



HIPS – Charity Organisation

Weija, Ghana

Information letter No. 19

August 2011

Dear friends and Sponsors of HIPS !

April this year I started my first trip to Ghana this year. All the people at Hips in Weija gave me a very warm welcome and the children presented to me, what they had learned since I stayed with them the last time. Especially I could recognize a substantial increase in their ability to speak English.

Everyone was busy with the preparation for the upcoming tests, naturally those who have to go to the countrywide acceptance tests for entering the Senior High School. According to the opinion of our headmaster, all of those, who have to go through the qualifying round, can hope again to be successful this year. That would be a fantastic result. But let's see what happens. Early September we will know.

Thanks to a donation of the **Untitled Publishing House in Hamburg/ Germany** the needed money for the boarding houses and the school fees for the first year is secured, and I hope very intensely, that I will find additional help to finance the following two years also.

It was also very good to see, how the Montessori teacher, who has been qualified - financed by HIPS - to educate the Kindergarten kids, does an impressing job. Naturally I also visited various other classes. Overall I had the impression, that the general quality of our education has developed well and shows, what HIPS can do, if we are able to collect the necessary funds to finance its actions.

So the key point of my stay in Ghana this time was to talk to various persons and try to persuade them, that some help to HIPS will be a perfect investment into the future development of their country by sponsoring the children's education at HIPS.

The main job this time was to visit also a few Companies and to try to convince them also to help us in Weija.

I was able to use for that various contacts which I had made at a meeting at the **Ghanaian – German Economic Association (GGEA)**, where I give a short presentation to the assembly. Until today I do not have any reactions, but I still hope, that a few of those contacts will develop into an effective help for HIPS and our children.

In the July information newsletter of the GGEA our Hips project has also been presented, so that I hope, that through a broader knowledge of our HIPS Charity Organisation with its Kindergarten and School project in Weija we will find additional persons and Companies who are interested in helping children of their own country.



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Some of our friends and donator over the years had helped us this year again. So donated the Company **Polytank** to us a 5000 l tank for drinking water. This helps us to get a little more independent from the fluctuating water supply. I hope, that the media will tell about this help – at least they said so.

In addition to that the Company **CP Concrete Products Ltd.** gave to us the material to erect and fix the tank.

We also got 500 Ghc. from the Company **Batimat** too.



The Company **Latexfoam** donated the necessary matrazes and cushions for our volunteer house.

This latest building will first be used for 5 months by a young German girl, who will come to us in September. She is a student of social studies and wants to get some experience and knowledge about Africa. She will work with the children in the Kindergarten and class one of the school. I am very happy about this development and I am sure that this time will be of great experience for the girl and everybody at HIPS Weija. I just got another request of a girl also from Germany to come to us.



Through the help of the **German Ambassador in Accra** and his staff we were able to buy the necessary chairs and tables for our new Mensa/Assembly Hall.

I am very grateful for this spontaneous help.



The Company **Schirmherrschaft GmbH** helped us again with a donation to buy material for the school. Thank you also again for your continues aid.

Our ongoing friends at the **School in Dorlar/Germany** again have been very effective by producing various things, which they could sell at the annual Christmas market for the good of HIPS. 615.-€ were the helpful result. I thank all the teachers and children again for their great engagement through the last years. I am always looking forward to my annual visit to Dorlar recognizing then the great interest from the children and teachers to hear the latest news about the project in Weija. I also take letters with me from Dorlar to Weija and vice versa, through which some of the children tell their friends living at another continent, what they do and think. May be the birth of a long lasting friendship.

Also some children from the **Schiller School in Göppingen/Germany**, a good and helpful friend for years now of HIPS, send me some letters, which have already been transferred to the Children at Weija.

The new CEO of Ballast Nedam the Netherlands, our biggest sponsor over the years through its Ghanaian subsidiary, paid a visit to Weija. The children gave a presentation to express their personal thanks to the leading people of the Company. I think everybody was enthusiastic about the meeting, and the people at HIPS very much liked the promise of the new leadership in the Netherlands, that they will support the Ghanaian subsidiary in continuing its help to HIPS.

Last but not least the **local police of Ascona /Switzerland** also helped HIPS in Weija by holding an auction, where 1000 Swiss Francs were achieved for HIPS. I thank Maurizio Checchi and his colleagues for this un hoped help.

Naturally we had to do some maintenance and repairs like painting all the classrooms with a special oil paint, which allows keeping the rooms cleaner.

Also a few fans had to be replaced, the kitchen house and the computer container needed to be fixed.

The intensive usage and the special wear and tear in a tropical environment naturally ask for a more intensive regular maintenance.

During the summer vacation there will be the annual interview session to select those children, who can start in Kindergarten this year.

Not to forget! I have to express a special thanks to the Headmaster and the teachers who do an increasing good job. The board and the administrator ar helping them very good to always better the image of our project.



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In the meantime I have seen some of the certifications about our Senior High children. They look quite good and I hope to see them from the others very soon.

So that's it for now. I will be back to you after my next visit in October this year.

Just yesterday I got very good news. **Also this year All of our children from class 9, who went through the nationwide acceptance test for the Senior High School, again were successful.** A big compliment to them and the teachers, since the normal average of all the applying children nationwide is only about 50%.

Best regards to all of you, and many thanks for your help of our HIPS Project.

One of these days you will see, what your subsidy is successfully developing in the HIPS children.

Yours

Brigitte Honsel
Director and member of the board
of Hips Charity Organisation / Ghana

If you put your future on a child, you throw sun into the world, light in the darkness and happiness into the sadness