

B.A.S.I.C.S international

SPECIAL EDITION

B.A.S.I.C.S
international
Brothers and Sisters in Christ Serving

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

This edition is very special to me for many reasons, as it's my birthday month along with my moms. If you are an owner of our 2020 calendar, you will notice I was featured for February. **This month is also special to me, because we chose to kick off our 20th anniversary, by celebrating the pillars of the organization on February 15th.**

Students of B.A.S.I.C.S; Obed Tagoe (who is now in University and entered B.A.S.I.C.S while in Kindergarten) and Bintu Baka (also entered when she was in kindergarten and now manages our social enterprise; shared stories of what B.A.S.I.C.S means to them, and how it changed their lives. (if you would like a full link to the video, please send me a message). Bintu's speech challenged each of us to think of how we look at street children, as she was once one. Obed spoke about being with B.A.S.I.C.S since he was 8 years old, and that one of his fond memories or lessons was that B.A.S.I.C.S insisted on togetherness , and that we live on being our brothers keepers. And that the only way they could repay B.A.S.I.C.S was being change - makers in our own community , and everywhere life finds us. Their speeches were heartfelt and touched me, as well as those in the room.

However, that night, I became speechless and couldn't deliver the two pager that I had worked on for hours. All I really wanted to say , is thank you everyone for believing and trusting in me.

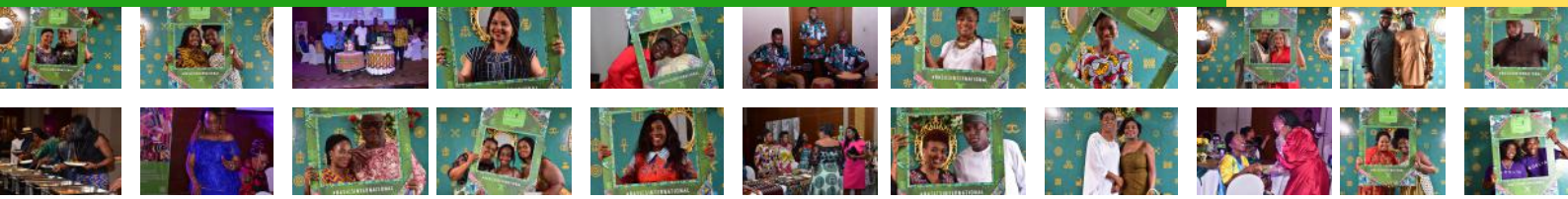
Help comes in many forms; and it's through these collective efforts, we are able to welcome in 20 years. The year has just started and more celebrations will be held. I will continue to call on each of you to **HELP**, and ensure that we are here for another 20 years. And I hope you all say **YES**.

I hope you enjoy this short edition of our newsletter- and please don't forget to share with a friend, and check out our archived newsletters at www.basicsinternational.org

Feel free to write us and tell us what you think of our newsletters; or to include someone on our mailing list. info@basicsinternational.org



Patricia Wilkins
Founder & Executive Director
B.A.S.I.C.S International



Founder's Day Celebration

B.A.S.I.C.S is 20 this year, and as part of activities, B.A.S.I.C.S celebrated the founders who helped sustain the dream to which we all admire today. On February 15, families, donors, supporters, staff and friends of B.A.S.I.C.S convened at Movenpick Ambassador Hotel - Accra to celebrate the founders of this great organization. B.A.S.I.C.S dance troupe were present to welcome guests with their beautiful traditional dances. Patricia Wilkins, the Founder and Executive Director of B.A.S.I.C.S International gave a heart warming speech as she welcomed everyone present. She went on to introduce her parents, Lenora and Eddie Gates who have been her foundation throughout this journey. The event was to celebrate the birth of B.A.S.I.C.S, our founder's birthday and her mother's birthday as well. To commemorate this, a cake was cut with the staff of B.A.S.I.C.S and another one with her parents.

Ladies from our social enterprise Hedzole showcased their tote bags, bed runners, table runners, bedspreads, etc for our guests to purchase and make orders. Mrs. Matilda Amisshah Arthur(the former second lady of Ghana), who is also affectionately called Auntie Tilly , gave a short speech urging everyone to make an investment in B.A.S.I.C.S for the next 20 years. Obed Nii Armah Tagoe, a second year student in the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and Bintu Baka (a former student of Cadling Fashion School) who currently supervises Hedzole, gave their speeches to recount the impact of B.A.S.I.C.S in their lives, and the benefits they continue to enjoy. The rest of the night was filled with music, food, networking and a display of dance moves.



Board members celebrates with children

On Monday, February 17, board members convened at B.A.S.I.C.S to discuss and plan for the future of the organization. After their strategic meeting, board members welcomed children with smiles and open arms.

To ensure children were not left out of the Founder's day and anniversary activities, the B.A.S.I.C.S cake was cut again with the children. Auntie Pat, introduced the board members to the children as well as her parents, Lenora and Eddie Gates. With smiles and excitement on their faces, children presented a "Welcome sign to Eddie and Lenora - a gift to be used as wallpaper once they get back home.



HONORING OUR SENIORS

Every year, B.A.S.I.C.S celebrates senior citizens in Chorkor. On Wednesday February 19, we honored over 100 senior citizens (grandparents) living in Chorkor. Grandparents play a pivotal role in the community, as most are left to care for their grandchildren when parents migrate to other areas; or have abandoned their children. The party welcomed grandparents and shared food and drinks while they interacted and played games. To ensure our seniors maintain good health, Vision Spring team also provided eye screening, and reading glasses for FREE .

Approximately 125 seniors ranging from 70 - 100 years old, were given a gift bag sponsored by benevolent individuals and organizations. The bags shared contained assorted food items, clothes and toiletries.



Grandma Lenora and Grandpa Eddie, and long time donor and friend; Sarah Barber assisted in sorting and sharing gift bags to grandparents.

This day will be cherished and remembered by all of us and the grandparents in Chorkor. Thank you to anyone who sponsored a bag for a senior in Chorkor.

Thank you to Judith Aidoo, for donating the first 100 eyeglasses.



2020 20
Ways to
GIVE 20

Monetary Donation

Consider making a cash donation in any amount. Corporate donations fulfill CSR, and donations made in USA are tax deductible.

Invest in a child's education

Your donation covers school fees, books, lunch, uniforms, after-school program, healthcare, etc. You can make a recurring payment or donate in full.

- \$84.00 / GHC450.00 per month
- \$1000.00 / GHC5,500.00 per year

Support Hedzole

Provide support to our social enterprise aimed at empowering women in Chorkor through skill training sewing and revenue building.

- 6 Electric Sewing machines @ GHC 2,000.00 each
- 1 Knitting machines @ GHC 2,000.00
- Renovation of SOJA(a hub of Training Center & Hostel for women (\$50,000.00))

In-kind Donation

Increase STEM education for children

Donate new or used laptops and tablets for teaching the children and making them technologically competent.

We also need office supplies; printers, scanners, printing papers, folders, pens, etc. for administrative work

Inspire Young Readers with Diversity

Donate African Readers to our library so that students can read about their own identity, reinforcing self esteem as well as providing culturally familiar stories that will inspire them to practice reading and writing stories of their own.

Supply food items and provisions for our nutrition program

Items such as rice, tin tomatoes, cooking oil and pasta are staples used weekly in our kitchen.

- 2 bags of 50kg Rice a week = GHC 500.00
- 25 kg of Oil a month = GHC 300.00
- 1 box of Pasta a week = GHC 45.00
- 1 box of tin tomatoes /month= GHC 120.00
- Toilet Tissue = GHC 100/month
- Protein (Chicken/fish) /week = GH600.00

Supply clean drinking/cooking water for our nutrition program

Providing a hot cooked meal a day (6 days a week) for our children, requires we have clean drinking and cooking water. On an average, we use 20 bags/ a week @GH4.00 a bag.

- Sponsor a week supply @ Ghc 80.00
- Sponsor a month supply @ Ghc 320.00
- Choose to support one time or make a recurring pledge

Support chess team

Our chess team need sponsorship for training and to travel and participate in events in and outside Accra.

Join our 2020 Campaign

Create a workplace giving opportunity.

Take 2,020 steps and ask staff/ coworkers to join you. Ask friends and family to support you by donating \$20.00. Create a team in your workplace

Other Ways to Help

- Volunteer
- Fundraise
- Serve on Board
- Internship
- Collaborate
- Mentorship

World NGO Day

On 27th February of each year, World NGO Day is recognized. World NGO Day was officially declared by the 12 member countries (Belarus, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Norway and Sweden) and first time marked by the rest of the world, UN, EU leaders and international organisations in 2014 - hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland. - worldngoday.org

We celebrate our 20th anniversary this year as an organisation, with all our benevolent donors, partners, past and present volunteers, staff and of course everyone who has contributed to our achievements these past 20 years. We will not cease to give you all the recognition you deserve. **Ayekoo and God bless you!**



Hedzole

PRODUCTS

Bed Spreads, Pillow Cases, Table Runner and Bed Runners

Hedzole (pronounced Hey Jo Leh), which means "Freedom" in GA; a language spoken by the GA tribe. Hedzole is a social enterprise under the B.A.S.I.C.S umbrella, which empowers women through providing economic independence, which results in social inclusion. Purchasing an item made by the women of HEDZOLE - empowers women, community and a nation.

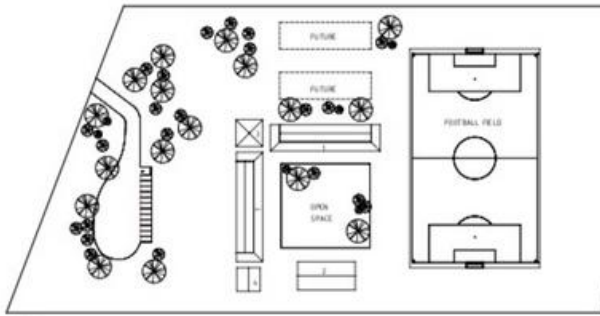
Items are available in our Ghana office (333 Ama Twitwegu Street, Chorkor) or New York office and Showroom (162-04 Tuskegee Airmen Way, Jamaica New York). To order items or visit one of our showrooms call 0277 512 671 or 718-454-1273 or email us at Hedzole@basicsinternational.org



HELP US BUILD CAMP PROMISE

B.A.S.I.C.S international is building Ghana its **first sleep away camp for children**. A fresh air camp site for children; filled with activities , dormitories and love. Whilst the camp, will 100% subsidize children from inner city communities, it will be open for a fee to all children in Ghana.

However, we need your help, and what better way to help and get something in return; support our calendar drive. Just \$10 calendar. Our goal is to **sell 1000 calendar**; which will make a **HUGE** impact on getting the camp open 2020. See the link below



Our goal is to get **PROMISE CAMP** open for August 2020- just as we celebrate 20 years (yes, B.A.S.I.C.S is turning 20 in 2020).



its that time of the year!!

ORDER YOUR CALENDAR TODAY \$10.00



order online today @ <https://basicsinternational.org/2020-calendar/>

Are you ready to order a calendar or two?



\$1,000,000.00 needed

Ready to donate ?

In Ghana

Mobile Money : 0591 651 000
Tigo Cash : 0277 512671
Stanbic Bank Direct Deposit

Outside of USA

Bank of America/
Zelle/ ACH/ Cash App

Paypal

(www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1347773)

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