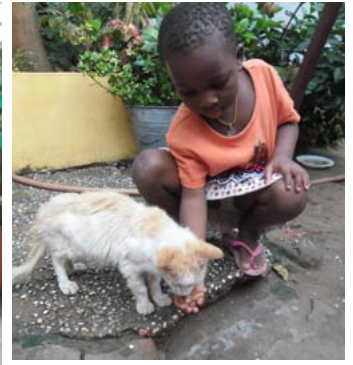




NEWSLETTER

// P.O. Box 13492 Accra // Ghana // www.lotuschildrencenter.yolasite.com // JUN 2015



// PHOTOS // ALL AROUND SERVICE //



// VILLAGE CHILDREN // NEW TOILETS WITH COMMUNAL VOLUNTEER LABOUR // SUPPORTING A NEW SCHOOL //

SUPPORTING A NEW SCHOOL

A kind teacher from Akatsi, a poor area in Ghana, recognized the need for a school in the community. He understood the pain of not having a school in the community and the frustration felt by the families. To address this issue he asked Didi to help him open a school there. With Didi's help they were able to get enough space in a local church which opens only on Sundays. Didi also met with the head of each of the villages in the area to ask for communal labor in order to set up a toilet. In addition, Didi took volunteers who will teach in the school to a Teacher's Training in Accra. Each of these volunteers was very interested in learning. The school opened in January for Nursery and Kindergarten, and about 70 children enrolled with only a minimal fee requested. Didi also shared rice with the school that had been donated to Lotus, so they could begin their service work. ♦



ARS CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION

40 pairs of shoes were donated by our well-wishers **Adelita and Hellena**, and they were distributed to people of a poor stricken area, **Akatsi - Volta Region**.

Akwakwaa - Central Region More than 70 sets of clothes were distributed to the elderly and children in need. Clothes were gathered with the help of Isabel Alcobia. **Thanks everyone who contributed for making all of this possible.** ♦

// CLOTHES & SHOES DISTRIBUTION AT CENTRAL REGION //



NEW FRIDGE

As our school is growing in enrolment size; it is time for an expansion. The old refridgerator was not able to support the needs of the school, as it was always overloaded with food, and did not keep well. In addition, with the ongoing energy crisis in Ghana, the fridge was not able to maintain all of the food well so it would often spoil. Knowing our plight and inspired by our social service, a **symphatizer generously donated** a new fridge to the home. It is working very well, and as we now keep the food in both the old and new fridges, both keep cool longer. This has helped alleviate the worry of having to throw out or waste food. ♦

// CHILDREN HOME WITH NEW FRIDGE //

Our dear **Hellena Du Preez** has visited Lotus several times bringing with her positive energy and love. She and her husband put up new curtains all around the home. I was very worried that they would be ruined during our rainy season as the water comes in through many missing window's panes. It is because of this issue that she suggested I create a fundraising project to replace the windows in the home. **NAWA** came forward but still financial help is needed since the weather is very bad this year. ♦



// NEW CURTAINS ASK NEW WINDOWS //



// CHILDREN HOME PLAYS IN THE BEACH // CAMPING IN THE BEACH // ANUMATII ENJOYS A HOUSE MADE IN THE TREE //

CHILDREN HOME

Our girls are growing, healthy, and happy. All of them had a good performance at school. During the holidays they enjoyed camping on the beach.

Shobha Devi Sarkar (5 years) – She is extremely intelligent for her age and has much need of attention from adults. She is very emotional and likes to express her emotions, now she is mostly laughing instead of crying. During classes she is in her own world as usually she doesn't feel as interest in group activities. However, she is happy child, and she has done well on her exams.

Apatikii Devi Sarkar (5 years) – She is putting a lot of effort into class this year and often gets prizes for best behaviour and best performance out of her class of 20. She is learning to read but remains insecure about it, but overall Apatikii is creative and loves stories. She can't sleep without a bedtime story.

Anumatii Devi Sarkar (8 years) – Anumatii is learning much in school and continues to grow in participation at school. Her performance at school is good, and at home she is learning how to be neat and organized. She is very responsible for her age. This year she had the opportunity through a school excursion to visit historical sites and the National Park at Cape Coast. ♦



ANANDA MARGA SCHOOL

End of the year – To strengthen the love for their local culture, Lotus organized a party for the end of the year with local dress. Children were very beautiful and participated in a local dance given by a local drummer volunteer. ♦

Child Way Play – We are introducing in all the classes the Child Way Play. This is where the child chooses the activity they would like to do. It has helped teachers to know more about their students. ♦

Recycling – The School is training the teachers in doing crafts using recycled material. We hope that it can awaken the desire to recycle which would solve big challenges in Ghana as there is not enough space to deal with the large garbage problem. Many communities often burn their garbage which is very toxic to people and the environment. We also had a big flood in Accra which has only aggravated the excessive amount of waste in the streets. ♦



// CHILD WAY PLAY // DECORATION (ON THE CEILING) MADE BY STUDENTS WITH TROLLS EMPTIES, CATS MADE OF OLD VIDEO TAPES AND PAPER //

INTRODUCING A HEALTHY LIFE STYLE VEGETARIANISM, YOGA & MEDITATION

Volta Region – In the village of Mafi Zongo more than 20 people learned meditation and yoga to improve their health. Villagers are very enthusiastic and are planning to start a school with a Neo Humanist approach in the area.

Yoga philosophy also has a positive impact in the life of this people. Once, when I was visiting the place I found that a pregnant woman had died due lack of medical care. She was bleeding, but instead of going to the Medical Center nearby she was brought to the pastor at the church. Many villagers are quite dogmatic and yoga calls for mental expansion.

Accra Region – At our school we are introducing to parents a more healthy diet for the children and advising them to feed their children fresh food instead of junk food. Parents were very inspired and some are touched when we talk about the pain the animals feel when slaughtered. After that we observe that children started to bring fruits for their tiffin instead of candies.

// WEEKLY PROGRAMM OF COLLECTIVE MEDITATION // BABY WHOSE MOTHER DIED BECAUSE SHE WAS LEFT UNNATENDED DURING DELIVER //



Training on Naturopathy – Didi travelled to India and received two weeks of training on Naturopathy. It was a very special training with many experienced people such as Dra Karuna and Dada Dharmavedanandaji who manages a Wellness Center in Mahalirka (Phillipines). This work has helped many people to be cured of serious ailments. **Didi** plans now to introduce the **DETOX Programme** for sick people at **Central Region AMURTEL Clinic** and share her knowledge with the neighbourhood around **Lotus**. ♦

// NATUROPATHY TRAINING IN INDIA //

MANY THANKS TO AMURT ITALY AND ASSOCIATION "AILE UNIVERSELLE" FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE LOTUS CHILDREN CENTER

Thank you all for your valuable support
Didi Gayatri