

IOM Ghana Counter-Trafficking Sponsorship Update



**January
Month**

**2014
Year**

Name of Sponsored Child	***name removed for safety
Estimated Age at Rescue	11
School/Class	Primary-5

Dear Sponsor,

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

My name is *** and I am 13 years old. I have survived two years of childhood spent working for a fishmonger.

I was trafficked at age nine after my father left the family and my mother could not take care of me and my eight siblings anymore. I spent two years of my childhood working for my madam. During the period I was trafficked, I worked from 4:30am-9:00pm every day under very challenging conditions. I was not enrolled in school despite the agreement reached with my mother before she gave me away. I was maltreated until IOM came to my rescue in 2011, and reintegrated me with my mother.

Before being rescued, my madam used me for all activities pertaining to fishing such as carrying fish from the river side, unscaling fish, smoking and selling fish as well as domestic service.

After my rescue, I was enrolled in school and am currently in my Basic School Class Five. I am happy to be learning in school and my performance is very good. I always take the second position in class at the end of each term. I hope to become a nurse in the future.

My current family situation is that, my mother is a single parent and spends the greater part of the day outside the home to make ends meet through selling oysters. She sometimes spends two or more days hawking in neighbouring villages and towns before returning home so that she can earn enough money to take care of the family.

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



*** with a pan of water on her head (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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