



## TOUCHING LIVES OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL

### Policy Plan

#### General information

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**Chamber of Commerce number:** 73868205

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**Total budget 2018:** EU 22,970.00

### Touching Lives Outreach International

#### 1. About

Touching Lives Outreach International (TLOIN) is a vibrant charitable organisation, which focuses on education, women empowerment, and health projects in Ghana. TLOIN is especially committed to promoting self-reliance through our projects – something that is vital to the future of development.

Touching Lives Outreach International (TLOIN) is a philanthropic and social development organisation. It was formed on 30th January, 2011 in Ghana and started operations in 2012 with its headquarters in Greater Accra Region of Ghana. However, it is incorporated as an NGO (under the Companies Code 1963, Act 179) with the Registrar General's Department, and also with the Department of Social Welfare of the Awutu Senya East Municipal Assembly. TLOIN is dedicated to generally touching and uplifting the social and economic lives of the poor, needy, vulnerable, aged, street children, neglected and the less privileged



people in the world.

The work of TLOIN is motivated and obliged by solid Christian principles and values geared towards the development of needy individuals, groups, organisations, and society as a whole. In this regard, it employs and promotes demand-leaders or self-help strategies towards rural community development and rural poverty reduction.

## **2. Vision And Mission**

### **Vision**

Our vision is to be an excellent philanthropic organization with a passion for touching and supporting the lives of the needy and less privileged in society. TLOIN envisions to make quality education accessible to many children by enrolling them in school and also, to establish a vocational center to train the youth in asylums and rural communities with employable skills by the year 2030.

### **Mission**

Our mission is to uplift the lives of the needy and less privileged people in society by working towards providing for their social and economic needs in terms of finance, education, health and in their moral and spiritual development. Also to achieve poverty free communities through specific beneficiary tailored programmes to protect, motivate and empower the marginalized especially kids, the youth, aged and women through education, community development and social welfare interventions.

## **3. People and Organisation**

The finance and day to day workings of the foundation in Ghana will be carried out by Alfred Amoah and Henritta Somuah with the watchful eye of the Board of Directors. They will be supported by projects coordinators, as well as a number of volunteers who work in their own communities and as such are best equipped to work with, and motivate, the communities.

As such, TLOIN will have three (3) paid staff. The Co-director (Ghana), Head of Field



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Operations (Ghana) and an Administrator. The Board of Directors will not be paid for their services but will get a reimbursement on travel costs made on behalf of the organisation.

TLOIN will be working with partners to make sure that its projects achieve the expected results. We will work with a facilitation partner but also with the local governmental organisations and expanding on their already existing work rather than starting everything anew.

### **Board of Directors Netherlands**

**President** – Alfred Amoah

**Finance Director** – Emmanuel Annim Boateng

**Secretary** – Gifty Amokwandoh

### **Board of Directors Ghana**

**Founder** – Alfred Amoah

**Founder** - Henritta Somuah

**Secretary** – Esther Adofo Somuah

**Head of Field Operations** – Josephine Efua Baffoe

**Facilitators:** 2 volunteers each from 10 beneficiary communities, 20 in total.

### **Partners**

- Department of Social Welfare, Awutu Senya East Municipal Assembly
- Department of Social Welfare, Weija/Gbawe Municipal Assembly
- Awutu Senya District Education Office or Girls Education Unit (GEU) which is under the Basic Education Division of the Ghana Education Service (GES)
- Weija/Gbawe Municipal Education Office or Girls Education Unit (GEU) which is under the Basic Education Division of the Ghana Education Service (GES)
- Awutu Senya East Municipal Health Directorate
- Weija/Gbawe Municipal Health Directorate
- The Ghana Health Service (GHS)



- The Constellation - facilitation partner
- Assembly Members and Committee Head
- Peer role models and (international) volunteers for workshops
- Unique Christianville Educational Institute
- Unique Progressive Christian Academy
- Babysnook Montessori
- Insaaniya Senior High School

## **Background project**

### **1. Context**

The region that TLOIN will be active in mostly consists of disadvantaged women, children, persons living with disabilities and unemployed youth. The poverty rate is high in the rural communities which significantly affects the quality of life. The numbers of children that are out of school and youth unemployment rate are high in an era where there is little publicly funded social intervention programmes aimed at addressing such challenges. The key projects of TLOIN will be in poverty alleviation, foster care, education, adolescent girls, youth and women empowerment, sustainable community development, volunteering, sponsorship, girl/boy child mentoring and vocational/technical training.

### **2. Facts about poverty in Ghana**

- Despite economic boom in recent times, poverty is still prevalent in Ghana. Rural poverty is four times higher than in urban areas. [The Borgen Project Ghana Report, 2018]
- In Ghana, 1.2 million households are unable to supply an adequate amount of food for their children. [UNICEF, the Ghana Poverty and Inequality Report, 2016]
- A third of Ghana's population live on less than \$1.25 (EU 1.11) a day. [UNICEF, the Ghana Poverty and Inequality Report, 2016]
- Government funded social initiative programmes to address inequality in the country



such as the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) reaches only 1 in 10 people who need them. [UNDP, Inequality in Ghana: A Fundamental National Challenge, 2014]

### **3. Problem analysis**

There is little community action to stimulate education and the quality of life of the poor. It is very notable poverty has a cyclical nature to it in that children born into poor families are most likely to be poor in their adulthood due to lack of opportunities.

We will start our activities in a number of communities located in Kasoa, Takoradi, Kumasi and Accra.

### **4. Analysis of solutions**

Our projects that will seek to uplift the lives of the less privileged in society will not only impact positively on the lives of such individuals but form a strong part of the (social) economy of the country. We at TLOIN believe that, beneficiaries of our projects can become role models to their peers, families and communities as a whole. For this to change, we will need to get the whole community on board (incl. community leaders, church leaders, parents, teachers and policy makers). If we work with the sensitivities of the communities and families and are able to improve awareness, together with stimulating local response we will be able to create the opportunities and environment for the poor, vulnerable and exclude to live more dignified lives.

## **Project design**

### **1. Project summary**

The aim of TLOIN is to improve lives through our activities in these area; Poverty Alleviation, Education, Foster Care Community, Public Health Project, Girl and Boy Child Mentoring Gender Equality Adolescent Girls, Youth and Women Empowerment, TLOIN Sponsorship Program Aged and Disability Support and Welfare Sustainable, and Vocational/Technical Skill Training.



We will collaborate with stakeholders in the areas we operate for a sustainable and effective undertaking of our projects. We will create community based programmes that respond directly to the root of the issue. We envision a program that will educate, facilitate and inspire by connecting the less privileged to people in places of power who are able to initiate change. We will create a safe space where they can access the critical assets they need to grow and give them the opportunity to inspire others. However, we cannot stop here because for this to change long term, we will need to get the whole community on board and as such we have included a big part for them in our program.

## 2. Goals

- To provide for the physical and material needs of the needy and less privileged children in society.
- Support the educational needs of brilliant but needy and disadvantaged children in society.
- Support the health needs of neglected, needy and less privilege children, people and communities in society.
- Empower rural women through the provision of capital to start their own small businesses.
- Help poor communities to get access to good drinking water.
- Provide moral and spiritual support of neglected children in society.
- Support the social needs of physical and mentally challenged children in society.

## 3. Project outline

To reach our goals we have formulated several project areas;

### **Poverty Alleviation**

Addressing hunger is one of the most vital issues we deal with. Most of the families cannot afford food, Working in a community where many lack the basics, we have come to realize that lot of kids in deprived communities go to school on an empty stomach daily. A hungry child cannot stay in school.



While many families struggle to put food on the table, supermarkets, food manufacturers and households across the country waste a massive 10 million tons of food each year – much of them still perfectly good for human consumption.

- ***Elderly Support Project***

The food crisis in Ghana is having a devastating effect on the elderly. Without enough to eat, many older people are becoming weak and malnourished. This leaves them more vulnerable to illnesses that they cannot afford medical care and unable to provide for even their most basic needs. In many cases, family members are unable to help as they struggle to feed themselves and their children. This leaves the elderly without any form of support and often living in heart-breaking conditions.

Our Elderly Care sponsorship program allows us to bring life-sustaining food and medical care to people who would otherwise be left to die.

- **Disability and Street Child Support Project**

TLOIN is passionate about the needy and help people especially people who have no one to stand up for them, like the blind, mentality Challenged, lepers, Orphans, street children, widows etc. Over the years, we have been donating food stuffs, clothes, money for trading etc. to people in the rural areas.

### **Foster Care**

Every day, we make a difference in children's lives by providing safe and caring homes. Foster care is home-like care provided by foster parents for children who cannot live with their parents because of the following reasons; safety and special care or treatment needs that their parents are unable to manage or other circumstances resulting in their parents or family unable to care for them.

### **Education**

Education is one of the most important investments you can make in your future and is critical to reducing poverty and inequality. The impact of education is profound: education results in raising income, improving health, promoting gender equality, mitigating climate



change, and reducing poverty. By providing educational materials to the vulnerable children, school uniforms, reading books, books, pens, pencils, school bags, note books etc. will help kids stay in school. We mentor and guide them and have introduced some projects called “READ WITH ME”. This is aim at assessing the reading, writing and counting skills for poor kids in rural areas.

To further strengthen our resolve to educate as many children from disadvantaged backgrounds as possible, TLOIN has acquired one (1) acre of land at Kasoa-Ofaakor in the Central Region of Ghana with plans to build a free Primary and Junior High School and a vocational/technical training centre for street children, orphans, teen mothers, and other vulnerable youths.

### **Girl and Boy Child Mentoring**

We believe what a boy can do, girls can do better and hence we will focus on rural education for girls as many of them drop out of school.

We are not leaving the boy child behind because we believe education for a boy child removes the dark cloth of ignorance and teaches them to value women and girls as equal partners in development and make them aware of the inequalities in communities especially in the rural areas.

### **Adolescent Girls, Youth and Women Empowerment**

- Empowering women, girls, teen mothers, youth and adolescent girls to participate fully in economic life across all sectors is essential to building stronger economies, achieve goals for development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for women, girls, families and communities.
- Mostly, girls lack access to financial capital and often have limited opportunities to gain education, knowledge, and skills that can lead to economic advancement. Inadequate policy frameworks and inequitable gender norms also often create barriers to girls’ economic advancement. We empowerment them, enroll some in vocational training, schools and help the women with trade or small business setup.





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- Sometimes what that teen girl, adolescent girl, youth, woman needs is just someone to talk to them and show them affection and inspire them to begin to think differently. We also connect them with mentors who have achieved greatness in their youthful age so they can model their paths and lifestyles as well.
- We are trained to pick vision and point to greatness in that girl/ woman the community thinks will never achieve anything in life. No girl or woman is a defiant; they just need directions that point to their destination in life.

### **Public Health Project**

- We are dedicated to helping the poor, children from disadvantaged homes, the aged and rural dwellers get access to preventive and emergency medical care they need.
- Medical bills, inadequate medical facilities and equipment deny most citizens the right to quality health care at the primary level and specialized health needs is growing at a rate beyond the reach of the less privileged.
- With the necessary information provided through the right medium, and prompt intervention by way free health screening in deprived community. Health care is vital to our growth and education. People tend to seek medical attention only when they feel sick, a practice which is not the best.
- Inviting nurses and other health workers who care for the aged and children in deprived communities. TLOIN your health matters. Join Touching Lives Public Outreach, together we will save lives through Christ and restores broken smiles.

### **Sustainable and Economic Empowerment**

- Our vision is to reduce poverty in rural communities of Ghana; we are committed in supporting persons from disadvantaged backgrounds usually from the rural communities with livelihood strategies, enhancing their income opportunities along the food value



chain, supporting women-led entrepreneurship and promoting their linkages to high value markets. We engage them in trade to earn income to support their family.

- **Timeframe**

Touching Lives Outreach International has a minimal project design of 2 years to be able to make a start to reach our goals. However we will need a long term presence in the communities in order for us to make a permanent change.

In 2019 we will also evaluate to see if there is a possibility to extend the project into other communities and regions.

- **Risk assessment**

With our visibility studies we identified the following risks:

- Lack of community support and willingness to voluntarily participate in TLOIN activities.

- So we have reached out to the local leaders who have endorsed us being there

- Lack of support from local authorities

- Therefore we are working together with local authorities and expanding on and bettering their already existing plans to ensure understanding from the local authority leaders

- The exchange of information from volunteer to volunteer should one fall out of the programme.

- At the start of the project we will ask the volunteers to find another volunteer they can work with in the community so there is no loss of knowledge

- **Finances being misappropriated**

- The project lead will be responsible for all finances and will be supported by an administrator in Ghana and will be monitored by the Board of Directors.



- **Monitoring and evaluation**

The TLOIN projects lead will be in charge of approving financial and managerial decisions and reports produced according to the project requirements, and endorsed by the board of directors.

Monitoring and evaluation will be an integral component of project management.

Monitoring will be achieved through ongoing assessments of the activities, outputs, outcomes. Specifically as:

- Class enrolment and attendance
- Attendance at girl groups, boy groups and women groups engagements.
- Reviews of facilitation volunteers
- Focus group discussions.
- Attendance community visits and home visits
- Distribution magazine

Monitoring visits, non-structured beneficiary interviews, together with quarterly reports and milestone plan will be used as tools for monitoring.

A regular project review will be conducted by the TLOIN team in collaboration with the partners. This review process will help in determining the pace of progress as well as provide an opportunity to identify prevailing issues and areas in need of specific attention.

### **Sustainability**

TLOIN wants ensure that the beneficiaries of its projects realize the impacts in their lives and aspire to continually maintain and improve the situations in which they find themselves. We believe that by training, inspiring and mobilizing the communities to think of community based solutions, they will take ownership of the challenges that they face and work together. This way they are on the road to sustainable social change.



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## **Finance**

TLOIN is a donor funded organisation which does not have any real equity capital yet. We will use different ways of fund raising to acquire the resources needed for successful execution and maintenance of our projects. This includes the following:

- Institutional funds
- Corporate funds
- Crowd funding.
- Fund raising events
- Private investments

We will need a minimum of funds for 6 months to be able to start our projects. If we are not able to acquire these funds within a reasonable time, we will donate the funds we did raise to another, similar organization and will inform our donors of that immediately.