

IOM Ghana Counter-Trafficking Sponsorship Update



**January
Month**

**2014
Year**

Name of Sponsored Child	***name removed for safety
Estimated Age at Rescue	14
School/Class	Class-6

Dear Sponsor,

Please find below a message from your sponsored child, collected during a recent monitoring visit.

My name is *** and I am 17 years old. I have survived one year of my childhood spent working for a fisherman along Volta Lake.

My grandparents trafficked me at the age of thirteen for money as they are both old and unable to work. During my stay with my fishing master, I normally worked from 4am to 1pm every day under harsh conditions. I ate twice daily, worked in cold, sunny and sometimes windy condition. I was fed with the same food every day. This continued until IOM rescued me in 2011 and reintegrated me with my grandparents.

Before being rescued, my fishing master engaged me in various fishing activities on the lake such as casting and pulling nets, diving into the lake to disentangle nets, paddling his canoe, smoking fish, mending nets and selling fish.

IOM enrolled me in school at Pra Memorial Basic School after my rescue. I am currently in Junior High School, Form Two. I am happy and feel blessed for the opportunity given me by IOM. I hope to complete with Junior High School exam with high marks so that I can proceed to Senior High School.

My current family situation is that, I still live with my grandparents. I lost my father when I was young and my mother's whereabouts are unknown. My grandparents are very old and unable to work and often have to do some menial jobs to support me.

On behalf of IOM, we thank you for your support of ***. Together we can make a difference in the lives of rescued children, so they can attain or reach their highest potential in life through a safe and dignified manner. Your funds are used to provide basic essentials for children to attend school or their apprenticeship programme and include school supplies, food and hygiene items. Should you have any questions about the sponsorship programme, your sponsored child or other ways to get involved, please contact our counter-trafficking team at IOM, Accra-Ghana.

Sincerely,
Wisdom Doe
Counter Trafficking Assistant, IOM Ghana

Please visit our website to review our Sponsorship FAQs and Child Safety Policy.

www.iom.int/cms/ghana



*** at home (sick) thinking about school and his ill-health.

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Please visit our website to read FAQs regarding our sponsorship programme and to review our child safety policy.

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