



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

*KINDER PARADISE*

Email: [kinderparadise2000@yahoo.de](mailto:kinderparadise2000@yahoo.de)

Website: [www.kinderparadise.org](http://www.kinderparadise.org)

Tel: 00233-244251449

P.O.Box 75, Prampram - Ghana

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Organization	3
2. Summary - Vision	3
3. Target Group - Mission	4
4. Accomplishments, Special Events, and Impact Stories	5
5. Reports	
1. Home	7
5.1.1 Children's Home	
5.1.2 Reintegrated Youths	
2. KP School	12
3. Day Center	15
5.2.1 Urban Poor Program	
5.2.2 Street-Connected Children at the Center/Children in the Slum	
6. Network and Sponsors	18
1. Networking	
2. Donor Spotlights	
7. Strategy and Outlook	19

## Acronyms:

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

DPA Data Protection Act

DSW Department of Social Welfare

GES Ghana Education Service

KP Kinder Paradise

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

NGO Non-Government Organization

## 1. Organization

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

Name and Address: Kinder Paradise  
 P.O.Box 75  
 Prampram - Ghana  
 Phone: 00233-244251449

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 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 from the Ministries.

## 2. Summary - Vision

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.

In 2022, KP supported a total of 212 children and youths, 65 girls and 115 boys received education (spanning nursery up to university), and on average 32 street-connected children were cared for in addition.



### 3. Target Group - Mission

The target group KP supports 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.



#### 4. Accomplishments, Special Events, and Impact Stories

KP's pro bono consultant came for a one-month visit to further support staff with the development and implementation of KP's integrated management system (IMS). For improved transparency, an operational manual shall be collated. On the long run, the IMS shall prepare the way for future transition of leadership.

The Data Protection Document was worked on by representatives from the various departments during the course of the year. It was approved by Management and KP consultant and was launched during the annual staff meeting. The Declaration of Confidence was signed by all staff, and the DPA Certificate (Data Protection Act Certificate) was applied for in the middle of December. One of our alumni, now an IT specialist, is KP's Data Protection Officer. He was recently elected best worker in his company and was awarded with a one-week trip to Kenya.



To enhance a key message of KP's child rights and child protection community outreach program, KP produced a film on Touching Rules, which was launched in 2022. KP collaborates with Ghana Education Service and obtained permission to show the film in public schools. So far, 5000 children have received the message.



Touching Rules\_Film.mp4



Ghana's beaches are becoming increasingly polluted by plastic and other waste. KP does regular beach cleaning exercises to enhance awareness of environmental issues in its children and support the community at the location of the children's home.



## 5. Reports

### 5.1.1 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 2022, 62 children were supported in the Home (40 boys/22 girls)

Within the period of January to December this year, a total of 13 children were re-integrated (3 girls and 10 boys), preceded by a series of reintegration orientation sessions.

Eleven children were admitted into the Home, 5 girls and 6 boys.

All resident children attended KP School, except one child who is in a special needs school. One other child only stayed with KP for a short period. There was only one girl writing BECE (Basic Education Certificate Examination), awaiting results for reintegration in 2023.

The following training sessions for children were conducted: Reintegration Orientation, COVID-19, Family Planning, Moderation Skills, Online Safety, HIV/AIDS, Skin Bleaching, Anti-Bullying  
Staff were also trained: Continued Professional Education for KP doctor, Communication, Financial Management, Moderation Skills, Data Handling, Child Protection, Supporting Traumatized Children, Excel, Children and Anger, Preparing Children for School, Life Books of Children, COVID-19, Raising Children - Implementation of Discipline, Online Safety, Respectful and Empathic Communication, Project Management, How to Use a Nebulizer, Skin Bleaching, Anti-Bullying, Attending to Small Wounds.

KP's music program continues. Volunteers from various countries were dispatched by Keys of Change to assist teaching music lessons to our resident children. There are also ongoing music lessons via Skype.

In addition, dance classes, art works, sporting activities, and excursions were carried out.

Bi-annual anonymous assessments of all children by staff, and annual anonymous assessments of all staff and services at KP by children were conducted and brought the same good results as in previous years.

Like usual, the children's contentedness with staff (with various items asked, such as trust, care, friendliness, spending time with children, fair treatment, approachability, and others) are being assessed to enable Management act promptly in the case that weaknesses are being detected. The score ranges from excellent, very good, good, fair, and poor. In total, all staff are described by the children as mostly within the upper two ranges.

Some examples of their votes for the services at KP are:

- Kinder Paradise gives me hope for a better future – 97% excellent, 3% very good
- As a resident of KP, I can always rely on KP – 57% excellent, 35% very good
- KP provides all my needs – 84% excellent, 14% very good
- Food was scored 46% excellent, 24% very good





There was an Outbreak of Covid 19 in Kinder Paradise during the course of the year. Some children and few staff were affected. It was very stressful dealing with and or handling affected children in quarantine. Two staff who were on their off/leave opted to stay home during the period while the few who tested positive were quarantined on the premises, leading to reduced staff strength on the compound.

After the pandemic, KP resumed their usual reintegration process, and a number of children started visiting their families again. KP had to transport some children to various parts of the region, because their parents were unable to come for their wards due to the increase in transport fares. Being able to establish a bond with their families was a good experience for the children but also brought a lot of challenges for KP when they returned with numerous contagious sicknesses, such as scabies and chicken pox. There is always the risk of importing parasites into the Home, but precautions are being taken.

Five children which had been rescued by International Justice Mission (IJM) were reintegrated into their families.

*The following are examples of working with resident children and youths.*

*In February 2022, we received a boy (a foreign national) who had been trafficked into the country, from Ghana Police Service and DSW. He was being used for cyber fraud by the perpetrators. According to him, he was physically abused and was denied food by his captors, after he requested to be returned to his country of origin. He subsequently escaped from the camp and was rescued by the police.*

*While in care it was difficult to manage his behaviour because of the exposure to fraudsters he has had in the camp. He had mood swings and desired to go back to his parents immediately. On several occasions he tried absconding back to the camp - not because he wanted to be there but because he was missing the illicit drugs he had been exposed to at the camp. Staff had to chase after him and bring him back, had mentoring talks and other interventions with him, until he became stable.*

*The process of the repatriation was quite slow as the police had to conduct investigations and collaborate with the other country's foreign mission in Ghana.*

*Subsequently, in July 2022, KP in collaboration with the police and International Organization for Migration (IOM) was able to repatriate him to his country, where he is currently happily living with his family.*

*Another case study is that of one of our street-connected children in care. She used to have serious emotional problems because she missed her father so badly. She had not seen him in a long time. This was because the father had neglected her after the marriage between him and her mother failed years ago, when the child was still very little. As a result, she and her mother ended up on the streets, where life became very tough for them. It is from there that she was rescued and placed in KP's care.*

*Over the years, continuous efforts were made to reunite her with the father but there was always serious resistance from both parents due to their differences, and this was having a negative impact on their daughter. She used to have serious issues with anger, mood swings, crying etc. However, with tact and perseverance over the years, our staff were able to bring the two parents and daughter together to resolve the issues and allow the child access to the father. Subsequently, she was allowed to visit the father during the long holidays in August for the first time in about 8 years. Even though she faced some challenges at home for obvious reasons, her hitherto regular mood swings, anger, and crying behaviour have all reduced drastically.*

*This success did not come easy as staff had to manage the emotions of all parties including extended family members, bearing the travel expenses of the family, and other difficulties.*

Friends of KP from the UK, who used to donate Christmas presents to all children and staff for the past years, came to visit over Christmas and again, brought their gifts. Children and staff alike had a wonderful time celebrating Christmas.



Christmas Bakery



### 5.1.2 Reintegrated Youths

Two youths completed their tertiary education this year. One of them graduated as a Nautical Engineer from the Regional Maritime University. After completing his National Service as a Teaching Assistant at his alma mater, he is now sailing aboard a big vessel for 10 months as part of his professional training.

Visits were conducted to some re-integrated beneficiaries, whose further education is supported by KP. Over the year, they received visits in their schools and homes respectively.

During the reporting period, KP supported 29 (28 boys/11 girls) reintegrated youths and children with education; basic education (1 boy/1 girl), vocational training (11 boys/4 girls), 1

boy doing an attachment, 1 boy and 1 girl in a special needs school respectively, 2 boys in national service, 8 in senior high school (4 boys/4 girls), 9 in university (8 boys/1 girl). KP support includes school fees, accommodation, food, hygiene products and some pocket money. 5 boys and 2 girls completed vocational training and their families took over. One boy, a carpentry apprentice, dropped out of the support system.

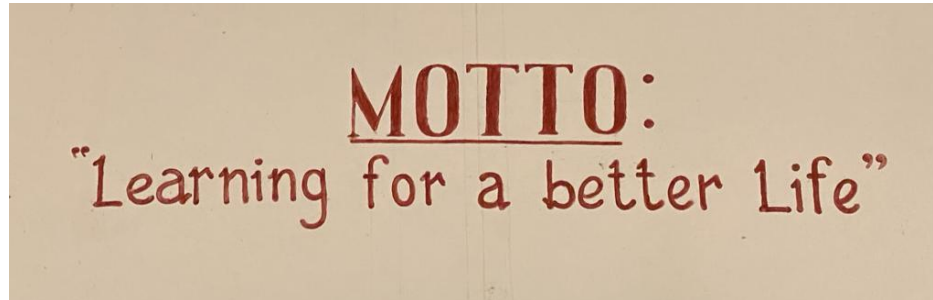


A former street child who is supported by KP developed an interest in further education and used the opportunity to study hard in school. He gained admission into university. In his first year, he won highest marks awards in the courses 1. Micro-Processor & Micro-Controller, and 2. in System Analysis & Design.

During the events to mark the International Day for Street Children, he was a panelist in a public discussion with media presence and made a great impression on the audience. He clearly portrayed the hopeless situation of street-connected children, and inspired the audience to become proactive citizens in a system in which the government has little means to deal with the complex problem of streetism. He also inspired street-connected children not to give in to their fate but to seek for opportunities to change their future. The event was aired by the national TV station and the Daily Graphic newspaper reported.

## 5.2 KP School





Due to COVID, KP School was closed to external students in 2020 and 2021, and in 2022, KP School opened for new admissions of students from the community. In 2022, the school was not operating to full capacity. For lack of school fees, the costs of running the school were not fully covered. In January 2022, the general development of the pandemic was not foreseeable, and therefore KP Management decided not to open Nursery classes during this year.

Inputs of all three terms in the E-Learning software have been done but the software is work in progress, inputting new books and clips, and upgrading already existing contents. The Wi-Fi had to be upgraded again. External students and resident children were introduced to using the software, which has been in use throughout the year.

Apart from training on the E-Learning software for children and staff, teachers had a Team Building Workshop, Accounting, Updates from GES, DPA and Internet Security.

Children received training sessions on COVID-19, Hygiene, and Child Protection.

The school showed KP's film on the Touching Rules in 13 schools apart from KP School.

Vacation classes were offered for Junior High School students to help them cover up lost time during the pandemic. Classes commenced successfully.

KP's school farm was not successful due to too much rain. The usual crops of corn, pepper, watermelon, and sweet potatoes failed. The lack of rain during the previous years was more than compensated for in 2022, with huge areas of land being flooded over periods of time.



A “Health Walk” was conducted in the vicinity on 1st December, with placards indicating that our school is open for new admissions. All children and teachers did the walk and were accompanied by a brass band and police.



The external student, who participated in the national reading competition “Book Worm Reading Reality Show” reached the finals and got rank 4.

Some other extracurricular activities were:

“Talento Expo” - a competition among all KP School students, where students were given the opportunity to choose which talents to display.

#### Cultural Day (“Akwaaba Day”)

The children and youths dressed in traditional attire and organized a variety of performances to display the different cultures of ethnic groups living in Ghana.



The school vacated on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 with 98 external students and 56 students from the Home.

### 5.3 Day Center

KP's Day Center takes care of street-connected and urban poor children. Some street-connected children attend at the Center, and staff do outreach to a slum. Urban poor children are enrolled and supported in schools, their progress is monitored, and they are being mentored. The Day Center has a head of department, 2 social workers, 1 support staff and a cook.

#### 5.3.1. Urban poor Program

We continuously supported 79 urban poor children (47 boys/32 girls) with paying for their school fees and conducting training sessions for them and their families. The family took over in the case of 4 students (2 boys/2 girls), 1 girl dropped out of school, 1 boy completed vocational training and went on to independent living, and there were 9 children added to the support list (4 boys/5 girls) during the reporting period.

Staff collaborates closely with the teachers of the urban poor children. They held parent/guardian-staff-meetings to enquire about the children and to discuss their performances at school.

All supported children were on average visited 10 times in their schools over the course of the year, and 681 calls to schools were made. 810 visits to urban poor children's homes (multiple visits child) and 1206 calls were made. These 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. Supported children, often with parents and other attendants, received training sessions, e.g., on Traffic Signs and Signals, Rights and Responsibilities, Touching Rules, and School Choices. KP's Child Rights and Child Protection Film on Touching Rules was shown in 13 schools, in a government children's home and in 10 homes of urban poor children.



### 5.3.2. Street-connected children at the Center/children in the slum

The Day Center supported 32 children and youths on average per day in the slum and at the Center. The total number of meals given out in 2022 was 7823.



The Day Center opened daily from Monday through Friday. Children received meals, took showers, washed their clothes, received basic lessons in reading and writing English and Mathematics, and were being mentored.

Staff did outreach to a nearby slum on 3 days per week. On average, 25 children received a warm meal on these days, and were given mentoring and training sessions.



103 training sessions were conducted at the Center and in the slum on various relevant topics. Most of them were on Touching Rules, others on Drug Abuse, STIs, Personal Hygiene, Road Safety, Family Planning, Teenage Pregnancy, Life Skills, Peer Pressure, Rights and Responsibilities, and many other topics.

Some of these children were admitted into the urban poor education program. In collaboration with an opinion leader at the slum, one girl was placed on an attachment for Tie & Dye (a technique to produce colorful fabrics) with the option to continue with a form of vocational training. This is a first result of KP's staff exploring the location for more opportunities for vocational training.

Staff had 6 training sessions on the ff. topics: Leadership, Training of Trainers on Dental Hygiene, Accounting, and DPA.

There was an end-of-year party with the children at the slum, which was mainly carried out by sponsors who also brought food. An additional party was held two days later for the urban poor children which KP supports in school.

## 6. Network and Sponsors

### 6.1 Networking

The Faith to Action Initiative offered a two-months course for staff 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.

Volunteering in 2022 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.

Share Care, an NGO that offers physiotherapy to disabled children, had lost their space where they used to do the interventions during the pandemic. KP made an MOU with them and offered them a space at the Day Center once a week, so that Share Care can continue offering their services to underprivileged children with special needs (e.g., cerebral palsy) in the area of physiotherapy.

Collaboration with a coalition of NGOs with same target group and vision as KP continued over the year 2022. In collaboration with the coalition, the group developed the draft for a National Strategic Document (5-Year-Plan) for the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection/Department of Social Welfare (DSW) to find solutions how to amend the problem of street children. KP took the lead in organizing the workshops and drafting the document.

### 6.2 Donor Spotlights

The roof of our warehouse was reconstructed. It used to be leaking any time it rained, causing damage to hygiene and food items.

The playground and the tribune at the football pitch were completely overhauled. The playground had been out of use for some time due to damage on the structures. After the repairs it was painted by some youths and children during the Christmas holidays.

Repair works were also done on some portions of the wire fence.

The summer hut has been newly thatched after 20 years.

Also, the entire school roof and the library which were damaged and leaking during rainy days were renewed. Commencement of teaching was not interrupted during that time.



KP is grateful to donors, supporters, and friends who stood behind the organization during the course of the year. Their contributions have made it possible to carry out all our projects and to continue providing for all children and youths in our support system.



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**alliance** Lufthansa HelpAlliance [Link: [www.helpalliance.org](http://www.helpalliance.org)]

## 8. Strategy and Outlook 2023

KP wants to expand its Child Rights and Child Protection Program to communities. Apart from showing the film on Touching Rules, KP plans to use the UNICEF Child Protection Tool Kit with its flash cards and other materials designed to engage the audience in discussions and for awareness creation.

KP continues to work on improving its management systems.

KP School further improves its e-learning strategies:

1. STRATEGIC AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY: KP will integrate effective technology into the learning process. It should be used strategically to help students learn, deepen critical thinking, and open new opportunities.

2. HIGH-QUALITY INSTRUCTION: KP will encourage and guide staff to collaborate and share best practices and ideas.
3. STUDENT-CENTRED APPROACH: KP will encourage happy, productive, and engaged students. Students should develop and maintain strong friendships, and this will help in a high retention rate.
4. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT: KP will conduct an open and regular communication between the school and parents. This communication can come in a variety of forms such as emails, newsletters, phone calls, and information meetings. This shared information gives parents valuable insights into their student's progress.

