



**PPRC Newsletter  
Volume 22 – December 2023**

Dear Friends,  
As the year draws to a close, we have much to be thankful for. God has been good and merciful to us in our mission of caring for the poor, disadvantaged and vulnerable over the past four decades. Collaborative ministry has been one of our essential values, working with the Franciscans, Daughters of Mary and Joseph (DMJ), our lay workforce, National Service personnel, interns, volunteers, and the priests of the Archdiocese of Cape Coast. We are focused on teamwork and mutual respect for everyone involved: our beneficiaries, their families, our staff, volunteers, donors, and sponsors.

Our top priority for 2024 is fundraising. We've started a new, exciting fundraising effort with the Davy Group in Dublin, Ireland. More details are given in the newsletter. We want to develop a mix of funding sources by attracting international donors, targeting specific projects, encouraging local churches and individual donors, and strengthening our income-generation and sustainability projects: hostel, solar, organic farming, borehole, and Enyinnda shops.

Our access roads are in terrible shape and are hard on our vehicles, especially during the rainy season. Our existing pickups are near the end of their lives, and our minibus will soon undergo major repairs, requiring significant investment. We rely heavily on these vehicles for delivering outreach services, visiting families, and bringing residents to the hospital. We could not provide these services without them. We would be happy to hear from anyone interested in helping us with these expenses.

On behalf of the Archbishop of Cape Coast, the Board of Directors, our Management Team, our beneficiaries, their families, and our staff, may this Christmas fill your hearts and homes with joy. As we say in Ghana, 'Ye ma mo Afehyia Pa!' (Merry Christmas!).

I want to thank all our supporters, sponsors, and friends for their tremendous encouragement and support of our mission during these difficult times. It would not be possible to do this work without you.

Your support has brought light and hope in this dark world for so many suffering people. We are so grateful and wish you every blessing in 2024.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Mark Mantey, CEO



PPRC Team with Archbishop Palmer-Buckle and Fr Daniel (Dec-2023)





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### 1. Ghana’s Financial Situation

Ghana is still grappling with a severe economic crisis. Thankfully, the annual inflation rate has slowed from over 50% at the start of this year to ‘only’ 26% in November. Since January 2022, the Ghana Cedi has lost half its value against the main international currencies, and fuel prices have doubled. The only good news is that foreign donations now go further than before.

### 2. Our Beneficiaries

At present, 109 people are directly benefiting from our core services: 12 dependent leprosy survivors, 38 impoverished leprosy survivors, 27 special needs children & young adults, and 32 marginalised children & families via outreach.

### 3. Friends and Supporters

As always, money is tight, and we are working to identify new funding sources. We’d be happy to hear from anyone who can assist us. We’ll gladly follow your funding application process if you can tell us about it. Also, please see our donations and sponsorship section below.



Receiving Food Donations, St. Elizabeth’s

### 4. Visitors

This year, we had many visitors: 265 people up to 14 December. They came for various reasons: some were looking for assistance, others were making donations or asking how they could help. We also had guests, friends, and students on educational visits.

### 5. St. Elizabeth’s Day-Care Centre

Ms. Grace Amanquadoh has returned from study leave and has resumed her role as manager of St. Elizabeth’s. Ms. Rashida Rabiou is now the assistant



manager. Our annual Nativity play is the highlight of our year. This year's play was later than usual (22 Dec), so we feared we'd only have photos of the rehearsals and preparations. However, we got a few pictures of the event and added them at the end of this newsletter under late-breaking news.



Handicrafts in St. Elizabeth's



Getting ready for the Nativity Play



Corn Harvesting Helpers - St. Elizabeth's



Nativity Play Rehearsals

## 6. Swiss Physiotherapy Links

Physiotherapy and assistive devices are crucial elements of the rehabilitation services we provide. Mr Albert Sampson and Mr Frans Hollander are both physiotherapists working with the famous Barmelweid Rehabilitation Clinic in Switzerland, and they visited PPRC in mid-November.

Albert is originally from Ghana and has supported PPRC for many years. We were overwhelmed by their generosity as they donated four new wheelchairs, an extension ladder, a mobile walking frame, a strimmer, and other essential items. They also did some introductory physiotherapy sessions with our children and gave valuable advice to our staff.



Albert, Frans, PPRC Staff, with donations

and attends primary school at Ankaful. Nancy is a highly active participant in the IT classes organised by PPRC in Enyinndakurom. She is hardworking, respectful, caring, and keenly interested in keeping the IT Lab clean and tidy. Nancy's award money will be used to buy a new PC. On 12-Oct-23, an awards ceremony was held at PPRC to celebrate the awards winners, where certificates, medals and other packages were presented. The occasion was attended by PPRC staff and the parents of the award winners.



Racetrack donated by Swiss group



Sarah and Stephen - Awards Ceremony

### 7. Jack Petchey Awards

This scheme allows PPRC to nominate young people aged 11-25 for outstanding work in their communities. This year, we selected two individuals: Stephen Ninson and Nancy Arhin. Stephen has Down syndrome, but this doesn't stop him from assisting children and young adults with special needs. Stephen's caring, communication, and relationship-building skills are outstanding. His award money was used to upgrade the playground at St. Elizabeth's. Nancy is 12 years old and the granddaughter of a leprosy survivor. She lives with her parents in Enyinndakurom

### 8. St. Clare's Nursing Home

Our twelve residents, including leprosy survivors, are all doing well. We continuously strive to ensure that all our residents are happy, well-nourished, and receiving the highest standard of care. We have regular monthly visits from Elmina Polyclinic doctors to meet our residents, advise on their care, and prescribe





medications. Recently, we've been privileged to have several national service personnel and intern students join our team, significantly strengthening our workforce.

residential approach is that now, our beneficiaries live in their home communities. This gives much better outcomes for a lot less investment when compared with the residential system.



Handicraft work at St. Clare's

Some more good news is that plans are progressing for health professionals from the Mercy Women's Catholic Hospital to provide in-service training for our caregivers to increase the quality of care we provide.



PPRC Staff painting at St. Clare's

However, the past few months have also been challenging in St. Clare's. A number of our residents suffered from ill health and complications. Despite our best medical care and multiple visits to the hospital, three of them passed away. Please see their obituaries below.

### 9. St. Joseph's Outreach

We are supporting 32 people through our outreach services: 25 children directly and seven older adults living independently. Our top priorities are leprosy-related families, vulnerable families trying to stay together, and disadvantaged single-parent families. We strive to achieve the best possible outcome for each beneficiary within the constraints of our available resources. The critical difference between our outreach services and our former

### 10. Enyinndakurom

Our staff have recently been doing great work in the village. They have created a weekly timetable of youth activities, as shown below. There has been great participation and a lot of enthusiasm for these sessions.

Our first group of five IT students graduated on 21 December. Their names are Richard Ansah, Christabel Maalbaar, Nancy Arhin, Alice Arhin, and Dominic Kumpah – left to right in the photo below. Each student received a certificate for their efforts. It was a proud moment for everyone involved.





Weekly Timetable		
#	Day	Activities
1	Thu	ICT Classes
2	Fri	
3	Fri	Livelihood & Vocational Skills
4	Sat	Music, Cultural Dance & Drama
5	Sun	
Each session ~2 hours		

Enyinnda Youth Activities Timetable



Enyinnda ICT Graduation Ceremony



Enyinnda Students with their Certs and Tutors (Paul, Ebenezer & Clinton (L-R))



Music Session in Enyinnda



Dance Session in Enyinnda

We've made good progress in constructing four retail/accommodation units. Our primary goal is to generate income to enhance PPRC's long-term sustainability. A secondary objective is to prevent land encroachment. We are grateful to the Hayward Legacy, which provided two-thirds of the funding. We need to raise an additional £10,000 to complete this project.





Shop Construction – Early Days



Shop Construction – making progress

Generation	2012	2023	Change
1st	76	34	-55%
2nd	58	39	-33%
3rd	52	39	-25%
4th	0	4	-
Other	6	51	750%
<b>Residents</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>-13%</b>

Enyinnda Census Results

We recently conducted a census of the entire resident population of Enyinnda. This is our tenth census since 2009. A brief snapshot of the results is shown above. There has been a 55% drop in

first-generation residents (leprosy survivors) over the past decade. Analysis of the results is ongoing, and we'll share further details in our following newsletter.

### 11. PPRC Staff

In the past few months, we've added 15 young people to our staff: four interns, six National Service (NS) personnel, and five post-NS personnel. This has dramatically strengthened our workforce and gives us the bandwidth to develop and improve our service provision.



PPRC Staff Training Session

The first NS personnel batch has concluded, and a new batch has started. We're very thankful to the first batch for their efforts and enthusiasm, and we're delighted to welcome the new batch.



PPRC Staff, NS personnel & Interns

An important agreement has been reached between the NS Secretariat, KEEA Assembly, and PPRC, which means that PPRC is now registered on the NS Portal, and students can register directly with PPRC.





KEEA Staff meeting with PPRC Staff

**12. Archbishop’s Visit**

On 13 Dec., Archbishop Charles Gabriel Palmer-Buckle visited PPRC to meet with PPRC staff and receive an update on recent progress. Key elements of our update were that we’ve made an orderly transition with the departure of the DMJ sisters in June and that we have brought together a highly qualified and motivated team, including existing staff, graduate hires, NS staff and interns. Dr Mantey also provided updates on 2023 financials, fundraising and the results from the recent Enyinnda census.

Archbishop Palmer-Buckle told the assembled staff that he sees PPRC as a vital and vibrant part of the Archdiocese’s mission, that he fully supports PPRC and wants to give it more publicity. He thanked the assembled staff for their efforts and dedication and emphasised the importance and value of the PPRC mission.

The Archbishop also told us that he recently celebrated his 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a priest, that he was given a present of a sheep and that he would like to donate this to the PPRC Christmas party. We were

surprised and delighted and have invited the Archbishop to attend our Christmas party.



CCTH staff choir with donations

**13. Cape Coast Teaching Hospital**

On 31 August, the CCTH staff choir visited PPRC as part of their 25th-anniversary celebrations. They donated oil, water, rice, medication, clothing, toiletries, and stationery. The CCTH choir performed several beautiful songs. A CCTH staff member described their history, and Dr Mantey briefed the delegation on PPRC’s history.



PPRC Campus – Painted Kerbs

**14. Campus & Organic Farm**

Our farm is doing well after the rains. We recently harvested corn, tomatoes, and pineapples. Our campus is looking great,







and our staff have painted the kerbs to brighten things up and improve visibility.



Fresh pineapples – from the farm



Tomatoes from the farm

**15. Davy Group Fundraiser**

We've started an exciting fundraising effort with the Davy Group in Dublin, Ireland. Nine employees have signed up to raise a total of €30,000 and plan to visit PPRC in March/April 2024. If you'd like to donate to this fundraising effort or view their progress, you can use this link:

<https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/IFoA2024>



Davy / IFoA iDonate Fundraiser

**16. Donations & Sponsorship**

We've been blessed with 33 different groups or individuals who donated in cash or kind. These donations are greatly appreciated; without them, we could not provide our core services.

However, in our mission, there are always more deserving cases than funds available. We are searching for new funding sources to avoid over-reliance on our existing generous donors. If you'd like to donate in the UK, please use this link: <https://www.ahoto.org/support>.

Please use the Irish Friends of Ahotokurom (IFoA) account details for other donations, as outlined below. IFoA is a registered charity with 'Tax Exemption Status,' which means your donations go even further. We also have a list of projects that donors can sponsor. If you're interested, please email [infoahotokurom@gmail.com](mailto:infoahotokurom@gmail.com) for the latest version of the list.

**Irish Friends of Ahotokurom (IFoA) - Bank Details**



Bank	Bank of Ireland
Branch Address	University of Limerick
Sort Code (NSC)	90-59-50
Account No.	6638 9119
IBAN No.	IE31 BOFI 9059 5066 3891 19
BIC No.	IE31 BOFI
Registered Charity No.	20149

### 17. Obituaries

**Mr. Jonas Darkwa** was a leprosy survivor and a resident at St. Clare’s for the past seven years. He died in July at the age of 74 after a short illness. May he rest in peace.

**Mr. Kwabena Badu** was a leprosy survivor and a resident at St. Clare’s for the past two years. He died in September due to illness. May he rest in peace.

**Miss. Akua Atta** was referred to St. Clare’s from Mercy Women’s Hospital in Mankessim. She suffered from severe cellulitis. We battled to save her, but our efforts were in vain. We battled to save her, but our efforts were in vain, and she died in September 2023, aged 20. May she rest in peace.

**Mr. Patrick Hinson** was a leprosy survivor who lived in Enyinndakurom and worked in St. Clare’s for many years. He recently fell ill and died at Cape Coast Hospital aged 72. May he rest in peace.

**Sr. Margaret Mary, DMJ**, was a loyal supporter and frequent visitor to Ahotokurom. Her most recent visit was in March 2023, when she helped plant a coconut tree. She died in California in November at the age of 92. May she rest in peace.



Sr Margaret Mary – Planting Coconuts

### 18. Late Breaking News

Here are some photos from our St. Elizabeth’s Special Needs Nativity Play, help on 22-Dec-2023.



Patrick + Wendy



Winne, Clinton & Dorcas - PPRC Staff



Nativity Scene 2



12 days of Christmas



Afua Grace & Sandra



Nativity Scene 1