

INTRODUCTION

The Street Children Project (SCP) was founded by the Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi in 2005 to address the problem of children on the street of Kumasi. Street Children Project is managed by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul working with dynamic staff members and volunteers. The current director is Sister Olivia Umoh. The Project provides multifaceted services to children in street situation, which include counselling, family reintegration and financial and other support in education and skill training. Currently SCP supports over 300 children in education and skill training.



CHILDREN ON THE STREET

It is estimated that as many as 20,000 children and young adults between the ages of 5 and 18 years roam the streets of Kumasi without care, parental guidance, shelter and other basic necessities of life. These children are exposed to dangers and abuses of various types; they are forced to perform tasks beyond their ages and capacities. They live rough and are exposed to criminal acts such as drugs, alcohol, commercial sex work, pilfering, fighting, etc. Children in street situation have no access to education or enterprise training and are likely to grow up into poverty and crime. Some children faced with extreme poverty in early childhood and abusive family situations take the initiative to go to Kumasi in the bid to work for their livelihood.

Together we can help them.

VISION STATEMENT

Street Children Project envisages that all children live, grow and are cared for within their homes; that no child spends his/her childhood on the street.

MISSION STATEMENT

Street Children Project Kumasi is about the plight of children on the streets of Kumasi, we work at helping them explore other options in life, offering enabling services to motivate them towards reintegration, providing them opportunities for education, and enterprise development.



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STREET CHILDREN PROJECT

Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi



OFF THE STREET INTO A BETTER FUTURE



STREET CHILDREN PROJECT'S ACTIVITIES

STREET OUTREACH

The Project staff carry out street work on daily basis during which they meet with children on the street and carry out street education on various value topics and issues relating to the welfare of children. During interaction with the children on the street, children are invited to the Drop-in-Centre to participate in the on-going activities in the centre.

DROP-IN-CENTRE

The Project operates a Drop-in-Centre which provides a safe place for children who are working and living on the streets of Kumasi. They get a secure place to rest, relax and play. They can also join the informal education, such as literacy class and value talk, in which significant topics are discussed with the children. Furthermore, they get advice and counselling, and assistance to leave the street. On average, there are 35 children in the centre daily. From the Drop-in-Centre the children are prepared to leave the street and reintegrate with their families and communities.

VTC

The Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Kumasi has been opened in 2013 and is a residence for young former street girls. Here they are provided with employable skills like tailoring, and are introduced to social skills, literacy programmes, human developments, sex education, house-keeping, and catering. The vocational training centre is to equip girls to compete effectively in the job market and to help girls develop sense of self-worth, dignity and self-esteem.



DAY CARE CENTRE

The SCP undertakes education for young children of street mothers and poor market women in a Day Care Centre. Here they can learn, play, and grow in a safe nurturing environment. This is to prevent children from being dropped at the busy market or being strapped on the backs of their mothers, while they are hustling for livelihood. This centre also creates a forum to educate street mothers on the dangers of having their children grow up on the street. This way we try to prevent these children from taking to street life and socialize them into a better way of living.

