



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

KINDER PARADISE

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Acronyms:

B.E.C.E. Basic Education Certificate Examination

DSW Department of Social Welfare

KP Kinder Paradise

NGO Non-Government Organization

1. Summary

Kinder Paradise is a charitable, non-profit making, licensed private organization which runs a residential home for children and youths (from the age of 2 years into adulthood), a school and a day center. It provides street children and vulnerable children with a safe home and school education, and affords them the opportunity to lead a self-sufficient life in future and become responsible and productive members of society.

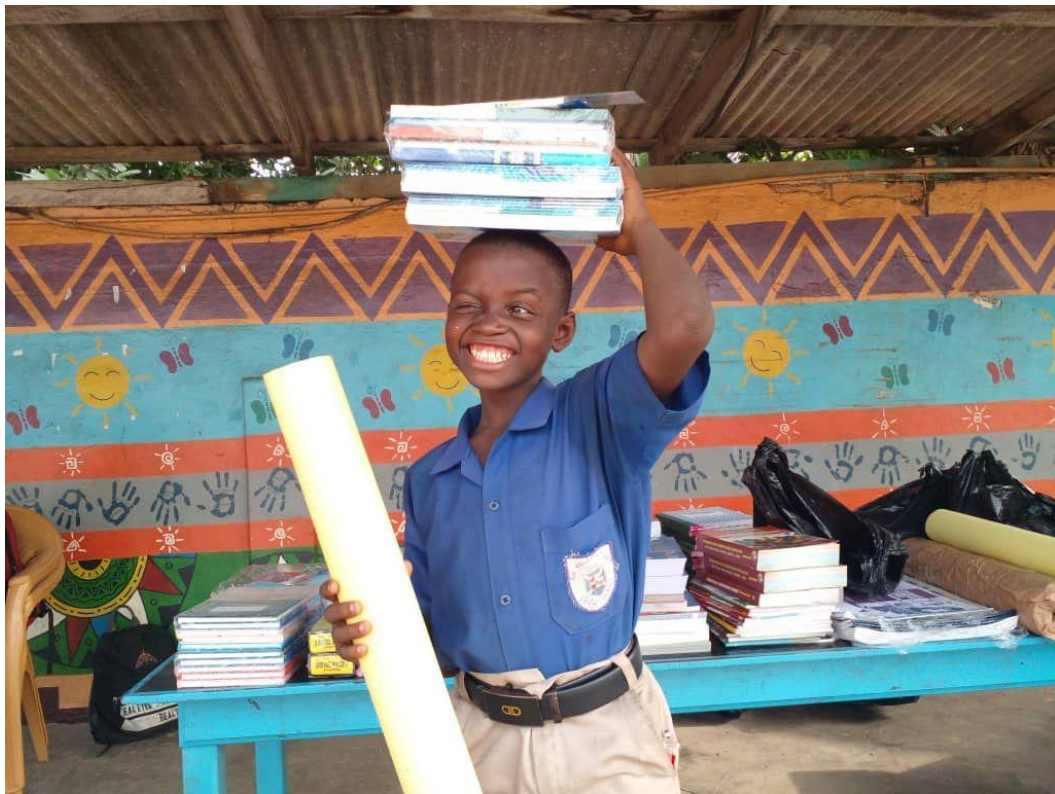
2021 again the unprecedented challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated the existing distresses of the street-connected children. With everyone confined to their locale areas, reaching out to these children was much more difficult. The KP team has provided training and orientations on a range of issues allowing them to bolster their response during this period.

In 2021, KP supported a total of 211 children and youths, 63 girls and 118 boys received education (spanning nursery up to university), and on average of 30 street-connected children were cared for in addition.

KP experienced a Covid outbreak in August 2021 with a number of children who fell ill on the same day with unspecific symptoms. After the quarantine period, no new cases surfaced except a single proved case in December.

The Home was hit hard by a rainstorm in the evening of Monday, 22nd March (see 5.2 Donor Spotlights)

Our reliable donors and supporters helped us through this second year of crises. We are grateful with their support we were able to obtain our mission to support our vulnerable children and youths in this difficult time.



2. Our Mission, Vision, and Motto

Vision

“Orphaned, Vulnerable and Street Children (OV&SC) become independent and productive citizens”

Mission

“Kinder Paradise supports orphaned, vulnerable and street children by providing a conducive home, care and education for self-reliance and social re-integration”

Motto

“Learning for a better life”

The target group we support was deprived of their human rights, including food, health, a safe home, care, and education. The main objectives are, to provide shelter and care, and improve access to education, nutrition, and health.

KP is offering these vulnerable children (e.g., abused, orphaned, street children, trafficked children) education, and supports them to achieve graduation from school and learn a profession until they can be reintegrated into society as self-reliant, productive citizens. The aim is to prevent them from becoming desolate or even a threat to society.

3. Accomplishments and Impact Stories of KP Youths (Selection)

Lateef Abdullai graduated in Japan, completed his four years of Business Administration in Japan at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University.

William Paa Kwesi, BSc Human Resource Management, working at Ecobank Accra now.

Mary Acquah, after 3 years in Teshie Nursing and Midwifery Training college, now a registered General Nurse at Lekma Hospital.

Isaac Agyekum Omari, pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in International Shipping and Chartering at Hochschule Bremen in Germany.

Emmanuel Somiah, BSc Nautic Science, now cruising the Pacific Ocean on a large container vessel as his first employment.

Fuseini Abdulai, Master Degree in Education, now working at Kinder Paradise School

Edith Carta-Williams, a KNUST graduate, BSc Economy; wrote children's books which were published by World Vision.

Romeo Fredson, BSc Information Technology, working as Data Enhancement Officer in a large company, acquired his IBM Analyst Professional Certification in 2021.

Alfred Siayor, broadcast journalist with a private radio/TV-station in Ghana.



Lateef Abdulai



Emmanuel Somiah



Edith Carta-Williams



Romeo Fredson



Alfred Siavor



Fuseini Abdulai

Further accomplishments

Due to discrimination against street-connected children, they do not feel accepted by society. Their rights and privileges are denied them. For that reasons KP and other sister organizations who are part of a network of NGOs passionate about championing the rights and welfare of street children realized the need to organize a program on the 12th of April 2021, which is the International Day for Street Children. Staff and children were positioned on major streets of Accra to display banners with slogans in order to create awareness of the plight of children in street situations, so that people will be more involved in championing the rights and welfare of street connected children. KP produced a short film on the situation of street children.



International Day for Street Children

12.04.2021



A SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) on the operational level has been conducted at all departments (KP School, Day Center, Home, and Management), in collaboration with a German consultant who offers KP pro bono assistance. KP has identified key points to focus/work on in each department. This will determine the way forward considering changed conditions related to the pandemic as well as continuous improvement for the various departments.

Financial stability, donor management, new financial and controlling systems are being worked on in collaboration with a software company. The major part of implementation will be finished by March 2022, and afterwards further improvements will be worked on.

4. Reports

4.1 Home

KP's resident children at the Home live in a safe and conducive environment, are being cared for by housemothers, social workers, elder „siblings“ and other staff.

In 2021, 57 children were supported in the Home, 19 girls and 38 boys.

All 55 resident children attended KP School. 3 girls and 3 boys wrote their BECE (Basic Education Certificate Examination) and are waiting for their results for reintegration in 2022. A series of reintegration orientation sessions were conducted with them. Two more resident youths do an attachment on site of the Home. Children were given education on crime and law, as well as sexual hygiene.



KP also offers music instrument lessons via Skype as a therapeutic means for beneficiaries to gain self-confidence and express their emotions. In addition, dance classes, art works, sporting activities, and excursions were carried out.

Trainings for staff were conducted in the areas of capacity building of NGOs during the pandemic, team building, mood disorders, trauma management, psycho-social & cognitive development, transitioning into family care, child rights and child protection, and many others.

KP supported 49 reintegrated youths and children with education, 17 girls and 32 boys. From basic education, vocational training, special needs school, national service, gap year (waiting for further education), senior high school, to university. The support includes school fees, accommodation, food, hygiene products and some pocket money. 1 girl and 2 boys dropped out of the support system.

3 girls successfully completed university with their national service, 3 girls completed vocational training. 1 boy completed vocational training. 10 girls and 29 boys remain in the support system for 2022.

4.2 KP School



The project-owned school was re-opened for residential children in the Children's Home since 18th January 2021, after Government proclaimed all schools may be opened again. The school remained closed for external students though, except for the final year students.

In response to the significant loss of school fees and the unpredictable nature of the pandemic which poses possible further restrictions of future school attendance, and also, to offer better accessibility and quality of

teaching in general, KP decided early in 2021 to explore the possibility of adding e-learning to its teaching methods. Teachers and resident children were then trained on how to use the software, and in consultation with different experts, laptops and tablets were procured to implement the method.

Management had a number of intense meetings to discuss the re-opening of KP School for external students. The admission process was begun middle of November, including pre-admission examinations, to facilitate a smooth transition. It was decided not to admit nursery school children this time, because ensuring COVID measures are kept puts a lot of stress on the teachers. This decision will be revisited after having gained more experience how the Kindergarten children will fare after re-opening.

The School Policy and COVID guidelines have been discussed and updated, and all students received an orientation.

KP's BECE candidates took their exams on 19th November. By the end of December, 2021, the results were not out.

The headmistress of the KP owned school (since 2006) retired and was seen-off with a program performed by our children. The new headmaster has joined KP in September 2021.

4.3 Day Center

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ban on social gatherings, the Day Center remained closed to the children until July. But staff and Management, understanding the needs of street connected children in these hard times, rolled out an “outreach program” in January at the Afua Sutherland Children’s Park and the slum behind the Art Center, both located at the center of the capital Accra.

The Day Center supported 30 children and youths on average per day, of which 20 children were attended to in the slum and at the park. In July 2021 the Day Center reopened again and due to COVID-19 restrictions, an average of 10 youths per day at the Day Center have been supported since.

3781 meals were given to street connected children.

1360 meals have been served to youths attending the Day Center.

We continuously supported 75 urban poor children with paying for their school fees and conducting trainings for them and their families. Staff held parent/guardian-staff-meetings to enquire about the children and to discuss their performances at school. Visits to urban poor children’s homes are vital for the children and their families to retain the children in school. The visits to urban poor children are often coupled with mentoring sessions for the children.



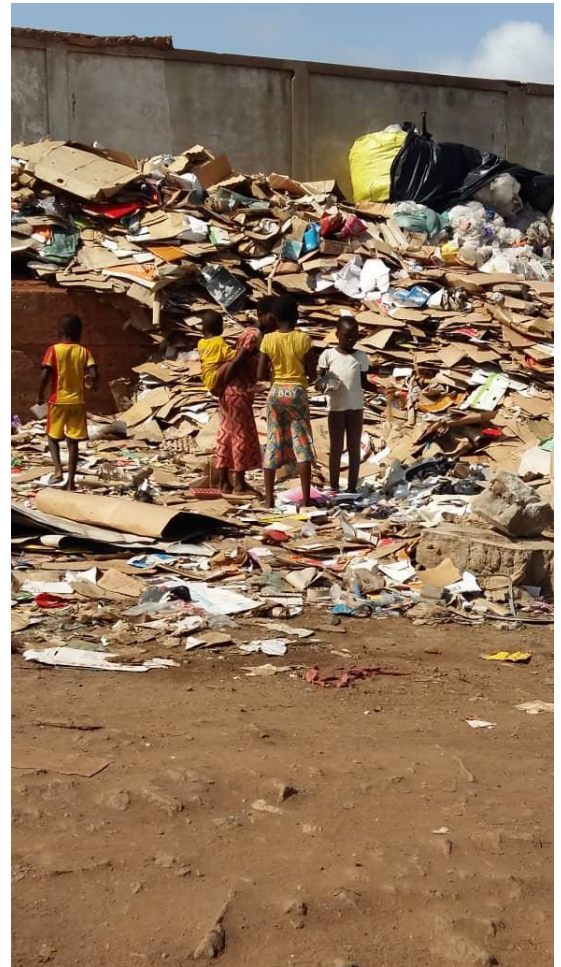
Center staff conducted COVID-19 Training in the classes where KP’s 75 urban poor children are enrolled. With permission from head teachers, other school children in different classes

were also trained, after it was realized that they lacked knowledge about COVID and protective measures. 42 training sessions of this program covered a total of 1555 children.

KP organized a Sanitation Day in the slum behind the Art Center before Christmas. Staff encouraged and coordinated slum-dwellers to pick the trash, and organized a truck to depose of the waste. The exercise was a successful activity, and helped strengthen relationships between KP staff and the community.



Sanitation Day in the Slum



5. Network and Sponsors

5.1 Networking

Beginning of 2021, by invitation, a staff of KP took part in a 9-days-training course by the University of Ghana, School of Law, dubbed “COVID-19 Responsive Capacity-Building for Civil Society Organizations”.

In February, a staff of KP participated in a workshop by the DSW (Department of Social Welfare) on human trafficking.

The Head of KP’s Home attended a 5-days-workshop by the DSW in Accra. The essence of the workshop was to educate case workers on case management forms, roles of social workers in case management, and about alternative care.

City Hearts Africa, an organization committed to bringing positive and lasting change to vulnerable young people and families as well as those trapped in human trafficking, contacted KP with the bid for collaboration. They have provided KP’s caregivers with a very good training on the special needs that traumatized children have.

They Faith to Action Initiative offered a two-months-course on transitioning to family care. It was an intensive course which required much homework. Our Head of Department of the Children’s Home took part in the course alongside his work.

International Justice Mission (IJM) did a capacity building training for KP staff.

There was another workshop by the Anglia Ruskin University, England, as a follow-up on the first one about the health situation of migrant children. 3 Center staff and 10 street children were invited to participate with other children and designated staff from few NGOs, academia and a representative from DSW, at the university of Ghana, Legon, in June 2021. Results are geared towards more advocacy and improved policy-making on the situation of Ghana’s street children.

A lecturer with the University of Ghana facilitated meetings with a number of NGOs working with street-connected children with the objective of bringing them together and establish a network or association in future.

Volunteering in 2021 was almost exclusively virtual. Lufthansa Group volunteers supported KP’s resident children with reading difficulties by reading with them.

The NGO “Keys of Change” organized music instrument and theory lessons.

5.2 Donor Spotlights

A complete set of solar cells was donated by an individual couple.

Equipment for e-learning for children and teachers was sponsored, as well as the e-learning software, the administrative school software, and the accounting software.



Beginning of the year, a massive storm wreaked havoc in the community, and KP was hit very hard. Thankfully, nobody was hurt. With the instant help of friends and supporters from various nations, the damage could be repaired. It took several months to finalize restoring everything but eventually, we succeeded.





We are grateful to our donors, supporters and friends of KP who helped manage the socio-economic consequences of COVID-19.



Bild hilft e.V. [Link: www.ein-herz-fuer-kinder.de/]



**FOUNDATION FOR
CARE AND EDUCATION**

Fürsorge- und Bildungstiftung [Link: www.fuersorgeundbildungstiftung.com]



alliance

Lufthansa HelpAlliance [Link: www.helpalliance.org]

Other national and international supporters, both individuals and companies, have presented donations in cash and kind, and continue to contribute. We thank all of them, because rising costs of living are a topic in Ghana as well, and of course affect and impact the poor and vulnerable the most.

6. Strategy and Outlook 2022

KP remains dedicated supporting the target group: street children, trafficked and abused children, other children in need and orphans.

KP will continue to give shelter, education and support to achieve their graduation from school and learn a profession, aiming to reuniting them with their families, and reintegrating them into society as self-reliant, productive citizens.

One aim for 2022 is to improve our reintegration processes.

As an organization we aim to apply our motto of learning for a better life to ourselves, for the efficiency of our organization and all our staff members. We continuously seek to improve and get better.

In 2022 we will go through a development of process design and improving our IT infrastructure, security and processes.

KP School further improves its e-learning strategies, educates external students how to use them, and welcomes more students.

We remain open to receive people who seek to learn from our experiences, and to expand and intensify networking with other stakeholders.

7. Organization

The structure of the organization has not changed during the period of the project.

Name and Address: Kinder Paradise

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Director: Ms. Silke Roesner

Legal Status: Kinder Paradise is a charitable non-profit making organization, registered in Accra with the Registrar of Commerce, No. G-3768, and with the Department of Social Welfare, Reg.no. D.S.W./1209.

The organization also has a constitution which governs its activities and operations. As founding member, Ms. Silke Roesner directs Kinder Paradise with a Board of Directors and an Advisory Board. She is responsible for finances and management. A Management team supports the director with planning and implementation. Also on staff is an assistant to the Director who supervises all project activities and the management of personnel matters. The Ministries officially licensed Kinder Paradise and assist in their operations but Kinder Paradise does not receive financial aid or any bonus from the Ministries due to inadequate financial and logistical resources.



“KNOWLEDGE IS A GARDEN. IF IT ISN’T CULTIVATED, YOU CAN’T HARVEST IT!”

African Proverb