IOM Ghana Counter-Trafficking Sponsorship Update



2014

Year

January Month

Name of Sponsored Child	***name removed for safety
Estimated Age at Rescue	13
School/Class	JuniorHighSchool(JHS)-1

Dear Sponsor,

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

My name is *** and I am 17 years old. I have survived many years of my childhood spent working for a fishing master.

I was trafficked by my grandmother when she became sick and needed money to buy medicine. I spent many years of my childhood working for my master, a fishing community. While there, I worked under life threatening conditions until IOM rescued me in 2008 and reunited me with my aunt, so that I could have access to school.

Prior to my rescue, my fishing master engaged me in various fishing activities such as casting and pulling nets, diving into the lake to disentangle nets, mending nets, descaling and selling fish as well as house hold chores.

After my rescue, I was enrolled in school by IOM. I am currently in Junior High School, Form One. I am glad to be in school. My academic performance is average. I hope to study harder so that I can improve upon my performance.

My current family situation is that, I live with my aunt who is unemployed due to ill-health. As a result of her ill-health, she finds it very difficult to provide my basic needs. My parents have also not been supportive so I sometimes engage in menial jobs to get money for school.

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

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*** taking his class mates through an English Lesson taught earlier in the day (February 2014).

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