



Juliana with her mother at Kekeli's Resource and Assessment Centre.
Read more about Juliana on page 3.

Greetings from Ghana!

It has been an exciting year at Kekeli. We have completed the new Early Childhood Intervention Centre. We have started new projects with our parents self help groups and continue to provide support for our children to access education and health care. These have all been made possible because of your generous support. We look forward to continuing our work and sharing more wonderful updates. We wish you all the very best during this holiday season and in the year ahead.

Fe yeye nami (Happy New Year)

Thank you!



Carrie Brown

Highlights:

Early Childhood Intervention Centre	2
Local Fundraising Project	2
Radio Advocacy	3
Success Story	3
How to Help	4



Resource and Assessment Centre (left) and the Early Childhood Intervention Centre (right)



Inside the Nursery at the Early Childhood Intervention Centre

Early Childhood Intervention Centre

Kekeli's most recent accomplishment is the completion of the Nursery-Kindergarten building which was commissioned on August 4 this year. This is the second building in the proposed inclusive school and is in addition to the Resource and Assessment Centre. Students began to apply for the nursery class in September, and classes will start in January. That class will then advance each year to Kindergarten-1 and kindergarten-2. In Ghana, kindergarten is a two-year program.

This is part of our long term project that began 2015 when Kekeli, the Rotary Clubs of Ho, Norwich (UK), Delmar NY, Nice, France, Novi Sad and Germany teamed up to design and raise funds to build and equip a fully Inclusive Model School. We continue to look for individuals, Rotary Clubs and other organizations to support this important project.



Local Fundraising Project

This year Kekeli has received support from Star Ghana Foundation to produce a five-minute documentary about how our work has been impacting the lives of people with disabilities including persons with intellectual disabilities in Ghana. The goal of this project is to raise funds which will be used as seed money for a Reusable Diapers and Sanitary Pads business for our mothers and their children with disabilities.

The project will also work on building the capacity of our Parents' Self-Help Groups (PSHGs) to acquire knowledge in local fundraising. This is to equip the group members with the necessary knowledge and skills required to raise funds from their respective communities for the Re-usable Diapers and Sanitary Pads project, and also the general needs of their children with disabilities. We look forward to sharing the documentary and the progress of the project over the next few months.

Radio Advocacy

Kekeli Foundation recently completed a project with support from Plan International Ghana to raise awareness on the rights of Persons with disabilities, especially, those with developmental disabilities. Over six months we held 70 radio programs with the mothers of children with developmental disabilities. Kekeli staff trained the mothers to acquire skills in advocacy and work with the media to plan the programs at the Community Information Centers and two radio stations.



Members of Kekeli's Parents Group during an advocacy meeting.

The changes we have seen in this project have been very significant. Before the project and the training, the mothers and self-advocates were withdrawn from the community due to the name calling and the marginalization from the public. Now they are confident enough to advocate for their children's needs.

One Self Advocate vowed to champion the right to education for children with disabilities, as she has been a victim of public ignorance about Dyslexia which made her to be considered academically poor in Ghana. However, she was able to attain a degree in the United Kingdom. "I was regarded as a lazy girl in class and no one was ready to help me because nobody knew I had dyslexia, until I got to the UK", according to the Self Advocate.

Success Story

Juliana, 6, has cerebral palsy and is malnourished. She lives with her mother and younger sister. Juliana was in need of medical support and nutritional items. Thanks to the generous support of Acacia Shade, Juliana has the nutritional items she needs and is attending physical therapy regularly.



(Left) Juliana at the local Hospital

(Right) Juliana with her mother after receiving support from Acacia Shade.

For several years @kekelighana has been supporting physical therapy, speech therapy and nutrition programs for children at the local hospital and at our Resource and Assessment Centre. But recently, due to the increase in transportation costs, many of our families have had to stop attending these activities. We have been communicating with the families, and are concerned that the children might regress without proper nutrition and continued therapy.

We realize there is tremendous need everywhere. Nevertheless we hope you will support our appeal for donations to help children with disabilities in Ghana, A donation of \$10 will pay for one child's visit to the hospital and a donation of \$50 will help provide nutritious food for one family for two weeks.

SEND DONATIONS TO
KEKELI INC.
P.O. Box 712
Slingerlands, NY 12159

For more information contact

PHONE:
518-331-8002

E-MAIL:
kekeliinc@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.kekeli-ghana.org

Note cards available

Sets of four note cards are available for \$10 depicting images of Ghana by Ghanaian photography students. All proceeds will go to Kekeli Inc. to help support future student projects. To order cards contact Mary Jane Brown at (518) 331-8002 or by email kekeliinc@gmail.com

How you can help!

- _____ \$1,000 Guardian Angel
- _____ \$500 – Angel
- _____ \$250 - Patron
- _____ \$100 - Supporter
- _____ \$50 - Friend
- _____ \$25 - General Member
- _____ Other

Kekeli is a 501(c)3 charity. Your donation is 100% tax deductible
Please make cheque payable to:

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P.O. Box 712
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Every donation makes a big difference in the lives of people in Ghana

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IN GHANA**

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