

PANKO INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY

About PANKO

PANKO is a Dagbani word meaning “Am not Alone”. Dagbani is a language spoken by the Dagomba people (tribe) of Northern Region of Ghana where the project will be sited. As the project targets poor and vulnerable children, **PANKO** signifies that those children are not alone, they have well-wishers and sympathizers to support them in developing their talents, creativity and ideas that will at the end help them live a more dignified and fulfilled life.

The center referred to as an “Intentional Community” is because all programs and activities of the center will be done with a deliberate intention and attempt to address a social need. The center will be run on the principles of “Eco-Village” and “Nonviolent Communication (NVC)”. That is to be self-sustainable through environmental sustainable, social responsible, self-sufficient with a progressive lifestyle.

Again, violence behaviours cannot be avoided in any given society but how we treat it determine the outcome, therefore the center will in principle adopt and apply the use of Nonviolent Communication (NVC) to foster connection, compassion and peace within the inhabitants and the environment.

The Project (CENTER)

The project seeks to construct a center for vulnerable kids living in impoverished communities in the suburb of Tamale, Northern region of Ghana. The center would be an attractive place for kids to converge, learn and play. The centre will



run life skills sessions, literacy and numeracy sessions, Nonviolent Communication (NVC) sessions, indoor and outdoor educational games, recreational and sporting activities.

Center Facilities

Office, Storage Room, Rest Rooms, Library and Multi-Purpose Open Shed, Play Ground and Garden.

Mission Statement

To create a safe and supportive space with educative, fun and exciting child care facility that will provide care and protection, educational, recreational, sporting and welfare programs for vulnerable and destitute children to ensure moral and intellectual development, protection from harmful influence, job creation, and active participation in social, economic and cultural life.



The Problem

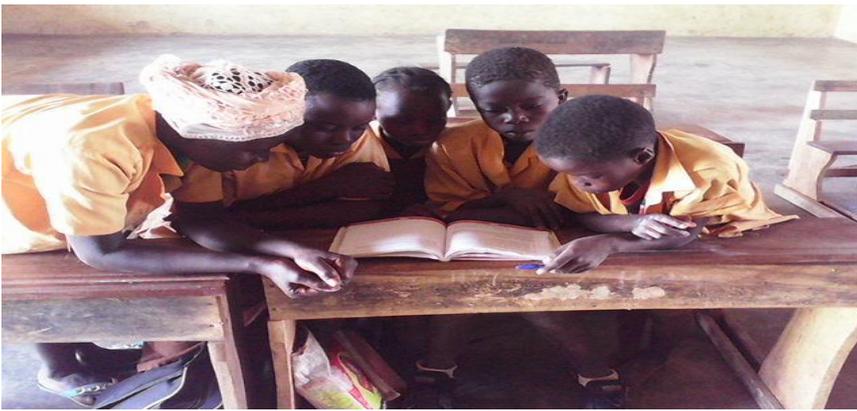
Of late, the number of vulnerable children in Ghana is growing rapidly especially in the northern part of the country. These children are at risk and exposed to physical, sexual, moral and psychological dangers. They include disabled children, neglected children, school dropouts, street children, child labourers, orphans, juvenile offenders, migrant children, HIV/AIDS orphans and children in substance abuse.

Whilst the consequences of vulnerability are many, vulnerable children are affected by poverty—not having access to services such as education and skills training opportunities, good parental care and protection as well as recreational facilities among others—and are more likely to become victims of child trafficking, sexual exploitation, teen pregnancy, excessive child labour, domestic violence, substance abuse and ill health among others.

The Kids / Target Group

Vulnerable and destitute children below the age of eighteen (18) years who are at risk and/or exposed to moral, sexual, physical and psychological dangers as a result of neglect and/or abuse or incapacity.

They include orphans, neglected children and street children, children with disability, school dropouts and children in substance abuse, child laborers, migrant children and children from poverty-stricken families.

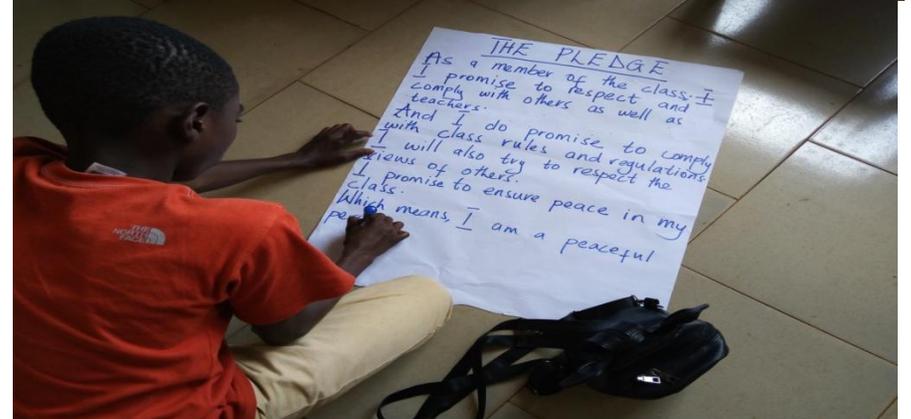


Our Work

Through the use of Participatory and Experiential based approach and activity based tools, we work to economically empower youth and actively engage them as change makers to bring about social change through Training, Capacity Building and Entrepreneurship.



Our long term experience in Youth Work reveals the unemployment and vulnerability rate among youth is as a result of lack of access to services such as quality education, skills training opportunities and good parental care and protection among others. This has inspired us to take an interest in improving the wellbeing of vulnerable children who need care and protection.



The Team

We are five enthusiastic volunteer young men and women who work passionately to bring smiles to the underserved and destitute child and overall our community development.



Ibrahim AbukariZukpeni

As a Social Change Trainer & Facilitator, a Youth Activist passionate about Youth and Community Development Work, Ibrahim for the past years have worked directly and indirectly with young people and community folks proving skills needed for young people's personal and career development.

He has broad knowledge and experience in International Youth work haven worked in Youth programs in Africa and Europe. His expertise includes Designing Curriculum and Training Manuals for Youth and providing Consultations on Youth Work. He has for the past years received extensive training both in Africa and Europe that gives him broader perspectives when it comes to Youth Empowerment.

Of late his energy has been directed towards Peace Promotion through Nonviolent Communication (NVC) with the view that, there can't be development without peace.

As the Initiator, Co-founder and Executive Director of Nonviolent Communication Ghana Network (NVC-Ghana Network), he has been in the forefront of NVC activities in Ghana working tirelessly in building a strong foundation for the development of Nonviolent Communication in Ghana. He has been the coordinator and trainer of all the NVC trainings conducted by NVC-Ghana Network. These experiences have prepared him to further organize successful nonviolence workshops. These trainings had enabled him offer trainings on NVC and peace building.

Alhassan Mubarak

Mubarak is a Peace Trainer and Youth Activist and has been working as a volunteer for over seven years now. He is a co-founder of NVC-Ghana Network, an organization that blends Marshall Rosenberg's Nonviolent Communication (NVC) and participatory learning approaches as tools for social change. His main focus has been on peace building and youth empowerment and Leadership. Mubarak's long term goal is to build systems and social structures that support the needs of everyone, including the environment. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University for Development Studies and other professional training certificates. He loves reading, watching documentaries and playing computer games

AbdulaiSalima

Ms. Salima holds a Diploma and a Bachelor's degree in Development Education from the University of Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana. As a young Development Educator with keen interest in Children and Gender issues, her interest is using nonviolence based approach to tackling Children and Gender issues in society through organizing and conducting training and capacity building programs in her community. In her leisure time, she enjoys taking pictures just to admire nature and love listening to music.

SaaduSarata

Ms. Sarata is studying Development Education at the University for Development Studies. She came in touch with NVC in the year 2016. Since then she has continuously attended NVC workshops. She has helped to organize all the workshops conducted by NVC-Ghana Network. She is a team member and now a trainer of the NVC-Ghana Network. When there are no workshops offered, she is always connected with the NVC process and with people who are practicing NVC.

Sarata is responsible for the office management, like records keeping, handling reports, and taking down minutes of meeting. She contributes to the team effort by facilitating workshops organized by the Network.

Abdallah Alhassan

Abdallah is an IT expert and a practising graphic designer with special interest in Web design and graphics. He has engage in consulting, project management, and business development with excellent problem-solving and leadership skills and has carried out work for a large number of personal, professional and high profile clients throughout Ghana. He will provide assistance with project design and implementation, especially in coordination and management.

Volunteers

Our incredible volunteers support us immensely to achieve our set objects and goals.