



Orphan Grain Train

Good Tidings

News *-for and about -*

OGT Maryland

July, 2025



Why We Do What We Do

All OGT Volunteers and Supporters: Do you ever wonder about the impact that our organization has on needy people around the world? Please take a few minutes to read emails recently received from two recipients of our humanitarian aid. You will no longer question why we do what we do!

Thanks from Dr. Akwanga of Ghana

Subject: A Grateful Heart for a Sacred Partnership

To the Entire Orphan Grain Train Family:

Accept warm greetings of peace, love, and gratitude from all of us at the Ebenezer Akwanga Human Rights and Humanitarian Institute (EAHRHI).

As we reflect on our shared journey these past three years, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving and appreciation for the tremendous and transformative partnership between Orphan Grain Train and our humble yet determined mission. Your unwavering commitment to responding to the call of humanitarian need - not only within the United States but far beyond its shores - is a living testimony of faith in action, love in motion, and compassion in full bloom.

From the very first day of our partnership, OGT has stood as a faithful steward of God's blessings - offering not only material assistance, but sowing seeds of hope, joy, and renewal among broken hearts, battered families, and bruised communities in the Republic of Ghana.

With deep sincerity, we remember the countless lives touched because OGT answered the call:

- From the Evangelical Lutheran Church and Schools (ELCS) of Ghana,
- To the Methodist Church and Schools of Danchira in the Greater Accra Region,
- From the Islamic Basic School of Kambali in the Upper West Region,
- To the Bahass Foundation Home for the Mentally Handicapped,
- From the Demonstration School for the Deaf in Mampong-Akuapem,
- To the Catholic Dioceses of Ketu-Akatsi and Wa-Bolgatanga,
- From the National Police Hospital,
- To the Ghana Library Authority, Ghana Disability Association, and more than six dozens of remote educational and medical communities, crisscrossing 7 of Ghana's 16 administrative regions - each has become a sanctuary of hope through the power of our partnership.

As the Scriptures remind us in Matthew 25:35-40, *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat... I was sick and you looked after me... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."* In living out this divine commission, OGT has indeed clothed the naked, fed the hungry, and visited the imprisoned through your hands extended across oceans.

This letter is accompanied by photographs that capture the essence and magnitude of what our combined efforts have accomplished - not for the praise of man, but to glorify God who calls us to be *"the salt of the earth and the light of the world"* (Matthew 5:13-16). You, dear friends at OGT, have helped us shine that light in places long forgotten.

In a world increasingly torn by conflict, hunger, and despair, let us press on in this holy calling. Let us continue to carry the cross of hope into the dark corners of poverty and abandonment. Let us uphold the words of Galatians 6:9, *"Let us not grow weary in doing good; for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."*

Let us strive - with prayer, persistence, and partnership - to shine the light of dreams, purpose, healing, and restoration for millions of God's children.

We thank God for you. We believe in this divine mission. And we march forward, hand-in-hand with you, to reach hearts and touch minds for a better world.

With deep gratitude and abiding hope,

Dr. Ebenezer Derek Mbongo Akwanga

Founder / CEO

Ebenezer Akwanga Human Rights and Humanitarian Institute (EAHRHI).



Church service in Ghana





Thanks from Alla of Ukraine

Dearest Elfie,

I am soooo excited to share with you that we received the container yesterday!!!

We were worried and prayed that help would arrive on time. Because in a couple of days we are going to hold a camp for children in a safer place, in western Ukraine. If humanitarian aid had arrived a couple of days later, it would have ruined the whole camp. The Lord is very good and does everything on time!!! Praise God!!!

The Lord blessed us with a wonderful team, including orphaned children, orphanage graduates, and even the director of the Korostyshiv orphanage, who helped us unload the aid! Even the driver, who had traveled thousands of kilometers, helped unload the container! Isn't this God's mercy and grace? It is an incredible blessing to see how God works even in such things!!!

We are infinitely grateful to everyone who donated, sorted, repaired, washed, handled logistics, loaded, etc., to everyone who participated in this incredible project and gave their all!!!! All items are wonderful and very necessary! We are infinitely grateful to you and OGT Maryland!!! If only I could give you a big hug and thank you in person and everyone in OGT!!!! ;)

We are delighted and tremendously grateful!!!

Please, pray that God will bless us and give us wisdom in how to distribute aid, and that God's name will be glorified through this help and people will come to Jesus Christ!

Please, pray for our camp for orphaned children and children from crisis families! On Monday, we are going to western Ukraine, where it is safer and there are less air raid sirens. Every night and every day, we are bombarded by hundreds of drones and missiles. Last night, 371 air targets were launched! But we are doing great by the grace of God!!!

Thank you very much for everything you are doing! Greatly appreciate it!

Much love and hugs,

Alla

Bombas Donation

Bombas is an apparel company that manufactures socks, t-shirts and underwear, the three most requested items by the homeless. For every item purchased, a clothing item is donated to a homeless shelter or homelessness-related charity. Orphan Grain Train Maryland Branch has been one of their Giving Partner Organization for many years. We recently received a shipment of 40 boxes from Bombas that included 2200 pairs of men's and women's underwear and 900 men's and women's T-shirts. These items will be given to homeless shelters in our neighboring communities and within inner-city Baltimore. In addition to this shipment, Bombas sends us 6,000 pairs of socks annually to distribute to the homeless.

Soccer Uniform Donation



Last month we received a most generous donation of brand-new soccer uniforms and socks from Ryan Parisi and Rick Simpson of Coerver United. Since soccer is such a popular pastime in the African countries we serve, the two pallets full of soccer clothing will surely be a big hit! Thanks to Ryan and Rick for putting smiles on so many children's faces!

New Partnership With Samaritan's Feet

Samaritan's Feet is a humanitarian aid non-profit that serves and inspires hope by providing shoes to those in need around the world. Since its founding in 2003, Samaritan's Feet and its partners have served over 10.5 million people across 111 countries and over 625 US cities. Their Mission is to serve and inspire hope in children by providing shoes as the foundation to a spiritual and healthy life resulting in the advancement of education and economic opportunities. Their vision is a world with zero shoeless children.

Elfie Eberle's grandson, Luke, recently accepted a position working with this ministry in the United States - taking shoes to children and adults and telling them about their Lord Jesus. Luke introduced us to Samaritan's Feet. They are interested in partnering with us in the distribution of shoes and spreading the gospel because we ship internationally. They have initially donated 13,000 pairs of shoes for us to ship to our recipients. We look forward to this partnership with great anticipation.



This tractor trailer pulled up to our loading dock carrying boxes containing 13,000 pairs of shoes. Needless to say our empty aisles in the warehouse are no longer empty!



Walkout Program Changes Lives



Last fiscal year we gave over 900 pieces of durable medical equipment to needy members of our community at no cost. These items ranged from something as simple as a cane to something as sophisticated as motorized mobility carts. Tyrone, the gentleman pictured here, was involved in a near fatal accident that resulted in the amputation of an arm and a leg. The power scooter has changed Tyrone's life, as it enables him to have independent mobility. He is very grateful for the power scooter! And we are very grateful to all the people who donate medical equipment to us, so that we, in turn, can pass it on to others in need.

Shipment to Hazel Green

In early June, we loaded a shipment to Hazel Green Food Project (HGFP), Hazel Green, Kentucky. HGFP sits in one of the poorest counties in all of Appalachia. This shipment included winter clothes and coats for men, women and children, plus-sized clothes, linens, beds, mattresses, medical equipment, student desks, chairs, cafeteria tables, craft and office supplies, an organ and a piano.

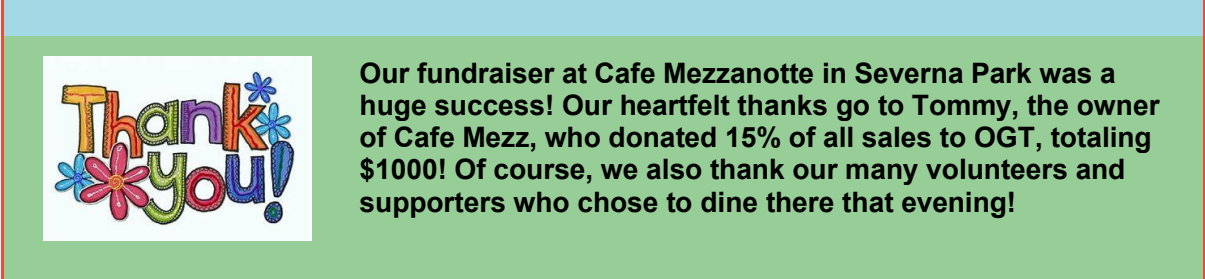


WANTED: Sewing Machines and Supplies

OGT Maryland supports sewing schools in Cameroon, Liberia, and South Sudan. In the future, we plan to extend this program to several other African countries - Ethiopia, Malawai, and Kenya. We are in need of gently used sewing machines. as well as sewing supplies - scissors, irons, needles, thread, bobbins, pins, buttons, tape measures, elastic, etc. If you have these items sitting in your home collecting dust, please consider donating them to OGT! Thank You!

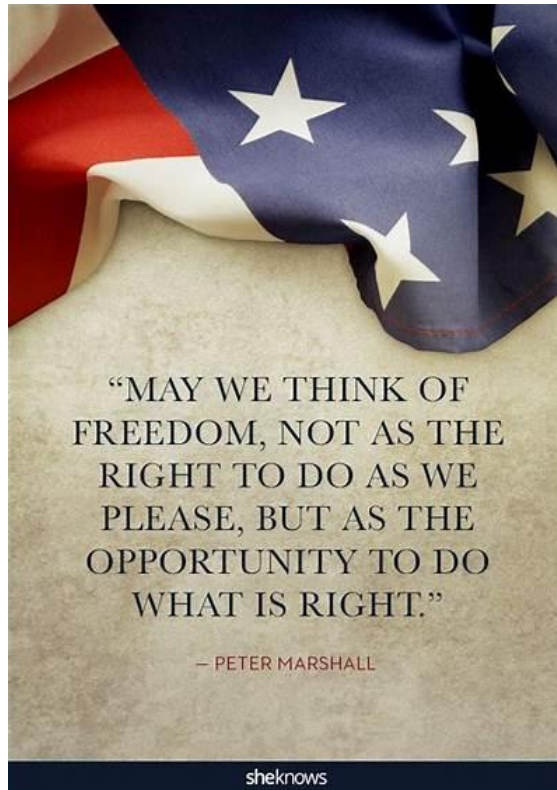


Thanks to Cafe Mezzanotte!



Our fundraiser at Cafe Mezzanotte in Severna Park was a huge success! Our heartfelt thanks go to Tommy, the owner of Cafe Mezz, who donated 15% of all sales to OGT, totaling \$1000! Of course, we also thank our many volunteers and supporters who chose to dine there that evening!

REFLECTION FOR TODAY



JOIN US IN PRAYER

Please remember our OGT community in your prayers!

- Our Volunteers
- Our Donors and Supporters
- Recipients of our humanitarian aid

Continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine and for an end to these wars.



USED PRINTER CARTRIDGE PROGRAM



Orphan Grain Train accepts your used printer cartridges as part of a recycling program that provides funding for OGT. Please continue to bring your depleted cartridges to the warehouse when you come to volunteer, donate, or visit.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Orphan Grain Train is always looking for new volunteers. Many opportunities, both large and small, are available. For more information, please call 410-417-9674 or stop by the warehouse any Monday or Tuesday morning (9:00 - noon), Tuesday evening (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.), or the second Saturday of each month (9:00 - noon).



Warehouse Location:

621 East-West Blvd.,

Millersville MD 21108

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1741

Millersville MD 21108

Email: md-orphangraintrain@ogt.org

Maryland Branch Phone Directory

410-417-9674

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**Contact us for details on our
Medical Walk Out Program
including donations and availability.
410-417-9674**

