

Street-Connected Children Need Stability

Dear Donor,

The life stories and needs of street-connected children in Ghana are diverse, constantly changing and shaped by seasonal, regional and cultural factors. Many of these children live on their own and fend for themselves; others move with their families from one place to another in constant search of work. And a third group of children lives with their families on the streets, working for their own needs instead of going to school.

What all these children have in common is a life marked by instability, restlessness and insecurity. Their caregivers change often, they are left unsupervised, and their basic needs are not adequately met. They have no or only inconsistent school education. It is therefore important for us to help these children achieve inner and outer stability so that they are able to build a better future for themselves and their families.

A supportive, stable relationship with parents or relatives is crucial for the development of the child. We track the relatives, stay in close contact with them and accompany the children until someone in the family, with the support of our social workers, is able to care for the child by meeting their basic needs, as well as allowing for their attendance in school or vocational training. The child and their loved ones must be ready to tackle difficult issues, to let go of previous ways of thinking and to do things differently.

If we can support the children in establishing a well functioning relationship with family members, then the children become more stable, calmer and can develop their potential.

Our children's communities often initially do not recognize that the emotional and social stability, financial security and sense of belonging to a family are the basis for a child's healthy development. Through meetings, discussions and workshops, we sensitize family members, caregivers and decision-makers in communities and villages on that very aspect.

We consider it a gift that more and more children come to rest, feel secure, become stable and build new perspectives for themselves, their families and entire communities. Below you find two encouraging success stories.

Warmly,



Daniela Rüdisüli Sodjah



Yaa lived with her brother and uncle in Kumasi. Her uncle died unexpectedly during the pandemic. After his death, the two children were completely on their own. The siblings moved to the streets. Yaa sold water bags to earn her daily food. While doing so, she came into contact with one of our street workers who helped her find her mother, re-establish a good relationship with her and get back to school. Her mother sells cooked rice at the market and can take care of the children. Yaa is very happy to be back with her mother.



Ama lived on the streets and visited our Drop-In Center in Accra, the capital of Ghana, for several months. She lived in our home in Hebron for a few years and went to school while there. Our social workers were able to find relatives and arranged for Ama to be in regular contact with them again. The bond that was able to develop with her relatives was crucial for her further stable development in her life. Ama now lives with her family and wants to be a cook.