



B.A.S.I.C.S. International

Weekly Newsletter - 7th - 12th October



B.A.S.I.C.S.
International

www.basicsinternational.org | info@basicsinternational.org

A Message From Our Director.

My attention has been drawn to an article in our past newsletter issue on the double track system that Ghana intends to implement. We do encourage freedom of expression and critical thinking. We also expect those who contribute articles to our newsletter to be sensitive and courteous. We do not consider articles written as official positions of B.A.S.I.C.S International unless expressly stated. In this particular case, this was an intern's perspective and analysis.

However I hold myself partially responsible for not proofreading all final text before distribution, and for that, I am truly sorry. This has been a learning experience for me, as well as the organization. The young intern is also quite remorseful; and her work will be supervised more carefully going forward.

B.A.S.I.C.S International recognizes Government's efforts at providing access to Education for ALL. This, we recognize as noble. However, we also realize that there are challenges, which Government is working hard to resolve.

B.A.S.I.C.S International works with all partners and stakeholders to support Government in its efforts to provide good quality Education for people. Referencing our mission statement,

"Our mission is to break the cycle of poverty for socially and economically disadvantaged children in inner-city communities. Through financial and social investments, we provide education and social services, that nurtures the holistic development of a child which leads to self sufficiency".

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Patricia Wilkins

Founder & CEO

B.A.S.I.C.S International International



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SEW MUCH FREEDOM:

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<98 NC @ is a West African word derived from the GA language which means FREEDOM. HEDZOLE is a social impact PROFIT SHARING program; under the umbrella of B.A.S.I.C.S. International, which empowers women through sustainable economic growth.

HEDZOLE trains young women how to sew, stitch and quilt. Each participant goes through training that covers how to use a sewing machine, proper stitching, quality control and best business practices. In addition to sewing, women participate in workshops which include health, family planning, finances, and child care.

Products made through HEDZOLE are sold in Ghana, and around the world; empowering the community of Chorkor, Ghana. Women use their profits to care for their children and households. B.A.S.I.C.S. uses its profit to fund our after-school program and provide hot nutritional meals to children on a daily basis. That's FREEDOM! Many of our seamstresses are earning a consistent income for the first time in their lives. Each woman has a bank account and is taught how to save and make smart financial decisions for her future. The growth we have witnessed is astounding.

Former beneficiaries of B.A.S.I.C.S. social intervention program; who might not have completed school due to teenage pregnancy or other reasons, are targeted, for this program. The program is being managed by two graduates of B.A.S.I.C.S.; Bintu Baka and Rhodarline Aryeetey; who completed High School and desire to be Fashion Designers. We believe self-sustainability begins with giving women a hand-UP not a handout. Truly these women are examples.

We have sewing teachers come in from around the world to teach our seamstresses new techniques and how to create new products. Two years when this program was first piloted; young women were taught how to make table runners, bed runners by Linda Hannawalt of San Francisco Quilt Shop (Mazatlan Mexico). For the next 3 months, our seamstresses will be continuing their one-on-one training from experienced Quilter; Veronica Johnson. She has come from the United States to teach our women about color contrasting and how to design intricate patchwork. We are proud to say that every single day our women are learning something new while earning an income to sustain themselves and their families.

You can support #IAMHEDZOLE and a woman finding her own freedom by purchasing a ready-made product or by making an order for custom designs. In addition, we sew for bulk orders and we have the ability to use authentic Ghanaian/African fabrics. We create table runners, bags, oven mitts, bed runners, patchwork quilts- you name it, we can stitch it. To purchase an #IAMHEDZOLE product or request a bulk order send us an email at info@basicsinternational.org



STEM EDUCATION:

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Students from socioeconomically disadvantaged and marginalized communities are often being left behind in terms of educational achievements and career aspirations, due to physical and financial barriers. Specifically in Chorkor, our students aren't exposed to the vast career opportunities that are with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields. At B.A.S.I.C.S. students are now receiving practical STEM classes in which they perform scientific/engineering based experiments.

The classes are hosted by North Carolina A&T, Senior Mechanical Engineering Major, Simone Douglas. For the past few weeks, our students have been challenged to build everyday household items from toothpicks and

styrofoam, to build bridges with sugar cubes and popsicle sticks and so much more! They are encouraged to think like engineers, critically think through problems and to question everything.

To volunteer to teach a class or skill (dance, videography, ect) send us an email at volunteer@basicsinternational.org.



Meet Our 2019 Junior High School Graduates

Our JHSI students are preparing to take the BECE to gain acceptance into Senior High School. Hear what they are looking forward to post-graduation!



"I'm looking forward to senior high school because I will be able to meet new people and learn new things. I will miss my friends here, but I can always see them when I come back."

- Felicia, JHS3



"I want to study visual art when I go to senior high school. Last year, I wanted to do home economics but realized I love doing arts and crafts at B.A.S.I.C.S. Visual arts will help me for what I want to study in college."

- Grace, JHS 3

