



Women from the Fulani Community and Kekeli Mothers during a training on how to use their solar lamps.

Read more about this new project on page 3.

## Greetings from Ghana!

A lot has happened in the last 6 months at Kekeli! More families are hearing about our centre and new projects are being developed. This year we are collaborating with other organizations in the areas of reproductive health and solar power. We are also excited about the progress we are making with the new Early Childhood Intervention Centre. 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

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## **Early Childhood Intervention Centre**

In August 2022 Kekeli commissioned the Early Childhood Intervention Centre. This is the second building for the Model Inclusive school project and is for the inclusive Nursery - Kindergarten class that will serve children in the community. Since the commissioning we have drilled a borehole to provide water to the facility and have begun preparations to fence the Centre. Preparations are also underway to put in a sensory garden and to purchase a mini bus to help transport the children with special needs to the school.

Kekeli is currently collaborating with the University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS) and has students from the orthotics and prosthetics department visiting the Early Childhood Centre to work with our children with disabilities.

This project began in 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 to ensure children with disabilities have access to quality education.

## **Anti-Bullying Clubs**

Kekeli Foundation with support from Plan International Ghana has started anti-bullying champion clubs in 4 primary schools in and around Ho. The clubs aim to educate students on bullying and the effects it has on persons with disabilities in schools and the community. The students are also trained to be peer support persons and to be advocates for inclusive education.



John, one of Kekeli's Children, with students from the orthotics and prosthetics department at UHAS after they measured and fitted him for a new wheelchair.



(left) Henry House International School Anti-Bullying Champions  
(right) King of Kings, Tsito Anti-Bullying Champions



## **Solar Lamps and Promotion of Women’s Health in Rural Ghana**

Kekeli is excited to be one of Village Exchange Ghana’s partners in their solar lamp and reproductive health projects. The project aims to provide rural communities not connected to the national electricity grid in the Volta Region with individual solar lamps which have the capacity to charge their phones. A charging station was installed at the Centre, where the women are to come at least twice a week to charge their lamps. This will encourage women and their children to regularly visit the health center. That will make it easier for the health consultants to educate them. Kekeli’s Resource and Assessment Centre has received a charging station and 20 lamps for the women we work with at the Centre. These include 10 mothers of children with disabilities and 10 women from a nearby Fulani community. We have also had two trainings on reproductive health for the 20 women.



(left) Women from the Fulani Community and Kekeli Mothers during a training on how to use their solar lamps. (right) The solar lamps on the charging station at Kekeli Resource and Assessment Centre.

Partners in this project include the French Embassy Ghana, Social Venture Africa, and Kekeli Foundation.

## **Success Story - Update on Eric**

Eric has been actively involved in Kekeli’s Self-Advocacy program since 2010 and is a strong advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. He participates in community outreach, radio programs to share his story and attends national level disability organization programs as a self-advocate representative. In 2021 he was part of a three month zoom program with Occupational Therapy students in the USA. Through that program he outlined his plans to complete Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in a vocational school, get a laptop computer and attend university to study ICT. In 2022 he graduated from St Therisa Vocational Training school. He applied for a laptop from the Ho Municipal Assembly common fund and received it in August 2022. In September 2022 he audited the courses at the technical university and received admission in January 2023. Eric has now completed his first semester in University. Kekeli Staff continues to provide guidance as he pursues his dreams to work in ICT.



Eric, Kekeli’s Self Advocate, in front of the Computer Science Building at Ho Technical University.

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**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](mailto:kekeliinc@gmail.com)

How you can help!

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 Guardian Angel
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