



Jennifer and Bernice, one of the families who have benefited from Kekeli's COVID-19 feeding program

Greetings from Ghana!

We began 2020 excited about continuing our programs at the Resource and Assessment Centre. During the first few months we helped facilitate donating equipment from the UK to the local hospital and to our children. We worked with a team from the UK to train our staff on how to make equipment for children with cerebral palsy and we continued with our speech and physical therapy programs. So much changed in March when restrictions were put in place by the Ghana Government due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In this newsletter you will learn more about our achievements, the changes we have made due to COVID-19 and how we have been able to continue to provide services to our families during this difficult time. This has all been possible because of your support.

Thank you!



Carrie Brown

Highlights:

Update - COVID-19	2
Feeding Program and Water System	2
Appropriate Paper-based Technology	3
PhysioNet	3
How to Help	4

Update - COVID-19

In March Kekeli's work was significantly altered because of the COVID-19 pandemic. All schools were closed, which meant that our Resource and Assessment Centre had to suspend our activities. This directly affected our families in many ways.

- Families used to go to the hospital for physical therapy and to see the dietician who treated the children for malnutrition. COVID-19 regulations mean they can no longer go to these classes.
- Since the new restrictions from COVID 19, many of our families have not been able to work. Some markets closed temporarily and the cost of food has gone up making it more difficult for our families to get the necessary food for their children.

As of June restrictions are slowly being lifted. Final year students in Senior High School and University level will resume classes this month. Kekeli will begin meeting with our children for individual Physical Therapy and Speech Therapy sessions. We are currently cleaning the centre and purchasing soap, hand sanitizer, bleach, and face masks to help protect our staff and families. Donations can be made toward the purchase of these items through our website <http://www.kekeli-ghana.org/take-action>



Four of Kekeli's families who received items from the feeding program.

Feeding Program and Water System

In response to the challenges our families are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Kekeli started a GoFundMe campaign to raise \$3,000 to support feeding our children. Thanks to 29 amazing individuals and organizations we raised \$3,275 in two weeks! This support will go a long way in helping our families during this difficult time. Thank you to all who supported!

Kekeli's Resource and Assessment Centre has faced challenges accessing water. Recently we received support from the Rotary Club of Nice, France to add a water tower and tanks to the centre to ensure we have water year round. We are extremely grateful for their support!

Kekeli Foundation has been actively running programs for vulnerable children for over ten years. Your generous donations help us to ensure that all children have access to quality health care and education. During this time donations will also support providing food, soap and other items to our families who have been affected by COVID-19 regulations. 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!

Appropriate Paper-based Technology (APT) February - March

In October 2019 four representatives from Kekeli attended a five day training in APT in Tamale, Ghana. APT is the science of using available, low cost, materials (paper and cardboard) to make something useful. Products can include special chairs for children with disabilities as well as a wide range of therapy resources.

This year we welcomed a five member team from UK to train Kekeli staff, Physical Therapists and Speech Therapists from the Ho Teaching Hospital on APT. In two weeks we were able to make two special chairs and two standing devices for Kekeli's children. Our staff are now trained on measuring children for devices and making specialized equipment. We also have a space at the Resource and Assessment Centre for making devices for our children.



Left: Lois in her chair made during the APT training.



Above: Esther being fitted into her frame



Above: Kekeli's team sorting through items from the PhysioNet consignment.

Right: Jonathan being fitted for one of PhysioNet standing frames at Kekeli's Resource Centre.



PhysioNet - February

In October 2019 PhysioNet with support of the Rotary Club of Norwich, England shipped a 40 foot container of physical therapy equipment for Kekeli's Resource and Assessment Centre. It was cleared at the port and sent to Ho for distribution to our families, the Centre and to the Ho Teaching Hospital. This equipment will enable all our children to have specialized equipment when they visit the centre and at their homes. The equipment at the hospital will improve the services for our children at the physical therapy unit. We look forward to an upcoming on-line training on how to use the equipment from PhysioNet that will further help the specialists and the families.

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

For more information contact

PHONE:
518-465-6576

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) 465-6576 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

Special Thanks to our Sponsors



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P.O. Box 712
Slingerlands, NY 12159