



NKWA FOUNDATION

| June 2016 |

June Edition

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Operation Groundswell

Based out of Toronto, Canada, Operation Groundswell works with local charities, community leaders, governments and NGOs to cultivate a movement of globally active and socially conscious backpackers-backpacktivists.

In the beginning of June, a team of 10 volunteers from Operation Groundswell worked with the Nkwa Foundation. With their help, health outreaches in Ponkrom and Breman were made possible. Many thanks to Operation Groundswell!



Ponkrom Community School Feeding Program

The Nkwa Foundation is pleased to announce its new initiative: the Ponkrom Community School Feeding Program! The Program aims to increase school enrollment while fostering female empowerment in the community. As of now, many children are unable to go to school due to financial constraints. The Nkwa Foundation has employed women on the farm so that they may further contribute to their families in wages, and gain a sense of autonomy. The additional wages will provide parents with the financial ability to enroll their children in the School. Harvested crops will be made into meals for the students—an action that further encourages children to attend while simultaneously bringing the community a step forward towards food security.

Two acres of land have already been secured and cleared. While the bulk of the harvests will be beans, cassava, and maize, as they are staples in the cuisine, secondary crops, like carrots and peppers, have also been planted (as pictured below).

Health Outreach: Ponkrom

58 people attended the Ponkrom community health outreach, of whom 38 were female and 20 male. Topics covered include: malaria diagnosis and symptoms, worm infestation and treatment, and personal hygiene in the Ponkrom Primary School. 24 people were tested for and diagnosed with malaria. They were given anti-malarial drugs (Artemether Lumefantrine), dewormer tablets, diclofenac gel, and paracetamol tablets.

Health Outreach: Bremam

89 people attended the Bremam community health outreach, of which 50 were female and 39 male. Topics covered include: malaria diagnosis and symptoms, worm infestation and treatment. 25 people were tested for and diagnosed with malaria. They were given anti-malarial drugs (Artemether Lumefantrine), dewormer tablets, diclofenac gel, and paracetamol tablets.



Welcoming Stephanie to the Team

The Nkwa Foundation is welcoming Stephanie Hua to the team for the summer! From the Northeast region of the States, Stephanie studies Anthropology and Sociology, with a focus in Media, at Mount Holyoke, a women's college in Western Massachusetts. During her three years at Mount Holyoke, she has cultivated passions for community development, feminism, and food justice.

She has previously worked on a documentary detailing the positive economic and social effects of food cooperatives, and has served as the assistant manager at a farmers market. Last summer she worked at New Lands Farm, a farmers' collective for former refugees and immigrants. Due to her experience and interest, the Ponkrom Community School Feeding Program will be her focus for the duration of the summer. She looks forward to the opportunity for mutual learning and collaboration: contributing her knowledge of agriculture specific to the Northeast, and learning new farming techniques unique to Ghana.

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Mailing Address: PO BOX 157, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana, West Africa

Telephone: +233 (0) 332 133 813