

2024

4th Quarter Newsletter



Foundation for
Educational
Equity and
Development



Top Stories

2024 UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize Winner Celebration & 7th Anniversary

Our Libraries Without Walls program received the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize this year. An event for International Literacy Day from September 9-10 2024 was held in Yaounde, Cameroon. On the occasion of the 578th Hangeul Day on October 9, The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism invited FEED, represented by its founder, Paul Amanor to Korea to introduce Korean culture to the organization. To mark FEED's global recognition by UNESCO and the Government of South Korea, we invited our volunteers for a day of celebration, reckoning and reflection at the Rufus Gardens in Accra.

We also used the occasion to celebrate an incredible milestone: the 7th anniversary of Libraries Without Wall! Congratulations to all our volunteers, team and supporters! We are grateful for our community of volunteers and friends who have worked tirelessly to make books, literacy, and education and accessible to all. This journey has been made possible by their passion, commitment, and unwavering belief in the power of education.



Nine First Cohort Aspire Scholars Complete Senior High School

We are beyond excited to announce that all remaining scholars of our first cohort of our Aspire program have successfully completed their senior high school education. We congratulate all of them and assure them of our continued dedication to their growth and transition as they prepare for their gap years. We are grateful to HopeFeathers for their funding and support, which enabled us to provide school supplies, food supplies and stipends every semester to these scholars over the past two years.

Libraries Without Walls

1 FEED Board Chair joins Community Literacy Caravan at Dodowa, reads to over 50 students

FEED Board Member, Patrick Clottey, was our special guest of honor at our third Community Literacy Caravan at the Una Blessed Academy school in Dodowa.

Mr. Patrick's engaging storytelling and reading skills captivated the students, bringing books to life and inspiring a love for reading. For us, his presence and participation underscores the importance of community involvement in literacy development.

Students of the school had the opportunity to explore new worlds through stories and expand their vocabulary. We are grateful to Mr. Patrick's support and commitment to promoting literacy and education.



2 Libraries Without Walls launches Ananse Ntontan Creative Arts Competition in collaboration with Compassion Ayikuma CYDC

In collaboration with Compassion Ghana Ayikuma Presby CYDC, we successfully launched the inaugural edition of the Ananse Ntontan Creative Arts Competition. This initiative is aimed at unleashing the creative potential of young talents in our communities, fostering self-expression and using creativity as a tool for social change. The event attracted more than 50 beneficiaries of the Compassion program. The children participated in various timed painting projects.

3

Library Corners Project: Libraries Without Walls collaborates with Goethe Institut Ghana to expand literacy in schools without libraries

We are excited to share that our second #LibraryCorner has been activated for students and teachers at the Mt. Zion Presby Model School in Dodowa.

The Library Corners project ensures that children and teachers in schools without libraries have the opportunity to experience a mini library installed in the corner of a classroom. The aim of the project is to bridge the literacy gap and improve learning outcomes through literacy. Our message is simple : #literacy4all no matter their location or circumstance.

We are grateful to Goethe Institut Ghana for supporting this project and thankful that we can complement the book stock for this project with books donated by Books For You Miami.



4

LITBAG CAMPAIGN: More than 100 students across 10 schools in 10 communities receive stocked backpacks from Books For You Miami

We are beyond excited to announce that we have received 3 boxes of school supplies as gifts from Books For You Miami, USA to support our LitBag & Library Corners projects. The three boxes contain:

150+ backpacks filled with school supplies including an assortment of storybooks, notepads, color pencils, crayons, pens, pencils, mathematical instruments.

Over **200** carefully selected age appropriate books
The backpacks have been delivered to 100 children/students across 10 rural schools in 10 communities in the Shai Osudoku and Accra Districts.
We are exceedingly grateful to Books For You Miami for this life changing donation and we are confident it will help amplify our mission to expand educational equity in underserved communities.



5 2024 Inter Circuit Phonics and Numeracy Competition: Libraries Without Walls collaborates with Ghana Education Service Shai Osudoku District

To improve literacy outcomes and strengthen foundational learning at the early years level, we started collaborating with the Ghana Education Service in the Shai Osudoku District two years ago to support the curation, implementation and delivery of a sustained multidisciplinary literacy and numeracy competition for early years learners in the Shai Osudoku.

Building on the growth of our collaboration over the last two years and on the occasion of #WorldChildren'sDay, our team joined GES Shai Osudoku District in Asutsuare to organize this year's Inter Circuit Phonics and Numeracy Competition. The multi school competition featured 40 children in the 4 and 5 year old age bracket in kindergarten. The aim of the project is to improve fluency, word identification, pronunciation and blending of words. This year's competition was held under the theme: Literacy & Numeracy; The Gateway to Problem-Solving. We are grateful to the GES Shai Osudoku for an exciting collaboration and thankful to our volunteers who helped put together a wonderful event for the children.



5 More Library Corners in Deprived Schools: Libraries Without Walls collaborates with First Bank Ghana and Wokane

We're thrilled to announce the activation and installation of three brand new #librarycorners at Mt. Zion Model School in Dodowa! The library corners, proudly supported by our partners First Bank Ghana and Wo Kane, will serve over 300 students of the school community, providing them with access to quality books, learning materials, and a vibrant reading space!

To make it even more special, the students left their mark on the library corner walls by creating a vibrant handprint mural on the walls! We believe this beautiful artwork symbolizes

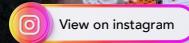
their ownership and excitement about their new learning hubs! Books for this project were carefully selected to reflect local content and age appropriateness by Nissi Publication and we are grateful for their support! We're grateful for the opportunity to improve literacy outcomes in underserved schools in Ghana and encourage a love of reading in Ghana's next generation! Thank you to everyone, especially to the Graduate Students Team of FirstBank Ghana for sponsoring this project. This brings to total 8 library corners installed so far since the inception of the program.



7

Libraries Without Walls joins Nurse On The Move for Education and Health Outreach in Bawjiase, Central Region, Ghana

A group of Libraries Without Walls volunteers joined our partner Nurse On The Move in Bawjiase Ghana for an education and health outreach. Our volunteers engaged children of the community in various hands on activities like painting, coloring and reading while Nurse On The Move engaged the elderly community in a health program. We are grateful to Nurse On The Move for inviting us to this event and donating school supplies to support our program!



8

ANNUAL Giveback: Discover Gidi joins Libraries Without Walls at Ayikuma for a day of fun, education and giving back!

For the third year running, our friends at Discover Gidi joined us on 31st December 2024 to bring purpose, support and inspiration to our community.

The Discover Gidi x Libraries Without Walls GiveBack is an outstanding sampling of what it means to invest in the next generation through education. For the past three years, Discover Gidi patrons have been bringing assortments of school supplies, learning aids and other forms of programmatic support to drive our projects for the new year.

The supplies we receive are redistributed to schools, children and households across the communities we serve. We use these supplies all year round during our projects , and this makes the Giveback such an important part of our year.

We are grateful to Discover Gidi and their wonderful patrons for the support, love and joy they bring every year to our community! We were also honored to have received our partners from RARA Education CIC led by the incredible Chiedza Ikpeh to this year's event!



ASPIRE

1 Scholars Morde and Selina spend a day with students at UNA Blessed Academy in Dodowa.

Morde and Selina, scholars from our first cohort represent why we need to invest in girl's education. When we invest in girls, they thrive, they lift up, and they transform their communities, whether through leading change making work that improves education or running small businesses to empower themselves and their families. We saw this in action when they volunteered to engage children in literacy activities at the Una Blessed Academy in Dodowa.

On the occasion of International Day of the Girl Child 2024, we are grateful for the opportunity to invest in young girls like Selina and Morde and social dividends that such investments bring to our communities.

We unpacked Selina's thoughts on challenges facing girls today and her vision of a future for girls:

Flyers here as well as pictures of Morde and Selina volunteering at Una Blessed.



2 Scholars participate in Health Outreach with OAfrica

Our scholars and alumni were invited by OAfrica to participate in a healthy living sensitization and workshop for young people at e-Ananse Library in Accra. The scholars had the opportunity to meet other young people and also contributed to the discussions on mental health, blood donation and other topics. We are grateful to OAfrica for the wonderful invitation.

3

Aspire Welcomes All First Cohort Scholars to Gap Year Program

We welcomed scholars from our first cohort who have just completed their senior high school education, having written the West African Senior Secondary Certificate Exams (WASSCE). The WASSCE is a mandatory test taken at the end of your senior high education in Ghana and other parts of West Africa. The certificate awarded and grade will determine a student's eligibility for higher education opportunities. We are so honored to have supported these scholars throughout their education, thanks to funding from HopeFeathers. As they begin this new chapter of their lives, the Aspire program has engaged the scholars and their parents to discuss a gap year program.



4

FEED Team Visits Aspire Scholars in Gap Year Program

All our first cohort scholars have completed their senior high school education and are currently taking part in our Aspire Gap Year program, having been successfully placed in schools in the Ayikuma and Dodowa area to serve as teaching assistants as part of their community service.

The FEED Team caught up with some of the scholars. Aside any financial compensation from the schools, the Aspire program will top it up with additional stipends to keep the scholars afloat. There will be monthly check in meetings and leadership/entrepreneurial opportunities for the scholars as well, thanks to the generosity and support of HopeFeathers.

5

Aspire Scholar Matilda Otubea receives Hope Feathers Grant to begin food business

A new chapter has begun for Matilda Otubea, one of our first cohort scholars who recently completed senior high school. She is the first beneficiary of our entrepreneurship and livelihood empowerment program as she is set to start her own food business, thanks to support from HopeFeathers.

We were in the Madina market to get all the supplies Matilda Otubea would need for her pastries business.

Matilda read the Home Econ program and as one of our first cohort scholars, also completed her senior high school education this year. We made a case for entrepreneurship and empowerment and she received a special grant to help her start a bakery/pastries business. Through this grant, she has a brand new gas cylinder, a commercial grade multipurpose baking oven, baking supplies, ingredients etc. Otubea has also undergone a two-week book keeping and business management program with a mentor. We are grateful to HopeFeathers for supporting Otubea.



5

Aspire collaborates with Mindful Systems to organize Youth Engagement & Leadership Training Program

Our scholars had the opportunity to participate in a learning and multi-activity workshop curated in partnership with Mindful Systems. The scholars had the chance to understand time management, foundational financial literacy skills, communication and social media responsibility. More importantly, it was wonderful to give these young people the platform to be involved in the process of bringing the event to life, and thus, make them know they are not just token voices, but future leaders harboring unique stories and experiences to share.

We are grateful to Mindful Systems and e-Ananse Library, and our incredible team of volunteers who made this happen!

7 Aspire Scholars in Service : Scholars join Libraries Without Walls to serve at GiveBack Event

In the spirit of the yuletide season, our scholars united to give back in a special way. They volunteered as assistants at the closing event of our sister program, Libraries Without Walls dubbed "GiveBack".

The scholars were seen serving food, helping unpack supplies and providing support to our visitors in all the activities. We are grateful for the deep sense of service and volunteerism our scholars continue to show through this program!

On the margins of the annual GiveBack event, our second cohort scholars received their stipend, school and food supplies for the new semester as they head to school in early 2025. We are grateful to HopeFeathers for their support for the scholars!



FEED'S 2024 4TH QUARTER IN NUMBERS

120



backpacks donated to 120 needy children across 10 schools in 10 communities

17



literacy and education outreach programs



415+

volunteer hours contributed by FEED team

4



library corners activated



200

books and school supplies redistributed

820



beneficiaries reached over the last quarter.

LOOKING AHEAD

1

Libraries Without Walls set to collaborate with RARA Education to expand literacy equity for 100 children in Ghana

2

FEED to welcome Dr. Denise Mifsud, Associate Professor in Educational Leadership, Management and Governance at the University of Bath and Mr. Kwasi Animah, PhD student, University of Bath for a joint research project in education equity in Ghana.

3

FEED's Libraries Without Walls program to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Enroute 54 Foundation for a literacy project

4

Aspire Scholar Michael Logoh set to begin his undergraduate education at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology through a fully funded HopeFeathers Scholarship.

5

FEED's Libraries Without Walls program set to collaborate with Doctrina Foundation to support literacy in underserved communities in Ghana.

Partner & Support Us

We are grateful to all FEED supporters and partners. We welcome partnerships that align with our mission to democratize education for children and youth in Ghana. Your support fuels our mission to empower youth, enhance literacy, and promote sustainability through our various programs. Consider supporting us through donations via our GoFundMe link here

Donate



Reach out to us today to explore partnership opportunities and make a difference together!

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