

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 two years of my childhood spent working for a fisherman.

I was trafficked at age eleven by my mother after the death of my father. I spent 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 mother and stepfather.

Before being rescued, my master used me for various fishing activities such as diving into the river to disentangle nets, paddling canoes, casting nets, pulling net, mending nets when torn, unscaling fish, and scooping water from canoes.

After my rescue, I was enrolled in school by IOM and am currently in my Basic School Class Six (6). I am very happy to be learning in school. My academic performance is very good and I always emerge with the first or second position in class at the end of each term. My performance has also earned me school prefect.

I currently live with my mother and stepfather as my biological father passed on prior to my trafficking. My mother and stepfather do their best to support me in school. The challenge, however, is that they make very little money from their work, which makes it impossible for them to adequately take care of me and my siblings.

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.

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

www.iom.int/cms/ghana



Sincerely,

Wisdom Doe
Counter Trafficking Assistant
IOM Ghana



*** feeding his goats after school (January 2014).

©IOM 2014(Photo: Wisdom Doe)

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

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