

July 2007-June 2008: Annual Report

STAFF

Name	JobTitle	Other positions held
Clement Donkor	Program Manager	Community Liaison Finance Officer
Douglas Asihene	Assistant Program Manager	Scholarships Manager Computer Centre Manager
Vacant	Education Program Coordinator	
Nick Rosen	Health Program Coordinator	Secretary
Vacant	National Service Volunteer/Teacher	
Enock Abeyie Nkrumah	Teacher	Serve and Learn Assistant Coordinator.
Comfort Awuah	Librarian	
Vacant	Health Program Assistant	
Cudjoe Eric	Computer Centre Assistant	
Ozoo	Community Centre Overseer	

Coordinators and Personnel: Luke Caley and Ilona Johnston completed their terms as Education and Health Coordinators in September and were replaced by Sarah Puryear and Leah Ratner, respectively. Both Sarah and Leah have, in turn, completed their terms and returned to the United States; Nicholas Rosen replaced Leah as Health Coordinator in June, while the position of Education Coordinator remains vacant. Thomas Ackah and Ishmael Abeyie completed their terms as National Service Volunteers and were replaced with another National Service Volunteer, Solomon Wakemeh, who remains in that position. Enock Nkrumah has been hired to serve as a teacher for the Youth Education Program and the Tutoring Center, while Clement Donkor and Douglas Asihene remain as Program Manager and Assistant Program Manager, respectively.

Scholarship Program: 29 scholarships have been awarded to date, covering the full tuition for each student's time in secondary school. Due to GHEI's fundraising efforts, we will be able to award another set of scholarships in September once students know their SHS placements.

JSS Youth Education Program: In September, 12 Form 1 students were selected to enter the YEP program, joining 20 returning students in Forms 2 and 3. Throughout the school year, these students received six hours of supplemental education each week, on topics ranging from English to preparation for the BECE exam. In May, when the ten Form 3 students wrote their BECE

examinations and passed out of JSS, they left the YEP program and will be replaced in September by a new group of Form 1 students.

Leadership Program: When school is out of session, our scholarship students have been urged to give back to the town of Humjibre through community service. Throughout the year, the students cleaned the community center, constructed a road safety sign, planted trees and wrote a newsletter for the community's benefit. The program seems to have had the desired effect of instilling a sense of altruism and service into these young leaders.

Tutoring Center: Operating from October until April, the Tutoring Center is a GHEI program designed to help all of the Form 3 students prepare for their BECE examinations. 3 teachers provide 7 contact hours each week to any Form 3 student from the area who wishes to receive additional instruction in four core subjects and agriculture. Attendance was very good, especially in the weeks and months immediately preceding the examination.

Library: A new library building was inaugurated on 23 September amid great fanfare. The new building boasts ample workspace for students and other community members, as well as 1400 titles- all managed by our full-time librarian, Comfort Awuah. Frequent donations of books from foreign volunteers and other sources have swelled the collection, offering the community choices ranging from storybooks to novels to science textbooks. Attendance averaged almost 200 patrons per week.

Adult Peer Educators and Community Health Workers: The backbone of GHEI's health programs, the Adult Peer Educators (APEs) were quite active this year. In July and August, assisted by American volunteers, they interviewed 140 households about their malaria risks, distributed 50 bednets and re-treated another 100 nets. They also helped educate local primary school pupils about how to prevent the transmission of parasitic worms, and helped to deworm over 600 of these pupils. In addition these pupils were given a pair of flip-flops (charlewote) each. In September, October and November, the APEs- as part of the Ghana AIDS Commission's MSHAP program- held a series of outreaches on HIV/AIDS, including five dramas on Unike FM and frequent dramas in the communities around Humjibre. This culminated in the December 1st World AIDS Day, a huge community event with numerous speakers that attracted a large audience to the Humjibre Community Center. In January, the APEs repeated the malaria and bednet exercise with a group of students from Cornell University in the United States, distributing 150 bednets in the community. Since then, the APEs have worked on dramas about teenage pregnancy and family planning, which they have presented in Suroano and Muoho and have helped to train a group of Community Health Workers in Suroano. The Community Health Workers have distributed 500 bednets provided by GHEI in Suroano, and have done follow-up work in the community to ensure that the nets are being properly used. So far in the reporting year, 700 insecticide treated mosquito bed nets were distributed free of charge to individuals or families.

Youth Peer Educators: The YPEs, JSS students devoted to improving the health of their communities, were quite active this year. They presented a drama about teenage pregnancy in September, and then prepared and performed another drama about HIV/AIDS at World AIDS Day. In January, they visited all of the families that had received mosquito nets to make sure they were not having any problems hanging or using them.

Condom Sales: Discounted, youth-friendly condom sales have continued in Humjibre. At the beginning of the year, sales averaged about 100-120 per month, but through word-of-mouth, the

popularity of the service increased, so that by May and June of 2008 the average number of sales had increased to over 200 each month. The total has been 2282 for the months covered by this report. Plans are afoot to expand the program into Muoho and Kojina, due to its demonstrated popularity.

Computer Classes: The newly-opened computer center boasts 9 desktop computers. These have been utilized in a number of ways. Structured classes have provided community members with formal instruction by GHEI staff members in how to perform basic functions with a computer. There have also been “open sessions” in the afternoons, when residents are welcome to stop into the computer center to practice using the computers in a more unstructured setting. Finally, we have offered computer instruction to the schools in Humjibre, and Muoho JHS has taken advantage by sending a class every week to practice their computer skills and learn new ones.

Community Center: The huge Community Centre built by the Organization for the Humjibre Community continues to serve as the meeting place for most communal activities. Apart from the mainstream GHEI activities ranging from forums for women’s pertinent health discussions, Adult and Youth Peer Educators’ drama to showing of documentaries, the community used the Big Hall 65 times in the year. Usage was usually general community meetings, Agricultural meetings, funerals, weddings, government programmes, prayer camps, youth movement meetings, Keep fit club meetings, to political movement meetings. Meetings in the Hall are usually held for free since the community offered free communal labour for its construction. As part of the Community Centre Complex, a library block was constructed and furnished with furniture and books. Construction of a 3 room residential block was also constructed thus almost doubling the budget of the Organization. Meanwhile the infrastructural developments will enhance the work of GHEI overall.

FINANCES.

Sources of Funding: Below are the organization’s funding sources for the reporting year.

Altrusa International Foundation Inc.
Multi-Sectoral HIV/AIDS PROGRAMME
Summer Serve and Learn Programme
Private/Individual Donations.

2007-2008 Financial Summary	
2007-2008 Budget	Ghc 46,116.06
2007-2008 Actual Costs	Ghc 45,486.68

For detailed breakdown of financial activity, please see the accompanying spreadsheet:
Financial Summary – June 2007-July 2008