

Newsletter

June
2016

Kekeli is a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing human rights issues in Ghana



Kekeli Inc./ 518-465-6576

Early intervention is key to ensure all children have a quality life

Read baby Kafui's story on page 3



Highlights:

Model Inclusive School	2
Budgeting for Inclusive Education	2
Baby Kafui	3
Self-Advocacy	3

Greetings from Ghana

Over the last seven years we have seen many challenges that persons with disabilities face in education, health care, and in the community. Kekeli is becoming a place where families and persons with disabilities can go when there is an emergency. We have an early intervention program and work closely with Social Welfare, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Education Service, Community Leaders and families to assist in early intervention. You can read about one of our recent cases on page 3.

We regularly visit the families in their homes to assess their needs, document each case and talk to them about services available in the country. The challenges are many, and it takes commitment from all parties involved to make an impact, but we have seen many changes over the year and have many success stories. In this newsletter we want to focus on a few of these success stories. You might know a few of them, such as our Wednesday Self-Advocacy Group; however, some of the faces are new to you.

Thank you!

Carrie Brown



Model Inclusive School Update

In March a representative from Rotary Club of Norwich, UK visited Kekeli Ghana to review our planned Model School Project. We met with Rotary Club of Ho, Ghana Education Services, and traditional leaders. All have shown commitment to the project. This puts us one step closer to our goal of building a model school which will have students with and without disabilities learning side by side with the needed support that will provide them with a quality education.

We are looking for partners in all areas of education to share best practices of inclusive education that we can use in our training programs. We will be educating teachers and the community while we are making the necessary arrangements to build the model school. Your continued support is key to ensuring our children grow up in an inclusive community.



Top left: A potential site for the Model Inclusive School. Left: Winfred one of the children with disabilities that Kekeli is supporting in a mainstream School. A model Inclusive School will help children like Winfred receive the necessary support he needs that will provide him with more opportunities.



Budgeting for Inclusive Education

This year Lakeside Disability Rights Advocacy Initiative, Kekeli Ghana and New Horizon Foundation of the Blind are collaborating on a joint project researching and advocating for budgeting for inclusive education. We are three organizations that work with a common vision and the goal of undertaking advocacy that promotes the rights of all persons with disabilities.

The main aim of this project is to study the budget processes of the Krachi East District and Ho Municipal Assemblies in the Volta Region of Ghana. Findings from this study will be used as a foundation of advocacy with government and other stakeholders.

Above: Brandford Tay, Kekeli Ghana Project Manager, facilitating a committee meeting on Budgeting for Inclusive Education

Baby Kafui

Early intervention is an important part of our program. Baby Kafui was born with hydrocephalus at the Regional Hospital in April. The doctors referred her to Accra, the capital, for treatment. But the parents were unable to pay for the ambulance service to Accra. Fortunately they were directed to Kekeli Ghana for assistance. We met with the parents and doctors to arrange transportation to Accra, and doctors there have begun draining the fluid from her head.



Self-Advocacy Group

Kekeli's Dzigbordi Wednesday group has become a favorite among the Kekeli staff. Every Wednesday the group of six adults with developmental disabilities meets to learn about their rights, learn vocational skills and learn daily living skills. It has become a safe place for the group members to share their challenges and their dreams. This group began in 2010 and continues because of your generous support. Over the years the group members have discussed possible jobs that will allow them to earn a living. Some possibilities were doing copying work in an office, assisting a seamstress, making and selling soap or farm work. They have decided that they want to raise goats. We will be teaching them these skills with hands-on practice at our meetings. As each person becomes proficient, we will help them set up a small goat-raising business at their homes and monitor their progress, assisting whenever needed. If we were simply to start them raising goats at home, their families would probably take over, assuming that they were not capable. This way they will have proven their skill before starting on their own. We need your support to make this successful!



Top: Baby Kafui at the Hospital

Middle: Some of the members of the Dzigbordi Wednesday group meeting.

Bottom: Partly completed goat pen

SEND DONATIONS TO
KEKELI INC.
P.O. Box 712
Slingerlands, NY 12159

For more information contact

PHONE:
518-465-6576

E-MAIL:
kekeliinc@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.kekeli-ghana.org

Note cards available

Sets of four note cards are available for \$10 depicting images of Ghana by Ghanaian photography students. All proceeds will go to Kekeli Inc. to help support future student projects. To order cards contact Mary Jane Brown at (518) 465-6576 or by email kekeli-inc@gmail.com

How to Help

- _____ \$1,000 Guardian Angel
- _____ \$500 – Angel
- _____ \$250 - Patron
- _____ \$100 - Supporter
- _____ \$50 - Friend
- _____ \$25 - General Member
- _____ Other

Kekeli is a 501(c)3 charity. Your donation is 100% tax deductible
Please make check payable to:

Kekeli, Inc
P.O. Box 712
Slingerlands, NY 12159

Every donation makes a big difference in the lives of people in Ghana

Special Thanks to our Sponsors



Kekeli Inc.
P.O. Box 712
Slingerlands, NY 12159