

Student Profiles

1. PROFILE OF STEPHEN JUDE ARTHUR

NAME: STEPHEN JUDE ARTHUR **AGE:** 9 YEARS **SEX:** MALE

BACKGROUND:

Information gathered from the guardian, Theresa Mensah, has it that Stephen lost his father and mother when he was three (3) and seven (7) years of age, respectively. Stephen is the last of the two (2) children of the deceased parents and is currently in primary three (3) at Crusaders Primary School. He is no relation to Mark Arthur of CSC.

Madam Theresa Mensah, elder sister of Stephen's deceased mother, has single-handedly cared for Stephen all this while, as well as her own six children, with much difficulty. Stephen is made to sell ice water on the street after school.

Stephen was recommended to the Program by his Headmistress. However, CSC sought approval from the Department of Social Welfare before recruiting him. The Headmistress (Mrs. Ekua Ntaamah) made it known to us that some of the teachers usually contributed to support Stephen.

2. PROFILE OF JUSTICE MARK ARTHUR

NAME: JUSTICE MARK ARTHUR **AGE:** 10 YEARS **SEX:** MALE

BACKGROUND:

Justice Mark Arthur (No relation with Mark Arthur – CSC Field Officer) was born in Takoradi on the 24th May 1996. He is the second of the two children of the parents and is currently in primary four (4) at the Crusaders Primary School. He lost his father five years ago when he was in KG 2 (kindergarten) and has since been cared for by the mother.

Justice was also recommended to the program by his Headmistress. However, CSC sought approval from the Department of Social Welfare before recruiting him. According the Headmistress (Mrs. Ekua Ntaamah), Justice's mother struggles to meet her son's needs and needed a helper.

3. PROFILE OF ELIZABETH OTOO

NAME: ELIZABETH OTOO

AGE: 15 YEARS

SEX: FEMALE

BACKGROUND:

Elizabeth Otoo, the fourth (4th) of five children of the parents, was born on 27 March 1991 at Apam in the Central Region of Ghana. At the age of six (6) Elizabeth's mother, Comfort Anaan, was said to have woken up one morning and found that the husband was not in the room. Information has it that the father had travelled outside the country and has, for the past ten (10) years, not been heard from or seen since then. The mother has single-handedly cared for Elizabeth and the other siblings since that time.

Elizabeth is currently in JSS 3 at the Wesley Methodist. Until her recruitment, she was assisting her mother by selling kenkey after classes to support her schooling, a situation which adversely affected her desire for academic pursuit. She was on the verge of dropping out of school. Elizabeth resides with her mother at European Town, a suburb of Sekondi in house No OM/6.

Elizabeth was recommended by her Headmistress to CSC. The Department of Social Welfare investigated and approved her need before CSC agreed to sponsor her.

4. PROFILE OF NANA KWEKU ARHIN

NAME: NANA KWEKU ARHIN

AGE: 15 YEARS

SEX: MALE

BACKGROUND:

Nana Kweku Arhin was born the 29th September 1991 at Amanful, a suburb of Takoradi noted for drug peddlers and school drop-outs. He is the eldest of three (3) children of his parents, Ama Kwansaema and John Jackson.

Arhin, who is now in JSS three (3) at Axim Road JSS, lost his father when he was nine (9) years of age and since then has been single-handedly cared for by the mother in a rented, single room at Amanful. Nana Kweku Arhin, who sells ice water after school hours to support the mother in their up-keep, was having difficulty concentrating on his books due to selling ice water on the streets.

Arhin's School Authorities recommended him to CSC. The Department of Social Welfare investigated and approved his need before CSC recruited him.

5. PROFILE OF LYDIA DADZIE

NAME: LYDIA DADZIE

AGE: 8 YEARS

SEX: FEMALE

BACKGROUND:

Lydia Dadzie, the last of three (3) children, was born on April 1, 1998 at Assorko-Essaman in the Western Region. After her father died, her mother, a subsistence farmer, found it very difficult to care for the child. Information from the Department of Social Welfare stated that Lydia had stopped going to school and was just roaming the streets.

After CSC talked to Lydia, she expressed the desire to return to school if she could get help. She has now been re-enrolled at Assorko-Essaman Catholic Primary in class 3.

Lydia was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare.

6. PROFILE OF NICHOLAS YAMSON

NAME: NICHOLAS YAMSON

AGE: 17 YEARS

SEX: MALE

BACKGROUND:

Nicholas Yamson was born on the 20th August 1989 at Anaji. He is the last of eight (8) children. His father died thirteen (13) years ago. Nicholas supported his family through odd jobs like truck pushing and weeding and was able to complete Metropolitan Authority JSS at Anaji.

Due to the size of his family, Nicholas sometimes had to associate himself with bad boys in order to sleep somewhere at the end of the day, because of a lack of accommodations. Nicholas was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare. He is now learning a Trade (Plumbing) at Takoradi Technical Institute.

7. PROFILE OF WILLIAM ARHINFUL

NAME: WILLIAM ARHINFUL

AGE: 11 YEARS

SEX: MALE

BACKGROUND:

William Arhinful was born in Cote d'Ivoire in August 1995. According to William's grandmother, William's mother went into relationship with an Ivorian and ended up with four (4) children. After some years, the relationship broke down. William's father, who is an Ivorian, refused to maintain the children. Since the mother was jobless and unable to look after William and his other three (3) siblings, she brought the children to their grandmother to care for them, but she also was unemployed.

Nevertheless, the grandmother has cared for the children for the past seven years without hearing anything from the purported Ivorian father of the children. The mother is said to be in the Ivory Coast, but she has not been heard from since she brought the children to Ghana. The grandmother is finding it very difficult to provide for the educational needs of William and other siblings as a result of financial constraints.

Further investigation revealed that William was sleeping under parked trucks on the streets and was not attending school. He now has returned to school at Collins Avenue Primary and is in class four (4).

William was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare

8. PROFILE OF ANGELA ARHINFUL

NAME: ANGELA ARHINFUL **AGE:** 13 YEARS **SEX:** FEMALE

BACKGROUND:

Angela Arhinful was born on the 28th March 1993 in Cote D'Ivoire. Angela is William Arhinful's big sister and was also recruited from the Department of Social Welfare to reduce the burden on their grandmother.

Angela was not attending school regularly and had taken to dancing at funerals and public functions for minor fees. She now is attending school regularly at Badu-Addo Methodist Primary in class five (5).

9. PROFILE OF SANI MOHAMMED

NAME: SANI MOHAMMED **AGE:** 11 YEARS **SEX:** MALE

BACKGROUND:

Sani Mohammed was born 11 years ago and is the second of five children of Madam Sadia Alhassan and Mr Sani. He started schooling at Effia Kuma Al-Azhariya Primary School. Sani stopped schooling when he was in primary (4) after the death of his father. Sani's mother is a petty trader, selling groundnuts on the streets of Takoradi and, consequently, cannot fully support her children.

Sani was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare, and a follow-up by CSC revealed that Sani was roaming the streets doing nothing. He has been put back in his former school and is in class four (4).

10. PROFILE OF GRACE KWOFIE

NAME: GRACE KWOFIE

AGE: 8 YEARS

SEX: FEMALE

BACKGROUND:

According to Grace's mother (Afuah Atta), she met one Kwesi and established an intimate relationship with him, becoming pregnant as a result. However, the man absconded when he was informed of the pregnancy. She (Afuah Atta) solely has cared for the child to date. Because the mother has not been able to care adequately for the child, Grace started schooling late. Grace has two siblings and dropped out of school when she got to primary 2. Since then, she has been on the street selling ice for a commission.

The 8-year-old little girl is residing with her mother at Kwesiminitism (a densely populated suburb of Takoradi) in house No b/04. She was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare and has now been enrolled back in primary 2 at the Methodist Primary-Sawmill.

11. PROFILE OF YUSIF ADAMU

NAME: YUSIF ADAMU

AGE: 9 YEARS

SEX: MALE

BACKGROUND:

Yusif Adamu was born on 6th May 1997 at Effia Kuma Zongo. Adamu's father, Alhaji Adamu, died when he was three years old. He had since been cared for by his single mother, together with his only sister.

Adamu attends school at Good Shepherd Anglican Primary at Effia-Kuma in class 3. The mother, Madam Hawa Ibrahim, who is an ice water seller, is unable to adequately care for the children due to her meagre income.

Adamu was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare

12. PROFILE OF FRANCIS OCRAN

NAME: FRANCIS OCRAN

AGE: 17 YEARS

SEX: MALE

BACKGROUND:

Francis Ocran, the only child of his mother, was born on 5th June 1989 at Anaji, a suburb of Takoradi. According to his grandmother (Mame Adjoa Nlkumah), a year after the birth of Francis, his mother died. The grandmother has since been caring for the boy. The father it is said, on hearing that his name was mentioned as the one responsible for the pregnancy that eventually brought Francis Ocran into the world, absconded and has not been seen or heard of up to this time.

As the days went by Francis, who knew of his plight, took menial jobs to get money to support his grandmother who was caring for him. This effort to support himself, which was the only way for his survival, naturally affected his academic performance, as he sometimes was made to choose between taking a menial job or attending school.

Francis had an interest in going to school, however, thinking of his long-term survival. He had been on the street pushing carts, but now has been moved off the streets to Francis Electronics Services to learn a Trade.

Francis was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare

13. PROFILE OF CECILIA NDUR

NAME: CECILIA NDUR

AGE: 18 YEARS

SEX: FEMALE

BACKGROUND

Cecilia Ndur was born on 15th March 1988 at Abrem Agona, a community near Elmina in the Central Region of Ghana, to Kwesi Ndur and Madam Ama, father and mother respectively. Cecilia, the last of 3 children, was in JSS1 when her mother died. The father, who was a subsistence farmer, could not adequately provide for Cecilia, and therefore she dropped out of school. Because she was living in the community without attention and parental care, Cecilia's Aunt Deborah went to Elmina for Cecilia, bringing her back to Takoradi to have her assistance in petty trading. Coming to Takoradi with the Aunt did not improve Cecilia's situation much since the Aunt had her own four (4) children to take care of as well.

Upon investigation CSC found out that Cecilia was spending her days working in a chop bar in order to get food to eat and her nights sleeping in a kiosk around the Railway Station in the Port area of Takoradi. An interview with Cecilia revealed that she desired to learn a trade in dress-making. She has therefore been enrolled with Jarlet Fashions for technical skills training in this field.

Cecilia was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare.

14. PROFILE OF SAMUEL LARTEY

NAME:SAMUEL LARTEY **AGE** :16 YEARS **SEX** :MALE

BACKGROUND:

Samuel Larthey, the forth of nine children, was born on the 26th November 1990, at Assorkor-Essaman. Three out of the nine siblings are dead; his parents are Rose Cobbinah and the late John Larthey.

When Samuel reached school going age, he was enrolled at the Assorkor-Essaman Roman Catholic Primary School, but he dropped out of school on reaching Primary three (3) and took to truck pushing to help support himself and the family because of poverty and the family size.

After three (3) years, Samuel had been able to save some money so he decided to go back to school and was re-enrolled in class three (3). His Father died when he was in class five (5), and Samuel had no choice but to return to work to help the mother so he quit school again.

Samuel was recruited from the Department of Social Welfare and records with the Department indicate that Samuel had expressed interest in going back to school if he could get help.

Samuel has now been sent back to school with our help and is in class five (5).
