A Message from our Founder and the CEO
Mission, Vision, Strategy and Values
Family Support Services
Foster Family Care in the Community
Young Adult Support Services
Education and Community Development
Income Generating Activities
Care Reform
OAFrica Leadership: Africa, Europe and USA
Major Contributors, Partners and Ambassadors
Financials
Contacts

WHO DO WE SERVE?

The criteria for support are based on vulnerability. OAFrica helps those who need it most: at-risk children who do not have appropriate family care. Each child or young adult supported today entered the programme because they met at least three of the following criteria for inclusion:

- Affected by HIV/AIDS
- With Special Needs
- Single or Double Orphans
- Living on the Streets
- Ex-Orphanage Residents
- Child Labour
- Abandoned
- Abused
- Neglected
- At Risk of Abandonment
- In Conflict with the Law
- Victims of Trafficking
Throughout 2014 I have seen the encouraging results of our work to keep children in families which are safe, stable and loving and support the children and young people to achieve their full potential. This report captures some of these achievements and successes and highlights some case studies involving the incredible children and young people we support.

We have worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that children are resettled in families with the support of expert social workers, counselors and psychologists. Much attention has been given to ensure the successful reintegration of these children and support has been provided to ensure they are able to thrive in their homes, at school and also healthwise.

We have been working in close partnership with the children’s families to identify and fund great business ideas – to empower them and their families to succeed and look forward to a brighter future, breaking the cycle of poverty many of them have faced.

In 2014 our Young Adult Support Services benefited hugely from the addition of an IT Centre and Library to provide supplementary learning opportunities. We have also been able to place a number of young people in internships, enabling them to obtain much-needed experience and putting them on track to achieve their career goals.

Youth unemployment is a huge issue in Ghana, with only 7% of graduates entering formal employment upon completion of their studies. To combat this, in 2014 we launched a career and entrepreneurship fund in partnership with TSSI which will provide capital, business advice and counseling to our young beneficiaries to establish businesses in Ghana.

Throughout 2014 we also had a strong focus on health, particularly Ebola and HIV. We raised much awareness about Ebola prevention and response in view of the threats existing in the region. We have also investigated and negotiated improved care for our children and caregivers living with HIV, to ensure their health and wellbeing.

In terms of Care Reform, we continued to work closely with the Ghanaian government and UNICEF to ensure that family-based care is prioritized across the country. The commitment to this goal is evident in that 64 orphanages have been closed down over the past 8 years.

Much remains to be done. In Ghana there are approximately 4,000 children still living in unregulated orphanages, most of whom have at least one living parent. Therefore, in the year ahead we will work hard to ensure that these children can also return to their families.

We believe that our ambition for these children is within our collective grasp. But we cannot do any of this without you. Thank you very much for your support over the past 12 years!

Bianca Collier
CEO, OAfrica
WHAT DO WE DO?

OAfrica runs six concurrent and complementary programmes to support orphans and vulnerable children and young people and their families in Ghana.

- **Family Support Services**: empowering families of children at risk to care for them
- **Foster Family Care**: supporting abused children in supervised foster families
- **Young Adult Services**: transitioning teenagers and young people from our Family Support Services into the adult world
- **Special Needs**: supporting children and teenagers with complex needs in the community
- **Community Support**: enabling our environment to develop through local classrooms, health services sanitation and ecological stewardship
- **Care Reform Initiative**: working with Government and other stakeholders to support child protection and care services in Ghana
Our Mission

OAfrica empowers children and young people whose rights have been compromised due to institutionalization, poverty, violence, trafficking, HIV/AIDS, abuse and discrimination. We help them become productive members of their communities by strengthening families, and reintegrating them into safe, stable and loving environments.

Our Values

- CHILD CENTERED
- FAMILY ORIENTED
- CHILD PARTICIPATION
- PRO POOR
- GENDER EQUALITY
- PROMOTION OF AUTONOMY
- NON-DISCRIMINATION

Our Vision

OAfrica is committed to ensuring that children grow up in safe, permanent family settings with appropriate care and protection with equal rights and opportunities. We accomplish this by focusing on:

Deinstitutionalization

OAfrica supports care reform in Ghana by advocating for stricter regulations of orphanages and children’s homes in hopes that these types of institutions will be closed down or used only as a last resort and, even then, only serve as a temporary placement for children in transition. We support appropriate sanctions for those proven guilty of abuse and trafficking.

Tracing and Reunification

OAfrica is a strong advocate for families. Knowing that at least 80 percent of children in orphanages have living family members, our specially trained social workers trace the families of abandoned children and reunify them. We then continue to provide reintegration services based on the specific needs of each child and family.

Training

OAfrica supports extensive skills training for social workers to promote tracing, reunification and deinstitutionalization so orphans and vulnerable children that have been inappropriately placed in orphanages can live in family-based care. We also provide training for parents and foster care providers in order to ensure that children receive appropriate care and protection within the home. Training is also offered to media, civil society and government workers.
Family Support Services (FSS)

OUR SERVICES TO FAMILIES

Child and Family Tracing
Reunification of Separated Children
Conditional Cash Transfers
Access to Birth Certificates
Education Support: Fees and Materials
Educational and Psychological Counselling
Sanitation
Life Skills and Training
Rehabilitation
HIV/AIDS Support
Nutritional Support
Healthcare

Parent Training
Start-up Capital
Income Generating Activities
Financial Literacy and Business Training
Counselling and Psychological Care
Family Mediation
Access to Government Social Services
Legal Support for Inheritance Rights,
Child Support
Prosecution of Abuse
Specialized Care for Children with Disabilities

Children who are deemed orphans are often placed in institutions without exploring alternative care options. Many children are placed in institutions by their own families due to poverty, in the hope that they will receive adequate nutrition, clothing and education. In reality, however, such institutions are detrimental to the physical, emotional and intellectual development of children. OAfrica’s Family Support Services (FSS) program is our main initiative implemented to keep children out of orphanages and in their own families. Specially trained social workers locate families to assess whether or not the child may be reunited therein. Subsequently, an individualized care plan is developed to ensure that the children receive the necessary care and support to be healthy and happy within their own homes. Ongoing assessments by the assigned social worker, centralized through a purpose built database, help to maintain the quality of care for the children. Through the FSS program, families can stay together and thrive.
16% of all children placed in families by OAfrica have special needs.

6 in 10 children placed in families by OAfrica are living with their biological family.
For children who cannot be placed within their own families, OAfrica has established the Foster Family Care (FFC) program. In these cases, a child may not have living family members who can care for them or the child has been abused or mistreated in the home. Several of these children have been abandoned due to the fact that they have special needs and the family is unable or unwilling to provide long-term care. For these children a safe, stable and loving environment is essential to their wellbeing as steps are taken to find more permanent care. Children are placed in foster care with a specially trained foster mother who provides for their daily physical needs and, most importantly, offers love and encouragement that is essential for children that have oftentimes experienced instability, neglect or even abuse when they arrive. Two FFC homes are for children and young adults with severe special needs, including cerebral palsy, autism, psychosis and other disabilities. Children that are a part of these families attend a specialized school and receive rehabilitation services daily. OAfrica works hard to ensure that each foster family care placement will provide the essential love and support that these children need in order to thrive.
“OAfrica changed my life. I was a migrant living on the street from the age of 7, sleeping in a bus station and working selling water. Although it was very dangerous for a girl, I could not imagine another kind of life. Now, after being supported in foster care by OAfrica, I’m a year into my degree at University as a business student. Sometimes I can’t believe who I have become.”

- Abigail, 20 years old
As children in orphanages grow up, they often become vulnerable young adults with limited opportunities for success in their educational and professional future. Compared to other young adults, worldwide data show that youngsters growing up in care are more likely to be homeless, incarcerated, unemployed and unskilled. When they do not have parents or extended family to depend on, particularly in the African context where family is so important, they often become caught up in an on-going cycle of poverty and they are also more likely to experience physical, developmental, behavioural and mental health challenges. In partnership with The Stern Stewart Institute (TSSI), OAfrica addresses this important issue through its Young Adult Support Services (YASS) program to provide financial support to cover school fees and school needs, health and psychological support, transport and housing costs, career counselling and placement and life skills training to care leavers in Ghana. Through weekly mentoring sessions in which they interact with their peers and also with role models the young adults in YASS are supported to discover their passions and follow their dreams in order to become healthy and productive adults who will contribute to Ghanaian society.
This year, OAfrica support reached the families of more than 215 children and young adults to help them stay together and access full educational scholarships, school materials and health support.
A Message from our Founder
For children who cannot be placed within their own families, OAfrica has established the Foster Family Care (FFC) program. In these cases, a child may not have living family members who can care for them or the child has been abused or mistreated in the home. Several of these children have been abandoned due to the fact that they have special needs and the family is unable or unwilling to provide long-term care. For these children, a safe, stable, and loving environment is essential to their wellbeing as steps are taken to find more permanent care. Children are placed in foster care with a specially trained foster mother who provides for their daily physical needs and, most importantly, offers love and encouragement that is essential for children that have oftentimes experienced instability, neglect, or even abuse when they arrive. Two FFC homes are for children and young adults with severe special needs, including cerebral palsy, autism, psychosis, and other disabilities. Children that are a part of this family attend a specialized school and receive rehabilitation services daily.

OAfrica works hard to ensure that each foster family care placement will provide the essential love and support that these children need in order to thrive.

One of the most significant barriers to families staying together is access to quality education. Though primary and junior high school education is free in Ghana, many families cannot afford the costs associated with sending their children to school, which includes transport, textbooks, pencils, uniforms, and other associated fees. If a child does successfully complete primary and junior high school, many families cannot afford to continue their child’s education through senior high school, which is not free in Ghana. OAfrica supports impoverished families to pay for their children’s education, enabling families to stay together and providing greater opportunities for success. Educational support has proven to be the cornerstone in preventing children from being abandoned to orphanages. In addition, increased education levels promote other positive life impacts, including improved health, higher wages, and economic growth, democracy, and political stability. Children are sponsored from primary school to tertiary education or vocational programs and apprenticeships. Those who have learning disabilities or have been delayed in their education receive extra classes and tutoring or receive extensive career counseling to identify professions that meet both their qualifications and their interests. OAfrica also supports the Government of Ghana Primary School and Clinic and runs a Community Library, Sports Programme (through the Laureus Sports For Good Foundation) and an IT Lab in the rural village of Ayenyah, where we have our headquarters.
1,000 PEOPLE are educated in health and hygiene, family planning, pre- and post-natal care, and HIV/AIDS prevention by OAfrica teams.
In general, NGO support may unintentionally encourage dependence and therefore often lacks sustainability if it does not plan to build the capacity of its beneficiaries and make them autonomous. Since 2012 OAfrica gradually migrates families receiving support onto Income Generating Activities (IGA). These include farming, shop-keeping, professions such as hairdressing and catering or rural activities that are context-appropriate such as selling corn or charcoal. The process includes a means test, evaluation of each person's capacity and earning potential, and start-up capital. Each beneficiary receives education in basic bookkeeping, financial literacy and the ins-and-outs of running a business. Following their set-up, the fledgling entrepreneurs are guaranteed a further six months of free support and advice from our team. The program has been very successful with 26 family heads graduating from receiving monthly financial support from OAfrica to running their own micro-businesses and thus being able to care for their families in a viable and concrete manner.
...through hard work, determination, love and compassion you can achieve business success and a growing healthy family...

In Ghana, approximately 40% of people are considered **POOR**.

Nearly **15%** are living in **EXTREME POVERTY**.

**#1** POVERTY is the number one reason for **CHILD ABANDONMENT**.
The Care Reform Initiative (CRI) was launched in 2006 as a joint venture between the Department of Social Welfare (DSW), OAfrica, UNICEF and other child protection agencies in Ghana. It involves the provision of various forms of support by OAfrica and other partners to enhance the capacity of the DSW to encourage family-based care. The initiative seeks to de-emphasize overreliance on care systems for the 4,500 vulnerable children that are currently living in institutions and move towards a range of integrated family- and community-based childcare services. The goal is a more consistent and stable approach to caring for vulnerable children in Ghana so that each child will be assured of a permanent home in a supportive and loving family. The main components of care reform in Ghana seek to prevent the disintegration of families through linkages with strategies that strengthen families, such as the social grant program – Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) – scholarships, food packages, access to national health insurance and other support programs.

In line with the Care Reform Initiative, OAfrica’s mission advocates for the reintegration of children with their own families, either with their biological parents or extended family (kinship care), or the placement of children in foster care when they truly do not have family members who can appropriately care for them. OAfrica is proud to have been one of the main actors behind the adoption of the National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (NPA) in 2010 and was the only NGO mentioned as an implementer in the actions matrix of the original plan.

Care Reform Goals

**Prevent**
- Creating social safety nets that prevent child abandonment
- Supporting vulnerable children to live with their families
- Providing social protection interventions and improvements to health and early childhood development services

**Protect**
- Improving commitment and focus in child protection
- Implementing social work and specifically targeted social protection mechanisms to identify and care for children at risk
- Supporting children who are separated, exploited or exposed to abuse to return to their families or be placed in foster care

**Transform**
- Improving the capacity of the state and other child protection agencies to promote the rights and wellbeing of OVC
- Requiring orphanages to officially register or face closure
- Utilizing orphanages only as a last resort to provide temporary placement for at-risk children in transition to family-based care
94% of orphanages in Ghana are operating ILLEGALLY.

4 in 5 children living in orphanages have at least one living parent.

For EVERY THREE MONTHS spent living in an orphanage, children lose ONE MONTH of DEVELOPMENTAL SKILLS.

OAfrica is a leading partner, along with government agencies, in the Care Reform Initiative in Ghana. Together, they seek to move away from a system of institutions and towards family- and community-based care—changing the futures for the more than 4,000 children currently living in institutions.
Leadership

International Advisory Board

President
Lisa Lovatt-Smith

Ed Asante
Fernando Masià Martí
Jonathan Hooker
Luca Magni
Jamil Maraby

GHANA BOARD

President
Lisa Lovatt-Smith

Executive Committee
Jamil Maraby
Edward Boateng

Secretary
Naa Okailey Adamafio

CERTIFICATES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Orphans and Vulnerable Children Committee of the Government of Ghana

Ghana Association of Social Workers

Coalition of NGOs on the Rights of the Child

Management Team Ghana

Chief Executive Officer
Bianca Collier

Chief International Finance Officer
Robert Mensah Dakwa

Chief Development Officer
Miracle Abena Damanka

Chief Fundraising and Advocacy Officer
Cori Deterding (until June)

Chief Education Officer
Zoe Lewin (until March)

Young Adult Support Services Manager
John M. Appiah Achaempong

Family Support Services Manager
Jacinta Atakora

SOCIAL BENEFITS FOR LOCAL STAFF

OAfrica staff in Ghana are offered education scholarships for up to three of their children (biological, adopted or foster children). This scholarship covers 100 percent of the fees if the child is in a government-run school. They are also offered a stipend to help towards the purchase of books and other necessary items. OAfrica staffs receive performance bonuses, Christmas bonuses and national health insurance, as well as funeral support at the loss of family members. Staff also enjoy paid holidays every year and other statutory advantages as per the Labour Law. We offer study leave to our staff as opportunities for professional development training, both internal and external, throughout the year. OAfrica is an equal opportunities employer.
2002
OAfrica Spain
CIF: G 62986971

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Ernesto Obrador: Vocal

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Fundraising & Advocacy
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Denise Powell

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Director (up to October)
Carrie Stultz
Fundraising & Advocacy
Director (as of October)

VOLUNTEER STAFF
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Kou Moore

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Major Contributors

This list recognizes our generous supporters of $2,500 or more, as well as those who provided in-kind donations. We regret that space limitations prevent us from listing all our supporters, including the 470+ monthly donors from around the world. To all of our supporters, we thank you!

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Watoto Foundation

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Spencer Ofosua Asare
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Theophilus Quason
Victoria Amoah
Watoto Foundation

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Accor, Fondation
Agence BRMP
Aivarum
Clairs
CE Laboratoire Clarins
Crédit Suisse
Endemol Production
Etnia Barcelona
French Coffee Shop
Troyes
Hotel Montalembert
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Fondation
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ventes Privées
Peanuts World Wide
BFM TV
Telecom sans Frontières

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de Roviralta
Fundación Real Dreams
Fundación Renta
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Mercedes Vlardell March

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Alessandro Enríquez, An
Italian Theory & Luisa Via
Roma
Angela Missoni
Baglioni Hoteis SpA
Cash & Rocket Events
Ltd
Fondazione Child Priority
Il Gastebini SpA
Luca Magni
Missoni SpA & Balich
Worldwide Shows Srl
M Missoni di Valentino
Fashion Group SpA

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Peanuts Worldwide
Optical Affairs Company
The Philip and Irene Toll
Gage Foundation
Carlson Family
Foundation
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Ursula Hill
Michael Catalano
Mariam Ba
J Adam Austin
Ernestine Valle
J Adam Austin
Edwin Anaman
Sandron Catherine
Kathleen O’Leary
Regan Watson
Kiltos Teklos
Christine de Lassus
Fati Sanka
Margherita Maccapani
Missoni
Weinstein Books

GERMANY
Ammeraer Klöppersinger
Art of Quality GmbH
Axiocoon GmbH
BG Phoenics GmbH and
employees
Billi-Bolli Kindermöbel
GmbH
Famille Ighiaut
Klara Apotheke
Louis Internet GmbH
Open S interactive
medien GmbH
Profilingvalues GmbH
Star-Trademarks GbR
Teamware GmbH
The Stern Stewart
Institute
Unterbrunner Blaskapelle
and guests

SWITZERLAND
Jonathan Chait
Sylvie Deschamps

Every effort has been
made to ensure a
correct list. We regret any errors
or omissions and ask
that they be brought to
our attention at africa@
africa.org

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credit
Bianca Collier
Annual Report graphic
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Goodwill Ambassadors

OAfrica would like to thank our Goodwill Ambassadors from around the world who have dedicated incredible talent, time and nances to the children and families of our organization.

Victoria Abril
France

Inés de la Fressange
France

Rossy de Palma
Spain

Margherita Missoni
Italy

Bianca Li
Spain

Rachel Roy
USA

Marcel Desailly
International

Eric Don-Arthur
Ghana

Wanlov The Kubolor
Ghana
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Statement of Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<td>International donations (OA offices abroad and Holland)</td>
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<td>Donations received locally</td>
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<td>Sports and Life Skills</td>
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<td>Balance at 31 December</td>
<td>1,240,548</td>
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2014 Financial Statements
Consolidated Summary in Euros*

Consolidated accounts for OA fundraising branches in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States.

USA and Swiss currencies were converted to euros taking the historical rate of the 15th of each month and then dividing by 12.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>(EUROS)*</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>1,056,531 €</td>
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| **PROJECT SUPPORT, PROGRAMS GHANA**      | CONSOLIDATED |
| Project Support - Transferred to Ghana   | 580,160 €   |
| Project Support - Spend on behalf of Ghana | 62,408 €   |
| **Total Project Support**                | 642,568 €   |

| **AWARENESS BUILDING**                   | CONSOLIDATED |
| Awareness Building                       | 127,102 €   |
| General Expenses                         | 71,452 €   |
| **Total Awareness Expenses**             | 198,555 €   |

| **ACCOUNTABILITY AND FUNDRAISING**       | CONSOLIDATED |
| Fundraising and General Expenses         |             |
| Salaries                                 | 53,527 €   |
| Social Charges                           | 23,693 €   |
| Professional Services                    | 45,037 €   |
| **Total Fundraising HR Cost**            | 122,257 €   |

NB: The average exchange rate used for the conversion of USD to Euro is .75 and CHF is .82
A Message from our Founder

For children who cannot be placed within their own families, OAfrica has established the Foster Family Care (FFC) program. In these cases, a child may not have living family members who can care for them or the child has been abused or mistreated in the home. Several of these children have been abandoned due to the fact that they have special needs and the family is unable or unwilling to provide longterm care. For these children a safe, stable and loving environment is essential to their wellbeing as steps are taken to find more permanent care. Children are placed in foster care with a specially trained foster mother who provides for their daily physical needs and, most importantly, offers love and encouragement that is essential for children that have oftentimes experienced instability, neglect or even abuse when they arrive. Two FFC homes are for children and young adults with severe special needs, including cerebral palsy, autism, psychosis and other disabilities. Children that are a part of this family attend a specialized school and receive rehabilitation services daily. OAfrica works hard to ensure that each foster family care placement will provide the essential love and support that these children need in order to thrive.