

## United Way Ghana Shows Love to Communities

**D**ay of Caring is a single – day event bringing together corporate and community groups to mobilize the caring power of communities to advance the common good. The event is a fun way to connect the Ghanaian community with its corporate partners, demonstrating that it takes all of us working in partnership to tackle social change. It is the flagship program of United Way Ghana

This year's Day of Caring was organized on the 14th February, being the traditional day symbolic of exhibiting love and showing care to one another.

A number of organizations and Institutions took part in this year's communal service. Anxious volunteers from the corporate world and individuals offered their strength, time and skills for the benefit of the communities in which they volunteered. As usual, the kick-off rally was at the Aviation Social Centre after which the volunteers were conveyed to the various project sites.

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**Volunteers from TIGO during the opening ceremony**



**Mr. Jonathan Akuamoah, the Executive Director of UWG with a Volunteer from Newmont.**



**Volunteers from UT Holdings during the opening ceremony**



**An Employee from Newmont (R) with an individual Volunteer.**

**Vision:** Stronger, healthier, better educated, sustainable communities in Ghana

**Mission:** To build community capacity for sustainable development in the areas of health, education, and income generation through collaborative efforts of all stakeholders.

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With support from our corporate partners, seven (7) project sites benefitted from this year's event. Compassion Rehab Centre, a drug rehabilitation centre was one of the beneficiaries. This is the first time the Centre has benefitted from the event. Broken down electrical fittings were replaced as well as fixing new ceiling fans in some of the rooms where the inmates sleep. A clean up exercise was also done. Painting was done to give the place a face-lift. One of the volunteers, Eugene, a barber by profession, trimmed the hair of about 15 of the inmates. The inmates were also taken through mentoring sessions at the Centre. Newmont Ghana Gold Ltd sponsored this project and most of the volunteers were from Newmont. Newmont has pledged to visit them again in December to celebrate Christmas with them.

Millicom Ghana Ltd (tiGO) sponsored the project at the Akropong School for the Blind as well as provide staff volunteers. Other volunteers from the Salvation Army at Agona Duakwa also participated in the exercise. There was a massive clean-up in the girls dormitory. Broken down doors and louvre frames and blades were replaced. And to spruce up the girls dormitory, painting was done. Souvenir items like paper bags, exercise books and pens, mugs and water bottles were given to the pupils and staff of the school. Millicom Ghana Ltd sponsored this project.

The HIV/AIDS Orphans Project in Krobo Odumasi benefitted from Barclays Bank Ghana Ltd in terms of funding and volunteers. The volunteers helped with the continuation of the construction works on the Resource Centre under construction. Barclays Bank staff took time to lecture the Queen mothers in financial literacy. The orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) were taken through reading skills by the volunteers. Barclays Bank once again promised to frequent the place to continue to offer communal service to help complete the project early enough so the community can benefit from the Resource Centre.



Volunteers from TIGO cleaning one of the dormitories at Akropong School for Blind



Volunteers from Barclays Bank, continuing work on the Resource Centre in Many Krobo



A Volunteer from Barclays Bank interacting with the Queenmothers on Banking and Finance

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A team of 60 volunteers from UT Holdings trooped to Dokorkyerewa, a village near Nsawam to undertake a deworming exercise in the community. This is the first of its kind that United Way Ghana in partnership with Volunteer Partnership of West Africa put together for the Day of caring. UT Holding funded and participated strongly in this exercise. It is hoped that this deworming exercise would be a continuous affair to de-worm children of school going age throughout Ghana since helminthes infection in children is known to have debilitating effect especially on academics.



Volunteers administering the deworming medication to the beneficiaries

Staff of Coca-Cola Equatorial Africa, Game (of Accra Mall fame) and members of Girl Guides and Akropong Community Foundation visited the Street Girls Aid's House of Refuge at Abofu in Achimota. The House of Refuge serves as a drop - in center for female street children as well as a temporary home for pregnant street girls. At the refuge, girls can seek safe shelter and learn proper infant care and vocational skills like catering, hair dressing and sewing. Sewing materials, a local 2-burner gas stove, disinfectants, diapers and other toiletries were donated to the House of Refuge. The volunteers took part in the painting exercise as well as mentoring the girls and young women at the centre. Coca-Cola Equatorial Africa funded the project.



DOC Volunteers at Street Girls in a group picture

Stanbic Bank and Women in Vodafone will undertake similar projects at different locations in March, 2013. Over 300 volunteers participated in the volunteer service on the day.

Other corporate partners such as The Coca-Cola Bottling Company Ghana Ltd, East Cantonments Pharmacy, Melcom Group, Aviation Social Centre, Safoa Enterprise, Aqua Fresh and Silver Star Ltd, also made cash and in-kind donations to support this year's event. Metro TV, TV Africa, Viasat 1, OKAY FM, GNA, Daily Guide and Daily Graphic were our media partners for the occasion.



Volunteers from Newmont interacting with the inmates at the Compassion Rehab Centre in Abofu

privileged and helps in the development agenda of this nation. Thanks to United Way Ghana's partners this year's event was successful.

Day of Caring puts smiles on the faces of the less -

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## Ground-Breaking Ceremony

# For a Cerebral Palsy Facility at Agona Duakwah

United Way Ghana in partnership with Salvation Army held a sod cutting ceremony on 28th January, 2013 at Agona Duakwah in the Central Region. This marks the beginning of the construction of a facility meant for children with cerebral palsy in the country. It is the first of its kind in Ghana and indeed in West Africa.

Present at the ceremony were the Territorial Commander of the Salvation Army in Ghana, Col. Charles Swansbury, Lt. Col. Kwao Oklah also of the Salvation Army, Dr. Juliette Tuakli, President of the Governing Council of United Way Ghana and Mrs. Carmen Bruce-Annan, Head of Communications, Vodafone Ghana Ltd, Antoinette Atuah, Vodafone Ghana's Head of Corporate Communications. Others present include the Executive Director of United Way Ghana, Mr. Jonathan Akuamoah and the DCE of Agona East District, Hon. Martin Luther Obeng.

This ceremony is a sequel to the fundraising dinner dance held on 20th Sept. 2012 in aid of the construction of the facility for children with cerebral palsy.

Vodafone Ghana is the lead partner in this project. Mrs. Carmen Bruce-Annan indicated that Vodafone is proud to be associated with this project, stressing that it falls in line with Vodafone's vision of changing lives and also

because it is the first of its kind in Ghana.

Vodafone Ghana Ltd was therefore looking forward to working with United Way Ghana and Salvation Army for the facility to be built in Agona Duakwah. Dr. Juliette Tuakli, President of UWG Governing Council stated that "UWG remains committed to working with Vodafone and Salvation Army to ensure the completion and commissioning of the building". She thanked Vodafone and Salvation Army for permitting UWG to be involved and engaged in such a worthwhile project that remains so true to UWG's mission.

Col. Charles Swansbury, the Territorial Commander of the Salvation Army in Ghana reiterated that the maturity of any civilization can be measured by the way in which it cares for those least able to care for themselves. "The centre we are committed to building is a sign of that maturity – a maturity in our service and ministry to those affected by cerebral palsy", he added. "Today is our first step. It may be a small step. It will undoubtedly be followed by many more steps, but we believe that this first step well begun here along this divinely inspired pathway will indeed be a job half done," he concluded.

It is hoped that with the support of other corporates and individuals the facility will be completed on schedule for the benefit of children with cerebral palsy in Ghana.



Dr. Juliette Tuakli addressing the audience at the ceremony



Col. Charles Swansbury cutting the sod

## UWG Corporate Partners donate to Charities

Gifts-in-Kind is a program enabling NGOs to maximize resource mobilization and to provide an efficient mechanism to distribute equipment, furniture, clothing, supplies and products to communities and community based organizations.

It is in this vein that Newmont Ghana Gold Ltd, Coca Cola Equatorial, Melcom Group, and individual through United Way Ghana, donated items to various UWG NGO affiliates.

### Newmont supports four NGOs

Newmont Ghana has donated items worth GH¢ to four NGOs that support the underprivileged in the society.

The items include furniture, curtains, a variety of kitchenware assorted electrical appliances and beddings.

The four beneficiaries are United Way Ghana, Compassion Rehabilitation Centre, the Country-Side Orphanage and the Village of Hope. Speaking at a ceremony in Accra, the Deputy Regional Manager, Support Services at Newmont Ghana, Mr. Franklin Nuamah, said the donation was part of Newmont's Corporate Social Responsibility aimed at improving the lives of the less privileged.



**Mr. Akuamoah (L) with Mr. Nuamah (R), looking on are some of the beneficiaries**

### Coca Cola Equatorial Africa Donates To Street Girl's Aid

In fulfillment of its corporate social investment initiatives, Coca Cola Equatorial Africa has donated items worth GHS 5,000.00 to the House of Refuge of Street Girls Aid in Accra.

The House of Refuge is a shelter home for young mothers who live on the street in order to give them a chance to survive and develop in a supervised environment. They are taken through vocational and skills training like hairdressing, catering and sewing, and bead craft.

The items include a 2,500 litre Polytank, detergents and toiletries, mattresses, buckets, baby diapers, napkins, cot sheets and baby soap. The items were to help alleviate some of the challenges facing the House of Refuge of Street Girls Aid.

The items were donated by United Way Ghana on behalf of Coca Cola Equatorial Africa as part of the corporate engagement program with NGOs through United Way Ghana.



**Ms. Sara Amoo-Gotfried with Mr. Akuamoah presenting the items to Street Girls Aid**

### Melcom Group supports three NGOs

Melcom Care, the charity arm of Melcom Group of Companies, one of the corporate partners of UWG, donated quantities of items worth over GHS 4000.00 to three charities in Accra on 22 December, 2012. This is in response to the Group's Corporate Social Investment initiatives.

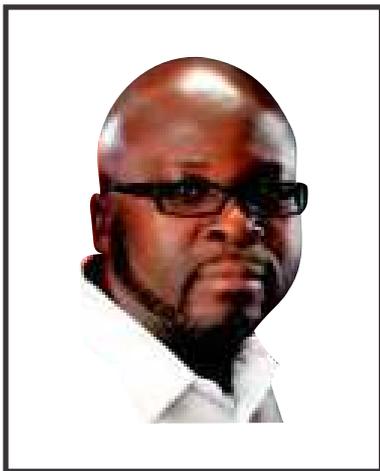
United Way Ghana was instrumental in getting the support of Melcom Care for these charities. The charities include Compassion Rehab Centre, Echoing Hills and

Autism Centre. The items donated included bags of rice, cooking oil, detergents, soap, disinfectants, tooth paste and brushes, soft drinks, packets of tea bags, and assorted biscuits.

Ms. Sonya Sadhwani, Director of Brand Management at Melcom group of companies, indicated that the donation was a way of allowing the selected charities enjoy Christmas to the utmost. She pledged Melcom Care's support for charities in order to make life easier for the less privileged in communities.



## Letter from the Executive Director



**Jonathan Akuamoah**  
(Executive Director - UWG)

United Way Ghana began the New Year with excitement during our annual signature event, Day of Caring, on Valentine's Day.

UWG continues to look at ways to engage volunteers through Day of Caring and other initiatives, yet to come, as a catalyst for promoting philanthropy in Ghana.

As many companies approached UWG during the holidays to identify ways to help those less fortunate, UWG realized its pivotal role in bringing corporations and local stakeholders together for the common good of all.

As a volunteer led organization, UWG will continue to initiate programs which gives opportunity for everyday people to participate in the development, growth and well-being of our great nation.

GOD BLESS

### Meet UWG's Governing Council

- Dr. Juliette Tuakli (President)
- Mr. K. Albert Wilson (1st Vice President)
- Mrs. Douha Smith (2nd Vice President)
- Mrs. Victoria Cooper-Enchia (Treasurer)
- Mr. Philippe Ayivor (Member)
- Dr. Bryan Cox (Member)
- Mrs. Sarah Amoo-Gotfried
- Mrs. Patricia Quaidoo (Member)
- Mr. Edward Boateng (Member)
- Mrs. Safuratu Andani (Member)
- Dr. Baffour Agyemang-Duah (Member)
- Nana Ofei-Nkansah II (Member)
- Mrs. Adiki Ayitevie (Member)

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