



Esther with her Mother at Kekeli Resource Centre

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Greetings from Ghana!

We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. A lot has happened since December at Kekeli Ghana! Activities at the Centre have been growing and new projects are being developed. In this newsletter you will see how we are expanding our programs, connecting with new partners and taking another step to achieving our dream of a model inclusive school. You will also read about two of our wonderful families who are benefiting from Kekeli's programs. This has all been possible because of your generous support. We look forward to continuing our work and sharing more wonderful updates.

Thank you!



Carrie Brown

Early Childhood Intervention Centre



Design for the Model Inclusive School



Design for Early Childhood Intervention Centre



First stage of Construction of the Early Childhood Intervention Centre

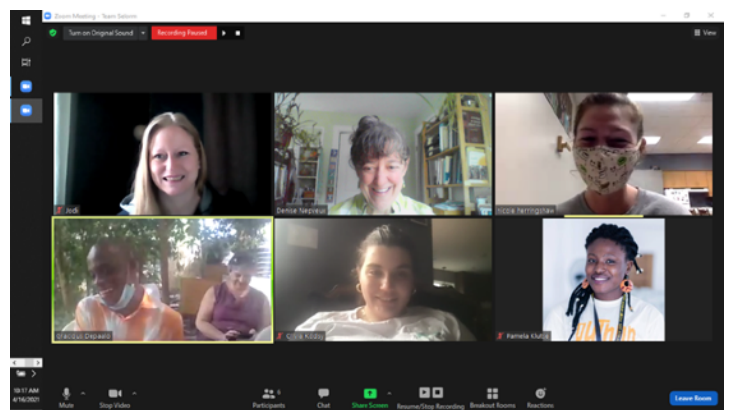
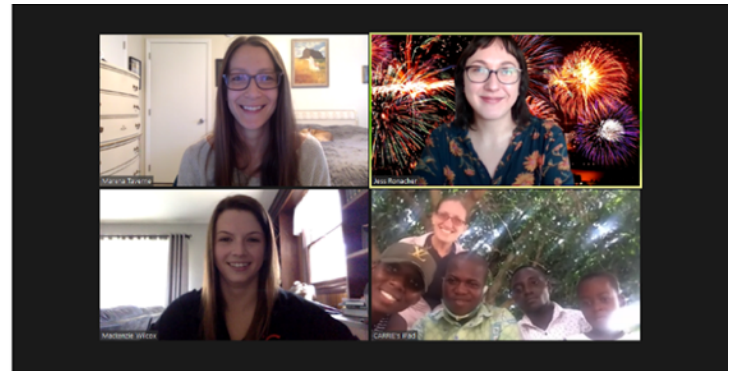
In 2015 Kekeli Ghana, the Rotary Clubs of Ho, Norwich (UK), USA, France, Novi Sad and Germany teamed up to design and raise funds to build and equip a Model Inclusive School. We continue to look for individuals, Rotary Clubs and other organizations to support this project.

In 2019 the Resource and Assessment Centre was completed with support from Australian Aid, Direct Aid Program. The second phase of the project is to build an Early Childhood Intervention Centre and this year Australian Aid, Direct Aid Program approved funding toward the construction. We have started construction and plan to complete it by the end of the year. This Centre will address the needs of children with disabilities and other challenges in grades Nursery – Kindergarten by providing the daily support needed for the total development of the child.

Occupational Therapy Program

Kekeli staff and occupational therapy masters students at Utica College in Utica, NY collaborated this spring over Zoom to create a program to help Kekeli self-advocates become more independent. We called this “Ati Deka (one tree) Livelihood Planning Program” after an Ewe Proverb *Ati deka me wo na ave o* that means *A single tree cannot make a forest*. In this program multiple people gathered to support Kekeli’s self-advocates learn ways to achieve their dreams. For example, Selorm’s goal is to start a poultry farm. During “Ati Deka Livelihood Planning Program”, he found an organization in Ho that trains youth in business start-ups. It’s a three-month program and Selorm is currently in his third week of training. He is one step closer to achieving his dreams.

Follow @kekeliGHANA for more updates on his progress and the progress of the other self-advocates.



Screen shots of Team Eric and Team Selorm during our weekly zoom meetings

Success Stories



Esther, 5, has cerebral palsy. Kekeli has been working with Esther and her mother since she was one. According to her mother, there has been much improvement in Esther's condition due to the physiotherapy she has been attending weekly. Esther can now sit with little support and is taking a few steps with the use of a walker. Esther also receives speech and language therapy services at the Resource and Assessment Centre with support from Kekeli Ghana.

Enrolling Esther in school is her mother's dream. She has tried to send her to the government school near their home but was told she couldn't attend unless the mother comes to support her. Even though she is not in school, her mother helps her with some school activities at home and Esther is now able to read the alphabet from A-I and counts numerals from 1-5. Finding adequate opportunities for schooling is one of the most common problems that Kekeli struggles with. This is one reason we are creating the model inclusive school.

We first met **Rosalinda and Rosemond** in 2013. A member of the community informed us they had been removed from school due to bad behavior. Both Rosalinda and Rosemond are deaf and there was no support for them at the school in their hometown. They struggled to communicate with the teachers and their classmates. To help Rosalinda and Rosemond to learn sign language Kekeli got them admission at the School for the Deaf. Rosalinda and Rosemond are now 13 and in Primary 5 at the School for the Deaf. Both have worked hard to achieve good grades every term and spend their breaks picking mangos and making brooms which they sell to local traders. They value their education and have a strong work ethic that helps them earn money to help their family.



Kekeli Foundation has been actively running programs for vulnerable children for over twelve years. Your generous donations help us to ensure that all children have access to quality health care and education. Donations can be made through our website <http://www.kekeli-ghana.org/take-action> or by sending a check with the attached form on page 4. Thanks for all your support!

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

For more information contact

PHONE:
518-311-8002

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 518-311-8002 or by email kekeliinc@gmail.com

How you can help!

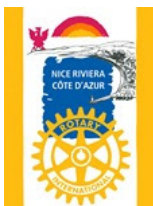
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Special Thanks to our Sponsors



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