

**2016**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



**NKWA FOUNDATION**  
*Community Development, Our Concern*



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## Letter from Our Executive Director

This report covers the Nkwa Foundation's third operating year, 1 June 2016 – 31 May 2013.

We started the year by facilitating 8 health outreaches programmes with the help of Operation Groundswell group of volunteers. Operation Grounds Groundswell is based in Toronto, Canada, it works with charities, community leaders, governments, and NGOs to cultivate a movement of globally active and socially conscious backpackers. The group of volunteers accompanied the Nkwa Foundation to Ponkrom Health Outreach, Ponkrom school outreach, Breman community health outreach and Breman School Outreach where community members and pupils learned about prevalent health issues and were encouraged to take ownership of their own health at home and in the schools. More information about this activity is provided on page 7

Our last volunteer group from the University of Toronto through Operation Groundswell worked on our organic farm at Breman where they help our widows group to plant about one care of land of cassava.


Nkwa foundation had five Interns to support our operation and partnership as well.

Eshan Singh was placed at coastal Television, a community television station in Cape Coast, Fabian Erb was placed at University of Cape Coast Electricity Station, Awais and Isha at Commission on Human Rights and Administration Justice (CHRAJ) Elmina and Stephanie Hua with Nkwa Foundation on operation feed Ponkrom Community School Projects.

The main challenges faced in our third year of operation were again financial. Insufficient income, compounded by high inflation, restricted some of our planned activities. In view of this, we have re-evaluated our strategy and priorities to help us achieve a more sustainable financial future for Nkwa,

I should like to thank everyone who has supported the Nkwa Foundation since its inception and for those who will support us in the years to come as we embark on our Tilapia Farm project – see page 11

Sincerely,



Okyere Ramzy  
**Executive Director and Founder**

## About Nkwa Foundation

The Nkwa Foundation is a Ghanaian non-profit organization that focuses on sustainable community development, health promotion and supporting rural education. Founded in 2013, Nkwa works primarily with rural communities in the District of Cape Coast to advocate and empower communities to achieve development by providing a variety of opportunities to help sustain livelihoods and the wellbeing of community members. We currently focus our community-based projects in the neighbouring villages of Breman, Eguafo and Ponkrom in the Central Region. By concentrating our work in this area, we are able to achieve greater and more meaningful impact in the communities we serve. Nkwa is also able to provide consulting services to other non-profit organizations, small and mid-sized businesses in the Central Region.

Nkwa recognizes the importance of global education and collaboration. We strive to provide academic internships to inspire and educate international students to help create change on a global scale. We partner with universities and institutions both in Ghana and internationally to provide opportunities for students seeking practical experience to enhance the studies they undertake at their home institutions.

### Our Mission

To support and encourage increased community involvement through innovative community-based projects that are designed to address developmental and environmental concerns within both the local and the global sphere, while continuing to be at the forefront of volunteer and internship programs.

### Our Vision

To create a better future for local and global communities by providing continual understanding and training of expertise and technological advancement to meet local and global development and environmental challenges, whilst providing sustained community-based internship projects.

### Our Goals

- 1 To enable communities to benefit from cultural exchange programs through teaching and other educational programs.
- 2 To help create public awareness, both locally and globally, of the importance of community work as a social tool.
- 3 To promote sustainable community development whilst prioritizing community needs.
- 4 To increase the level of community engagement in our targeted communities and to assist individuals to develop skills and attitudes to empower them to actively participate in solving the problems of their communities, their countries and the world at large.





## **Our Approach to Community Development**

### **Collaborate with key local stakeholders**

As we strongly believe development cannot happen alone; one must cooperate with the community and others who have a vested interest to maximize results. We prioritize collaboration and partnerships with local stakeholders to help our projects succeed.

### **Monitor and evaluate community needs and project progress**

We continuously aim to improve our services and outputs in the communities. By monitoring and evaluating community needs, and our own progress, we can safeguard the interests of local community members and stakeholders, while maximizing results. Nkwa prides itself on using academic research methods, such as surveys and questionnaires and focus groups, to assess needs and monitor our impact.

### **Provide expertise technical consultation while prioritizing community needs.**

Through our consultancy services, we ensure that system, regulatory framework and individual projects can be designed and managed in ways that achieves community and national success without compromising the environment or the welfare of local communities and the nation's at large.



## Our Projects

In our third year of operation as a non-profit organization, our resources, time and effort were spent initiating community-based projects which targeted issues identified and presented to us by local community members. We are proud of our holistic approach to community development, which targets economic empowerment through agriculture, education and health promotion. For example, we launched the Operation Feed Ponkrom Community School project with the help of intern, Stephanie Hua, and the 2016 Operation Groundswell team. The maize was harvested and donated to the Ponkrom School but the cassava is yet to be harvested and it will be donated to Ponkrom Community School again.



The villages of Breman, Eguafo and Ponkrom in the Central Region were chosen by Nkwa as our target communities because they are a considerable distance from health care provision; receive little social services resources and as rural communities have limited economic opportunities.

## Health Outreach

Location: Breman and Ponkrom

Partners: Ghana Health Service, University of Cape Coast Hospital, Agona Health Centre

2016 Impact in numbers:

8 health outreach campaigns

70 people attended regularly in Ponkrom.

90 people attended regularly in Breman

The object of the Nkwa Health Outreach Project is to educate community members about prevalent health issues common in Ghana and to empower them to take ownership of their health at home. Outreach campaigns often attract 80 to 100 men, women and elders. They provide an important opportunity for Nkwa to find out about health problems in the community and refer those needing treatment for appropriate medical care. The topics covered included family planning, HIV/AIDS education, nutrition, diabetes, hypertension, asthma, malaria, drug abuse, nutrition, worm infestation. The topics were presented by community health nurses and health professionals from the University of Cape Coast, University of Cape Coast Hospital, and Agona Health Centre with assistance from interns and volunteers. The outreach campaigns were followed up by mobile clinics where the nurses undertook basic health screening measuring weight and blood pressure [basic testing]. When appropriate health counselling was provided and referrals were made to Agona Health Centre for further treatment.

Moving forward, we are hoping to develop a health database for each of the villages to facilitate a better understanding of the demographic, health, and economic statuses of the families. This information will be obtained through the completion of surveys and will provide us with valuable insight into our progress within the villages and help identify future needs.



## Organic Farm

Location: Ponkrom

4 local community women worked on the farm

2 acres of land

Over 2,500 cassava sticks were planted

0 chemical used

The organic farm project seeks to unite local knowledge and modern agricultural techniques to offer economic sustainability for women in the community of Breman. With increasing demand for organic produce, both in Ghana and globally, skills-based learning of organic agricultural techniques will enable communities to create environmentally and economically sustainable livelihoods. Nkwa provides this skills-based learning through the facilitation of organic farming workshops.

On the 2 acres of land, initially we planted green peppers, carrots, beans, cassava, and maize. However because of the climate challenges, we have chosen to focus on growing maize and cassava, because these crops are more drought-resilient crops which The first seeds were planted with the help of our summer intern Stephanie Hua and Operation groundswell team 2016 and four women from Ponkrom were employed on the farm and on supervised by John Dadzie, an experienced farmer from the same village. No chemicals were used on the farm. The maize was harvested during the spring of 2016 and was donated to the school.





## Community School Building Project

Location: Ponkrom

Komenda Edina Eguafu Abriem District and Ponkrom Primary School

Impact in Numbers:

300 exercise and reading books, and stationery donated

10 bags of cement donated

As part of our contribution to our communities we are constructing a new school building for the pupils of Ponkrom by constructing classrooms and providing uniforms, books, chalk boards and furniture. The Ponkrom community has already been able to provide three class room blocks. Once the construction of the school is completed, the Ministry of Education will provide teachers and teaching materials.

During 2016, we were able to donate 10 bags of cements and stationaries and necessary building construction materials to the community to improve the infrastructure and resources available at the school by The Leaders of the Free World. This project was started by Kwantlen Polytechnic University student interns, from the School of Social Justice led by Professor Charles Quist-Adade. Because we want the village of Ponkrom to take ownership and pride in the project, Nkwa Foundation only provides the materials and not the labour associated with constructing the extra classrooms.



## The Nkwa Team

Executive Director and Founder: Ramzy Okyere

Logistics Coordinators: Kofi Effah; Jonah Ennin; Ruby Maddox

Health Outreach Coordinator: Victor Eledi; Isaac Korang Sintim, Celestina Nortey

Organic Farm Coordinator: Kwame Afful, John Dadzie

Ponkrom Primary School Coordinator :John Kwame Mensah

Nkwa Volunteer House Manager: Adwoa Adobea Out, Veronica Afful

USA Nkwa Office President: Isaiah Okyere

Advisors: Derek Anamaale Tuoyire, B.Ed, M. Phil; De-Valera N.Y.M. Botchway, PhD; Sam Debrah, MD

Interns: Fabian Erb; Stephanie Hua; Awias Khan; Isha Sangha; Eshan Singh

Volunteers Groups: Operation Groundswell (Canada); Leaders of the Free World (USA)

## Moving Forward

At the end of our third operating year we look forward with optimism and enthusiasm to continuing to work with our partner communities. We plan to further strengthen our development model to maximize our impact. This will include securing funding to develop sustainable income generating activities that align with our mission. We will seek to strengthen our projects in the coming year by introducing more robust needs analysis and impact assessment to better focus our direction and evaluate our progress as a result Nkwa Foundation want to undertake the Tilapia farming project in the coming year.

The goal of this project is to generate livelihood income by engaging our local community people in business development and entrepreneurship through an active learning progress centered on the farming, processing and selling of fish to help support themselves and the need of orphans and widows in their communities. Through training the project will empower 12 local people by providing opportunities for sustainable livelihood security. The Nkwa Foundation (NKWA) will utilize local communities to facilitate to generate income through sustainable fish farming, processing and selling in the Central Region of Ghana in West Africa.

The primary project clientele of the project will be the lowest income populations, specifically young women, some of whom but not all, will be Junior High School (JHS) and Senior High School (SHS) graduates. The project design will be encourage community members to take care of widows, orphans and the vulnerable.

## The Project

The Tilapia Farming Project will be implemented by Nkwa Foundation. Our aim is to enable the local people to become valuable members of their communities and to thus help them to control the problems, such as teenage pregnancy, prostitution and drugs which frequently arise from lack of education and economic prospects.

Nkwa Foundation was established in 2013 when liked-minded individual came together with a vision of community development for rural population struggling to prosper and shared belief that through partnership with universities and businesses to collaborative projects could be delivered to improve the overall well-being of selected rural communities in Ghana.

Every year Nkwa deploys over 30 technical and non-technical international volunteers and developmental personnel to work with local communities on the range of projects where they assist with capacity building through specialist and non-specialist tasks. Nkwa deploy personnel to work with local communities to help obtain and manage funding and by providing consultancy to help in capacity enhancement though and non-specialist tasks geared towards financial service delivery, products development and marketing support.

Personnel are deployed through a range of international voluntary service projects, including work-camps, educations and project internships. The personal involvement lead to the meaningful understanding of others which enable the development of solidarity beyond race, culture, religion and education or gender differences in a developing country such as Ghana.

As we move forward the Nkwa Foundation staff and all those who contribute to its work will continue to develop and strengthen our relationships with our community stakeholders and partners. Our community partners and stakeholders are critical to the success of our work; prioritizing these relationships will help give the communities of rural Cape Coast the best possible chance of achieving sustainable development.



## **Thank You**

We want to recognize all our staff members' interns, donors, advisers, and community volunteers for all their hard work during the year of programming. Your dedication to the Nkwa Foundation's mission and empowerment has brought and will continue to positively contribute to the communities we work with.

From all of us at Nkwa Foundation, medaase pa!

### **Contact Us**

Email: [mail@nkwafoundation.org](mailto:mail@nkwafoundation.org)

Twitter: @NkwaGH

Facebook: Nkwa Foundation

## Appendix

### Financial Summary: Operating Year 2016/17

OUR FINANCIAL SUMMERY 2016			
	OUR FINANCIALS:		2016
REVENUE			GHS.00
Interns / Volunteers Program fees			46,410.00
Donations			1,072.50
Hosting Fees			4,717.50
Balance from last year			<u>200.00</u>
Total Revenue			<u>52,400.00</u>
EXPENSES			
Staff Stipends			11,400.00
Establishment			11,000.00
Administrative Cost			2,460.00
Operational Cost			27,206.00
Finance			<u>318.00</u>
Total Expenses			<u>52,384.00</u>
Surplus			16.00