



**January
Month**

**2014
Year**

Name of Sponsored Child	***name removed for safety
Estimated Age at Rescue	12
School/Class	Primary-5

Dear Sponsor,

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

My name is *** and I am 16 years old. I have survived about five years of childhood spent in slavery-like conditions working for my fishing master.

Initially, I was living with my father who is a hunter. He later relocated without taking me along. Prior to his relocation, he left me under the care of a fishing master. The fisherman engaged me in his fishing business throughout my stay with him. We always woke up at dawn when the weather was chilly to start the day's fishing business and worked all day. This routine continued on daily basis until I was rescued by IOM in 2010.

Before my rescue, my master always forced me to dive into the lake to disentangle nets. Any act of resistance on my part usually attracted punishment, which involved being hit with a canoe paddle. Paddling the canoe, casting and pulling nets were all part of my usual fishing routine.

Soon after my rescue, IOM enrolled me in Comboni Roman Catholic Primary School. Every day I walk to my school which is about one and half kilometres away from my village. I am currently in class five and my academic performance is average. My favourite subjects are science and English language.

My current family situation is that, my father with whom I was reunited relocated again leaving me under the care of an uncle. Luckily, my mother also relocated to the same village (Korname) so I currently live with her. My main concern is my mother's inability to adequately provide my school needs due to unemployment.

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



*** (centre of the picture) in class trying to help his class mate with her work (January 2014).

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

www.iom.int/cms/ghana