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NEWSLETTER

VOL 2

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CORONA VIRUS UPDATE IN GHANA BY GHANA HEALTH SERVICE

Table 3: Summary of Recoveries by Region, Mar 2020 – Mar 1, 2021

Region	Cases	Recovered/ Discharged	% Recovered/ Discharged	Active Cases
Ahafo	666	625	93.8	23
Ashanti	14,770	14,052	95.1	595
Bono	1,079	878	81.4	179
Bono East	1,172	1,082	92.3	71
Central	3,012	2,669	88.6	299
Eastern	3,802	3,646	95.9	96
Greater Accra	47,876	45,263	94.5	2,394
North East	125	55	44.0	64
Northern	1,321	1,106	83.7	191
Oti	283	270	95.4	9
Savannah	80	72	90.0	7
Upper East	1,193	1,043	87.4	118
Upper West	430	338	78.6	82
Volta	1,951	1,542	79.0	397
Western	5,428	4,955	91.3	442
Western North	808	769	95.2	35
International travellers(KIA)	1,243	1,100	88.5	143
TOTAL	85,239	79,465	93.2	5,145

JOYCE ANKU AN EDS BENEFICIARY SHARES HER EXPERIENCES OF THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

Background: On the 16th of March 2020, schools in Ghana were closed indefinitely to curb the spread of covid-19. On the 15th of June 2020 the gradual reopening of schools commenced with final year students returning to school to prepare for their final examinations in September and October 2020. On the 5th of October 2020 second year students in Junior and senior high schools returned to school to complete their academic year. Total reopening of schools commenced on the 15th of January 2021 with strict adherence to Covid 19 safety protocols like hand washing, social distancing and mandatory wearing of face masks. In order ensure the enforcement of these protocols in every school, the government provided hand washing materials like Veronica buckets, soap, hand sanitizers, paper tissues and reusable facemasks for all students and staff.



Joyce Anku a junior high school EDS beneficiary in final year at Bakatsir Basic School, Cape Coast, shares some of her experiences during the period of closure of schools as a result of the pandemic.

- **Interviewer:** How did you feel when you were asked to go home indefinitely as a result of the Pandemic?

Joyce: I was not happy because I had to run errands for the whole period spent at home, so I could not study.

- **Interviewer:** What exactly were you doing at home during this period?

Joyce: I was helping my mother trade, I had to peddle to sell salmon fish at the market every day except Sundays.

- **Interviewer:** Did you have a study plan or study materials to learn at home during this period?

Joyce: Yes I had a couple of textbooks which I studied in the evenings.

- **Interviewer:** Did your school give you reading assignments and materials to learn at home during that period?

Joyce: No, non-such were given to us.

- **Interviewer:** Were you in touch with your teachers to get their help for your academic progress?

Joyce: No I was not in touch with my teachers

- **Interviewer:** What do you think are the negative effect of the pandemic on your academic progress?

Joyce: I did not have time to study, I studied only in the evenings and there are many lessons from the previous academic year which we are still yet to cover in school.

- **Interviewer:** What safety protocols do you observe in school to protect yourselves from the pandemic? Which of these protocols do you also observe outside school?

Joyce: In school there is regular washing of hands, regular use of hand sanitizers, the use of face masks and maintaining social distancing both in and out of class. Outside school I follow some of the safety protocols but I don't wear the face masks.

- **Interviewer:** Why don't you wear the face mask outside school?

Joyce: (laughs and gives no answer)

- **Interviewer:** Do you think it is okay for you to return to school whilst the pandemic is still prevalent?

Joyce: Yes because we can protect ourselves whilst in school studying when we keep the safety protocols and so far there has been no recorded cases in our school, which I believe is due to the strict adherence to the safety protocols.

- **Interviewer:** How are you making up for the lost study time?

Joyce: Since schools were reopened I am always in school so I no longer sell at the market during weekdays, and I now have enough time to study after school too.

- **Interviewer:** Thank you for sharing your experience with us

Joyce: You are welcome.

BLUE HORIZON AID (BHA) COMMISSIONING OF POLYTANKS (WATER STORING FACILITIES)



The chief and elders of the Esuekyir community in the Winneba area, an important town in the Central Region of Ghana have been privileged to receive four water storing facilities (polytanks) in their community. Some time back last year, the chief and elders made a passionate appeal to BHA to provide two major facilities which the community was in dire need of, namely, water storage facilities and public toilet facility. BHA promised to solicit support for the projects to enable it assist the people. With the help of friends and sponsors – Ghana

Freundeskreis, the facility has been provided. Four polytanks have been provided for the people at four different spots in the community. The main community has been divided into four suburbs and each of the suburb has received one polytank. The water storage facilities become necessary for the community because they have been experiencing water shortages over the period. The water supply has not been regular in the community, as a result, they had been going through a lot of difficulties whenever the water supply cease. In order to deal with the situation, the polytanks had to be provided and BHA with the support of its sponsors have been able to provide the facilities.



On the 23rd of February 2021, the commissioning of the polytanks was done to formally hand over the facilities to the people of Esuekyir. BHA was represented by Teye Kodzi, BHA Project Coordinator and Raphael Kyei, Field Coordinator. The commissioning tape was cut by the chief of Esuekyir and Raphael of BHA to formally hand over the facilities to the people. In a short speech, Teye Kodzi thanked the Director of BHA Mr. Ben Turkson, the sponsors and all the staff of BHA especially Raphael Kyei for his day to day supervisory work that ensured that the project became a success. He also encouraged the people to take good care of the facilities so that they may serve the purpose for which they were provided. The chief and elders of Esuekyir were full of praise for BHA and promised to take good care of the facilities. They also reminded the BHA representatives of the second project which is the toilet facility.



Teye Kozdi (Proj Cord.) handing over keys to the chief and elders



The chief (5th from left), elders and BHA team (Teye first from right)



One of the women carrying water from the "Polytank"



One of the women drinking water from the "Polytank"



The chief of Essuekyer drinking water from the "Polytank"



One of the commissioned "Polytank"



The youth leader and queen mother of Essuekyer drinking water from the "Polytank"



TITLE: BE A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS

Memory Verses:

MATTHEW 28:16 - Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations

Who is a true disciple of Jesus? The Greek term for “disciple” in the New Testament is mathetes, which means more than just a “student” or a “learner.” *A disciple is a “follower,” someone who adheres completely to the teachings of another, making them his rule of life and conduct. To be a true disciple of Jesus, it means that _you must study His Word, and live the Word. As a disciple of the Lord, you will be asked to spread His Word regardless of the sacrifices and the personal difficulties you will have to endure._ In Matthew 28:16-20, before JESUS left to heaven, the Bible says the disciples went to Galilee, and into the mountains. Now when they saw him they worshipped him, so it means when you have an encounter with Jesus you have to worship him. Every Christian or anybody who has become born again must become primarily a worshipper of God. Jesus spoke unto them saying “All power is given unto me in heaven and on earth”. Every power in heaven and on earth belongs to Jesus. After that he said *Go* ye therefore and teach all nations; He did not say teach just the rich, or the Americans, or the Europeans, or the Africans. He said *teach all nations* baptizing them in the name of The Father and of The Son and of The Holy Ghost.

The statement “Go and make disciples” means it is a commission that has been given to us. It is a commission of not teaching people to make money or to build houses but primarily to make disciples. Every institution has what is known as its core functions and secondary functions. The primary/core function of the church is not to build schools, hospitals and roads. Its core function is to preach the gospel and raise up followers of Jesus. It doesn't mean we don't have to do other important things. It is just to say that; any other matter of concern is secondary. The verse 20 says _“Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo am with you always, even to the end of the age.”_ This means anyone who is involved in making disciples and preaching the gospel, the Lord will always be with him/her. You shall receive full support from the Lord.

PRAYER:

Father, in the name of Jesus may I adhere to your teachings and tell others about your love. By that, may I be a true disciple of you. Amen.

Salvation Prayer

Dear God in heaven, I come to you in the name of Jesus, I acknowledge to You that I am a sinner, and I am sorry for my sins and the life that I have lived; I need your forgiveness.

I believe that your only begotten Son Jesus Christ shed His precious blood on the cross at Calvary and died for my sins, and I am now willing to turn from my sin.

You said in Your Holy Word, Romans 10:9 that if we confess the Lord our God and believe in our hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead, we shall be saved.

Right now I confess Jesus as the Lord of my soul. With my heart, I believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. This very moment I accept Jesus Christ as my own personal Savior and according to His Word, right now I am saved.

Next Step - Get into a Bible-based Church



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 their point of need.

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

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