



2021

ANNUAL REPORT



Contents

1. Letter from President.
2. Mission & Vision
3. Covid – 19
4. Rescue and Rehabilitation
5. Livelihood Programmes
6. Finances
7. Partners



Letter from President

Dear friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and in good spirit.

Today, I am back to you with this letter, announcing the release of the summaries of our official report for the year 2021, demonstrating what we have been able to achieve together.

In our 2021 program year, we supported a total of 197 children from forced labor, human trafficking, and child domestic servitude. Those supported were between the ages of six and seventeen, mainly from 12 out of the 16 regions of Ghana.

This brings to over 1,700 the total number of children Challenging Heights has rescued from slavery in the fishing communities in Ghana since our establishment in 2003.

Again, we supported a total of 172 women in our livelihoods support program, while a total of 79 young persons were supported under the skills development program.

We are still reeling under the COVID-19 pandemic, threatening to erode the gains made in the sector and worsening vulnerabilities. However, with your support we were able to confront the situation and for the first time in our history, we doubled the number of children rescued from slavery, making up for the losses suffered during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

I would like to thank you, for your continued support for the mission and your solidarity with our cause. As we continue the implementation of Challenging Heights' 2021-2030 strategy, we ask you to, please, stand with us, till the end where we would have brought freedom to all of our targeted children.

Once again thank you for your solidarity.

James Kofi Annan
President



Mission & Vision

Approximately 20,000 children are working in the fishing industry in Lake Volta, the largest man made reservoir in the world. Moreover, most children in domestic servitude in Ghana have their rights infringed upon.

These children, both in slavery and domesticservitude, are physically, sexually, and emotionally abused and neglected which affect their development. Thus, the goal of Challenging Heights in 2021 is to address this problem.

Our goal at Challenging Heights is to end these inhumane practices and ensure a better life for Ghana's future generations.

MISSION

To prevent child trafficking, reduce child slavery, and promote children's rights.

VISION

A country in which child trafficking is a thing of the past and children's rights are celebrated.



Covid-19

Continuing the fight against the Covid-19 Pandemic.

With the Covid-19 pandemic still around with reduced infections in Ghana as compared to the early 2020s, it continues to affect our programmes implementation to promote the rights and welfare of the Ghanaian child. However, the start of the vaccination programme by the state across the country made the pandemic to have minimal disruption to our programmes implementation.

With support from **Family for Every Child** and **100 weeks**, Challenging Heights continued its public education through radio broadcast on Nyce FM, 90.7 to reach hundreds of listeners and also provided micro-grants to vulnerable women. Each woman received USD7/GHS50 a week to use in solving her family problems: pay debt, capital for business expansion, pay school fees or utilities bills.

We continued to build staff capacity in Anti-Covid-19 prevention strategies, provided personal protection equipment to them and have ensured most staff received the jabs to protect themselves and our clients. Those who did not receive the jabs are being encouraged to also get vaccinated.



Rescue and Rehabilitation

With minimal interruptions from the pandemic, we were able to rescue, rehabilitate, reintegrate and monitor successfully survivors of modern slavery (both child trafficking victims and child domestic workers). Importantly, the child domestic workers were a new addition to our work which has laid the foundation for expansionary work to provide more support to children in domestic servitude.

192

Children Rescued

55

Rescued from child domestic work

37 girls 18 boys

142

Rescued from child trafficking

100 boys 42 girls

134

Children reintegrated

95 boys 39 girls

252

Children rehabilitated

200 boys 52 girls

356

Children actively monitored

259 boys 97 girls

Out of the 252 children rehabilitated, 208 (146 boys, 62 girls) came from Challenging Heights, 37(29 boys, 8 girls) came from Mercy Project, 5 boys from IJM and 2 boys from Ghana Initiative.



Livelihood Programmes

Youth Empowerment Programme

Funding partner: UBS Optimus Foundation

Courses offered: **Tailoring, Beauty therapy, Biogas- biofill/ 3D epoxy and Driving.**

Complementary courses are **computing, business and financial management and life skills.**

79

Youth trained

15 – 26

Age range for youth trained

6 months - 3 years

Duration of Course

(Depending on the programme)

50%

Rate of Employment



Livelihood Programmes

Women's Economic Empowerment Programme

Funding partner: 100 Weeks, Kirk in Actie

Courses offered: **Business and financial management, life skills training**

172

Women trained

15+

Age range for women trained

1 month to 1 year

Duration of Course (Depending on the programme)

50%

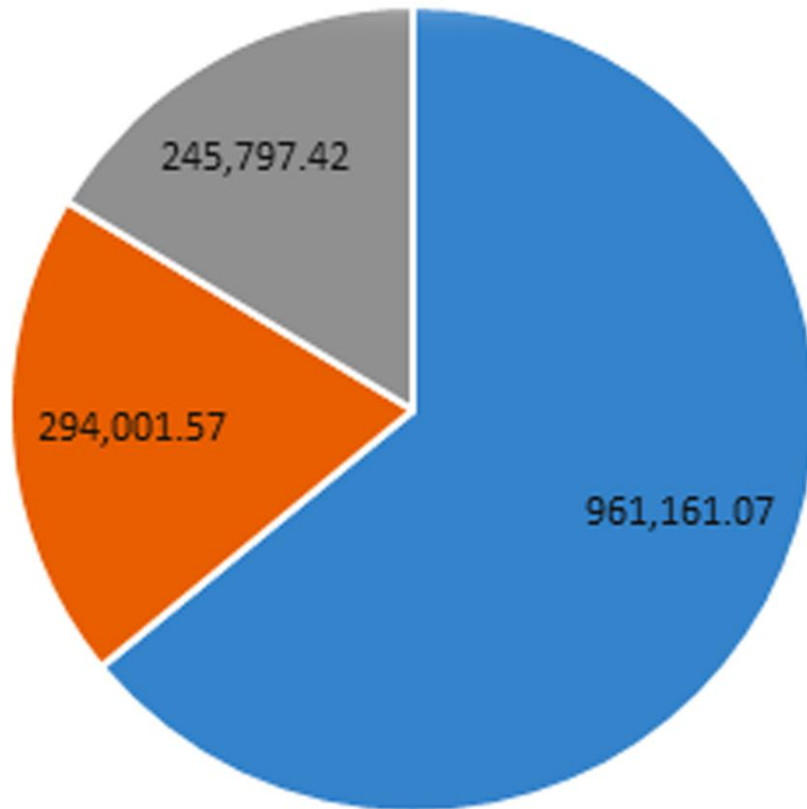
Rate of Employment



Finances

USD 1,500,960.06.

Total Funds Raised



■ Foundations ■ Individual donors ■ Government/IGO

All figures have been rounded up to nearest US dollar amount
USD1 = GHS6.1 (average exchange rate of 2020). The percentages are as follows: i. Foundation, USD 961,161.07, 64%
ii. Individual donors, USD 294,001.57, 20% iii. Government, USD 245,797.42, 16%.

Finances

EXPENDITURE

EXPENDITURES	GHS	USD	Perce
Educational Support	91472	14,995.41	
Awareness / Sensitization	10,730.00	1,759.02	
Rescue Operation	638,785.00	104,718.85	
Administration	825508.86	135,329.32	1
Recovery/Rehabilitation	3,312,360.84	543,009.97	4
Livelihoods	466292.19	76,441.34	
Advocacy	53802	8,820.00	
Special Projects	2249925	368,840.16	2
Reintegration & Monitoring	164576.2	26,979.70	
Partners In Development-PID	7,932.00	1,300.33	
	7,821,384.09	1,282,194.11	10

THANK YOU!

We would not have reached our goal without the generous support of the following organizations and individuals:

Anti-Slavery International
Children's Helpers' Worldwide
Colorado to Ghana
Department of Social Welfare
Elizabeth Halsted
European Union
Expertise France
Family For Every Child
Freedom For All Foundation
Friends of Challenging Heights
Hope for Children (Minderoo)
Hovde Foundation (Sunwest Charitable Foundation)
IIED Institutional
Kirk in Actie
Lisa Halsted
Many Hopes Foundation
Mercy Project
Minderoo Foundation
Sophie Stenbeck
The Bindon Foundation
UBS Optimus Foundation
United Nations
100 Weeks



www.challengingheights.org
Email: info@challengingheights.org