

IOM Ghana Counter-Trafficking Sponsorship Update



**January
Month**

**2014
Year**

Name of Sponsored Child	***name removed for safety
Estimated Age at Rescue	7
School/Class	PrimaryClass-3

Dear Sponsor,

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

My name is *** and I am twelve years old. I have survived three years of my childhood spent working for my fishing master.

I was living with my mother initially when my grandmother came for me under the pretext of taking better care of me. She took me and handed me over to a fishing master. I spent three years of my childhood working for my fishing master. During my stay, I worked under dangerous conditions. I was mainly fed on 'gari' until IOM rescued me in 2009 and reunited me with my mother.

Prior to my rescue, my fishing master engaged me in scooping water from canoe, unscaling and carrying fish for sale. He later forced me to cast and pull nets and dive into the lake to disentangle nets. At home I ran errands, fetched water, washed dishes and swept.

After my rescue, I was enrolled in school by IOM and I am currently in Class Three. At the end of last term, I was ranked the second best student in class. I am hoping to be the number one student next term.

My current family situation is that, my mother with whom I live is unemployed. My father has abandoned us and it is not easy for my mother to provide the necessary school fees and materials that I need.

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



*** Posed for this photo on the day food items were delivered to him (December 2013).

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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