

2020 Annual Report



chance for children

daily life | school | vocational training

A YEAR OF PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic came with untold hardships to most people across the world, and Ghana was no different. With businesses collapsing, sources of income lost and schools closed, poverty was rife and led many children to the streets. Those who were already struggling became even more impoverished and in dire need of support. CFC was likewise impacted by the Ghanaian government's measures to contain the coronavirus outbreak. We had to cease street work and close our Drop-in Centre, but instantly responded with a customized approach to the most urgent needs, in line with official advice.

From the peak of the lockdown in April we carried out a food sharing programme in collaboration with some of our partners across the country, through which we provided over 50,000 meals in Accra, Kumasi and Tamale. In our Homes, we searched for alternative ways of preventing the children from missing out on their education, such as organising a home-schooling plan.

Despite the restrictions on movement, we continued reaching out to the children and their families through a 'Hotline' and check-in phone calls. In our Children in Families department, we identified those families whose livelihood had been most affected and increased our support.

In September we established a 'New Normal Drop-in Centre' concept and re-opened the facilities with emphasis on providing services designed to meet the needs of specific target groups.

Developing a COVID-19 policy and guidelines, improving our IT tools and maintaining a close communication helped us navigate these challenges from an organizational perspective. Nonetheless, the 2020 results reflect these complex times in scope and impact of our activities.

AT A GLANCE

1,550 children

69 youth

+250 families participated in our different programs & departments

32 workshops were held for communities in Tamale and Kumasi

+50,000 meals were distributed to street-connected children



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Credits

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Sponsors, Board, Co-workers and Friends,

The year 2020 was an extraordinary year where millions of lives in the world were impacted by the **COVID-19 pandemic**. In Ghana many street-connected children and their families lost their means of livelihood. Some children left their homes. Schools remained closed for 9 months. Our street workers had to cease their activities and the Drop-in Centre was closed between March and September. Yes, 2020 drastically changed the ways we worked and interacted.

Our major priority was to **keep our staff and children safe** while continuing to find the best possible interventions for each child and family. Our more than 20 years of experience, coupled with the usage of scenario planning, adjusted work methods and guidelines, were instrumental in helping us respond timely and positively to the children's needs.

And thanks to our passionate team —always flexible and committed to find the best solution for each case— we even saw **improvement in the quality of our work** across all departments.

The long-needed investment into our IT infrastructure, including the development of a Web app system that will be fully implemented in 2021, helped us reach our goals in these unprecedented times. Additional proof of this was the successful opening and running of activities in our two **new branches in Kumasi and Tamale** despite the circumstances.

In 2021, we are determined to build on our experiences and further scale our impact: our focus will remain on reintegrating children back to their families and into school, and increasing our activities in Kumasi and Tamale. As part of Chance for Children's expanded strategy, we will also be pioneering a programme that is unique for Ghana, based on Switzerland's dual vocational training model (TVET).

We could not have achieved any of this without the **amazing support** of the Foundation Board members, our ever-generous donors and our passionate and resilient team. Together, we safeguarded lives and brought hope to thousands of street-connected children.

OUR PROGRAMMES

Education • Emotional & Social Development • Health • Reintegration • Handicrafts • Volunteers

Pandemic restrictions and the closure of schools for 9 months impacted not only the education but also the wellbeing of our children.

For that reason, besides ensuring the continuity of learning, health, emotional and social development were of key importance this year. We had to find ways to adjust structures and activities so that we could fill the gap internally and help all our children to keep studying and be properly assisted.

The services of our psychologists in our Homes and Drop-in Centre, together with the health advice and pandemic updates we received from an external medical doctor, were essential and helped us avoid COVID-19 infections or quarantines in our children and team so far.

We redirected our handicrafts focus to the production of face masks in order to meet the safety needs of the organization. Since April, 1,300 fabric masks were produced in our sewing studio by our own employees —voluntarily supported by some of our youth— or bought from an alumnus who runs a tailor shop. Everyone involved was determined to make this important contribution to other children and families.

Exciting news this year was the launch of our online store, that has allowed us to continue selling our unique handcrafted products despite the difficult circumstances.



Check out our new online store!
Visit www.chance-for-children.org



STREET WORK

Regular street work was paused for six months due to the pandemic. We kept in contact with the children through our stakeholders on the street. During the same period, throughout the lockdown and beyond, we shared meals to more than 1,500 children at selected locations in Accra. After resuming our activity in September, we strictly applied specific 'safe street work' guidelines to reach the children. We promoted hygiene practices on the streets by raising awareness, providing masks and installing washing points.

435 referrals
of new children to the DIC

361 children
educated on topics related to health,
education and made aware
where to seek further support

69 youth & adults
attended diverse workshops

1 child
was brought back to school

1 child
was reunited with her family

DROP-IN CENTER

Our Drop-in Centre (DIC) in Accra operated normally in the first months of 2020, but was shut down from March to September due to the COVID-19 restrictions. During this time, and with the support of Ghana's First Lady's Rebecca Foundation and other donors, we used the DIC as a food distribution point. We provided over 17,000 meals to street-connected children who had lost their main sources of livelihood. We reopened our facilities in the last quarter of the year and focused on providing collective care to specific target groups of children. Over 450 new children benefited from this new concept during these last four months.

538 children benefited from our DIC services

1 child reintegrated into primary school

1 child moved to our homes in Hebron

1 child referred to Kumasi for family reintegration

3 children referred to Tamale for family reintegration

4 children reunited with their families



HEBRON HOMES

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and staff during this pandemic period, a comprehensive programme was drawn up to cater for their educational, emotional, psychosocial and health needs. A key implementation was the home-schooling plan, as a result of schools shutting down for 9 months. A designated team of workers moved temporarily into the Homes to minimize outside/in movements. Restrictions brought some logical consequences such as fatigue, boredom and stress on both children and staff. The situation was regularly reported, and programmes adjusted to offer the needed support. We also reached out to the Hebron Township by supporting 8 families in need, providing 500 masks and 10 washing points with veronica buckets, and organizing a health workshop on COVID-19.

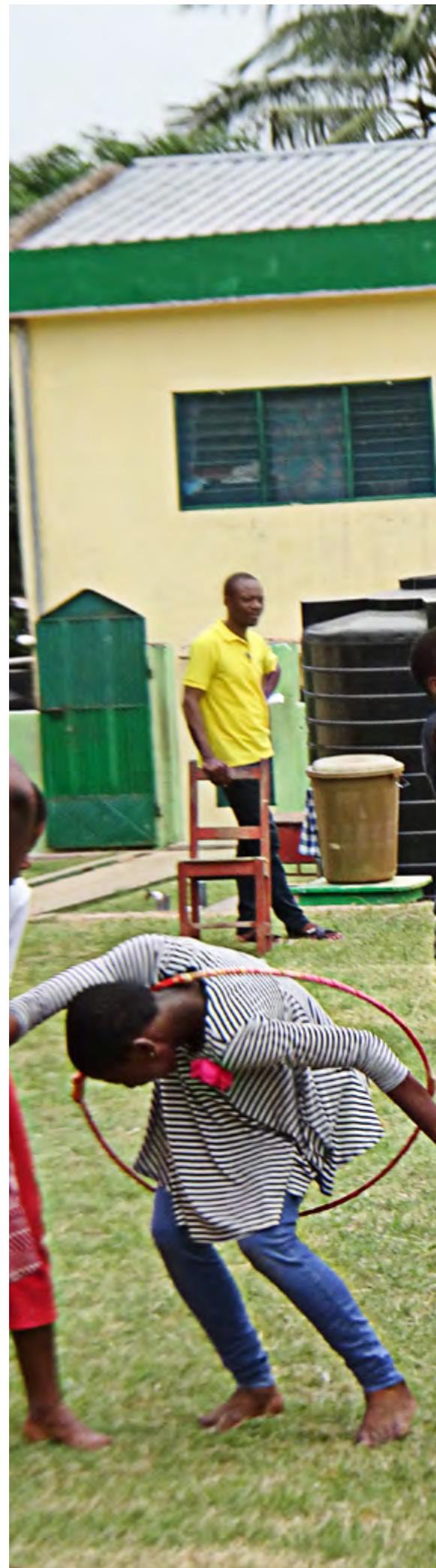
69 children resided
in our homes

48 children remained
in our homes at the end of 2020

56 children completed
the school year

4 young adults attended
an apprenticeship

11 children were reunited
with their families





KUMASI

On 2 January 2020 we opened a new branch in Kumasi, the capital of the Ashanti region and Ghana's second-largest city.

From this new location, about 250 km north of Accra, our social workers contacted and assisted children on the city streets, and reintegrated and supported children and families in the middle belt of Ghana. In close collaboration with a local self-elected committee, they prevented 19 children in the Aboabo and Asawase communities from running to the streets and held workshops on family planning, health education, child development and other topics. During the COVID-19 lockdown, they provided thousands of meals to street-connected children in Kumasi.

In the conviction that partnering with other organisations makes our impact stronger, we also continued to expand our cooperations in this region.

49 children & families supported & guided in the Kumasi area

13 children + 1 young adult reunited with their families

19 children prevented from joining the street

17 children supported & guided in their families

451 children, youth and adults attended community workshops



TAMALE

Our Tamale branch was opened the same day as the one in Kumasi, on 2 January.

Tamale, the northern regional capital and Ghana's third-largest city, is located about 400 km from Kumasi and 650 km from Accra. Many children migrate from northern communities travelling via Tamale, to Kumasi and then south to Accra, which makes this location particularly important.

We established a team of social workers who come from this area and understand the various dynamics that result in children going to the streets. From this base, they interact with boys and girls living on the streets of Tamale, reintegrate and support children in all the Northern region and prevent others from migrating southwards.

Our rural interventions focused mainly in two villages, Banvim and Cheshe, where we held several workshops for various community members.

56 children & families supported & guided in the Northern Belt

35 children reunited with their families

18 children prevented from joining the street

3 children supported & guided in their families

379 children, youth and adults attended community workshops





CHILDREN IN FAMILIES

We place utmost importance on reunifying children with their families. This process is long, intensive and requires a sensitive approach that puts the best interest of the child first. We also strive to empower parents and guardians to earn their own living to provide for their family. This year our team in Accra used a 3-level risk assessment system that helped us derive the right actions for each child and family.

Our team continued to offer guidance to 10 youth who live in rented apartments while pursuing apprenticeship or school. Between March and October, they temporarily relocated to the Hebron homes as a safety precaution due to the pandemic. During this time they assisted in the production of masks and participated in different home activities.

46 families supported through workshops and follow-ups

33 children completed the school year

7 children completed senior high school/apprenticeship

9 youth attended senior high school/an apprenticeship

Please see pages 10 and 11 for more information on our family reintegration work in Kumasi and Tamale.





GRADUATES

It is particularly important to us that every boy and girl can learn a profession or further school according to their personal abilities and interests.

On 12 September 2020 we celebrated the graduation of seven of our young adults, and we are enormously proud of each one of them! Faustina, Sulley, Michael and Deborah graduated from Senior High School. Akwesi completed his apprenticeship as a vehicle spray painter, Godsway as a tailor and Otu Lartey as a shoemaker.



Our Survey

At the end of every year, we conduct a survey among all those who have graduated from their program at the Children in Families department (including the Youth flats) during the past five years. In 2020, results from our 15 respondents show the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in the number of graduates who can live from what they earn, which dropped to 40% (vs. 87% in 2019).



The total percentage of graduates working also fell from 83% in 2019 to 68%. This decrease was driven by a combination of factors: namely, some were still in school or had just completed their education when they responded to the survey, while others returned to their families to support their micro-business.

68%
of Graduates
are **working**
in November 2020

40%
of Graduates
can **live of what they**
earn with their work

60%
of Graduates
are **furthering**
their education

PARTNERS



We partnered with **IJM Ghana** to advocate for vulnerable and exploited children and tackled issues on child protection and the rehabilitation of trafficked children.



We deepened our relationship with **Kinder Paradise** through close exchange of information and learnings.



We worked closely together with the **Muslim Family Counselling Services** and **Safe-Child Advocacy** on our food sharing programme in Kumasi and we are planning future joint street interventions all over Ghana.



Two lecturers from the **University of Education Zurich** (PHZH) trained our managers and social workers in Analytical Thinking and Democratic Development.

A SPECIAL THANKS

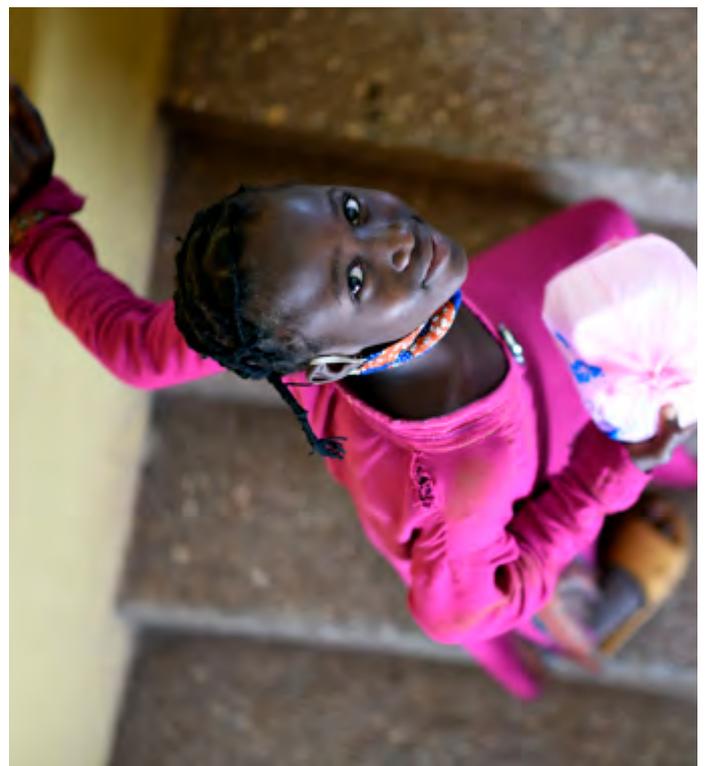
We would like to give a special, heartfelt thanks to:

★ The **members of the Chance for Children Association** in Switzerland for their continuous care and encouragement

★ The **Chance for Children Foundation Board members** in Switzerland for their close and immense strategic support during this extraordinary year

★ **Magdalena Thürig** and **Aleksandra Orman** who have been advising and assisting our Board and staff

★ All those **wonderful volunteers** who have been supporting us in these complex times



TESTIMONIALS



Andrea Feusi, member of the Chance for Children Association

"I got to know CFC in Ghana in 2000; back then a handful of staff were serving a dozen children. Many things have changed, but what has remained is the vision, the dignity and the unconditional love for the street children."

Rinaldo Lieberherr, Upgreat AG Founder & CEO

"We support CFC —no, we support the deep hearted attitude of the CFC team with their mission for a better life for street children in Ghana. We do not know many people who have 'packed up' from Gommiswald to build up an aid organization with heart and soul in Ghana, facing all adversities, determined to follow through and to truly live it with all its consequences and day by day. Hey, Ghana team, you are all doing a great job! We are thankful we can support you."



Kieran & Harald Hemming, individual donors

"I support Chance for Children to enable young people to get an education and perspective to achieve their dreams like I do."

"Children and young people are close to my heart because they are the future. That is why I'm thrilled to support CFC, for example in the development of the web app, which in the longer term will make it possible to reduce the administrative workload on site and have more time directly to serve the children"



Gerard van Kesteren, Chairman of the van Kesteren Foundation

"In each of the projects and charities the van Kesteren Foundation support, the well-being, safety, health, and education of children is paramount. The sustainability of each project is also a key requirement; not only should the money invested provide long-term solutions, but the children and community can be assured that the support will continue. Chance for Children totally reflects these standards and has a strong management and organisation structure to ensure it will continue long into the future. The van Kesteren Foundation is proud to be able to help CFC in the vital work they do to help the Street Children of Ghana."

"We are privileged if we are fortunate enough to be able to help another person. We can, so we should."

OUTLOOK 2021

COVID-19 restrictions will determine our work throughout the year. We aim to keep all the programs and departments running smoothly and efficiently while growing in three areas:

1. Accelerating reintegration of street-connected children into families and schools

Due to the pandemic and its consequences (such as school closures), the number of children on the street has increased. We will be running a one-year project, employing five designated social workers that will focus on this increased number and aim at reuniting them with their families as early and quickly as possible. This additional, shorter-term project is important, because the longer a child remains on the streets, the more difficult it becomes for them to go back home.

2. Expanding activities in our new branches

The needs of children in Kumasi and Tamale are tremendous. We would like to expand our services and support 75 children and families (vs. 49 in 2020) in the middle belt (Kumasi) and 100 children and families (vs. 56 in 2020) in the northern belt (Tamale) of Ghana.

3. Developing Technical Vocational Education and Training Program (TVET)

Street-connected young adults need guidance during their professional training, as do trainers in businesses need support to lead them. In 2021 we plan to run a pilot programme — comparable to the Swiss dual vocational training model— that will focus on combining practical skills (work-based practice, 80%) and knowledge (school-based theory, 20%) with ethical standards (attitude and habits).





FINANCE

All financial information about Chance for Children in Ghana and Switzerland for 2020 is presented in the following pages.

The auditors listed below have reviewed the financials of Chance for Children Association and Chance for Children Foundation in Switzerland, and Chance for Children NGO in Ghana for the fiscal year ending on December 31, 2020.

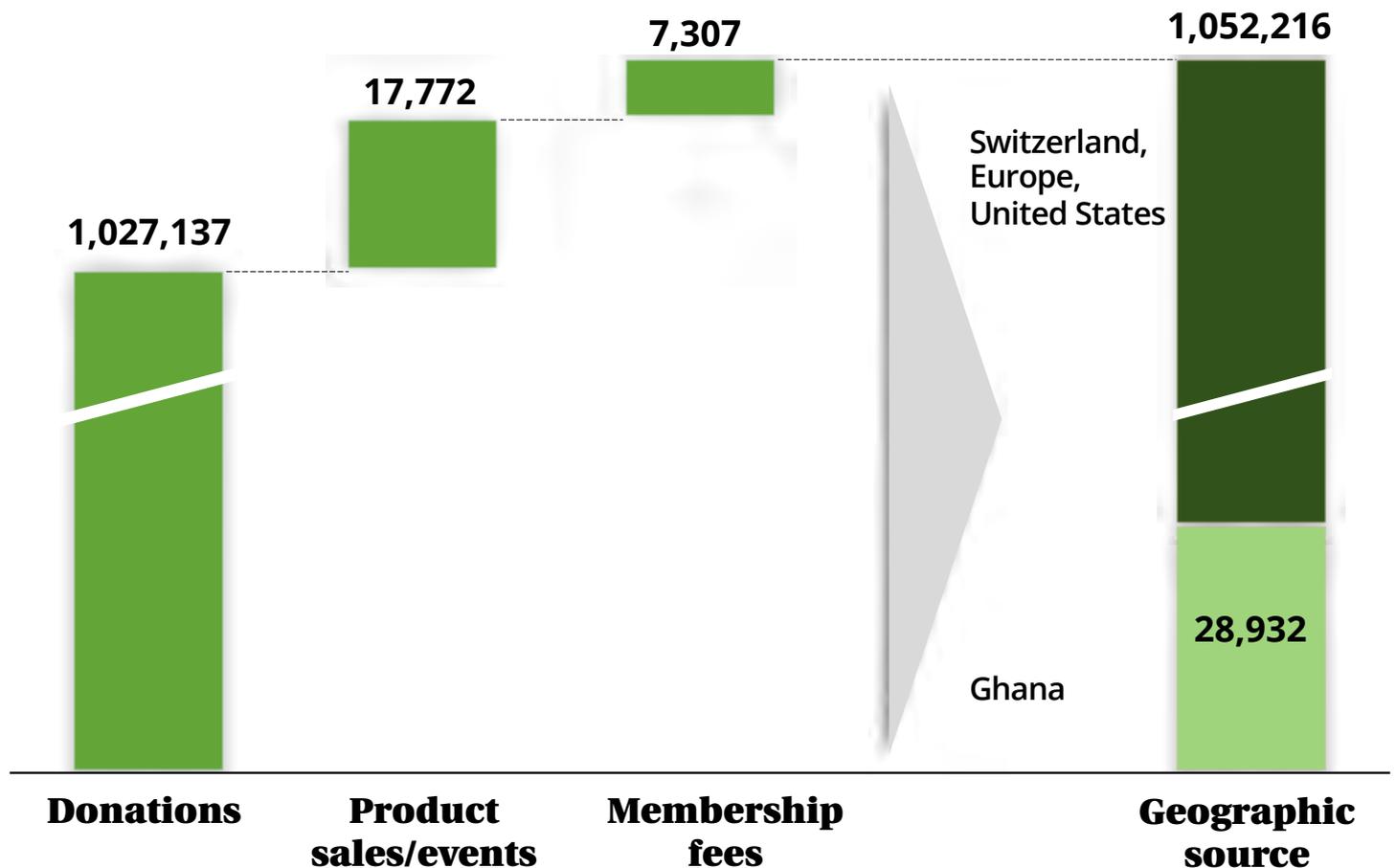
Financials have been audited based on control samples and analysis. The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement match with the accounting figures. According to the Auditors' assessment, accounting complies with legal and statutory regulations.

Audit for Chance for Children Association and Chance for Children Foundation was performed by Stieger + Partner Revisions AG (Neuhofstrasse 5, 8645 Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland). Chance for Children NGO was audited by KPMG Ghana, based in Accra.

INCOME

During 2020, Chance for Children received donations to the amount of CHF 1,052,216 with approximately CHF 28,932 coming from Ghana.

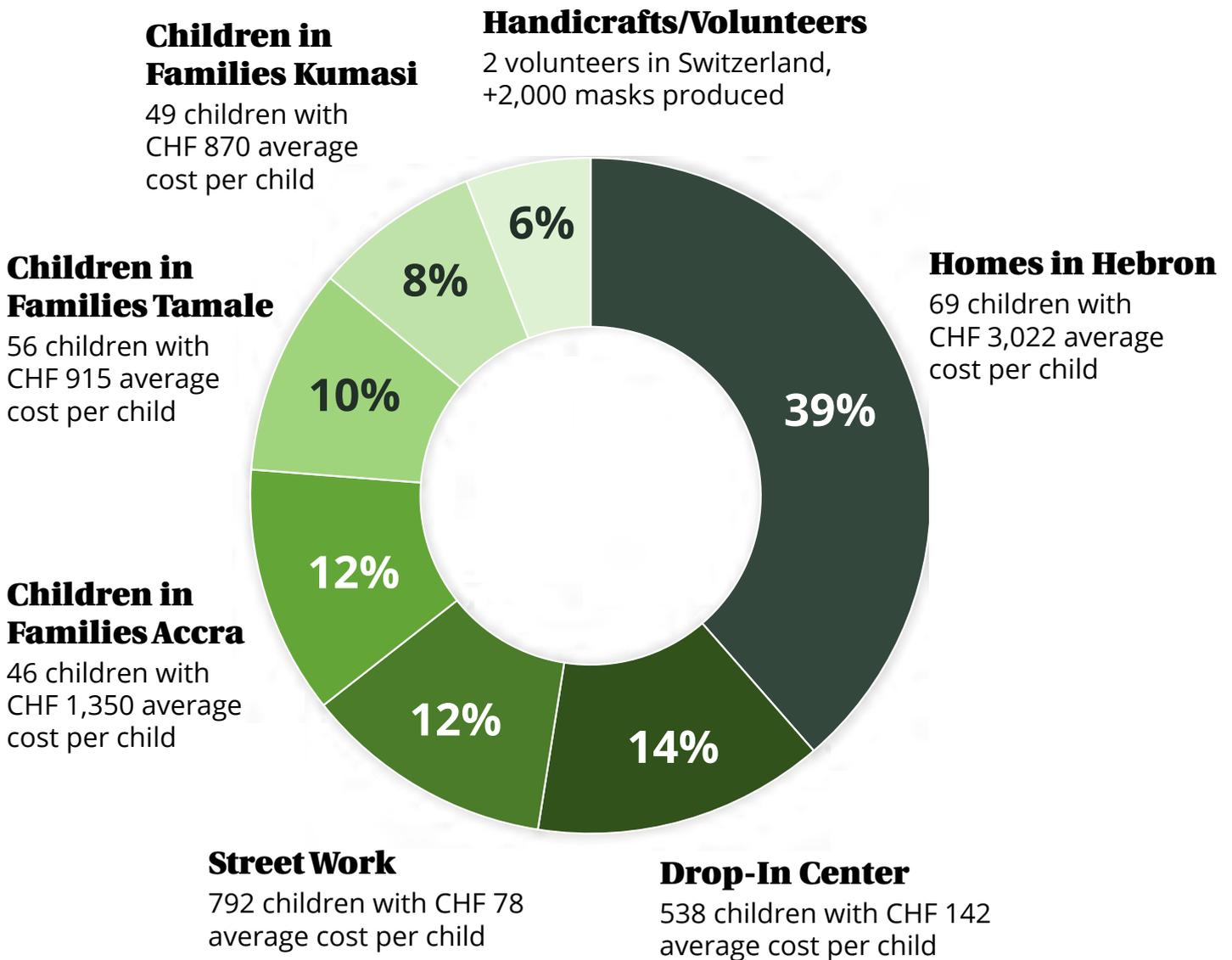
Article sales and events/workshops generated an income of CHF 17,772.



Swiss Francs, from January 1 to December 31 2020

EXPENSES

The finance detailed below comprises the **250 families assisted** through our different departments, the **48 workshops** held in Accra, Kumasi and Tamale, and over **50,000 lunch packs** distributed to children on the streets in 2020.



Swiss Francs, from January 1 to December 31 2020

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

Chance for Children
Profit & Loss
01/01-31/12/20 - In CHF '000

	CFC Switz. 2020	CFC Ghana 2020	CFC Total 2020	CFC Switz. 2019	CFC Ghana 2019	CFC Total 2019	<i>Comparison Absolute in %</i>	
							Better / (Worse)	
INCOME								
Income from handicraft sales	10	1	10	25	6	31		
Income from activities	8		8	17	7	24		
Membership fees	7		7	7		7		
Income products & events	24	1	25	49	13	62	(37)	-59%
Income from donations	974	28	1.002	912	67	979	23	2%
Transfers of donations Switzerland to Ghana	-259	259	0	-565	565	0		
Allocations of restricted donations to Ghana	-271	271	0	-134	134	0		
Transfers	-530	530	0	-699	699	0		
Allocations of restricted donations to Bal.Sheet	25	0	25	-77	0	-77	102	
Anniversary celebration 20 years CFC			0	9		9		
Other Income			0	9		9	(-9)	
TOTAL INCOME	493	559	1.052	194	779	973	79	8%
EXPENSES								
Expenses for activities	4		4	7		7	3	44%
Expenses for donations / fundraising	21		21	34		34	13	-37%
Total donations expenses	25		25	41		41	16	-38%
Salary and remuneration expenses	0	190	190	44	218	262	72	-27%
Social securities	1	27	27	8	26	34	6	-19%
Other personnel expenses	1	81	82	1	75	76	(-6)	8%
Total personnel expenses	1	298	300	53	319	372	72	-19%
Total expenses property/furniture	0	28	28	0	34	34	6	-17%
Total charges/fees	2		2	1		1	(-1)	53%
Total administrative expenses	41	16	57	38	13	51	(-6)	11%
Total advertising	0		0	0		0	0	-100%
Programs		165	165		129	129	(-36)	28%
Vehicle operating expenses		8	8		9	9	1	-11%
Staff training		4	4		25	25	21	-84%
Consulting fees		5	5		19	19	14	-72%
Production handicraft sales	0	2	2	3	6	8	7	-81%
Other		29	29		33	33	4	-13%
Depreciation		45	45		38	38	(-6)	16%
FX driven change in assets		-1	-1		14	14	16	-108%
Total project expenses	0	257	257	3	275	277	20	-7%
Total financial expenses	1		1	2		2	2	-73%
Total financial income	-1		-1	0		0	0	86%
TOTAL EXPENSES	70	600	669	138	641	780	110	-14%
Gain / Loss	423	(-41)	383	56	138	194	189	98%

BALANCE SHEET

Chance for Children Balance Sheet 31/12/20 - In CHF '000	CFC Switz. 2020	CFC Ghana 2020	CFC Total 2020	CFC Switz. 2019	CFC Ghana 2019	CFC Total 2019	<i>Comparison Absolute in %</i>	
							Better / (Worse)	
Cash	1.631	43	1.674	1.237	116	1.353	321	24%
Reserves		7	7				7	
Accounts receivable	1	3	4	10	10	20	-(16)	
Prepaid expenses	9	10	19	0	8	8	11	
Withholding tax credits	0		0	0		0	0	
Total current assets	1.641	64	1.705	1.247	134	1.381	324	23%
Financial assets	0		0	0		0	0	
Mobile tangible assets		101	101		135	135	-(34)	-25%
Real estate		321	321		367	367	-(46)	-13%
Total non-current assets	0	422	422	0	501	502	-(80)	-16%
TOTAL ASSETS	1.642	485	2.127	1.247	636	1.883	244	13%
Liabilities	0	-10	-10	-5	-10	-14	-(4)	-30%
Deferred income	-9	-6	-15	-9	-53	-62	-(47)	-76%
Restricted donations	-143		-143	-168		-168	-(25)	-15%
Total current liabilities	-152	-16	-168	-181	-63	-244	-(76)	-31%
Total Foundation capital	-857		-857	-857		-857	0	0%
Total Equity	-210	-510	-720	-154	-435	-589	131	22%
Total annual result (Gain/Loss)	-423	41	-383	-56	-138	-194	189	97%
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-1.642	-485	-2.127	-1.247	-636	-1.883	244	13%



DONATIONS

Swiss Franc bank account

Raiffeisenbank Benken

(Clearing: 80808, PC-Konto der Bank: 90-5115-5)

Spendenkonto Stiftung Chance for Children

Kehr 563, 8737 Gommiswald

IBAN: CH90 8080 8007 5132 3407 3

SWIFT/BIC: RAIFCH22

GHC bank account

Absa Bank Ghana LTD

Absa House, High Street

P.O. Box GP 2949, GH-Accra

Swift-code: BARCGHAC

Account holder: Chance for Children

Account No.: 0120000001057131

Contact us

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