

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	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 16 years old. I have survived almost two years of my childhood spent working for a fisherman.

I was trafficked at age 12 by my aunt who had been taking care of me since birth. I spent about two years working for my fishing master. During the period of trafficking I worked on the lake fishing under very hazardous conditions. I was maltreated by my master until IOM rescued me in 2011 and reintegrated me with my aunt.

Before being rescued, my master used me for various fishing activities such as diving into the river to disentangle nets, paddling his canoe, casting and pulling nets, mending nets when torn, unscaling fish and smoking fish.

After my rescue, I was enrolled in school by IOM and am currently in my Basic School Class Six. I am very happy to be learning in school. My academic performance is above average and I am to improve more next term so that I can take the first or second position of my class.

My current family situation is that I live with my uncle where I attend school. My biological mother died while giving birth to me and my father's whereabouts is not known to 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



*** (left) in school uniform smiling after receiving food items (December 2013).

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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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