



**January
Month**

**2014
Year**

Name of Sponsored Child	***name removed for safety
Estimated Age at Rescue	15
School/Class	Primary-6

Dear Sponsor,

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

My name is *** and I am sixteen years old. I have survived four and half years of my childhood spent working for a fisherman.

I was trafficked at age eleven by my aunt with whom I was staying. I spent those years working for my fishing master. During the period I was trafficked I worked from 4am to 2pm every day under harsh conditions. I was never taken to hospital when I became sick. I had little food to eat, worked in cold conditions, was given the same food every day, and beaten regularly until IOM finally came to my rescue in 2011 and reunited me with my aunt and her husband.

Before being rescued, my fishing master used me for all kinds of activities pertaining to fishing on Volta Lake such as diving into the lake to disentangle nets, paddling canoes, scooping water from canoes, smoking fish, mending nets and domestic chores.

After my rescue, I was enrolled in school by IOM and am currently in Basic School Class Six. I am happy to be learning in school because my performance is very good despite the fact that my guardian is often not able to give me pocket money for school and pay other fees. I am always among the top four students in my class each term.

My current family situation is that, I live with my aunt and her husband. My biological mother is blind and my father has neglected me for several years.

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



*** sitting in class during a science lesson (January 2014).

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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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