



# HOPE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Shaping the lives of women and young people by giving them equal opportunities to live a better life!

ANNUAL REPORT | **2023**

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## ACRONYMS

AGYW	Adolescent Girls and Young Women
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy/treatment
ARV	Antiretroviral
ARVs	Antiretroviral Drugs
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
CATS	Community Adolescent Treatment Supporters
CHAG	Christian Health Association of Ghana
CHRAJ	Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice
CM	Case Managers
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSS	Community Systems Strengthening
FAIR	Financing Immunization Advocacy Response (FAIR) Project
FEMNET	African Women's Development and Communications Network
FSW	Female Sex Worker
GBU	Ghana Blind Union
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GBV/IPV	Gender-Based Violence/Intimate Partner Violence
GES	Ghana Education Service
GFD	Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations
GHS	Ghana Health Service
GNAD	Ghana National Association of the Deaf
GP	General Population
GYW	Girls and Young Women
HFFG	Hope for Future Generations
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HTS	HIV Testing Services
KP	Key Population
KPLHIV	Key Population Living with HIV
MH	Models of Hope
MM	Mentor Mothers
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
NACP	National AIDS Control Program
NCCE	National Commission for Civic Education
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTDs	Neglected Tropical Diseases
NTP	National TB Programme
OOS	Out of School
PE	Peer Educator
PEP	Post Exposure Prophylaxis
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission
PrEP	Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis
PWD	Persons with Disability

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RHE	Reproductive Health Education
SBC	Social Behavior Change
SBCC	Social and Behavior Change Communication
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEND	Social Enterprise Development Foundation
SR	Sub-Recipient
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TB	Tuberculosis
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
USAID	United State Agency for International Development
WASH	Water Access, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health organization
WRM	Water Resources Management
YPiD	Young People in Detention
YPLHIV	Young Persons Living with HIV





## ABOUT HOPE *for* FUTURE GENERATIONS

### WHO WE ARE

We are a Ghanaian, community based, NGO, not-for-profit organization that facilitates and improves the health, education and socio-economic status of our beneficiaries. Our work focuses on women, children, young people, persons with disabilities including people with mental health conditions

### OUR MISSION

To form partnerships that will facilitate and improve the health, education and socioeconomic status of women, children and young people through empowerment, right-based approaches, innovative, acceptable, sustainable and participatory strategies.

### OUR VISION

A nation free of discrimination where women, children, and young people have equal opportunity to develop their full potential

### OUR CORE VALUE

Teamwork Openness Professionalism  
Honesty Accountability Non-discrimination Dedication

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2023, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the incredible strides our organization has made this year. Thanks to the unwavering support of our donors, partners, and dedicated team, we have continued to advance our mission and make a tangible impact in the communities we serve.

This year has been marked by significant milestones and accomplishments. We successfully launched the Financing Immunization Advocacy Response (FAIR) and Breaking the Barriers and Increasing Access to Sexual Reproductive and Rights (DWABO) projects, which have already begun transforming lives by influencing policy on domestic funding for immunization and improving the sexual and reproductive health of young people in Ghana. Our ongoing programs have reached new heights, providing essential services and support to individuals and families, empowering them to overcome challenges and giving them opportunities to build brighter futures.

None of our achievements and the relief we bring to our beneficiaries would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our passionate team and volunteers. Their dedication and resilience, especially in the face of reduced funding for our activities and economic difficulties, have been truly inspiring. Together, we have navigated these obstacles and emerged stronger and more united.

I am also deeply grateful to our donors and partners. Your generosity and belief in our mission have been the cornerstone of our success. Your support has enabled us to expand our reach and enhance the quality of our programs, ensuring that we can continue to meet the evolving needs of our community.

As we look ahead to 2024, we are excited to build on this year's achievements and explore new opportunities for growth and impact. We remain committed to our vision of a nation free of discrimination where women, children, and young people have equal opportunity to develop their full potential, and with your continued support, I am confident that we will achieve even greater things together.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. We look forward to another year of collaboration and progress.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Cecilia Senoo  
Executive Director



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hope For Future Generations (HFFG) presents its Annual Report for the year 2023, showcasing the impactful implementation of various projects to address critical health and social challenges in Ghana. This summary highlights key achievements across diverse initiatives, emphasizing the organization's commitment to community-driven interventions, health system strengthening, and advocacy for sustainable change.

**HIV/TB Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) Project:** In collaboration with Models of Hope, Mentor Mothers, and Community Adolescent Treatment Supporters (CATs), HFFG achieved remarkable success in surpassing enrolment targets, reaching 110% of the intended clients. The project, operating under the Global Fund New Funding Model III grant, contributed significantly to reducing new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths. The CSS Intervention, spanning six regions, demonstrated success in providing comprehensive care, adhering to the 95-95-95 fast-track targets.

**USAID Strengthening the Care Continuum Project:** Focused on three regions in Ghana, this project, aligned with the UNAIDS Agenda of 95-95-95, showcased considerable accomplishments. Notable achievements included reaching and educating 4,531 individuals, testing 2,699, and initiating treatment for 262 HIV-positive cases. The project's multi-faceted approach, addressing active case finding, care, treatment services, and linkage to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), demonstrated HFFG's commitment to advancing HIV prevention and support services.

**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Initiatives:** Aligning with national goals for safe drinking water and open defecation elimination, HFFG seamlessly integrated WASH initiatives into ongoing and new projects. Community-level campaigns, school-based education, and active participation in advocacy efforts at regional and national levels highlighted HFFG's dedication to advancing WASH objectives and contributing to the SDGs.

**Strengthening Community Systems for TB Control Project:** Commencing in 2023, this project, supported by Stop TB Geneva, aimed to address TB barriers through community-led interventions. Innovative approaches, including the TBImpactGH App, enabled HFFG to identify new high-burden districts and engage in national and international advocacy. The establishment of TB support groups emphasised a holistic community-based approach to TB control.

**Financing Immunization Advocacy Response (FAIR) Project:** Recognizing challenges in domestic resource mobilisation for immunisation, HFFG initiated the FAIR project. Collaborative efforts with key stakeholders, media engagements, and citizen involvement showcased HFFG's advocacy prowess, contributing to increased awareness and support for immunization financing.

**Social Behaviour Change (SBC) and Stigma Reduction for Mental Health and Disability Inclusion Project:** In response to pervasive stigma and discrimination, HFFG, in collaboration with The PysKforum, implemented a project across multiple regions. Achievements included training inclusion champions, distribution of SBC materials, and legal education collaborations, fostering positive behavioural change and reducing stigma.

**HFFG-UNFPA Out-of-School Sexual Reproductive Health Education:** The program continued to empower Young Persons Living with HIV (YPLHIV) and Young People in Detention (YPID), achieving significant success in RHE knowledge dissemination and skills training. The program's multifaceted approach addressed both educational and economic aspects, enhancing its overall impact.

**She Leads Project:** Funded by FEMNET, the "She Leads" project targeted girls and young women in the Volta Region. Achievements included training, mentorship, and advocacy platforms, aligning with the overarching goal of increasing leadership and decision-making for girls and young women.

**Breaking the Barriers and Increasing Access to Sexual Reproductive and Rights (DWABO Project):** Implemented with the French Embassy Dwabo grant, this SRHR project in Northern and Savannah regions showcased achievements in community sensitization and enhancing access to SRHR services for adolescent girls and young women.

**Young Health Advocates Ghana (YHAG) Activities:** YHAG, a national network under HFFG, is actively engaged in diverse initiatives, contributing to community development and health advocacy. Collaboration with UNDP and participation in leadership programs demonstrated YHAG's commitment to empowering young individuals in health-related matters.

**Strengthening Community Systems to Scale-Up Community-led Response Intervention to End Neglected Tropical Diseases:** HFFG in collaboration with Rural Watch commenced the implementation of the project: 'Strengthening Community Systems to Scale-Up Community-led Response Intervention to End Neglected Tropical Diseases' in February 2023 and launched in March 2023 with support from the Eastern Regional Health Directorate.

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The Eastern Region is one of the 16 administrative regions of Ghana and is one of the most NTD endemic regions in the country. Based on data from the Expanded Special Project for Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases (ESPEN 2021-2025) and in consultation with the Eastern Regional Health Directorate, 10 high-burden districts were selected as the project locations.

**Young Health Advocates Ghana (YHAG) Activities:** YHAG, a national network under HFFG, actively engages in diverse initiatives, contributing to community development and health advocacy. Collaboration with UNDP and participation in leadership programs demonstrated YHAG's commitment to empowering young individuals in health-related matters.

**WAPCAS/Global Fund Project:** HFFG piloted harm reduction activities in Greater Accra and Ashanti Regions from August to December 2023 under the WAPCAS/Global Fund Project. Outreach workers provided basic HIV education and prevention services to four hundred and ninety-three (493) persons with substance abuse disorder in the four (4) districts in the two (2) regions. Four hundred and seventy (470) PUDs tested for HIV with seven (7) reactive cases referred to health facilities for confirmation. The project addressed stigma and human rights barriers for Persons Who Use Drugs (PUD). Thirty-two outreach workers were selected across 32 microsites. The team screened 42 PUDs for TB, confirming two cases, and 32 PUDs for Hepatitis B and C, identifying five Hepatitis B cases. Additionally, 55 PUDs with injuries received treatment or were referred to hospitals, with follow-up care provided.

HFFG's 2023 Annual Report highlights a year of substantial achievements across various projects, showcasing the organization's dedication to advancing health outcomes, community engagement, and sustainable development in Ghana. The successful implementation of these initiatives underscores HFFG's commitment to its mission and positions the organization as a key player in the health and well-being of communities across the country.



## 2023 PERFORMANCE SUCCESSES

### HIV/TB Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) Project

No.	Indicators / Activities	Target	Achieved	% Achieved
1	Number of clients enrolled by Models of Hope	12,816	13,288	104%
2	Number of clients enrolled by Mentor Mothers	2,448	3,391	139%
3	Number of clients enrolled by CATS	612	809	132%
<b>Total clients</b>		<b>15876</b>	<b>17,488</b>	<b>110%</b>

HFFG functions as a Sub-Recipient (SR) operating within the framework of the Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG), executing the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) segment of the Community Systems Strengthening (CSS) intervention. This initiative is part of the Global Fund New Funding Model III grant, spanning from 2021 to 2023. The geographical scope of HFFG's HIV intervention encompasses selected facilities in districts across six regions<sup>1</sup>.

The overarching objectives of the Global Fund New Funding Model III (NFM III) include:

- Reducing new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths.
- Scaling up TB diagnosis through Community-led intensified case finding and linkage to treatment.
- Enhancing responsiveness and services while increasing accountability.
- Contributing to the overall quality of health and life for People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and individuals affected by Tuberculosis.

The CSS Intervention significantly impacted the lives of the HIV community through dedicated cadres, including Case Managers. These professionals deliver a range of services, such as HIV education, nutritional counselling, psychosocial support, and adherence monitoring for Antiretroviral (ARV) medication. Furthermore, their responsibilities extend to



Figure 1: Data quality audit by project officer at the St. Patrick's Catholic Hospital Offinso





tracing clients who have missed appointments and addressing cases of Lost-To-Follow-up. Cadres and Case Managers played a crucial role in developing care plans for clients with unique needs, ensuring holistic well-being, and working towards achieving the 95-95-95 fast-track targets.

In the year 2023, HFFG collaborated with 267 Models of Hope (MH), 204 Mentor Mothers (MM), and 51 Community Adolescent Treatment Supporters (CATs). These dedicated individuals provided services to 17,488 PLHIV, actively contributing to achieving project goals. HFFG organised review meetings to enhance the capacities of these cadres, ensuring their effectiveness in delivering essential services to the broader PLHIV community.

Additionally, in 2023, HFFG played a vital role in increasing awareness and reporting of Gender-Based Violence/Intimate Partner Violence (GBV/IPV) within Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) services, specifically targeting Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW), as well as boys and men living with or affected by HIV and Tuberculosis (TB). This was achieved by establishing a robust cadre network, including persons with disabilities, creating linkages and strengthening referrals for survivors of GBV/IPV throughout and beyond project implementation.

<sup>1</sup> Ashanti, Bono, Bono East, Greater Accra, Volta and Oti.

## USAID Strengthening the Care Continuum Project

HIV Cascade		Performance
Reached		4,531
Tested		2,699
Positives		262
Initiated		262

The USAID Strengthening the Care Continuum Project is actively implemented across three regions in Ghana, specifically the Western, Western North, and Ahafo regions. This initiative involves collaboration with 10 implementing partners, with HFFG serving as a key implementing partner in the Ahafo Region. Aligned with the UNAIDS Agenda of 95-95-95, the project is focused on providing leadership in HIV prevention, care, and support services for the General Population, Key Populations (KPs), and People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in Ghana.

The overarching goal of the project is to reinforce the capacity of local partners in Ghana, empowering them to lead in the implementation of HIV prevention, care, and support services for Key Populations (KPs) and PLHIV in the country. To achieve this, the project set forth the following objectives:

- Strengthen the technical and managerial capacity of all stakeholders, including government, civil society, and the private sector, to provide and sustain HIV and AIDS services.
- Increase the availability and accessibility of comprehensive active case finding, care, and treatment services, ensuring reliable coverage across the continuum of care for both Key Populations (KPs) and the general population (GP).
- Enhance and sustain demand for comprehensive prevention, care, and treatment services among Key Populations (KPs), as well as the General Population (GP), including Adolescent Girls & Young Women (AGYW), men, boys, pregnant women, and other women with disabilities.
- Strengthen linkage to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) and retention in care for both Key Populations (KPs) and the General Population (GP) who test positive for HIV.



Figure 2: A scene of sensitization on HIV and GBV programme at Fawumang

HFFG actively implemented this project in three districts within the Ahafo region, namely Asunafo North, Asunafo South, Asutifi North, and Asutifi South.

Throughout the reporting period, HFFG dedicated substantial efforts to achieve the anticipated outcomes within the 95-95-95 Cascade. Notably, a total of 4,531 individuals were reached and educated. Within this group, 2,699 individuals underwent testing, leading to the identification and initiation of 262 HIV-positive cases. Additionally, 411 clients who had interrupted their treatment were successfully reintegrated to continue their medication regimen, while 569 individuals were initiated on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP). Furthermore, 121 individuals returned for PrEP refills, contributing to the overall success of the project.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Initiatives



As part of our commitment to advancing Ghana's pursuit of universal access to safe drinking water by 2025 and the elimination of open defecation by 2023, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), HFFG seamlessly integrated Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) initiatives into our ongoing projects.

Throughout the year, HFFG carried out community-level awareness campaigns on WASH in the Eastern Region of Ghana as part of the Neglected Non-Tropical Diseases (NTDs) project.

In conjunction with the Malaria and School Health Education project in the Central Region, HFFG provided WASH education, reaching over 1,000 community members, including adolescents and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). The education focused on topics such as hand and menstrual hygiene, ending open defecation, and proper waste disposal in these communities.

Furthermore, HFFG implemented WASH education in schools across six regions of Ghana to instil proper hand hygiene practices. Emphasising the continued importance of hand hygiene post the reduction in COVID-19 cases, this school-based education aimed to create a lasting impact.

Additionally, menstrual hygiene education was incorporated into Reproductive Health Education (RHE) for adolescents in the Ashanti, Greater Accra, and Northern regions under the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Out of School (OOS) project activities for young people.



Figure 3: Distribution of Coalgate hand soap for in-school adolescents

At the regional and national levels, HFFG actively participated in planning and advocacy meetings facilitated by the Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in WASH. These engagements were geared towards lobbying for enhanced WASH facilities and the implementation of the Presidential Pact on Water and Sanitation in Ghana.

In March 2023, HFFG achieved accreditation to take part in the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York. Sponsored by Simavi of the Netherlands, HFFG contributed to local and national advocacy efforts aimed at realizing the WASH Sustainable Development Goals in Ghana during this significant international event.

## Strengthening Community Systems to Scale-up Community-led Response Interventions for TB Control Project



HFFG commenced the implementation of Strengthening Community Systems to Scale-up Community-led Response Interventions for TB Control Project in March 2023 with funding support from Stop TB Geneva under its Challenge Facility for Civil Society (CFCS) Round 11 grant. This intervention is a scale-up of the pilot project in 2022 under the CFCS Round 10 grant.

The project aims to address barriers to TB diagnosis and treatment by reducing TB stigma, gender-based violence and human rights abuse using innovative and evidence-based community-led interventions in nine high-burden districts<sup>2</sup> in Ghana.



Figure 4: A TB Client showing her downloaded TBImpactGH application on her mobile device during a support group meeting in a district

The project is being implemented in partnership with the National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP), the Ghana National TB Voice Network and the Stop TB Partnership Ghana.

In 2023, activities carried out include high-level national and international advocacy, awareness raising, community engagement and empowerment as well as community-led monitoring using the OneImpact innovation locally adapted as TBImpactGH.

Through the data gathered and analysed from the TBImpactGH App<sup>3</sup>, HFFG was able to identify six new high-burden districts to the project's geographic coverage and a decision to jointly implement some national advocacy activities leading to the UNHLM 2023.

share their experiences and support each other. HFFG in collaboration with district health management teams supported these groups for sustainability.

HFFG initiated the establishment of TB support groups within all three implementing regions for TB clients to

<sup>2</sup> Greater Accra (Korley Klorley, Ga West, Ablekuma), Central Region (Komenda Edina Eguafio Ebirem (KEEA), Cape Coast, Mfantseman), Volta Region (Ketu South, Hohoe, Keta)

<sup>3</sup> The TBImpactGH App is the primary data collection tool for the project. Data collection in the field is facilitated by trained TB Advocates in each of the districts, with support from project officers. At the end of every month, the data collected using the App are validated with the healthcare providers at the facility/district levels and on the TBImpactGH dashboard for analysis to inform advocacy actions.



### Financing Immunization Advocacy Response (FAIR) Project



Despite Ghana's notable success in achieving 99.4% immunization coverage for one-year-olds receiving the third dose of Pentavalent in 2021, it is crucial to recognize the heavy reliance on external donors for vaccine provision. The government's inconsistent commitment to meeting annual obligations for vaccine and logistics procurement poses concerns, potentially jeopardizing progress. HFFG, with support from the Global Health Advocacy Incubator, initiated the Financing Immunization Advocacy Response (FAIR) project to advocate for enhanced domestic resource mobilization, timely co-financing payments, and the introduction of new GAVI-supported vaccines.

The FAIR project engaged key stakeholders, securing support from organizations such as PATH, UNICEF, The Vaccine Institute, WHO, and the Expanded Programme on Immunization of the Ghana Health Service. Collaborative efforts with the Public Health School of the University of Ghana and the Coalition of NGOs in Health further demonstrated support for achieving project objectives.

Additionally, HFFG partnered with SEND Ghana to involve 144 citizens in shaping the national budget for 2024 through cafes held in Accra and Volta Region. A workshop for 20 editors and reporters emphasized their role in creating awareness for domestic resource mobilization. Comprehensive media monitoring reports indicated a positive impact, with 90 publications on Immunization and Primary Healthcare stories influencing the campaign, surpassing the 75 publications before the campaign. Thirty-six of these publications directly resulted from HFFG's activities, showcasing the effectiveness of their advocacy, influence, and engagements.



Social Behaviour Change (SBC) and stigma reduction for mental health and disability inclusion (Ghana Participatory SBC) Project



In November 2020, the Ghana Somubi Dwumadie Programme conducted a study revealing pervasive stigma and discrimination concerning disability and mental health conditions in Ghana, creating substantial barriers to equitable access to health and social opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The study identified key behaviours, including language use, community and family support, cultural factors, religious beliefs, and a lack of law enforcement, as areas requiring change to address this issue. In response, HFFG, in collaboration with The PysKforum, received a grant from Options to implement a two-year project focused on Social Behaviour Change (SBC) and stigma reduction for mental health and disability inclusion across eighteen districts in the Greater Accra, Central, North East, and Savannah Regions.

Figure 5: Executive Director, Mrs. Cecilia Senoo engaging citizens on immunization financing.

The project aimed to diminish negative and discriminatory attitudes, behaviours, and norms faced by individuals with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions in Ghana. Three key outcomes were achieved at the project's conclusion: the establishment of a positive culture of support for individuals with disabilities, increased use of positive

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language regarding disability and mental health in Ghana, and enhanced enforcement of the country's Disability and Mental Health policies and laws by duty bearers.

HFFG trained 40 individuals with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions, as inclusion champions, who in turn educated 4,496 community members on issues related to stigma and discrimination, the importance of community and family support, and the use of positive language. Additionally, 29 individuals with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions, received in-person and over-the-phone counselling to address stress, parenting difficulties, marital challenges, and financial distress.

Throughout the year, 2,200 Social Behaviour Change (SBC) materials on stigma and discrimination were printed and distributed to encourage positive, non-discriminatory language. HFFG collaborated with the Commission of Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development to provide legal education for individuals with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions, on the Persons with Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715), and guidance on filing complaints with the appropriate authorities.

### HFFG-UNFPA Out-of-School Sexual Reproductive Health Education



The Out-of-School Sexual and Reproductive Health Education (OOS-RHE) program, a vital component of the UNFPA eighth country program (2023-2027), is dedicated to enhancing the awareness and competencies of adolescents in sexual and reproductive health. This initiative focuses on providing gender-sensitive sexuality education tailored for out-of-school adolescents, complemented by high-quality adolescent and youth-friendly services.

The commencement of Phase Two of the HFFG-UNFPA Out-of-School Sexual and Reproductive Health Education (OOS-RHE) program in January 2023 seamlessly continues the efforts initiated in Phase One (January 2020 to December 2022). Aligned with UNFPA's overarching priority, the program aims to achieve specific objectives by 2027. These goals include enhancing the skills, opportunities, and data systems available to adolescents and youth, ensuring bodily autonomy, fostering leadership, encouraging active participation, and contributing to human capital development, with a particular focus on addressing these needs in humanitarian settings.

Throughout 2023, the program prioritized reaching Young Persons Living with HIV (YPLHIV) and Young People in Detention (YPiD) aged 18 to 24. The primary focus was on delivering comprehensive and reliable information on sexual and reproductive health to empower them to make informed and healthy decisions. Key topics addressed included combating stigma and discrimination, preventing pregnancy, managing STIs and HIV (including discussions on concurrent and multiple partners), promoting positive living, and challenging gender norms.

Within the year, significant progress was achieved, with 246 young people living with HIV and 95 young people in detention acquiring knowledge in Reproductive Health Education (RHE). This knowledge empowers them to assert their rights and make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health.

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Moreover, 20 young people living with HIV (YPLHIV) underwent training in various skills such as pastry making, sewing, wig making, and detergent production, contributing to their income generation and economic independence. This multifaceted approach enhances the program's impact by addressing both educational and economic aspects of the participants' lives.



Figure 6: Young People in Detention being provided training on Sexual and Reproductive Health as part of the UNFPA project

### “SHE LEADS” Project

The ‘She Leads’ project is funded by the African Women’s Development and Communications Network (FEMNET) and is implemented in the Hohoe Municipality in the Volta Region of Ghana. The project targets 30 girls and young women (GYW) between the ages of 10-24 years and it aims to empower the leadership and decision-making skills of GYW through a series of workshops, meetings with relevant stakeholders, assembly meetings, radio discussions & webinars as well as platforms for advocating for the rights of GYW. The project also includes Role Models from various sectors in health, education, fashion and traditional authorities (Queen mothers) who offer mentorship to the GYW. The role models are selected from diverse occupations to cater for in-school and out-school groups.

The overall goal of the ‘She Leads’ project is to increase leadership in decision-making for Girls and Young Women (GYW) and to provide platforms where GYW can advocate for their rights. The project seeks to increase acceptance of GYW leadership and inclusion in decision-making processes at all levels, enhance collective action and activism of GYW and lobby for state and non-state institutions to provide space and enable GYW to participate in decision-making and incorporate their contributions in decisions.

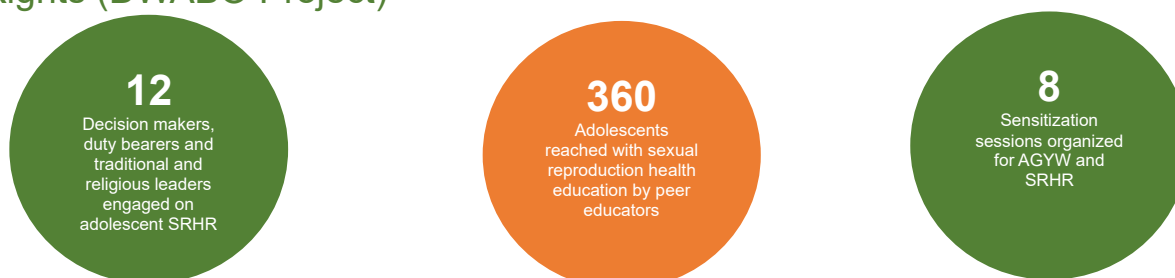
“In December 2023, during training in Hohoe in the Volta Region, two GYW testified how She Leads has impacted them in this short period. Philomina Adjei testified the programme increased her confidence and encouraged her ambition to run for the position of Women’s Commissioner in her school. Frederica Adjei testified the program increased her potential in public speaking, and inspired her to become an Assembly Member shortly





Figure 7: Peer to Peer Education in school by a trained GYW

## Breaking the Barriers and Increasing Access to Sexual Reproductive and Rights (DWABO Project)



HFFG was granted funding by the French Embassy in Ghana for the execution of a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) project under their DWABO grant in the Northern and Savannah regions. Entitled "Breaking the Barriers and Increasing Access to Sexual Reproductive and Rights," the project is being implemented in the Savelugu Municipality and Mion (Northern Region) as well as the West Gonja Districts (Savannah Region). This initiative spans from May 2023 to April 2024 and is being implemented in three communities within each district.

The overarching objective of the project is to: "Enhance the accessibility of high-quality Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) services for adolescent girls and young women in the Savannah and Northern Regions of Ghana." The specific objectives are:

- To increase the uptake of contraception and Antenatal services by AGYW
- To increase the percentage of Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) who correctly demonstrate knowledge of SRHR services and utilize these services
- To build the capacity of decision-makers, duty-bearers, community leaders and health workers to enhance access to SRHR

The key expected results of the project are:

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- Increased uptake of sexual reproductive health services among adolescent girls and young women in the Savannah and Northern Regions of Ghana.



- Adolescent girls and young women are aware of their sexual and reproductive health rights and utilize referral systems in seeking services and redress for gender-based violence and barriers that inhibit access to reproductive health services and rights
- Improve contraception uptake by 20%
- At least 70% of community actors/religious leaders including Adolescent Boys and Young Men (ABYM) in targeted communities/regions supporting AGYW to patronize SRHR services.

Twelve Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) were systematically identified and underwent targeted training in specified communities throughout the districts. This all-encompassing training session served as a forum for these AGYW to acquire knowledge, exchange insights, and emerge as advocates for advancing Sexual and

Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) within their respective communities, districts, and regions.

As part of a collaborative initiative to enhance awareness and empower Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) in the Northern and Savannah regions, over 280 participants actively participated in influential sensitization sessions. These community-focused gatherings commenced with AGYW openly sharing personal narratives on family planning at local community centres. Real-life experiences, addressing challenges and dispelling misconceptions regarding the impact of expiration dates on fertility, were candidly discussed.

*Figure 8: Public Health Nurse leading session on family planning during community sensitization*

## Young Health Advocates Ghana (YHAG) Activities

YHAG, a national network of young individuals in



Ghana dedicated to HIV prevention, actively participated in various initiatives throughout 2023. These engagements focused on community development and were facilitated under the guidance of our parent organization, HFFG, as we continued to strengthen our capacities.

Under the auspices of HFFG under the CRG Technical Assistance, YHAG joined other young people in their diversities reviewing the National Strategic Plan for HIV & TB and sharing our priorities in the grant-making process of GC7 for HIV and TB.

YHAG sustained its partnership with UNDP, actively participating in Leadership and Advocacy Training to enhance the capabilities of its members as empowered leaders in HIV and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) within their respective communities.



Two of our members were selected to participate in this Leadership Program facilitated by WACI Health in Kenya. This initiative aimed to bolster the capacity of young individuals across Africa, enabling them to implement their community-based projects in the health sector.

Young people from the Ashanti, Greater Accra, and Northern regions were selected to undergo training in skills development, focusing on areas such as bakery, wig-making, soap-making, and fashion.

### WAPCAS/Global Fund New Funding Model III Project - Persons Who Use Drugs (PUD) pilot intervention



HFFG was selected as an Implementing Partner (IP) under the West African Program to Combat AIDS and STI (WAPCAS)/Global Fund New Funding (NFM) Model III Project to pilot the implementation of the PUD intervention in



two (2) Regions namely Greater Accra Region and Ashanti Region covering four (4) districts; Accra Metropolis, Kumasi Metropolis, Tema Metropolis and Ashaiman Municipal for the period 1st August 2023 to 31st December 2023.

The objectives of the pilot project were to:

- Introduce harm reduction services for Persons Who Use Drugs (PUD), including needle and syringe programs (NSPs) and opioid substitution therapy (OST).
- Address social stigma, discrimination and other human rights barriers faced by PUD through advocacy and community engagement.

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1. During the community entry processes in microsites and hotspots in Greater Accra and Ashanti regions, Ghetto leaders and key informants played a crucial role in aiding Project staff to identify suitable outreach workers. Utilizing a screening tool/selection checklist, 32 outreach workers were selected in AMA, Ashiaman, Tema, and KMA during September and October 2023. All outreach workers were actively engaged in providing services across the 10 microsites in AMA, 6 in Tema, 6 in Ashiaman, and 10 in KMA. A total of One thousand One hundred and Sixty-eight (1,168) PUDs were screened in the four (4) districts out of which four hundred and seventy (470) were persons with substance abuse disorder. Outreach workers provided basic HIV education and prevention services to four hundred and ninety-three (493) persons with substance abuse disorder in the four (4) districts in the two (2) regions. Four hundred and seventy (470) PUDs tested for HIV with seven (7) reactive cases referred to health facilities for confirmation. One hundred and twelve (112) PUDs screened for other STIs

Throughout the outreach activities, the team successfully identified Persons who Use Drugs (PUDs) displaying signs of Tuberculosis (TB). These individuals were then connected with TB champions in both the Ashanti and Greater Accra regions, who conducted further screenings. Samples from suspected cases were subsequently sent to health facilities for testing. In total, 42 individuals were screened for TB, resulting in the confirmation of two (2) positive cases.

*Figure 10: PUD awaiting his turn to be given wound care services by the Project Nurse on-site or at the hotspot*

In the reporting period, specifically in November and December 2023, a total of thirty-two (32) PUDs underwent screenings for Hepatitis B and C conducted by nurses during outreach visits. Out of this group, five (5) PUDs tested positive for Hepatitis B, prompting immediate referrals to health facilities for necessary treatment.

Throughout the pilot phase, a total of fifty-five (55) PUDs with significant injuries or wounds were identified. Depending on the severity of the wounds, these individuals were either treated on-site by the attending nurses in the microsite or referred to health facilities for further treatment. Tema General Hospital and Suntreso Government Hospitals served as the primary referral hospitals for wound care in Greater Accra and Greater Kumasi, respectively. In instances of referral to health facilities, the nurses conducted follow-up visits in the microsites to provide ongoing wound dressing during outreach activities.



## Prevention of NCDs among School Children in Ghana

No.	Indicators / Activities	Target	Achieved	% Achieved
1	Number of kick-off event conducted	1	1	100%
2	Number of students receiving skipping ropes	300	300	100%
3	Number of students receiving water bottles	300	300	100%
4	Number of students reached with NCD awareness information	300	300	100%
5	Number of stakeholder meetings held	3	1	33.3%
6	Number of workshops held to improve the capacities of volunteers	3	2	66.6%

The project was designed by both the Danish group, Ashipti and the partner organisation, HFFG, Ghana. The idea emerged during the preparatory study in Ghana in the fall of 2021. During this study, we went on school visits where we interviewed primary school students and conducted surveys. We collected data about their knowledge of NCDs, risk factors as well as their level of physical activity and their eating habits. Our data showed that school children have a low level of knowledge of NCDs, on what constitutes a healthy diet, as well as low knowledge of the consequences of an unhealthy diet and low physical activity.

Furthermore, we conducted interviews with parents to get an idea about parents' level of knowledge about healthy living and the risk factors of NCDs.

We found varied perceptions of 'healthy lifestyle' some of which were based on misconceptions. Our study also showed that parents as active decision makers for their children have a major role to play in the eating habits and choice of



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food of their children. We, therefore, decided to also engage parents in our pilot project as they can be a barrier to changing the behaviour and lifestyle of these children.

Based on the knowledge gathered from field visits and interviews, HFFG organised a workshop on the change triangle, the problem/solution tree facilitated by Ashipti. During these workshops the project idea took form; the knowledge gap for both primary school children and their parents on NCDs and their risk factors was identified. The pilot project focuses on bridging the knowledge gap among school children in Ghana about NCDs while promoting physical activity and a healthy diet among them.

The project is divided into three (3) tracks:

- 1) capacity building of volunteers,
- 2) the physical activity track and healthy diet track, and
- 3) Advocacy.

For the year under review, the following were the achievements of the project:

Successful launch and kick-off of project activities in the year: Students and stakeholders including the Ga East Ghana Education Service Directorate, teachers and SHEP coordinators of St. Dominic Catholic school were engaged in the launch of the NCD project in April 2023 following a consultative meeting with the school.



Figure 11: School children showing their NCD kits during an engagement session in the school about the need for physical

Strengthened collaboration with the school through the implementation of activities.

Ownership of the project by the school: the school has proven ownership of the project by using the school's resources to organize workshops and practical sessions on healthy diet and physical activities for its pupils.

Increased engagement in physical activities by students through weekly skipping activities.

The engagement of 12 volunteers on the project and their participation in the workshops designed for volunteers improved their knowledge and skills in project management.

## Strengthening Community Systems to Scale-Up Community-led Response Intervention to End Neglected Tropical



Figure 12: The Eastern Regional NTD Coordinator demonstrating how to manage a client with lymphatic filariasis

## Diseases

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HFFG in collaboration with Rural Watch commenced the implementation of the project: 'Strengthening Community Systems to Scale-Up Community-led Response Intervention to End Neglected Tropical Diseases' in February 2023 and launched in March 2023 with support from the Eastern Regional Health Directorate. The Eastern Region is one of the 16 administrative regions of Ghana and is one of the most NTD endemic regions in the country. Based on data from the Expanded Special Project for Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases (ESPEN 2021-2025) and in consultation with the Eastern Regional Health Directorate, the following 10 districts were selected as the project locations.

Some milestones achieved in the first year, between February and December 2023 are as follows:

- 260 health workers sensitized in NTD management
  - 80 teachers and SHEP Coordinators sensitized in creating awareness of NTDs among students
- 40 community volunteers and 10 health workers trained to advance community-led activities, case identification and NTD surveillance
- 43 Environmental Health Officers sensitized
- 98 community, district and regional stakeholders extensively engaged at the inception of the project
- 454 persons with one of the skins NTDs have been reached with project activities in the 10 districts

## HR & ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENTS

### INTRODUCTION

The administrative department of Hope for Future Generations (HFFG) is in charge of all offices, in terms of space, equipment and their day-to-day running, while the Human Resources department provides services and support to the staff, and management of the organisation in line with its mission and vision. This report accounts for the activities of these two departments - the offices and their management, staff situations and identified gaps within the period of January to December 2023.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE OFFICES

Management of the offices of HFFG is carried out from the regions -in the North (Tamale), Ashanti (Kumasi), Bono & Bono East (Sunyani), Ahafo (Goaso & Hwiedem), Western & Western North (Tarkwa), Central (Ajumako) and Volta & Oti (Ho & Hohoe). However, for the cost-effectiveness of running the offices, discussions are underway to zone them. These offices will be run by Accounts/Administrative Officers with supportive supervision from the HR/ Administrative Manager at the Head Office, in Accra.

### STAFF STRENGTH

The staff strength is 48, with a gender segregation ratio of 51:49 females to males. During the period, the following came in with various expertise to help achieve the goal set for the year.

- i. **CONSULTANCY:** Experts in various fields were brought in periodically as consultants to augment staff strength in carrying out specific tasks. A pool of such experts in ME&L, Proposal Development, and Communication were brought on board to support.

- ii. **INTERNS:** Internship programmes are run by the organisation to provide opportunities for young professionals to acquire hands-on practical experiences. It is also basically used to augment vacancy recruitment to support field staff to deliver effectively. The year under review was very rich in such interns as follows:

**Foreign: 3**

1. Saga Hermodsson, Malmö University, Sweden
2. Aurèle Denis, Université de Lille, France
3. Yoni Quansah, Phillips Exeter Academy, NH, USA

**Local: 2**

1. A Student from Koforidua Technical University.
2. A student from the African University College of Communications

## STAFF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Staff underwent various training and capacity-building sessions during the year.

- **Staff Meetings:** held each month, serves as a platform to discuss the progress of project activities, among others. During these meetings, some form of capacity building is also provided, which has a positive impact on the staff.
- **Workshops & Conferences:** Some staff also had the opportunity to attend workshops and conferences which are capacity-building opportunities for these staff.
- **Higher Learning Opportunities:** One staff member was admitted to pursue a two-year programme - an Advanced Master's degree in Globalization and Development at Belgium (Institute of Development Policy University of Antwerp)

## AUGUST VISITORS TO THE ORGANISATION

- **OIG, Global Fund**  
On February 22, 2023, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the Global Fund visited our premises to conduct an audit of high-impact countries of which Ghana is one. This audit happens every 3 years as part of routine work to audit current grants and prepare for subsequent grants. The findings and outcomes of the audit are made public information and published on the Global Fund website.
- **Nana Afia Deiwa I**  
Was in the organization for an induction ceremony. Nana Deiwa was appointed an Honorary Member of the Board of Directors and was inducted into office on the 3rd of March 2023.
- **Dure Technology, Swiss (TB Impact One Ghana)**  
Having won the bid to continue the TB One Impact project in Ghana (Challenge Facility for Civil Society Round 11 project (CFCS R11)), Dure Technology, a team of dedicated data scientists visited HFFG to train staff on the use of the TB Impact One App, which is used to report issues of barriers to TB services and human rights and also to understand the deadly divide in TB commitments and realities.
- **FEMNET (She Leads)**  
A Kenya organisation, also in search of partnership with HFFG came to our premises in May 2023.
- **Johnson & Johnson**  
Johnson & Johnson, in search of an organization to partner with in the creation of awareness and treatment of Prostate Cancer and Mental Health, upon recommendation, paid a familiarization visit to HFFG on July 4, 2023.



### OTHER STRIDES – Farming Project (HFFG Greenhouse)

In line with its mission of improving and transforming lives, HFFG ventures into the production of greenhouse vegetables at the organization's headquarters in Accra. This is also aimed at promoting an eco-friendly environment and reducing the harmful effects of climate change, therefore the use of the greenhouse. This venture started with 107 buckets of cocopeat for cucumber, 132 buckets of tomatoes and the production of lettuce on the open field. The first harvest was very bountiful and day in and day out, very high-quality produce was being produced.



*Early stages of the Cucumber (2 weeks old) and tomatoes (4 weeks old)*



*Tomatoes fruiting at to 10 weeks*



### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND THE WAY FORWARD

The constant flow of logistics and the high calibre of staff in running the offices are major strides. Recruitment of a result-oriented Internal Audit and Compliance Consultant and a few others had a positive impact on the organization.

The tall list of August visitors to the organization in pursuit of partnership with Hope for Future Generations is a great stride during the year under review.



<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Amount GHS</b>	<b>%</b>
HIV/TB	16,221,678	83%
Advocacy	1,268,925	6%
People who Use Drugs-PUD	1,287,375	7%
Empowerment for Young Girls	439,669	2%
Social Behavior and Communication Change	306,394	2%
Malaria	54,158	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,578,197</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Finance Report for 2023

During the year 2023, the total grants from donors and development partners stood at Nineteen Million, Five Hundred and Seventy-Eight Thousand, One Hundred and Ninety-Seven Ghana cedis (GHS 19,578,197). The breakdown of each intervention is presented in the table and graph below.





## Networking/Meetings and Workshop Attended by Staff

WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS TITLE	ORGANISED BY
Strengthening Women's Rights Organisations' Engagement with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights: Role of CSOs in State Reporting on Sexual and Reproductive Rights Issues	The Centre for Human Rights (the Centre) at the University of Pretoria, South Africa and WiLDAF Ghana
Ghana Health Service Annual Performance Review Meeting.	Ghana Health Service
Mid-Term Review of National HIV Strategic Plan (NSP) 2021 – 2025)	Ghana AIDS Commission
National consultation in the proposal development of Grant Cycle 7 (GC7) funding request	CCM Ghana
National Stakeholder Consultation With Local Stakeholders On C-Quest Capital Clean Cookstoves In Ghana.	C-Quest Capital LLC
Linkage with social mobilization networks for community work.	JSI
Developing Standard of Operation Procedures (SOP).	JSI
Developing Project Exit Plan	JSI
Validation of National HIV and AIDS Workplace Policy	GAC
Empowering Youth Leaders in HIV Prevention – Strengthening Implementation of HIV Prevention Road Map (Volta Serene Hotel, Ho)	UNFPA Ghana
End-of-year review meeting for partners on HIV prevention and adolescents' Reproductive Health Education (RHE)	UNESCO
Meeting for Gender Working Group in Ahafo Region.	JSI
Training on stigma and discrimination	JSI
Disability Confidence training	SIGHTSAVERS
Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) Update	JSI
Training on Community-Led Monitoring project data collection tools	SEND Ghana
Effective Leadership & Multisectoral Collaboration Skills to Address AMR	WHO
Results-Based Management Training for IPs (Anita Hotel, Kumasi)	UNFPA Ghana

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Training on the CEDAW Convention, Maputo Protocol and ECOWAS Supplementary Act on Gender Equality	WiLDAF Ghana
Training on Community-Led Monitoring performance indicators.	SEND Ghana
UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage Phase III Development Workshop (Volta Serene Hotel, Ho)	UNFPA/UNICEF
A 3-Day Multi-Stakeholder Engagement to develop of Gender Transformative Advocacy and Communication materials on prioritization of SRHR to achieve Gender Equality and Development Goals.	Marie Stopes International
Digital Generation, Our Generation	Rotaract Club, East Legon
Southern Sector Regional Consultative Forum on the Passage of the Affirmative Action Bill	WiLDAF Ghana, NETRIGHT, and the Affirmative Action Bill Coalition Ghana
The 3rd Annual Human Rights Stakeholder Review Meeting	Ghana AIDS Commission
CSO National forum on Sexual and Gender-based Violence in 2023	SDGs Platform
Annual General Meeting and end of year review for the Status of women's health in Ghana	NETRIGHT
Capacity Building Workshop on Human Rights M&E framework and Data collection tools	GAC
Review and Update Meeting on the (2018-2022) Adolescent Pregnancy Strategy	The Department of Gender under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) with the support of UNFPA Ghana
<b>INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES</b>	
UN 2023 Water Conference	The event was sponsored by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Kingdom of Tajikistan with the support of UN
Global TB Caucus, 4th Africa TB Summit in Kenya	Global TB Caucus
CSE Training and Research Workshop	UNFPA
Prevention of Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH).	The Global Fund

INSIGHTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR 2023

Account	Followers	Impressions
	4,112	102,000
	10,002	12,600
	861	6191
		1794

610



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS



### **GFAN Annual Global Strategy Meeting, Nairobi, Kenya**

Our Executive Director Mrs Cecilia Lodonu-Senoo joined over 75 partners from civil society organizations including the Global Fund Secretariat at the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) Global Strategy Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya. The purpose of this event was to reflect on the 7th replenishment process over the course of much of 2022 and ongoing efforts to convert donor pledges into disbursements as well as fortifying efforts on Domestic Resource Mobilization.

### **World Health Summit, Berlin, Germany**

Our Executive Director joins Friends of The Global Fund Europe on the panel "We The People". She shares how HFFG through the Global Fund's CSS intervention is changing lives of communities, especially that of young people and why it is important to strengthen partnerships at all levels to ensure a sustainable future for populations affected by the three epidemics.



### **UN High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, New York, USA**

Madam Cecilia joined over 200 global delegates in New York for the UN HLM on UHC ensuring the voices of marginalized communities are well-represented and acknowledged in the Political Declaration on Universal Health Coverage.

## International Conference on Public Health in Africa, Lusaka, Zambia

Attending CPHIA 2023, Madam Cecilia joins a side event on the perspective of Civil Society on the Pandemic Accord and Pandemic Fund. She shares the issues of equity, transparency, accountability and overall financing on Pandemic Prevention Preparedness and Response (PPPR).



## WEBINARS HOSTED AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS OBSERVED



In commemoration of International Youth Day, with a focus on Climate Change, we hosted our first webinar bringing together experts and youth leaders in Climate Advocacy. They shared the real issues of climate change, the threats it poses to our health and how we can reduce its impact on the environment.

16 Days of Activism was observed with webinar where our panel speakers who are Gender-related experts and staff of HFFG reflected on how Gender-Based Violence diminishes the health well-being of victims who are mostly women, how we can support and resources that can be of help in situations of violence.



of  
and  
them



World AIDS Day was celebrated with a host of activities like a Health Walk, HIV Screening and Education and Media Activities. It was finally crowned with a webinar that led with the theme; Let Communities Lead with panel discussions by HIV Ambassadors and a stakeholder from Ghana AIDS Commission. They shared the ways communities have been engaged and how stakeholders can better involve them in all areas of the HIV response.

World TB Day was commemorated with several activities across the region. We initiated TB stands in public areas, engaging the community in TB awareness, education and screening. TB Advocates came together to observe the day and to remember “Yes We Can End TB”.



