



Newsletter 10, April 2015

Dear friends,

We're throwing a small party because here it is: the **10th** edition of the Hand in Hand Newsletter, which is certainly worth mentioning. We started publishing a biannual topical Newsletter about the ups and downs of Hand in Hand in 2010. Through this Newsletter we would like to inform you about all kinds of major and minor recent developments in our Community. We wish you much fun while reading this Newsletter.

In general

An always-important question of many readers is: how is everybody doing in PCC/Hand in Hand at the moment? Well, we can be very brief about that: all's well, very well! It is not only our opinion, but also that of many people who regularly visit PCC in Ghana which is all very fortunate and making us very proud.

All's well with all residents, we're very thankful for the fact that none has fallen seriously ill these past 6 months. The caregivers are performing great and the atmosphere in the Community is fine. What blessings!

A new resident called Benjamin



When 6 to 7-month-old Benjamin came to us in October through Social Welfare, he was the youngest new resident ever welcomed to PCC.

Such a sweet little guy is, of course, cuddled a lot by everybody in PCC and at the same time he is stimulated in his development.

Our dream is that Benjamin will be the first resident of Hand in Hand who will become a member of the national soccer team of Ghana, the Black Stars! And if not, that he will at least become Secretary of Energy Affairs or something similar...

New Centre PCC completed



Physio Place and Noah's Ark

The new centre of the Community consisting of three wonderful buildings namely the Royal Community Hall, Noah's Ark and the Physio Palace were officially opened in October. These festivities were accompanied with much pleasure and gratitude.

The fine murals form the finishing touch of Noah's Ark, which is being used quite frequently in the mean time. The same goes for the beautiful and functional Physio Palace, which offers us a lot of space and facilities for physiotherapy both inside and outside.

Annual Report PCC

The informative annual report of PCC for 2014 is out and can be found and read integrally on our website.

All previous Annual Reports can also be found on the same website.

2014 in retrospect

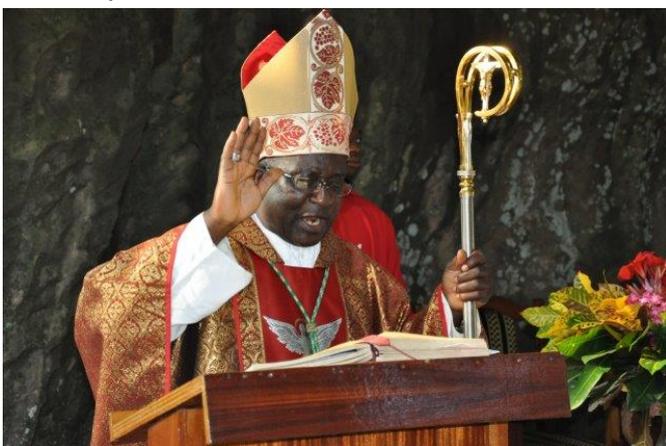
It is impossible to mention all new developments in this Newsletter because so much has happened in 2014. We will highlight a few important ones:

PCC goes solar: we have been able to install 24 solar panels in the Community thanks to various donations. It will make PCC greener and we can cut on our energy costs, which are becoming increasingly higher each year.

New car: after 9 years of loyal service we had to let go of our old car. We now possess a solid and fine new car: a wonderful Nissan Pick-up. This car is more suitable for the transport of more and bigger goods, which is quite handy for PCC.

Care centre for parents and children: we have made a flying start with this new centre, where parents can get advice and help for their disabled child. It appears that there is much need for such a centre and we are planning on extending it.

Visit of Roman Catholic bishop: bishop Techiman visited us in August on his own initiative. He came to see the Community with his own eyes and to conduct the confirmation of a number of our youth.



He was much impressed by PCC and everybody was most happy and proud because of his visit.

New website: What a wonderful new asset. Haven't you seen it yet? Visit www.operationhandinhand.nl soon.

A farm of our own: in 2014 a large part of our bare terrain was cultivated for the development of a farm of our own, all under the supervision of Baffo. In this way we will become less dependent of (the prices at) the market and that is very convenient because PCC is growing and we need more and more food!

New resident Rebecca



Rebecca

A 7 to 8-year-old girl from faraway Akwatia came to PCC in January. She is our new and 86th resident. She was abandoned in the neighbourhood of Akwatia and found roaming the streets in 2014. She is much excited with her new surroundings in PCC!

Baffo is visiting the Netherlands!

Baffo is coming to the Netherlands in May. He has been invited by the Dutch foundation of Hand in Hand and he will be staying for a month. It is an excellent opportunity for him to meet the board of the foundation and talk about the long-term strategy and management of PCC. Besides he will pay some informative visits to various healthcare centres for disabled people in the Netherlands, just like Joe Emma did in 2013!

Baffo is looking forward to this trip! He is hoping to meet many loyal friends of PCC and former guests of Hand in Hand in our country. You will certainly hear more about his journey!

New youth in the workshop

During the last few months no fewer than 5 new disabled young adults have found a spot in the sheltered workshop. All 5 were pupils of Shalom Special School in Nkoranza, but in the mean time they had outgrown their attendance there.

We welcome them in PCC and we hope that they will be heading for a good and instructive time in our workshop.

Sponsoring

There are still children for whom we are looking for a full or partly sponsoring. Please check our website, for instance at the Homepage.

You can also get more information from our sponsor administrator Nieske: sponsors@operationhandinhand.nl or via handinhandpcc@gmail.com



The young gentlemen James and Joel

Make yourself known to us

Nowadays banks in Holland (and probably also in other countries) are very strict with their privacy rules and don't just give names and address to us of all those who have paid an amount into our Dutch Hand in Hand bank account as a donation or for sponsoring. This makes it difficult for us to be in touch with you when you have made a transfer into our account. Not always a name and a bank account number will do for us to know who made the donation.

So in case you would like us to inform you about the fact that your money has arrived safely, please inform us about your transfer (e.g. by email) and include your postal address. Thanks in advance!

This will also enable us to thank you for your appreciated gift!



Aaron enjoying his new KidsWalk

Finally

So far for this 10th Newsletter. We hope you are fully updated again now.

Every 10 – 12 days you can find a new update on the ups and downs of PCC in the column "Albert's Corner" on our website:

www.handinhandcommunity.com

Cordial greetings on behalf of the PCC Board, that is Baffo, Joe Emma, Jeannette and me and of course from everyone else at PCC!

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