



# TOUCHING LIVES

Outreach International

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2018

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*ABSTRACT* "You  
may never know  
what that little deed  
you did for someone  
would do in their life"

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PREPARED ON JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup>,  
2019

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# ABOUT US

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## SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY OF SIX YEEARS

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of February, 2014 which is celebrated internationally as Valentine's Day when everyone spends t time with their loved ones, Henritta Somuah, now the Executive Director was then a student of Takoradi Polytechnic saw an opportunity to share with the orphans. She then mobilized some donations in kind and in cash, led a team of people including her friends and visited an orphanage in Takoradi. She grew a passion to share her joys with the sidelined and unprivileged. Subsequently, a number of donations followed to various places and this necessitated a need to create a formal team to do this work.it has been almost five years now and still counting, Touching Lives Outreach International has worked remarkable. No wonder it has stood the test of time.

## OUR MISSION

Achieve poverty free communities through specific beneficiary tailored programs to protect, motivate and empower the marginalized especially kids, the youth, aged and women through education, community development and social welfare interventions.

## OUR VISSION

Touching lives outreach international envisions to make quality education accessible to and enroll a thousand (1000) kids, n school and the establish a vocational centre to train the youth with employable skills in asylums and remote areas by the year 2030 all from poor households.

## WORKING AREAS

Touching Lives Outreach International because of its vision has spread its branches across the country which is as follows;

- CENTRAL REGION
- GREATER ACCRA REGION
- ASHANTI REGION
- WESTERN REGION
- UPPER WEST REGION

## OUR CORE VALUES

- POSITIVITY
- LOCAL FOCUS AND COOPERATION
- TRANSPARENCY
- SEL-RELIANCE

## OUR PROJECTS

Poverty Alleviation

Education

Foster Care

Public Health

Girl and Boy Child Mentoring

Rural Women and Girls' Empowerment

Child Sponsorship

Sustainable Development

Disability Support and Welfare

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# 1.0 FOUNDERS' MESSAGE

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It is simply an honor to share with you the six-year journey of Touching Lives Outreach International besides, this year has been an amazing year for TLOIN. Julius Nyerere defined development as a process of making people happy and content. However, if development is premised on distributive justice where basic needs are available and the matter of access of these public needs and services to different social class, it will surely raise people's living levels which will consequently bring satisfaction to people. Against this backdrop, TLOIN set out to restore the lost and broken smiles of people who have been marginalized by developing programs that are tailored toward solving the root cause of the seemingly unending development challenges.

The lack of education accounts for the widespread poverty incidence in Ghana and as Julius Nyerere rightly said "education is not a way to escape poverty but to fight it". What will our future look like if we do nothing knowing that millions of our children are out of school and might end up on the streets? TLOIN however, set out to focus more on giving education to those who need it the most by launching the **"street2school"** project. This involved the enrolment of more kids living in remote communities who can barely be well catered for by their caregivers into the scholarship program.

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"What will our future look like if we do nothing  
knowing that millions of our children are out of school  
and might end up on the streets?"

-Founders' words

This year's activities were not limited to education but included other projects like mentoring and girl child empowerment, aged and disability support, economic empowerment, where we set a poor single mother up for a trading business and ended the year "Christmas in a box" for our kids and their families.

For the past years TLOIN has been successfully managed by volunteer professionals, however, increasing demands from our projects has necessitated for the first time ever a fully employed administrator to run these activities but with the help of our volunteers.

And on this note our warm greetings goes to the volunteers. We have blessed many souls together and will still going to do even more.

It is actually too late to fail my donors, your blessings to many knows no boundaries and may you continue to live to bless more people.

To our sponsors, you have sent many kids including orphans, disabled, the poor out from the "street2school", who says God does not see your hearts? And who says He will not fight for you?

To the manager and auditor, a boss who knows how to touch souls and make them happy, God shall bless you and even more for the soul's you've effortless helped touch.

Our partners and anyone supporting what we do in one way or the other, we want to remind you that you all have a special place in our 2019.

For the coming year we look forward to more mentoring and enrolling a thousand kids in school, more partnering and support.

2019 is going to be a good year!

With solidarity

Henritta Somuah & Alfred Amoah  
Founders and Executive Directors  
January 31, 2019



## 2.0 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

2018 has been a great year for TLOIN with the new developments and achievements which we would subsequently share with you in detail in this report but here is a glimpse of the happenings.

- Over thousand children and adults in total were reached out to directly and indirectly through projects aimed at economic empowerment, social welfare, educational outreaches and the provision of scholarships



- The organization also acquired a certificate to operate nationally which previously had its jurisdiction only within the Awutu Senya East Municipality. That means other regions will benefit from our programs.



- 41 kids were enrolled into the Nhyiraba Herty Scholarship Scheme which increases the total number of kids from 15 to 56. In skills and training, one female has been enrolled in the learning of a trade.





- 75 Aged and people living on the street were reached out to through the disability and aged support and welfare project.





- Acquisition of a 4 plot of land for the construction of a vocational center



- AIDS conference in the Netherlands



- Christmas shoe in a box



## 3.0 OUR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

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### 3.1 EDUCATION

#### 3.1.1 GIRL POWER AND MENTORSHIP

On the 11th of October, which happened to be the International Day of the Girl Child, in collaboration with Ghana Education Service- Girl-Child Education unit and the Health Directorate all of Awutu Senya East Municipal Assembly organized a mentoring and empowerment program for the pupils of All Saints Anglican basic school, Kwao Bonzie. Various speeches and interactive one-on-one sessions were made by professionals on the theme “Developing the Youth to Face the Challenges of Today” from the education field, social welfare, health through to the corporate world. This was also marked by the distribution of educational items, sanitary towels, drinks, among others.







### 3.2 NYHIRABA HERTY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In an ever changing world, education builds self-reliance and that is why we are standing up for children across various underserved communities. The Nhyiraba Herty Scholarship Scheme saw an upward surge and great feats through the launching of the Street to School campaign which saw 41 kids enrolled into the program thanks to the contributions from sponsors. These kids range from the street children to needy kids who are already in school. This is in addition to the fifteen (15) kids already on the program making a total of fifty-six (56). Through the usual social investigations, the organization undertakes to scout for 'really' needy households and in its bid to assess the needs of poor communities with the help of key informants it came to light that, the poverty prevalence within Bawjiase and its surrounding villages and the low school enrolment necessitated an outreach where items were donated to the inhabitants of Kwao Bondzie, a neighboring village of Papaase in the Awutu Senya West District. In Weija, through the Assembly man, we were able to identify needy children who benefited from an educational outreach project where they were given educational supplies, including three kids in Kasoa.





The scholarship also included those in the Senior High School.



Visually impaired Jerry Acquah at the School for the Blind



And one also gained admission into the Training College and this is what he had to say " ***While I was in my home town of Agona Swedru, struggling to fend for my self because I had lost both parents and had to resort to selling of polythene bags in order to further my education in 2014, that was where TLOIN found me. They just did not fund my education but sheltered me and fostered me. I at a point forgot I am an orphan because I am now part of a great family. And I will be the teacher I promised to be. Thank you TLOIN***"



Fifteen (15) of the kids have completed the agreed scholarship duration which includes those in Senior High School. Three have completed the tertiary institutions and below is their before and after photos.

Rashida, Senior High school leaver

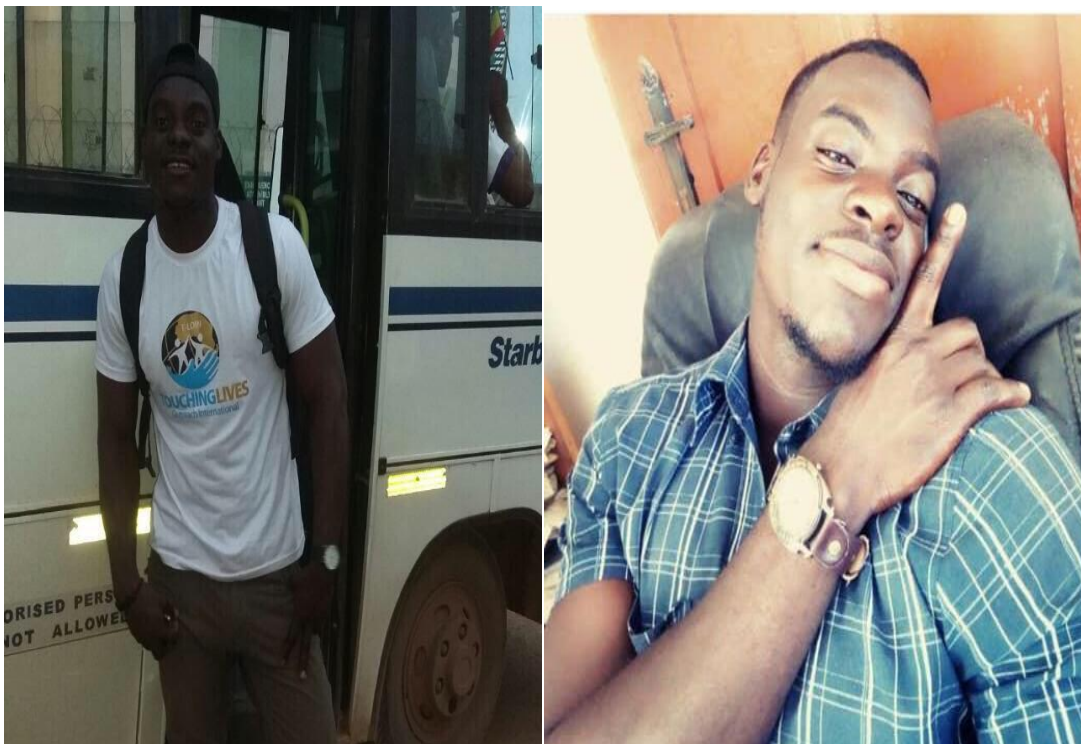




Debora Chercher, Accra Technical University.



Emmanuel Turkson, University of Ghana, Legon.





### 3.3 AGED, DISABILITY SUPPORT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

In Weija, a community in the Weija/Gbawe Municipality, our investigations revealed that the aged in the community are often abandoned by their family and the lack of care coupled with poverty sends them to their early grave. The aged all over the country face similar difficulties. The food crises, high cost of living and neglect by family has devastating effects on their health leaving them weak, malnourished and vulnerable to sicknesses. The stories of the homeless and beggars are no different. Such challenges prompted the need to offer our support to 15 aged and persons living with disability through a street outreach activity to 60 beggars and a number of homeless persons with life sustaining goods in an attempt to restore their dignity and put smiles on their faces.









A visually impaired man by name Jerry Acquah, benefited from the donation of provisions and other groceries. He has been enrolled the school for the Akuapem Akropong School for the Deaf and his two (2) children all on full scholarship in a private school.



Madam Agatha, who has been abandoned by her husband and family with two kids who both paralyzed and also dumb benefitted from this program



At the end of the year, TLOIN spent time with sponsored needy kids and their families. It was that time where everyone has enough to eat, drink and wear. This was marked by the donation of rice, clothes, oil, sleeping mats, shoes, sanitary pads for the family and little gifts in boxes for the poor kids which to place at Opeikuma, a suburb of kasoa and Kwao- Bondie a suburb of Papase. This donation themed "Christmas in a Box" was aimed at ensuring the wellbeing of poor families and them equally having something to feast on during the festive season. Over 200 people were directly and indirectly impacted.





At Weija, TLOIN reached out to a poor widow who despite her challenging situation takes care of seven (7) orphans whom she lives with. Food stuff including rice, oil, sugar, flour was donated to them. Further, TLOIN has taken upon itself to make such donations to the family every three (3) months. All seven (7) children have been enrolled in our scholarships program that covers their fees and the provision of their educational materials such as uniforms, school bags and books.





At Papase, a rural community near Ofaakor, TLOIN again offered support to a partially blind widow who in spite of all the odds against her endeavors to see to the wellbeing of twelve (12) orphans whom she lives with. To compliment her efforts, we made a donation of food stuff including rice and oil, drinks, sleeping mats, detergents and clothes.





In an effort to lessen the plight of the less fortunate and enhance their standard of living, donations were also made to a number of our sponsored kids and their families at Papase, Ofaakor, Kwao Bondzie and Weija in December. Items donated included shoes, clothes, food stuff, books/pens, toiletries, detergents and sanitary towels.







TLOIN reached out to little Miracle, an orphan and her foster family at Ofaakor to make a donation of assorted items including food stuffs, clothes, detergents and footwear.





### 3.4 Skills and Vocational Training

TLOIN identified nine (9) persons including children and young adults who were identified who have benefited from our Educational Outreach project with one enrolled in a vocational training center.

In education and training, the organization has a vision to set up a vocational center where many youth from disadvantaged backgrounds that were unable to go through

the formal educational system will be able to equip themselves with employable skills which will in turn break the poverty cycle and bring economic empowerment to the country as a whole.



❖ Here, Nancy a beneficiary is all smiles as she is now receiving training to become a seamstress thanks to efforts of TLOIN.

### 3.5 Economic Empowerment

Economic empowerment: Madam Agarthia Gyanwa is a single mother of four (4) children. Unfortunately, two (2) of her kids suffer from Cerebral Palsy and abandoned by her family thus living in abject poverty received donations and start-up capital worth over two thousand Ghana Cedis (GHC2,000). This capital was meant to help her in starting a petty trading business so she can fend for herself and her children. Additionally, her daughter was enrolled in a vocational training institute. Her son and grandson were also enrolled in school.





### 3.5 Health

The wealth of a population is its health. Contrary to this belief in Ghana, quality health care seems to be not readily accessible by rural folks: it is either they walk long miles or resort to self-medication with its harmful effects. That is why TLOIN is dedicated/- to helping the medically needy children, aged and community as a whole get access to preventive and emergency medical care they need. In the face of denied rights to health care at the primary level and the increasingly growing rate of specialized health needs coupled with the non-availability of health infrastructures, necessitated the sponsoring and facilitating of a volunteer, Robert Ackom and the executive directors Henritta Somuah and Alfred Amoah to attend the AIDS conference in Holland in July. This is in the bid to serve the marginalized with the necessary information they will need for prompt interventions. This will go a long way to promote healthy living and life and subsequently promote the nation's productivity.



### 3.6 New development arising from projects

In the long term, the goal is to eliminate poverty and its attendant effects on people. It is the goal to the organization to do this through education and training and economic empowerment so that the poor youth can have employable skills coupled with financial literacy which they can use to get out of the vicious cycle of poverty. It is this quest that the organization has acquired a 4 plot of land at Kasoa to establish a vocational and training centre to realize this dream.





### 3.7 Donations received from sponsors

We owe a great gratitude to our sponsors who over the period were able to offer their support to TLOIN through donations in cash and in kind which enabled us to put smiles on the faces of the less privileged. All our efforts would not have been possible without such kind gestures.







Here is a lovely moment when Child Sponsor who lives abroad took the time to travel to Ghana to meet with her sponsored kids.



## 4.0 TESTIMONIAL

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My name is Agartha Gyanwa, I live with my four children and one grandson in a chamber and hall room, two of my kids are disabled and caring for my family was like hell.

Life was hard to the extent that I thought of committing suicide and poisoning my physically challenged children. I was advised by a friend to seek help at the social welfare but never bothered because I thought they would look down on me. I was advised once again by a community nurse who came around the community to vaccinate children against polio. They came into my home to see the condition of my children

- They are both physically challenged and can't walk
- They are both dumb.

Through the nurse, some members from social welfare came to my home to see our living condition and invited us over to social welfare, all these happened within four months. My husband who is no longer living with us was advised to support financially but he absconded.



was later called by the social welfare authorities that there is an organization that is willing to help and that they will contact me soon.

Within three days, Touching Lives Outreach International brought me foodstuffs and some provisions.



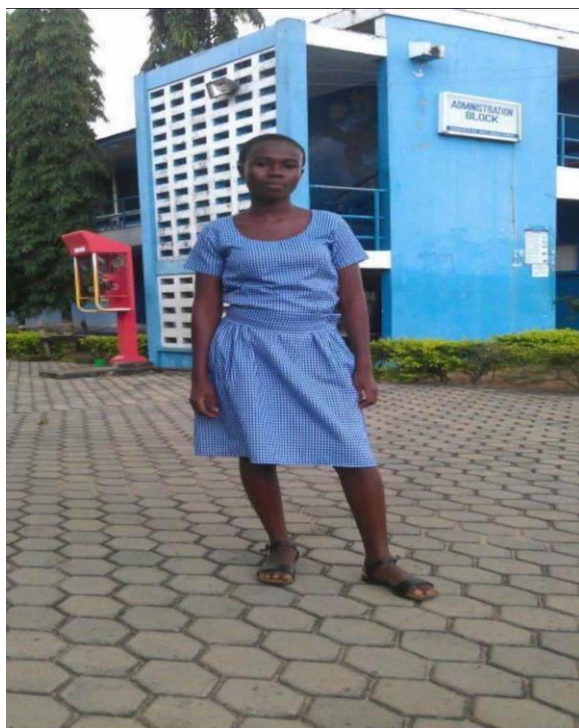
They listened to my story and decided to help alleviate the level of poverty I was in. In June 2018, I was set up with some provision business and they opened a Fidelity Bank account for me with an amount of 100gh. They didn't end there; they enrolled my daughter Nancy Dampsey into the learning of vocation: learning dressmaking



and also my son Emmanuel Dampsey was placed in school (Real Faith M/A School). Moreover, they have also placed my grandson (Kelvin) in a private school.

The organization has helped me a lot and am much grateful, I wouldn't know where I would have been without the help they gave I and my family.





***Debora in SHS one (1)***

I am a sponsored kid of Touching Lives Outreach International and in the person of Deborah Chercher and here comes my story. After completing Junior High School, my mother lost her job and life became unbearable and tough. I had two other siblings who were also jobless so I had to work at people's home for the upkeep of the family. My dream to become a chartered accountant and a philanthropist has always been a question I threw to myself, can it be possible?

Mrs. Genevieve was my answer, she introduced me to Touching Lives Outreach International in which she was a member, and also to Maa Herty, who is the Founder of the organization. With their help and the support of Mr. Victor things started turning

around for me. I got enrolled into the New Juaben senior high school where I was sponsored fully **from SHS 1 till I finished** and also continued at the **Accra Technical University** to study accounting. After completion, Touching Lives Outreach International is Still supporting me: rented an apartment at Walantu in Kasoa for me to stay and do my national service. I am currently doing my national service.

I would like to thank them for their immense support for me and also promise them that I would do my best to achieve a higher height in my life.



***After Accra Technical University***



## 5.0 OUR MOMENTS



*"It is better to do  
little than do  
nothing to put a  
smile on  
someone's face"-  
Henritta Somuah*

## 6.0 OUR PARTNERS

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It is worth noting that, all these remarkable feats would not have been but unflinching support given to us by some bodies. Irrespective of the support it made a huge difference and TLOIN is indebted to them

- Unique Christianville Educational Institute
- Babysnook Montessori
- Insaaniya SHS
- Unique progressive Institute
- Christian Academy
- Department of Social Welfare and Community Development, Awutu Senya East District
- Health Directorate, Awutu Senya East District
- Ghana Education Service, Awutu Senya East District
- Assembly Members and Committee Head
- The Church of Pentecost, Walantu Assembly, Kasoa





## 7.0 GET INVOLVED

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### AS a citizen or an individual

Irrespective of the contribution we make in our quest to reach out to the marginalized, it leaves an indelible mark in the lives of these people. There are a number of ways but most importantly is understanding their situation, creating awareness about their plight and connecting them to those who are able to help in one way or the other. Children who dropped out of school due to poverty are back in school thanks the scholarships opportunities, youth have received employable skills training, and we are mentoring and motivating kids and the youth. By being a sponsor, donor or a volunteer you become a part of the success stories. Let us do more.

### AS AN NGO, a Corporate Entity or an Association

Collaborating with organizations is necessary for mobilizing resources and this has been key in attaining our goals each year. TLOIN embraces ideas, counsel and experiences from all walks and through its years of working across the country, it has had wonderful partnerships and interactions that share in our vision and are willing to do something about it as enlisted in the previous chapter., Nonetheless, TLOIN is selfless in pulling materials, policies, institutions and many more for a collective effort in reaching a shared goal and that is why corporate bodies and non-profits organizations, startups, social enterprises and groups can be part.

Let's start a conversation and find out more by kindly writing to us on [info@tloin.org](mailto:info@tloin.org).

## 8.0 OUR TEAM

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We at TLOIN work with a formidable team of volunteers, development professionals who from time to time share ideas and experiences to shape the organizations as they execute their tasks.



**Henritta Somuah**  
Executive Director (GH)



**Alfred Amoah**  
Co- Director (GH/NL)



**Evans Oforu-Hene**  
Manager and Auditor (GH)



**Amamu Jennifer Fafa**  
Administrator (GH)





**Josephine E.G. Baffoe**  
Field  
Operating  
officer (GH)



**Sandra Annan**  
In-charge of  
Health (GH)



**Esther Somuah**  
Secretary (GH)



**Emmanuel  
Owusu Annim**  
Financial  
Secretary (NL)



**Gifty Amo  
Bamokwandoh**  
Secretary (NL)



## 8.1 Company Information

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### **TLOIN can be reached via our social media accounts**



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@TouchingL



Touching Lives Outreach Int. TV



Touching Lives Outreach Int. NGO