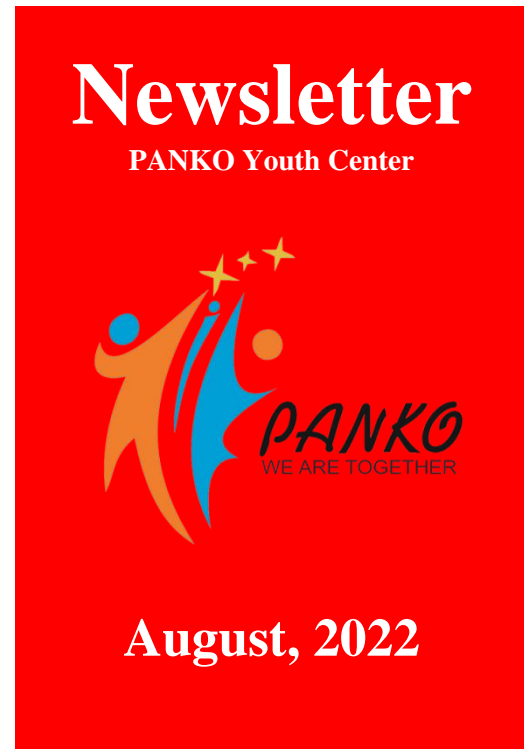


PANKO YOUTH CENTER

Tamale, Northern region, Ghana



INTRODUCTION

To our cherished readers, our team in Ghana and Germany is pleased to present to you our August, 2022 edition of PANKO Newsletter. Our goal is to use this medium to communicate, inform and to share with you the exciting work we are doing here in Northern Ghana to improve the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged children. We are happy to share with you our success stories on our exciting journey to finding better lives for children in Northern Ghana and beyond and we are hopeful you will join us in this life-enriching, joy and fulfilling journey.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

SECOND QUARTER OF PARENTS MEETING

PANKO's effort to have a cordial relationship with parents of beneficiary kids, a quarterly meeting between the parties has become a culture. As we are committed to our mandate, it's always important we stay connected with parents, our major stakeholder, so we can report on progress or otherwise. In these meetings, new policies and ideas are communicated to the parents whilst the center sought the opinions of parents in that regard. Another reason for these meetings is to review the previous quarter, the ups and downs, beneficiary kids' welfare and the journey ahead.



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MAIDEN DRAMA DISPLAY



PANKO's interest in talent development and grooming is undoubtedly one of its strongest pillars. Mr. Abdul-Rahaman Ayuba (Drama Tutor), helps the children unearth the hidden potential of acting. After a lot of scouting and preparations, the drama club staged its maiden display titled **"TiTi and the wicked Auntie"** in a grand style. A story line that teaches the value of family, perseverance, hard work and endurance. The play no doubt was very relatable as the beneficiary kids of Panko will later confess. Both staff and beneficiary kids were thrilled at the emotional display, mastery as well as the improvising ability of the actors. In the words of our managing director "the drama club is here to stay!"

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



This year's World Environment Day was celebrated under the slogan "only one earth" with a main focus on "living sustainably in harmony with nature."

In our own little effort to sustaining the environment, PANKO youth center organizes awareness forum to educate the beneficiary kids, staff as well as community members on the importance of creating a friendly ecosystem that enables the environment to flourish by eradicating indiscriminate disposal of waste, tree cutting and burning of bushes among others.

We climaxed our celebration of the World Environment Day with a cleanup exercise in and around the communities whose children are the main beneficiaries of PANKO.

HEALTH TALK ON HEPATITIS B

With education on personal hygiene, environmental sanitation and general preventive trainings, outbreak of diseases is mostly minimized. PANKO health team headed by Ms. Lydia Akumbisa (a trained nurse) and Mr. Latif Shahadu (first aider from St John's ambulance) plans a periodic health talk, where they inform and educate our beneficiary kids on prevalent topics on health and how to stay safe and free from diseases and sickness.

The most recent health talk was on **"Hepatitis B"** where the kids were taken through the types, causes, symptoms as well as the preventive measures of this killer virus. More health topics and more advocacy work to be covered in the near future.



GARDENING

One important feature of PANKO Youth Center is the freedom it provides and a safe haven that brings to life so many endless possibilities. Sport, drama and many more are some of the reason(s) the youth enjoy their stay and many more have fallen in love with gardening. From land preparation, nursing to transplanting, each step of the way remains a beautiful moment for them. With our storage water tanks, the garden stays green always.

With the center's "hot meal" before start of sessions, vegetables from the garden, like cabbage, lettuce, carrot, pepper, tomato and sweet potato is enjoyed by the children. They are indeed learning from the mantra "grow what you eat."



SPOTLIGHT OF OUR YOUNG VOLUNTEERS

PANKO with its “grooming” and leadership component was able to identify some pupils with leadership qualities, hence the formation of the “volunteers/supporting staff” roles. From cooking, to facilitation to centers welfare, the volunteers have taken up various roles they seem to find connection with. The “supporting staff” roles are not only building the next generation of leaders but also nurturing strong individuals who are dedicated, community oriented, high value men and women and ultimately patriotic citizens. In the previous newsletter, we spotlighted two of our volunteers and, in this publication, we are highlighting another two volunteers.

ASANA HAMDU

ASANA HAMDU is a beneficiary of PANKO Youth Center and also a member of the “Center Cook.” Asana dreams of becoming a nurse in the near future. She is currently in primary six (6). Age fourteen (14), Asana is already a nurse, caring and preparing hot meals for her colleagues in a very safe and strict hygienic environment.



IBRAHIM YAKUBU

Being a member of “support welfare and facility management”, **IBRAHIM YAKUBU** is of tremendous support to the facility in so many ways. Currently in primary four (4), thirteen years old Yakubu has a dream of becoming a teacher. He enjoys reading and playing football at his leisure time.



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