

# Hands for H.O.P.E. Helping Others Perpetuate Education

## Let's Build a School!!!

I was able to travel once again to Ghana, Africa this past November.

I have been able to go for the past 8 years and have loved every moment of it. For the past 3 years I have traveled alone to this beautiful country.

In 2011 it was decided that the children we are taking care of are growing up and completing their formal high school education and now they need something more. They need more training so they are able to get better paying jobs. These children do not have computer training in the public school system so I

decided to build a computer training school. My friend, Adi, calls it an ITC. This year after thinking about it further I would like it to be more of a Community Learning Center. We would be able to teach other classes as well as computer classes.

Friends and family can volunteer to teach. We will have rooms there for the volunteers to stay in as well as a kitchen where the meals can be prepared and eaten.

This is a huge undertaking but one that I know will benefit the children as well as everyone in the community.

The building is coming along slowly but will be a great resource once it is built. I cannot afford to pay for construction so Adi and his friends are helping with the building. This will give them a sense of pride as well as let them take ownership in the building they are helping construct.



The architectural drawing of the building.

#### Hands for HOPE Ghana, Africa

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#### Current Happenings

- Community Learning Center is under construction.
- Golf Tournament is held on June 21 at Wolf Creek Golf Course in Eden. Utah
- Spaghetti Dinner will be held on November 2 at the Hope Center in Roy.

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### Construction Continues



#### Hands for H.O.P.E. continues to help orphans in the villages

For the past 8 years we have continued to help orphans attend school. We currently have 12 orphans in which we supply money to help them afford the opportunity of going to school. The money pays for school fees, uniforms, as well as medical insurance and other basic necessities.

I was humbled this year when I traveled to Pram Pram to visit the Mensah children. I was surprised to learn that the oldest child there, Francis, had moved out and was living with a nice family in the area. He did not get along with the

"father" of the family and decided that to graduate school was one of the most important goals he had in his life. He was not going to be able to accomplish this by staying in that home.

I visited his school and talked to him and told him how proud I was that he has this goal. Now, it is important to note that he is a 19 year old in ninth grade. I was told by the teacher and principal that he is one of the smartest students in school.



We were able to purchase school books and a new uniform as well as school shoes that actually fit. He literally had tears in his eyes because these were

the first new items he had ever had. I am so proud of him and his accomplishments. I have confidence that he will finish school and go on to be something great. He wishes to be a doctor and I have no doubt that he can do it. Congratulations, Francis, you're going to do it!

#### Faces in and around Ghana

A friend with Mercy and Jona at a soccer tournament we were able to watch.



Felicia sits with her grandmother and aunt as we visit with them. Look at the beautiful smile on her face.



Our lovely Esther. She just finished her last year at the tech school and plans go on to a university in Accra. Educate the women and the children will also be educated



#### Audrey, Andy and Andrea

These children live in a home I frequent often. Although they are not orphans and come from a great family where the father is a preacher and the mother stays with the children and gives them tender loving care, they are part of the community that will be helped by the new Community Learning Center we are building. We will be able to teach the whole community skills to become self suffi-

cient, better marketers of their goods and services as well as much needed computer skills. The children are adorable,

are adorable,
have adopted me as their aunt and
call me Auntie Lene.





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#### Annual Golf Tournament

We held our first golf tournament last summer at the beautiful Wolf Creek Golf Course in Eden, Utah. It was so hot in the city that being up in the mountains was a great relief. We had some great sponsorship, golfers and a wonderful lunch was provided. It is starting out small but I hope by holding this each year we are able to build it up to where we will only have to have a couple of fund raisers a year.

We are holding it this summer on June 21. Once again the golf numbers are small but we will still make money and have a good time. My hope is that the gofers will tell their friends and we will be able to increase the number

by a few more each year. Either way, we have a great time with good food, golf, and friends.



Thanks to everyone for helping out. Thanks this year to Joe Davis of Davis Financial and Nanette

Combe from Wasatch Peaks Credit Union for sponsoring a hole. Thanks also to the wonderful volunteers as well, Jen, Kennedy, Ralynne, Carol and Cathy. And we couldn't have done it with out KyLee and Sean who came up with the whole idea.

Thanks also to the many businesses who donated prizes and food. And thanks to the golfers who take time out to come.





#### Annual Spaghetti Dinner

What started as a project for Make A Difference Day has turned into an annual event each year the end of October or first part of November. Roy City is one of our great partners and we hold the dinner at the Hope Center in Roy. The name is quite appropriate for our charity.

This year we will have the event on November 2, 2013 from 6-8 PM. We

have been able to have The Olive Garden provide the meal and hope to do that again this year.

We also hold a wonderful silent auction with many great items for sale. It makes your holiday gift giving so much easier when you can help a charity as well as buy good quality items for your family and friends.

One of the best parts of the night is the cost. It is only \$5 per plate and who can beat that for a nice spaghetti dinner from The Olive Garden?



#### Fair Trade Items for Sale



Adi, as well as being our construction coordinator in Ghana, is a master craftsman. I am able to procure some of his items to sell here. We use the money

earned for the construction project.

I have many hand
carved wooden items
as well as handbags
and wallets for sale.
Contact me if you are
looking for something
unique to give as a
gift or keep for yourself.

self.

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HOW WONDERFUL IT IS
THAT NO ONE HAS TO WAIT,
BUT CAN START RIGHT
NOW TO GRADUALLY
CHANGE THE WORLD!

Hands for H.O.P.E. is making a difference. I have personally seen it. We have provided a swing set that produces electricity on an island with no power, bicycles for children to get to and from school as well as a library and funds to keep kids in school.

It takes such a small amount to make such a huge difference in the lives of others. I need your help. Please spread a positive word about what the mission of Hands for HOPE is.

It takes only \$40 for the fees and uniforms...for a YEAR of schooling. It will take about \$15,000 more to complete the Community Learning Center. This will impact a whole community.

I really believe that if we don't invest in children we give up on their future. Please take time to think about what you can give and remember a little goes a long way.

# Ad-vo-cate (ad-vo-ket): A person who pleads another's causes. One who speaks or writes in support of something.

I need you to spread the word of our cause. Tell others about your experiences with this organization. Invite others to join the movement.

Advocacy is as simple as telling a story. I would be happy to come tell the story to your group. I love talking about my "African Experience" with anyone who wants to listen.

Simple ways to advocate:

- Share a story of what Hands for HOPE does.
- Help networking efforts by putting me in contact with your contacts at church, school, community or social groups.
- Call me and let me come visit.



Andy wants to learn more and go to the Community Learning Center!