



Dear JPG members and friends of YHFG,

the year 2021 has passed very quickly.
In this newsletter, we would like to

- introduce further the work of the new Youth Movement HAY as well as some of their board member
- tell you about the impact of Covid 19 pandemic on the YHFG projects and how JPG contributes to keep the work in the Youth Centre going
- look back at some old YHFG/JPG projects and where the people are today.
- Say farewell to a dear friend of YHFG and JPG



JPG NEWSLETTER

December 2021

YHFG focus their work on

Education and Skills development
Sexual and reproductive health and youth empowerment
Advocacy and women rights in farmers communities

YHFG next generation - Meet the HAY

The Harvest Youth Movement (HAY), that was founded in 2020 has elected a new leadership in March 2021: Mavis Aboko (*president*), Portia Nyaaba (*vice president*), Percy Asinvim (*secretary*), Hannah Anaba (*treasurer*), David Adumolga (*organizer*).



Mavis Alahire Aboko is a final year Mastercard Foundation scholar at the Univ. of Education Winneba, a CAMFED Ass Member, a Baobab Advocate for the UEW scholars Community, a volunteer of YHFG and ASIGE Ghana.

Mavis is an alumni of the YHFG Girls Remedial School. She is motivated by empowering the youth in education, employment chances and development.



Portia's future aspiration is to build a career in Human Rights

Portia Nyaaba is a teacher who has a passion for social work. She is an advocate for the SDGs, Gender and Child Rights Protection and Adolescent Reproductive Health and Rights. Working for various Youth focused NGOs, she champions calls for women empowerment. Portia's future aspiration is to build a career in Human Rights



Percy Asinvim is a graduate of the University of Development Studies, Tamale. He has been involved in youth and community development since 2019 and is currently a volunteer with the YHFG.



David Adumolga is a 2nd year BSC Engineering student at the Univ. of Energy and Natural Resources, Sunyani. He is passionate about the youth and environment and has volunteered with the YHFG to create awareness on plastic waste management in 2020.



Hannah Anaba studies hospitality and tourism at the Sunyani Tech. Univ. She is passionate about youth development and seeks for opportunities to volunteer to help solve some of the issues affecting the youth especially the girl child in rural communities.



What's up... Girl's Remedial school ?

YHFG and JPG are very proud to report that 12 graduates of the YHFG remedial school (RS) have graduated from diff. tertiary institutions.

In addition, 32 students are still pursuing their studies at different levels of their training.



Anastasia with her Diploma in Basic Education from the Regentropfen College of Applied Sciences.

Congratulations to these great achievements!

The Girl's Remedial School has been on halt since 2018. While we were trying to improve the impact of the project, the student dormitories needed some restoration done, since the primary structure was build in the local mud-house style, thus not very longlived. YHFG has recently entered a new partnership to build new and more solid dormitory structure and hopes to reopen the Remedial School in 2022.

Research – Impact of Covid 19 school closures on girls' education

With support from JPG and Plan International, YHFG undertook a comprehensive research project on the impact on school closures during the COVID pandemic on girl's education in Northern Ghana. A total of 1173 adolescent girls and boys age 10-19 years completed a tablet-based questionnaire. Furthermore, qualitative interviews from 12 focused group discussions involving adolescent participants and 30 Key Informants Interviews and Individual In-depth Interviews were included in the analysis.

The results show that adolescent girls and boys in the Upper East Region faced several intersectional risks and vulnerabilities already before the onset of COVID-19. The COVID-19 induced school closures escalated the existing vulnerabilities resulting in high rates of unsafe transactional sex, teenage pregnancies, child marriage and school dropout.

The extensive study concludes with several recommendations for governments and other stakeholders to consider in order to protect adolescents' rights to education and sexual and reproductive health in times of emergencies.

Harvest Academy

The Harvest academy is now officially registered with the Ghana football association as Harvest Football Club. The Club has currently 94 players as members and is regularly training in three age groups (Under 11y, under 13y, under 15y). Yet, lack of funding for allowances of the coaches, interaction between players and coaches is limited right now.

Farewell Andreas Ruppel

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our friend, mentor and greatest supporter Andreas Ruppel. Andreas has followed the projects of YHFG, the development of the organisation and its people since 20 years with huge interest and passion.

He has facilitated several projects by creating new contacts or links with other helpful people and organisations. The Peer Education project and the first Remedial School might not have been implemented without his patronage.

Andreas was ever prepared to jump into a fruitful discussion with critical yet meaningful questions, always with the objective that a vague idea can grow into a concrete project and might one day actually come to life.

While he did not attend most of the JPG annual meetings in person (he always sent an email to apologise and wish us a fruitful meeting), he actually took part in our 2020 annual meeting held via Zoom. It was a great pleasure, retrospectively with a bittersweet afterglow, to reconnect, discuss and share lots of laughter with him one last time.

Thank you for all your love and endless support.



For more information about YHFG activities, also with other project partners, please access the YHFG facebook or twitter account which is updated on a regular basis