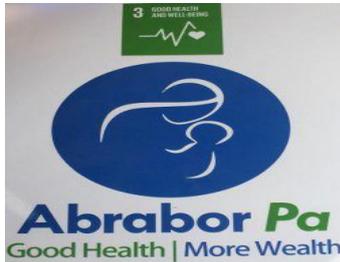


ABRABOR PA

GOOD HEALTH, MORE WEALTH



PROJECT MEMBERS: Adwoa Ayeley Armah-Tetteh (*Leader*), Zara Nana Yaa Ofori (*Assistant leader*), Kuukua Saaba Smith-Graham (*Research Analyst*), Salome Bilson (*Organiser and Coordinator*), Natasha Taylor-Pearce (*Producer*), Joy Baah-Senyah (*Visual Director*) and Ethel Ansah-Otoo (*Research Analyst*).

PROJECT AIM: Our project aims to educate people on preventive measures for prominent diseases and provide them with the necessary resources to prevent these diseases. The diseases we are trying to tackle are cholera and malaria. Our project will achieve this by providing education on these diseases to the community.

BACKGROUND

Ensuring good health and promoting well-being for all is the 3rd SDG for the UN. 17,000 fewer children die each day than in 1990, but more than six million children still die before their fifth birthday each year since 2000. Despite global progress, an increasing proportion of child deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. Four out of every five deaths of children under age five occur in these regions. **(Source: Sustainable Development Goals: FACT SHEET).**



We picked this goal because, having experienced malaria ourselves, we didn't want others to go through the same situation. There are high rates of infant and mother mortality due to malaria in Ghana. It saddened us that some children did not even get to experience their first birthday before they died. We added cholera to it because it is one of the prevalent diseases in Ghana due to the lack of clean gutters. To prepare ourselves, we gave a presentation on malaria on cholera; their causes, effects and treatments in front of our teacher, Mr Samuel Koranteng. Our research analysts, Kuukua and Ethel provided most of the information. Then, we set to work, planning how we would undertake the project. Our organiser, Salome, picked the date for our clean up, the 4th of January, 2019.

CLEAN UP, CLEAN UP, EVERYBODY CLEAN UP.

On the morn of the 4th of January, the members of Abrabor Pa conveyed to Faith Montessori School and made our way to our chosen location, the Mallam station. After introducing ourselves and our mission in English, Twi and Ga, we got to working. We swept and gathered trash and dug up weeds. After our clean-up, we handed out mosquito nets to the people around; however, our main targets were pregnant women and mothers because they were the ones who were at a high risk of suffering from the diseases. This was done as part of the field work for the project in the 'Global Social Leaders' Competition.

"LET US JOIN HANDS TO KEEP OUR ENVIRONMENT CLEAN, THE ONLY WAY TO ELIMINATING CHOLERA AND MALARIA FROM OUR COMMUNITIES" WAS OUR MAIN MESSAGE.

In our campaign, passengers, hawkers, commercial drivers and shop attendants were educated on the causes, symptoms and preventive measures of Cholera and Malaria. This message preceded the clean-up exercise and caught the eyes of many hence immense participation in the clean-up exercise. Activities such as picking up and sweeping surroundings around the 'Trotro' station as well as emptying filled-up garbage containers were part of the many activities embarked upon on that busy day.



From the left: Ethel Ansah-Otoo, Kuukua Smith-Graham, Lawrence Darko Osei, Mrs Eunice Braide, Sarah Kankam, Salome Bilson, Maame Aba Asiedu and Abena Amofo Dankyi. Mrs Braide is our teacher who volunteered to help us. Lawrence, Sarah, Maame Aba and Abena are students who volunteered to help us.



From the left: Maame Aba, Adwoa Ayeley Armah-Tetteh, Zara Nana Yaa Ofori, Abena, Mr Samuel Koranteng, Kuukua, Sarah, Ashley-Jordan Annoh(Volunteer), Abdul Rahim Khaled Morton(Volunteer), Salome and Ethel. Here we are holding the mosquito nets.

LESSONS LEARNT

All of us have learnt how to work in a team. We have each educated ourselves on how to pull our weight, share responsibilities and play our individual roles. The members of Abrabor Pa have developed their communication skills through talking to new people. We have also learnt to work to achieve a shared goal or outcome in an effective way. We have noticed an increase in our individual creative skills and so we believe that coming together to work on this project is the reason for this change. We learnt that the community is naturally unsanitary and that this project was a step in the right direction to cure them of this. However, we found out that the people of the community are very eager to learn new things.

Undertaking this project taught us more about our chosen Sustainable Development Goal—SDG3: Good Health and Wellbeing. This goal aims to reduce child mortality, improve maternal health and fight prominent diseases such as malaria and cholera. Some of the goals of the UN is to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births, achieve universal health coverage, and end the epidemics of tropical diseases such as malaria and communicable diseases. We also learnt that over 6.2 million malaria deaths have been averted between 2000 and 2015, primarily of children under five years of age in sub – Saharan Africa.

IMPACT

We created awareness of malaria and also educated the people of the community on how to prevent themselves from getting malaria. With the help of Faith Montessori School, we gave most people mosquito nets especially pregnant mothers and those with toddlers. About 15 students and a few teachers were involved in this project which took approximately 3 hours. We involved other people like our teachers who supervised us during our activities and the cleaners to help with the cleaning. Again, the drivers played a key role in transporting us from the school to the Mallam station. Lastly, we created a project that was sustainable by donating some mosquito nets to the people we met especially mothers and, pregnant mothers and expectant mothers. We also demonstrated to the people about the how to clean their surroundings and talked to them about the causes, symptoms and preventive measures of malaria and cholera. It is our hope that the exercise will be replicated beyond the Gbawe-Malam community and extended to other parts of the Greater Accra Region even after the end of the competition.

WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO CONTRIBUTE OUR QUOTA IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SUCH DISEASES IN GHANA, AFTER ALL A SERVICE TO MANKIND IS A SERVE TO GOD AND "CLEANLINESS THEY SAY IS NEXT TO GODLINESS".