

**Report On the International
Day for Street Children
Celebration 2016**

**TO
ADAMFO GHANA**

**BY
STREET CHILDREN PROJECT, KUMASI**

INTRODUCTION

The 12th of April every year is a day set aside by the Consortium for street children as the International Day for Street Children. This is an occasion, where children on street situation are given a platform to express their needs. As a result, Street Children Project (SCP), Kumasi chose to mark this day with a float around the principal streets of Kumasi.

This report briefly presents the activities the Project engaged in during the International Day for Street Children 12, April 2016.

SHARING OF T-SHIRTS

As early as 7:30 am Ghana time, hundreds of enthusiastic children arrived and gathered at the SCP Center, waiting for the commencement of the day's activities. The day began with the sharing of T-shirts to the children in street situation who had come to participate in the float. The T-shirts for the occasion were shared among these children who were full of excitement. Over 500 children were gathered to share the 250 T-shirts that were meant for the children. Thus half the number of children gathered had no T-shirts nonetheless they were encouraged to participate in the march. All children, SCP staff, Vebego Foundation Volunteers, representative of SamenWerk Foundation and other stakeholder filed into lines. The float began with a prayer led by the Board chairman of SCP, Msrg. Gabriel Acheampong. The march took over the streets attracting lots of supporters who joined the march and attention from commuters. The float was accompanied by a wonderful brass band group.



Float setting out from SCP Center

THE FLOAT

The float started at 9:00am. We had volunteers from Vebego Foundation and SamenWerk Foundation join the Float. Students from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) who were on field practicum were also took part in this exercise and all participants helped with the organization of the children for the float. Two representatives each from the Child Trafficking Unit and Social Welfare of Kumasi honoured the occasion with their presence to demonstrate their support for children in street situation.

Over 500 children in street situation in Kumasi as well as girls enrolled at the Vocational Training Centre joined the staff and volunteers of SCP for the float. During the float, children spoke up to the general public with the use of placards. The placards had inscriptions like "Street Children have Identity"; "Value Street Children"; "Care for Street Children"; "Street Children have a Right; "Stop Ignoring Us" etc.

The representatives from the Child Trafficking Unit gave a speech on the "Right of the Child" to the public as we continued the float. We also had media men from five media houses covering the entire program.



Staff of SCP, children on the streets, volunteers, Child Trafficking unit, the police and Supporters Marching along the major streets of Kumasi

REFRESHMENT

After a long and tiring walk through the designated streets of Kumasi, all participants of the float returned to the premises of the Project. The children who participated in the float were treated to food and drinks to help replenish their lost energy. It was pathetic to see the children struggle for food and drink to a point that they nearly stampede on each other, thanks to one of the sisters and the Vebego volunteers who saved the situation from getting chaotic.

CONCLUSION

Street Children Project is ever grateful to Adamfo Ghana Netherlands for raising funds to bear the cost of the International Day for Street Children in the last three years. We are equally grateful to the Daughters of Charity Province of Nigeria who also supported the funding of this occasion. We hope that our efforts to conscientize the public will yield positive reactions and reduce the trend of children living on the streets.

Below are pictures of the event

Gallery of the International Day for Street Children celebration



The van with public address system and the press leading the float



Children and staff and the police moving on



Street Children in the Project displaying placards



A march through the Central Market Kumasi



Volunteers from Vebego Foundation participating in the float



The float on the move



Awareness creation is what we are about

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