



# Orphan Grain Train

## Good Tidings News -for and about - OGT Maryland

September, 2023



### Support Maryland Branch of OGT

Stay out of the kitchen and treat yourself to lunch or dinner at Ledos on Tuesday, October 3rd. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you. You can order on-line, carryout, or dine-in. Just be sure to mention that you are there to support our fundraiser, so we receive credit for your order. 20% of proceeds will be donated to OGT.

Thank you, in advance, for your support!

## Father Steliac Receives Presidential Award



On September 22nd, Father Steliac, the rector of St. Andrew Ukranian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, received the Presidential Cross of Ivan Mazepa from President Zelensky at the National Archives in Washington D.C. President Zelensky honored Father Steliac and several other individuals for "significant personal contribution to strengthening interstate cooperation, support of state sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and popularization of the Ukrainian state in the world." The Maryland branch of OGT has

developed a strong relationship with St. Andrew Ukranian Orthodox Cathedral and has been supporting the people of Ukraine since the war began by sending needed supplies for Ukraine to the Cathedral on a regular basis. We congratulate Father Steliac for being recognized for his leadership, his kindness, and his faith. It is a well-deserved honor!

# LESNUME Academy of Fashion and Design

The Maryland Branch of OGT has established a relationship with Dr, Ebenezer Akwanga, the CEO and director of the Ebenezer Akwanga Human Rights and Humanitarian Institute (EAHRHI). During the past year, we have delivered multiple truckloads of needed items to his warehouse in Denton, Maryland. From there, containers are filled and shipped to Ghana where Dr. Akwanga personally travels to meet each container when it arrives. Our latest donation included sewing machines, fabric, sewing supplies, and a sewing curriculum so that he could set up a sewing school. Please read the letter of appreciation below that we received from Dr. Akwanga.



Dear OGT Volunteers,

Greetings from Clinton, Maryland. LESNUME Academy of Fashion and Design was set up because of the enormous material support our Public Charity got from OGT. Actually OGT donated close to 30+ sewing machines, sewing products such as threads and some materials which has helped us to set up our first stop Fashion and Design institution to assist underprivileged youth and persons in the communities we serve, both male and female. We intend to open other centers of LESNUME Academy of Fashion and Design in different regions and localities in Ghana. We will continue to request for more sewing machines of all calibers - embroidery, weaving, knitting, button-holes, etc which will help us to achieve this goal.

In the spirit of true partnership, EAHRHI always recognizes its partners in every way possible and it is in this light that we have made it very clear, to the Academy students in particular and their parents, guardians and relatives in general that without the material support and good will from OGT, LESNUME Academy might not have seen the light of day at this particular time. And everyone at EAHRHI is excited with the pilot project and thankful to OGT for the tremendous partnership which is touching lives thousands of miles away across the Atlantic, giving hope to many whose hopes have been crushed, letting them know that we are all ONE in the eyes of God.

With the blessings and grace of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let's keep this going.

Dr. Akwanga

## Another Sewing School in the Making!

The Maryland branch of OGT has been instrumental in the establishment of sewing schools in many of the countries to which we send humanitarian aid. Schools have been up and running in Cameroon, Liberia, and South Sudan for quite a few years. More recently we sent sewing machines, fabric, sewing supplies, and sewing curriculum to Ghana, as mentioned above, and to Malawi. Pastor Harvey of Malawi is pictured here.



## WANTED ... Sewing machines and supplies



**OGT constantly receives requests from multiple countries for sewing machines, fabric (minimum of one yard), and sewing supplies. It has become very difficult to meet the demand. Please consider donating these items. It would be greatly appreciated. Even machines that are not in perfect working order will be accepted.**