



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2025

Photography: Kojo Amakye





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WHO DO WE SERVE

OAfrica exists to support vulnerable children and their families in Ghana. Our programmes empower children and young adults in need of care and protection due to institutionalization, abandonment, neglect, disability or abuse.

We accomplish this by strengthening families and reintegrating separated children whose rights have been compromised due to poverty, violence, trafficking, disease and discrimination into safe, stable and loving households. We provide the following core services:

- Tracing and Reunification of Separated Children
- Specialised Foster Care
- Social Worker Visits
- Income Generating Activities
- Counselling Services to Families
- Positive Parenting Training
- Educational Support
- Medical Support
- Support for Families Living with HIV
- Cash Transfers
- Accommodation

CORE COMPETENCIES





OUR MISSION

We advocate for and empower vulnerable children and young people whose rights have been compromised due to institutionalization, poverty, violence, trafficking, abuse, disease and discrimination.

We support communities by strengthening families through education and by reintegrating children into safe, stable and loving environments.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to create a world in which all children grow up safely in permanent families with appropriate care and protection and with all rights and equal opportunities.

OUR VALUES

- Family-oriented
- Child-centered
- Child Participation
- Non-Discrimination

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

2025 marked a pivotal homecoming for our team, but more importantly, it signaled the realization of a long-held vision. Since 2019, our core objective has been to transition toward a strategic, project-based model. This year, that vision became our reality.

The synergy between our dedicated team and the unwavering generosity of you—our donors and partners—has culminated in one of the most significant years for advocacy in our organization’s history. Together, we haven’t just provided services; we have sparked systemic change.

Our Pillars of Impact

Our mission remains clear: ensuring every child grows up in a safe, loving family. Through relentless advocacy—tackling complex issues like Galamsey (illegal mining), human trafficking, and comprehensive care reform—we delivered life-altering interventions across our key focus areas:

Beyond the Numbers

While the data tells a story of scale, the true impact is found in the restored hope of children returned to their family and the resilience of a community now equipped to protect its own. Our work in social work services and national advocacy continues to be the bedrock of our commitment to the vulnerable.

The shift to a project-based model has allowed us to be more precise, more transparent, and ultimately, more effective in our fight for the rights of the child.

Thank you for standing with us. Your support is the bridge between a child’s precarious present and a secure, thriving future.

ROBERT DAKWA
CEO OAFRICA

CHILD LABOR & CHILD TRAFFICKING

To combat the elimination of child labour in illegal mining (galamsey) and prevent child trafficking, we strengthened existing Child Protection Committees within communities in the Atiwa East District of the Eastern Region.

We also organized community town hall meetings with chiefs, community leaders, parents, teachers, and youth to reinforce the collective responsibility of ensuring that no child is permitted to work at galamsey sites.

In addition, the campaign was extended to schools, where children were directly educated on self-protection, the importance of prioritizing their education, and the risks associated with engaging in illegal activities.



Alpha
Stream

National NGO Forum

POISONED PLAYGROUND

Ending Child Labour in Galamsey

DATE

30th July, 2025

TIME

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

VENUE

Amegashie Auditorium, University of Ghana
Campus, Legon, Accra



BEYOND THE GOLD: PROTECTING GHANA'S CHILDREN FROM GALAMSEY'S GRIP • BEYOND THE GOLD: PROTECTING GHANA'S
SIKA MMUSUO" (EVIL GOLD) - PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM GALAMSEY • SIKAMMUSUO" (EVIL GOLD) - PROTECTING

COLLABORATORS:





FAMILY STRENGTHENING & SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Following the successful completion of the Back to Family Project, which reintegrated 50 children from residential care into extended family settings and provided them with stable, supportive environments in June 2025, the second phase of the Galamsey Project was launched.

This phase focuses on rescuing children actively engaged in child labour within illegal mining communities and strengthening their families' economic capacity. The Galamsey Resettlement Project aims to support 120 children to transition from child labour into formal education or vocational training, while equipping their families with sustainable livelihood opportunities to enable long-term, independent care for their children.

Between October and December 2025, 20 children were rescued and supported to return to school, and 14 families were economically empowered to achieve greater sustainability and provide consistent care for their children.

FAMILY & FOSTER CARE

The core mandate of our programme is to ensure that children grow up in safe and nurturing family environments. Over the past 24 years, we have successfully reunified children who were living outside their homes, in residential care, or at risk of institutionalization with their biological families. In cases where biological relatives could not be traced, children were placed in carefully assessed foster families.

To date, more than 1,000 children and their families have benefited from our monthly cash transfers, educational assistance, accommodation support, and medical care. With sustained and appropriate support, child abandonment can be prevented, and families can be strengthened to care for their children.



A photograph of five young women of African descent smiling and posing together in front of a background of yellow horizontal blinds. The woman on the far left is wearing a red top and a beaded necklace. The woman next to her is wearing a white top with a blue pattern. The woman in the center is wearing a white top with a blue floral pattern. The woman next to her is wearing a white t-shirt with a red logo. The woman on the far right is wearing a red headscarf and a blue patterned dress. The logo on the t-shirt is a red stylized 'N' inside a white circle with a dashed border.

YOUNG ADULT & CARE LEAVERS

In 2025, OAfrica's Young Adults and Care Leavers Program strengthened the transition from care to independent living through mentorship and career guidance. Young adults received support in education and vocational pathways to promote self-reliance and stability. Regular counselling and school visits by our social workers.

A key highlight of the year was the participation of care leavers in the five-day co-creation workshop in Kenya, where they engaged with peers and stakeholders to share lived experiences and contribute to shaping solutions that impact young people transitioning from care. This opportunity amplified their voices, built leadership capacity, and reinforced their role as active contributors to systems change.

EDUCATION

The needs-based Educational Scholarship Programme, launched in 2024 to support vulnerable children in a peri-urban farming community in the Volta Region of Ghana, was expanded from 37 to 50 beneficiaries in 2025.

This expansion ensured uninterrupted access to schooling and contributed to measurable academic progress among beneficiaries. The programme aims to prevent family separation and ensure that every child has access to quality education, regardless of geographic location.





CHILD PROTECTION & CARE REFORM

Advocacy against child labour, particularly children's involvement in illegal mining (galamsey), was intensified in 2025. A National NGO Forum was convened, bringing together NGOs, government officials, DCEs, media representatives, and community leaders from all sixteen regions of Ghana. The event was streamed live on national television and across our social media platforms. The campaign was implemented in partnership with five other NGOs.

An investigative documentary on children actively engaged in galamsey for survival was produced and aired on major national television and radio stations, with coverage in leading newspapers. Additionally, live TV and Radio interviews were done to ensure our message is heard by the right people. Our effort reached 1,158,849 people on TV, Radio, alongside readers of newspapers and social media.

LEADERSHIP 2025

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Advisory Board**

Lisa Lovatt-Smith
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**2007 OAfrica Germany
117/110/10566**

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**Partner Associations
& Organizations**

Ghana Association of Social Workers
Coalition of NGOs on the Rights of the Child
Family-Based Care Alliance (FaBCA) Ghana
Transforming Children’s Care Global Network
The West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI)
Care Leavers Ghana Network
Global Care Leavers Community

International Leadership

Chief Executive Officer
Francesca Pinto

**2016 OAFRICA UK
Charities Commission: 1166511**

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Lisa Lovatt-Smith,
Trustee
Jonathan Hooker

Closed at 31st Dec 2025

**Management Team
Ghana**

Chief Executive Officer
Robert Mensah Dakwa
Head of Social Work
Jacinta Owusuaa Atakora
Head of Communications
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Denise Powell
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Terry Oppong
ADVISORY BOARD
Ashley Rhodes-Couter
Dr. Rebecca Davis

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS GHANA 2025

	(GHC)
Income	3,712,388
International Donations (OAFrica Offices Abroad)	2,690,202
Local Income Donations- Alpha Stream Fund & Other Income	1,022,186
Project Expenses	2,341,424
Family and Foster Care	531,971
Young Adult and Care Leavers	369,676
Education Scholarships	172,550
Child Protection and Care Reform	186,667
Advocacy and Behaviour Change	188,667
Child Labour and Child Trafficking: Galamsey Project	506,879
Family Strengthening & Sustainable Livelihoods: Back to Families Project	385,015

	(GHC)
Administrative Expenses	935,016
Fundraising Expenses	181,191
Project Management Cost	454,651
Communications and Partnerships	8,008
Other Expenses	291,166
Total Expenditure	3,276,440
Surplus from operating activities	435,948
Bank and Interest Charges	(9108.15)
Surplus for the year	426,840
Balance at 1st January	731,612
Balance at 31st December	1,158,452

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

The following donors contributed \$10,000 or more thereby qualifying as our major partners for 2023

Alpha
Stream

el spec
GmbH

GROUPE
CLARINS

HUMYDRY®

Sella
SGR

otto
per
8 mille
CHIESA VALDESE
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