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Partnership for Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education in Ghana

P.O. Box 18813 Oklahoma City, OK 73154

#### pambeghana@gmail.com

PAMBE Ghana is a registered 501(c)(3) organization



# **PAMBE Ghana**

Partnership for Mother Tongue Based Bilingual Education in Ghana

Spring 2022

## **Better Together!**



In honor of founder Alice Azumi Iddi-Gubbels, students at La'Angum Learning Center (LLC) in northern Ghana will participate in a 5k relay run on April 14, 2022, alongside students at Albrook School in New Jersey, whose run is in honor of its own founder. The **"Better Together"** theme for the event reflects that the children at both schools will work together to raise funds for their schools with the common goal of honoring their founders. LLC's goal is to raise the equivalent of one year's salary for two LLC teachers. You can join the Albrook School in supporting PAMBE Ghana by sponsoring LLC relay runners via gofundme\* or PayPal. We are off and running on this important fundraiser and hope you will join us. Each sponsored donation will help continue the high quality Montessori based education Alice brought to her home area in northern Ghana in 2008. Beginning with 35 preschool students, LLC's 13 teachers now educate 249 students.

\*Head to <u>www.pambeghana.org</u> to find the gofundme link or type https:// www.gofundme.com/f/pambe-ghana-5k-fundraiser in your browser window.

PAMBE Ghana has built LLC through the commitment of Oklahoma City based volunteer board members and community volunteers, individual donors, funders and institutional donors who provided matching grants, the leadership of founder Alice Azumi Iddi-Gubbels and current program director Baba Bukari, dedicated teachers and staff, volunteer teachertrainers, and the support of a vibrant local community in northern Ghana committed to supporting the education of their youth. We are indeed better together. Join our global partnership!



Alice Azumi Iddi-Gubbels

#### Amazing aerial photos of LLC campus

One of the wonderful things about being a PAMBE Ghana supporter is that virtually every dollar goes directly into the field, so that donors see what their investment has achieved. Aerial photos of the LLC campus taken by William Haun show the capital investments that have transformed what was a rocky field of red dirt in 2007 into the vibrant local learning hub of 2022. The present campus features eight classrooms, library, kitchen, solar powered computer lab, teachers' quarters, water catchment and storage systems, and a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) project.

Mr. Haun also spoke with several LLC students, and created videos of what their LLC education means to them. Please go to our website to see these truly inspirational videos. www.pambeghana.org.



LLC Campus 2022



Mapping out the structure



Form ready for casting



Community participants



**Program Director Baba Bukari (right)** 



Digester, inspection and fertilizer chambers

The WASH project was possible through the collaboration of Canadian rotaries through Rotary International. It includes a sanitation station, latrines and a digester intended to allow human waste to be transformed to cooking fuel that would both reduce deforestation and decrease time spent gathering firewood (primarily the work of women and girls). Once the WASH project was complete, LLC was disappointed to learn that, to be effective, the size of the digester had to be increased significantly, requiring it to be completely rebuilt. Rainbow of Hope for Children, a Canadian non-profit that has partnered with PAMBE Ghana to support infrastructure for more than a decade, agreed to fund the new digester. The monumental project was possible in part due to labor donated by men and women of the local community.



**The 2021 Global Market** – located for the first time in Oklahoma City's eclectic Uptown 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Jefferson Park neighborhood - was a big success! Thank you to Tom Spector and Shawn Churchman who donated the space, and to Linda Temple, Sarah Braden, Emmy Ezell, and the host of volunteers who made sure customers left satisfied every single day – and of course, to all those who shopped.

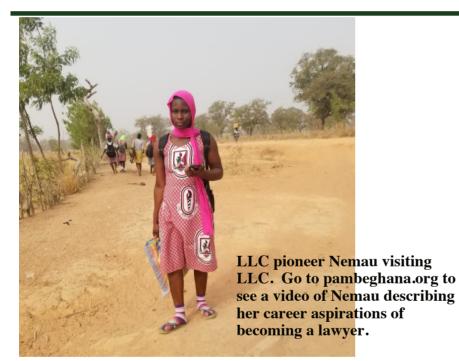
#### By the numbers:

- 11 weeks
- 204 person-shifts (612 hours)
- 41 active volunteers
- Approximately \$30,000 in net income to support LLC

The Global Market supports approximately a quarter of LLC's annual operating budget.

Add it all up: Goals Achieved! Thank you to everyone who contributed to Global Market 2021. We can't wait to see what's in store (and where the store will be) this year.







Daniel working on a map of the world

#### THE END DEPENDS ON THE BEGINNING

When PAMBE Ghana's first class of preschoolers arrived in 2008, the wish of its early supporters - to create an innovative model providing educational opportunities to young children in this region of underserved northern Ghana – had begun to blossom into reality. Fourteen years later, LLC is firmly established as a learning center with deep community roots. A perhaps unforeseen result of the work of PAMBE Ghana's earliest boosters is that LLC has grown to be an important community hub. LLC's impact does not stop when a student ages out of its class offerings at 6th grade. Instead, LLC continues to nurture those students who have graduated and moved on to public middle and high schools, by providing uniforms, notebooks and writing instruments. Students such as Nemau (left) remain attached to their LLC roots, and return to use the library and visit teachers. Young students such as Daniel (right, working a world puzzle) may observe the older students when they visit and begin to imagine where their education might take them, too. Likewise, parents and other community leaders are committed to improving LLC infrastructure, as seen in the volunteers who helped build the new digester for the WASH project. In addition to meeting the original goal of educating young children, a community has been transformed. Or more accurately, *is* transforming. Join us and see the impact your support will have.



Alice Iddi-Gubbels P.O. Box 18813 Oklahoma City, OK 73154-8813

**Address Correction Requested** 

### **INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER**



LLC graduates Samira and Esther return from high school to visit LLC

Support LLC students in their 5K relay run fundraiser!





Community input into building projects