

**“We realise that our essence to young people is now more important than ever. We must therefore continue to serve them with courage, wisdom, and precaution.”**

Diese Überschrift ist ein Zitat von Kwabena Nketia Addae dem Nationalsekretär aus dem YMCA in Ghana und beschreibt sehr gut das Engagement des YMCA in Ghana in diesen herausfordernden Zeiten.

Im Folgenden werden einige Projekte der letzten Monate vorgestellt:

## **UPDATES ON CURRENT THIRD QUARTER OF 2020 OPERATIONS OF GHANA YMCA AS AT 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

### **Introduction**

Following the massive disruptions to the Ghana YMCA and its partners' 2020 plans and projections caused by the outbreak of the COVID19 pandemic, the organisation is slowly returning to a semblance of normalcy under the new normal. Despite the obvious threats, we realise that our essence to young people is now more important than ever. We must therefore continue to serve them with courage, wisdom, and precaution.

### **Youth Livelihood Series**

In response to the economic impact of the COVID19 outbreak on the livelihoods of young people, the Ghana YMCA organised a five-part series to educate young people on how to manage income, generate new streams of income and even identify business opportunities during this period.

The Series, which aired weekly between 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020 reached over 84, 000 young people through social media and engaged almost 1,500 young people across Africa, but mostly in Ghana. Speakers for the series were drawn from academia, industry, advocacy and regulation.



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**Mrs. Maureen Erekuia Odoi**  
AABN Co- Founder/  
Certified Business Advisor

**Mr Goddy Nana Mens**  
Vice Chair, Accra Central YMCA



**YMCA GHANA**

**Stacey Hoys**  
Leadership Development Coach,  
Africa Alliance of Y.M.C.A.

**“ VOLUNTEERISM AND ITS SURPRISING BENEFITS ”**

FRI AUG 28 2020

Time: 13 :00 - 13 :40 GMT

Venue: zoom | LIVE @ GHANA Y.M.C.A.

### **Ghana YMCA hosted on SUNNY FM**

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, the Ghana YMCA was privileged to have been invited to SUNNY FM, a Christian radio station in Accra to share its COVID19 response for young people. Our movement was represented by the Vice Chairman of the Accra Central YMCA, Goddy Nana Mens.

Following the success of the first broadcast, the radio station is looking forward to hosting more officers and volunteers of the Ghana YMCA to discuss the activities and impact of the organisation.

### **YMCA Vocational School Gets ICT Lab**

The YMCA vocational school in Takoradi, Western Region has opened a brand-new Information Technology (ICT) lab which enables the school to start advanced vocational programmes. The lab comprises 18 new laptops which were procured with financial support from partners, Bread for the World.



### **Website Redevelopment**

The Ghana YMCA has started the process to redesign its website to make it more accessible to young people and communicate more effectively. The website redevelopment was led by Sarah Heinlin, the immediate past Communications Officer of the Ghana with financial support from Bread for the World. The web design and content development for the new website have been completed. Communication staff are set to undergo a training session with the developers to acquaint themselves with the new website and its functions.

### **Bread for the World Staff Departure**

Two of our staff on secondment from partners, Bread for the World returned to Germany following the expiration of their contracts. Sarah and Bernd stayed on for two extra months after the outbreak of the COVID19 pandemic to finish projects they had started earlier.

A short farewell ceremony was held for them to thank them for their selfless service to our movement.

### **Gender Training for Ghana YMCA Women**

The planned Gender Training for women in YMCA Ghana was held from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Three (3) female representatives from each of the 5 operational Regions were invited. We had resource persons from the EQWIP HUBs (Youth Challenge International) and from YMCA to help in the training. This training was geared towards building the capacity of the Women within YMCA as we prepare them to take up leadership roles in the governance structures of Ghana YMCA at the Local branch, Regional and National levels. The training had a number of action points with the key target of all Regional Gender committees being formed at the end of 2020. This would lead to the formation of the National Gender Committee through elections in the first quarter of 2021.

### **Proposal to redevelop YMCA toilet project at Aflao**

Recently a company, JOYSYLDOT Ventures represented by Mr. Sylvanus Abochie approached the YMCA to develop our toilet project at Aflao. An initial meeting has been held between the Aflao YMCA leadership, Volta Regional and the Executive Director to know what the company really wants to do in terms of the development of the toilet project.

Based on the report of the first meeting, the National Officers have referred the issue to the National Vice President and Treasurer to work on the legal matters as well as the financials respectively so that we can either agree to work with him or look for another developer. The developer presented a concept based on the Build Operate and Transfer model. The legal and financial matters have been completed and a site meeting was held with the potential investor at Aflao on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020. There were meetings also with the Chief of Aflao to inform him of YMCAs decision to continue the project as well as with the Unit Committee and local opinion leaders. The Ghana YMCA delegation for these meetings was led by the Executive Director and he was accompanied by the Regional Vice Chairperson and Volta Regional Director. The Aflao Branch YMCA Executives led by their Vice Chairman were part of all the meetings.

### **Filmmaking Training Tour**

The annual filmmaking training project implemented with Weltfilme was modified this year due to COVID19 preventive restrictions. The trainers and project coordinator travelled to six regions to train 150 filmmakers and produce 2 short films in each region between June 29<sup>th</sup> 2020 and September 4<sup>th</sup> 2020. The regions visited include Eastern Region (Koforidua), Volta Region (Ho), Central Region (Abura). Western Region (Funko), Ashanti (Kumasi), and Greater Accra (Accra).

All the films produced focused on COVID19 themes and sought to educate audiences on the virus and its impact on societies.



### **Volta YMCA prays for frontline health workers**

The Volta Regional YMCA held prayers for frontline health workers across the world on July 16<sup>th</sup> 2020. The prayers interceded on behalf of health workers for strength, courage and kindness as they work as vessels of God to save humanity from the COVID19 pandemic.

The prayers were held on the side-lines of the Ho filmmaking training workshop led by the Volta Regional YMCA President, Rev. Eric Gle.



## NYC 2020

For the first time in our history, the National Youth Conference was held virtually due to adjustments caused by the coronavirus pandemic. This year's celebration was marked from 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020 to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020 under the theme, 'Achieving Financial Security for Young People in the midst of COVID19.'

Activities organised included a virtual workshop on financial security facilitated by a banker and financial analyst, a PowerSpace engagement session facilitated by a programmes staff of the African Alliance of YMCA and a virtual treasure hunt which rewarded winners with airtime and books.

**NATIONAL Youth CONFERENCE 2020**

17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE  
"ACHIEVING FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AMIDST COVID 19"

FRI AUG 28 2020  
Time: 12 :10 - 13 :40 GMT

**Mr. Kwabena Nketia Addae**  
(Executive Director, Ghana Y.M.C.A.)  
HOST

**Mr. George Dela Coffie**  
(National Youth Chairman, Ghana Y.M.C.A.)  
CO-HOST

**Ohenemaa Nsoroma Aba Dodoo**  
(National Youth Organizer, Ghana Y.M.C.A.)  
MODERATOR

**Stacey Hoys**  
(Leadership Development Coach, Africa Alliance of Y.M.C.A.)  
SPEAKER

**Jillist Brown**  
(Confidence Coach)  
SPEAKER

**YMCA GHANA**

Venue : @ GHANA Y.M.C.A.

[www.ymcaghana.org](http://www.ymcaghana.org)