in an open space with cattle because we cannot afford to rent an apartment. Our neighbour offered us with space so we manage for the time being”, he added.

One faithful afternoon, the SCEF team rescued him due to his willingness to go back to school. Funds were raised through the Donorsee platform and now Nii Teiko has been successfully enrolled back to school.
Meet Nadia

Naida is a young girl who lives with her grandmother at Banana-inn Mambrouk Park. In the early 2020s, her parents abandoned her and 4 other siblings due to the hardship both parents were facing at the time. Her grandmother took their responsibility upon herself and depended on the 15 Ghana cedi’s or 45 Ghana cedi’s profit she made from selling “adakwa” in taking care of her grandchildren.

Due to the hardship at home, Naida was forced to drop out of school in Primary one and to take care of her siblings while her grandmother goes hawking to help run the home.

“I feel sad anytime I see the children in our house going to school every morning”, she added.

SCEF came to her rescue and Naida has been successfully enrolled in school.
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Income
The total direct income for the year 2020/2021 from various sectors summed up to GH₵ 836,190.00, making 100%.

The following make up the breakdown of the total income.

Government Grants & Contracts
The total government grants and contracts received GH₵ 40,950.00 representing 5% out of the total income generated for the year.

International Foundations/NGOs
The total international foundation/NGO received is GH₵ 361,678.00. This represents 43% of the total income/donations received during the year.

Individual Contributions - CHAW Project
This is income received from, godparents, individual & corporate donors (both foreign and local) to finance the CHaW Project (Children in Hazardous Work) and 3 Rs project (Rescue, Rehabilitate, and Reintegrate). During the year under review, SCEF received GH₵ 220,039.00 from 'Godparents' and other Individuals to support the 'CHAW project'. This constitutes 26% of the total income received.

Fundraising Events & Products
SCEF raised GH₵ 72,899.00 from fundraising events and other activities during the year. This represents 9% of the total income during the year.

Volunteer Program
SCEF received GH₵ 22,919.00 as a volunteer activity during the year. This represents 3% of the total income for the year.
Income Generation Activities
SCEF received GH¢16,792.00 as income generation activity. This represents 2% of the total income during the year.

Corporations
SCEF raised GH¢17,091.00 from corporations. This represents 2% of the total income during the year.

Others
The benevolent donations from individuals, groups, communities, and organizations sum up to GH¢83,822 which represents 10% of the total income.
Observation:

1. The pie chart above represent the total cost incurred in executing our project from May 2020 to May 2021. Much of the money allocated to projects within the year under review went into the RIB project which represents 81% of the total amount allocated. The reason is that it’s the vision of the Street Children Empowerment Foundation (SCEF) to let the children of the street have access to learning materials.

2. The second largest project was the smile project which also covered 14% of the total project cost for the year under review.

3. From the pie chart, RIB and Smile project are not the only project undertaken by SCEF. There are several projects which include GEEP, special project, YASH, CGE, Omany, etc. These various projects cover only the remaining 5% of the project cost.
Become a Godparent Now!
Children become as brilliant as we allow them to be. For many children, education is the only way out of poverty. Help break down the barriers to a street child’s education by supporting them with just 300€, $408 or ₦1800.00 for one year. Every three months you will receive an updated report on the overall condition of the child you are supporting. You will furthermore receive a greeting from your godchild and through SCEF; you can send letters to your godchild.

Make a Family Self-Reliant
Empowering a parent/guardian of a street-connected child, single street teenage mothers, and youth to become self-reliant is the best way to build a dignifying safety net and sustainable future for street-connected children to be educated and live a life away from hazardous work.
With a monthly donation of €35, $40 or ₦250 for 24 months, you can support a parent/guardian set up a business as she strives to become self-reliant to take care of her family.

Volunteer With Us!
Make a positive contribution to the growth and development of society by volunteering your time and effort to join the SCEF team anywhere between a minimum of four weeks to a maximum of one year. Volunteers can either support us from home under our Community Volunteers’ Program or join us on-site with a donation of 300 Euros (TCs Apply).
Our volunteers’ programs aim to offer hands-on training opportunities in community work, street social work, and advocacy for child/human rights, grassroots economic /life skills empowerment activities, and other related fields. To be part of our dynamic community volunteers, send us your CV and motivation letter via info@scef-international.org
You can donate:
Name of Bank: Guaranty Trust Bank Ghana
Account Name: Street Children Empowerment Foundation
Account Nos: 214 101 9439 110 (GHS)
214 101 9439 230 (USD)
214 101 9439 430 (EUR)
214 101 9439 330 (GBP)

MTN Mobile Money: 0240168390

Germany
Name of Bank: GLS Company account for charity use
Account Name: SCEF Deutschland e.V.
Account Nos: 1172992100
IBAN: DE02 4306 0967 1172 9921 00
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

USA
Name of Bank: UMB
Branch Address: 22320 West 66th St Shawnee Kansass 66226
Account Name: SCEF USA
Account Nos: 101000695
Swift Code: UMKCUS44
I'm Samuel Ayikumah 16 years old from James Town. Eighth years ago I could not go to school because my parent can not afford my school necessity, SCEF rescued me and have been providing all my school needs. Today have completed junior high school and waiting to enroll in senior high school. Wish to express my sincerest gratitude to SCEF team, donors, partners and followers, God bless you.
SCEF Beneficiary.
CONTACT

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