



BLUE HORIZON AID

Bringing Hope to the Hopeless

EXEC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the 3rd Edition of Blue Horizon Aid's Monthly E-newsletter.

This third issue of our newsletter comes after the world is faced with the recent novel Coronavirus (Covid- 19) which was detected in Wuhan, China.

The Covid-19 pandemic has drastically changed the way in which we live and interact with each other in just some few months.

The rate of spread has become so alarming that unprecedented steps and precautions have been taken to ensure the safety of citizens and curb the rate of new infections.

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BHA RESTORES HOPE TO DANIEL MENSAH AKLIGO

Once again BHA comes to the rescue of Daniel Mensah Akligo who was on the verge of quitting Senior High School (SHS). He lost the mom through a car accident, seen the dad only once for the past 20years. He doesn't know if the dad is alive or dead. Daniel has no decent place to sleep, no food to eat and sometimes only drinks water to sleep or even sleeps without food. He has no money to board transport from Accra to Sefwi Bekwai Senior High School which is about 386km (240miles) from Accra and about 8hours drive on a commercial transport. Money for food whiles in school and to buy some textbooks for his personal studies is a big challenge but BHA has made it possible.

[Read the story below.....](#)

UPDATE ON COVID 19

Covid 19, a global health crisis of our time and Ghana, is no exception. Ghana recorded its first two confirmed cases on the 12th March,2020.

The two cases happened to be from two person who returned to the country from Norway and Turkey.

In Ghana's quest to slow down the spread of the virus the country carried out contact tracing, putting a ban on social gathering and quarantining infected persons.

As at July 7th the confirmed cases from Ghana Health Service stood at 21,077 with the count cases of Region below:

- Greater Accra Region 11,508
- Ashanti Region 4,534
- Western Region 1,846
- Central Region 992
- Eastern Region 835
- Volta Region 369
- Upper East Region 278
- Western Region 154
- Bono East Region 139
- Northern Region 137
- Oti Region 112
- Upper West Region 55
- Savannah Region 46
- Bono Region 38
- Ahafo Region 26
- North East Region 8

Ghana as a developing country has dealt with the Covid 19 by producing the best testing result in Africa.

Currently the country has reopened while there is a limit social gathering.

The education sector is gradually reopening. Meanwhile the final- year senior high school (SHS3) students together with the SHS2 Gold Track student and the final year Junior High school student have reopened school. This is to enable them prepare for their exit examinations.

The final year universities have also reported to their various universities this is to enable the final year students to finish their course while all other educational facilities private and public remain closed.

MY STORY

“I am Daniel Mensah Akligo. I was born on the 23rd December, 1999 and a student of Sefwi Bekwai Senior High School. I come from Aflao in the Volta Region of Ghana.

I started school at Sepfenufope RC Basic School at Aflao in the Ketu South Municipal Assembly. I started from Kindergarten one but stopped at primary one because my mother could not pay my examination fees. I stayed home for three years after which I went back to school. I started school again at the age of six. Since I started school, I never wrote any end of term exams because I was owing both school fees and examination fees. I stopped schooling without moving to a new class.

December 9th 2009, was the day I met my biological father for the first time when he came to his father’s (my grandfather’s) funeral. He left as soon as the funeral was over because he was residing in Nigeria



Daniel standing in front of his school

In January 2010, I decided to follow a family member who was coming to live and work in Accra. She agreed to allow me follow her when my mother permitted me. When we arrived in Accra, we both got work at a laundry (I was 10 years then). I worked for three months and I decided to go back to school because I have been seeing my age mates going to school and speaking English and I wanted to do the same thing. I spoke to my sister about it and she was ok with it so I got admitted to Klagon TMA Primary “A” Basic school at Klagon. I started school again at the age of 10 in class one (1), meanwhile the normal age for being in class one is six years.

Before the end of the third term in primary one, I was able to speak and write in English. After the promotional exams, I was promoted to primary two. I continued from there to primary six. During my second term in primary six, I lost my mother in a car accident. I travelled back to my hometown for her burial. After the burial, I could not come back to Accra because the person I was staying with (the family member) had gotten married and left for Benin.

After staying in the village for some time, I decided to come back to Accra because my aunts and uncles were unwilling to help me go back to school because I was attending church at the village which is a taboo in the family; because my grandfather was a fetish priest. The only way they would help me is I should stop going to church.



Front view of Daniel's place of abode



A view of Daniel's Room

...Story continues

I came back to Accra knowing very well that I have no place to sleep, no food to eat and water to drink.

Fortunately, I met Mr Appiah, my primary six teachers, gladly greeted him and he asked why I stopped the school and I explained everything to him. He then asked me to return to school the following Monday. Meanwhile a friend had also offered to allow me to stay with him in a kiosk (wooden structure)

He took me to see Miss Olivia Soglo, the headmistress of the Junior High School department when I went to see him. She conducted a test for me to see if I qualify to be in form 1, after the test, she said I was good and I was admitted to JHS 1.

Mr. Appiah (my primary six teacher) bought all the items I needed to start the school. I was promoted to JHS 2 after final exams in JHS 1. I could not complete JHS two because I was owing a lot and Mr Appiah could not afford to pay so I had to quit school and look for a job (cleaning of people's houses, washing people's cars, weeding and running errands). After working for some time, I decided that I needed a certificate and therefore, I have to complete at least the Junior High School. I got myself admitted to school and sailed to form three where I was made the school prefect.

The time came to pay registration fees for the BECE. I could not raise enough money to pay the fees. At this point life was very tough because it was difficult to even get food to eat and I sometimes have to sleep on empty stomach and in some cases I have to drink water to sleep.

By the grace of God someone paid my fees and I wrote my exams.

...Story continues

I gained admission to Sefwi- Bekwai Senior High School and I am currently in SHS 1. I have no mother, no father and no one to help me. I live with a friend in a kiosk. Sometimes I have to drink water for the whole day as my food. Last term when school reopened, I needed money to pay for transport to school and buy some food to eat when I go to school. All my hope was lost and I was about to quit the Senior High School when someone introduced me to Mr Benjamin Turkson the Executive Director (ED) of Blue Horizon Aid who supported me with money to transport me to school and some money for upkeep. BHA also supported me with some textbooks I needed in school.

During the lockdown, Executive Director also donated food items, hand sanitizers, nose mask and cash donation to support me in these difficult times.

God bless BHA for restoring my hope to complete my Senior High School.”



Donation of Text Book to Daniel by ED



Donation of Food Items, Pictured Benjamin Turkson and Daniel Akligo



Donation of Food Items by BHA Team left (Herberta), Middle (Daniel) and Right (Benjamin)

OUR CORE VALUES



Belief in God

We proclaim that Jesus is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead.”



Excellence

“We will strive to be the best of the best in our service delivery. Exceeding Expectations will be our Hallmark.”



Respect

“Everyone has equal value. We will treat everyone with equal respect”



Credibility

“Trustworthiness, transparency, accountability, integrity towards all our stakeholders.”

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Blue Horizon Aid (BHA) is a rural, peri-urban development, advocacy and relief organization dedicated to working with poor women, children, families and their communities.

Please join us meet the rural folks at point of their need.

Your donations can be sent to BHA's account no below

Account name: BLUE HORIZON AID

Bank Name: ZENITH BANK GH.LTD

Account No (GHC) 0006011417450

Account No. (EUR) 0007031402301

Account No. (USD) 0006041405239

Account No. (GBP) 0007041401006

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