

**2023  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

# **A DREAM REALIZED**

*OTC, Nsawam, Ghana*



Thank you for your continued support.

# A Letter from Sister Elizabeth

Dear Friends of OTC,

As we close another remarkable year at the Orthopedic Training Centre, I am filled with gratitude to share the impact of your generosity and what it has made possible. Your unwavering support continues to change the lives of so many patients who come to us with hope for a brighter future.

This year we have had many reasons to celebrate and give thanks to God. I celebrated my 80th birthday and my 60th year as a School Sister of Notre Dame. The staff outdid themselves in a week-long celebration. I am grateful that I responded to the call to serve the people of Ghana, and as I look back, I realize how blessed I have been by the children and adults I have met over my many years here.

This year also had its moments of sadness. Martin Nadaki, who had been at the OTC since he was six years old, died on his 58th birthday. Martin worked as a technician in our workshop, and he and his family lived on the compound. His life was an example of commitment and gentleness. Martin's funeral was truly a tribute to his life and his dedication to the OTC. He is greatly missed, but he will always be remembered as kind, loving and quiet- a good man.

Much of 2023 was spent on preparing for our new branch in Walewale. The OTC had always wanted to have a branch in the north of Ghana so that our sisters and brothers in that area could more easily access our services. Since 1965, our mobile unit has traveled to the north every January and June. This was helpful, but we knew it was not the answer to providing the consistent care that was needed. So, even though we opened the branch on January 15, 2024, we felt it was important to include the news of this event in this 2023 report. In next year's report, we look forward to giving you an update on how this new branch has been able to meet the needs of our patients in that part of the country.

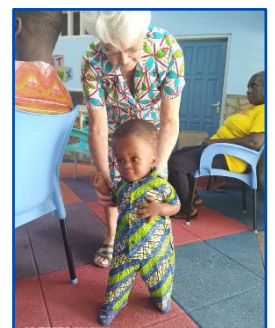
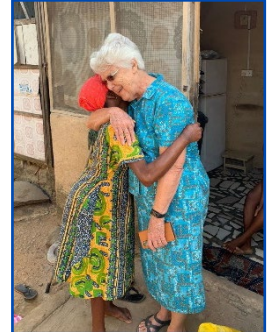
I would like to conclude with a quote from Richard Rohr, which I think sums up why we keep going day after day, on good days and bad days:

*When we believe in a deep way that life is good, God is good, and humanity is good, we do exciting and imaginative things because we are confident that we are part of a storyline that is going somewhere good.*

*-Richard Rohr*

I thank you for your support and I can assure you that your generosity makes significant differences in the lives of all the people that your donations touch.

*Sister Elizabeth Newman, SSND  
Managing Director*



# A Dream Come True



*Opening Day at OTC, Walewale Branch*

In last year's annual report, we wrote about the excitement surrounding the start of construction on the new Centre in Walewale in northern Ghana. This ambitious project began in May 2022 with a groundbreaking ceremony and a blessing of the land. Now, the dream has been realized and the excitement is growing as we prepare to welcome our first patients.



*Fr. Cyprian Kuupol, SVD,  
Provincial Superior, celebrating Mass*

In 2023 we were busy overseeing and working on the construction of the physical building, which includes a residential bungalow. We also designed a 600,000 liter underground water cistern and installed a solar panel plant to ensure total energy independence. We purchased equipment and tools that will allow us to run the Centre efficiently. We held many internal conversations to decide which members of the workshop staff in Nsawam would move to Walewale. Throughout the year, we made many trips to Walewale as Mr. Raphael, our Assistant Director, and Mr. Kofi, our Project Manager, followed the progress and made recommendations on design and construction.



*Cutting the ribbon*

As our confidence in the progress of the work grew, so too did our determination to open the Centre on January 15th, commemorating the 10th anniversary of Brother Tarcisius's passing. It seemed almost impossible that just two years ago we began this project with a sketch on a piece of paper. Now we were ready to open the doors to the finished compound which includes a workshop, four outpatient self-contained rooms, three storage rooms, a kitchen, a security post, a changing area for staff, and outside modern toilets for patients. There is also a new home for Mr. Raphael who has moved to Walewale to manage the Centre on a full-time basis.



*Chiefs and guests*

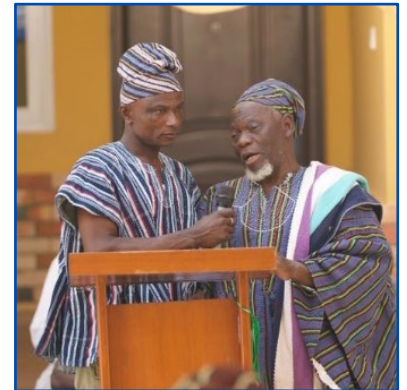
## *A Dream Come True - continued*

On January 15th we gathered for the ribbon cutting ceremony. The event was a great success. Many more people came than we expected, testament to the fact that word about the OTC had spread around Walewale. We were all moved by the expression of awe on people's faces and the positive comments and feedback we received. Even some of our patients who in the past had to travel a long distance to receive treatment in Nsawam came to the opening, happy that now they will be able to receive care much closer to home.

Brother Tarcisius would be proud of us. For decades he dreamed of having another OTC compound to serve patients in the north. As we gathered at the inauguration with our Board, our donors and friends, and representatives of the SVD, the Ghanaian government, and the traditional authorities we felt overwhelmed by this accomplishment. Our work since 1961 has changed so many lives, and now it is our hope that OTC Walewale will have a positive impact on many more. We have faith in its success not only because patients will receive services in a modern, state-of-the-art facility but more importantly because they will be cared for by a dedicated and compassionate team of people. We look forward to sharing more next year when OTC Walewale is fully operational. We are deeply grateful to all who worked to make our dream a reality, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved.



*Fr. Augustine, SVD  
MC for the Program*



*The Gumurana Issahahu  
Mohamudu of the Wungu  
Traditional Area  
of Walewale*



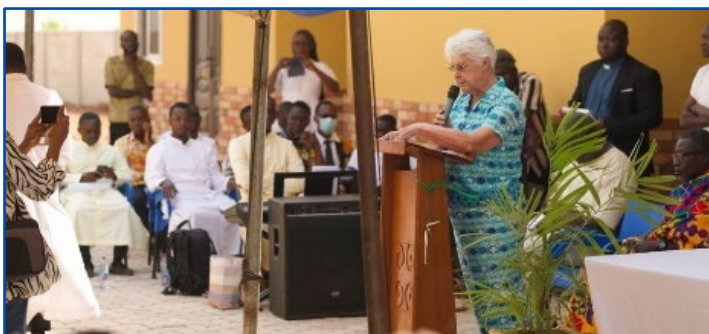
*Dr. Brimah Baba Abubakari, Reg. Dir. of  
Health & Mrs. Lilian Annan, Board Chair*



*Nana Adu Dwumoah Nobeng Adoagyiri*



*Hon. Yidana Zakariah,  
Regional Minister*



*Sister Elizabeth addresses the guests*



*Daan Verboon, longtime friend of  
OTC, travelled with his son from  
Holland to the event*

# *A Dream Come True - continued*

## More Memorable Moments from Opening Day at Walewale



*Guests gathering for the opening*



*Fr. Campbell, SVD, Board Member with Ramatu Salifu, patient*



*Guests at the opening*



*Fr. Cyprian, SVD, Provincial Superior, blessing the building*



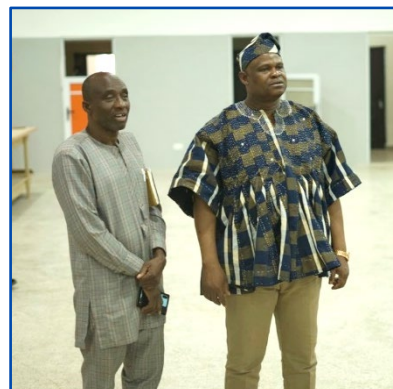
*Viewing the new facility*



*Mr. Raphael Amuzu Dzameshie touring guests through the workshop*



*Guests touring the building*



# A Celebration of Two Milestones

In 2023 Sister Elizabeth Newman reached both professional and personal milestones, and there was much to celebrate at the OTC. The year marked Sister Elizabeth's 60th year of service as a School Sister of Notre Dame. Sister's first mission was as a high school teacher in Conway, Arkansas, and then she was sent to the city of her birth—New Orleans, Louisiana, where she taught history and sociology at Redemptorist High School. At that time, the congregation asked for volunteers to open its first mission in Ghana. Sister Elizabeth volunteered to go, and in 1974 she and four other sisters moved to Nsawam, Ghana to begin a new chapter of faithful service. She spent her first year teaching at St. Martin's Senior Secondary School and then transferred to the Orthopedic Training Centre where she worked with the founder, Brother Tarcisius, SVD. Upon Brother's death in 2014, Sister Elizabeth became the director of the OTC, where she still serves today.



*Presentation is made to Sr. Elizabeth by the SVD's*



*Eli, Sr. Elizabeth and Victor*



*Sr. Elizabeth with the Chiefs*



*Sr. Elizabeth with her OTC family on her birthday*

The year was also a personal milestone for Sister Elizabeth, as she celebrated her 80th birthday. In honor of both occasions, the staff at the OTC organized and hosted a joyful, momentous celebration of the life and service of Sister Elizabeth. She has shown enduring love and compassion for everyone at the OTC and beyond. Guests who gathered to honor Sister Elizabeth included all of her extended family at the OTC, former employees, and friends and donors from Ghana and abroad who traveled to be with her.

## *A Celebration of Two Milestones - continued*

The celebration continued when Sister traveled to the United States to visit her family in Louisiana and her former classmates in St. Louis, Missouri. It was with profound gratitude and admiration for her tireless service that so many came together to recognize the enduring commitment of Sister Elizabeth Newman, SSND. She has touched and changed countless lives, and it was a beautiful tribute to who she is and all she has done and continues to do.



*Sr. Elizabeth with the children and some of the OTC Staff at the celebration*



*Cutting the cakes*



*Sr. Elizabeth with the College Staff*



*Raphael and Sr. Elizabeth*



*Sr. Elizabeth with SSNDs in attendance*



*Sr. Elizabeth with Billy, Staff & children*



*Fr. Augustine, Sr. Elizabeth & Fr. Eugene*

### **Sister Elizabeth's Jubilee Celebration in the US**



*SSND US 60 Year Jubilarians*

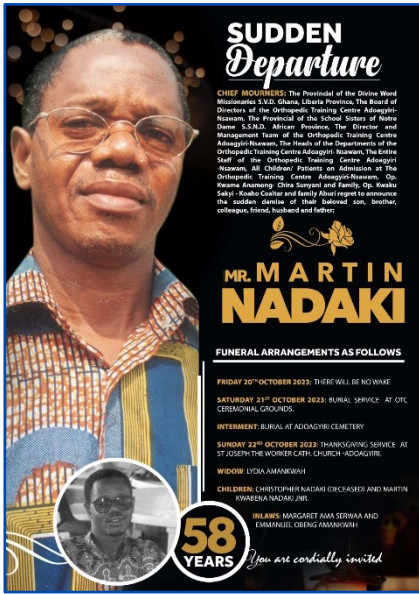


*Sr. Elizabeth with family*



*Sr. Elizabeth with family & friends*

# Remembering Martin Nadaki



**SUDDEN Departure**

**MR. MARTIN NADAKI**

**FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS AS FOLLOWS**

FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023: THERE WILL BE NO WAKE

SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2023: RURAL SERVICE AT CFC, ERENOMU, GOSNOLDS

INTERMENT: BURIAL AT ADONTOIN CEMETERY

SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2023: THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT ST JOSEPH THE WORKER CATH CHURCH, AKOONGI

WIDOW: LYDIA AMANKWAH

CHILDREN: CHRISTOPHER NADAKI (DECEASED) AND MARTIN KWABENA NADAKI JR.

INLAWS: MARGARET AMA SERIWA AND EMAMKULI OBIENG AMANKWAH

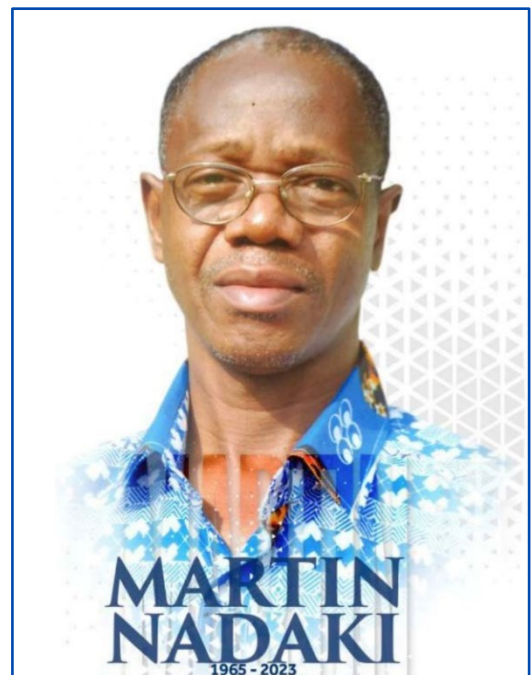
**58 YEARS**

*You are cordially invited*

In 2023 we lost a beloved member of the OTC family, Martin Nadaki, who came here as a seven-year-old boy with physical disabilities. Abandoned by his own family, Martin was given a home at the OTC. Our founder, Brother Tarcisius, and Sister Elizabeth Newman ensured that he would be educated and cared for like a son. From a young age Martin demonstrated an ability to understand and fix almost anything. Growing up, Brother Tarcisius taught him how to repair many things from clocks to prosthetics and orthotics. As an adult and an amputee, Martin brought his experience to his work and was revered as one of the most loyal and skillful members of the OTC workshop. Martin's colleagues admired both his ability to repair anything and his patience when teaching others.

Martin's passing had a profound impact on all of the OTC family. He lived and worked on the compound longer than anyone else. The day of his funeral was not only a day of grieving but also a day of sharing fond memories of Martin and honoring the incredible, yet humble man that he was. It was the coming together of his extended family and the Nsawam community to celebrate his life and to support his wife, Lydia, and son, Martin Jr. (Kobe), of whom he was very proud. The service combined traditional Ghanaian ceremonies led by local religious leaders and Catholic ceremonies led by the SVD priests, Father Sampson, Father Stephen and Father Eugene. Sister Elizabeth and Martin Nadaki Jr. gave heartfelt eulogies, and the choir filled the day with joyful singing.

All who knew Martin will miss him dearly and will remember him as a quiet, gentle, calm, and loving man. Martin showed us all that even with humble beginnings and significant disabilities you can lead a fulfilling, learned, and cherished life.





# All Children are God's Gift



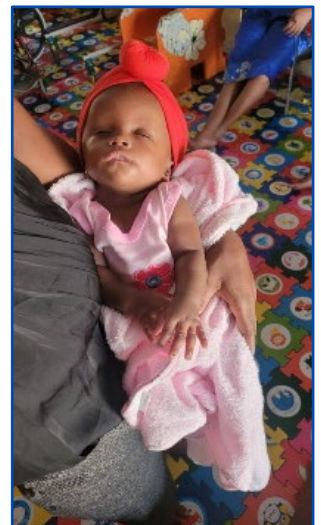
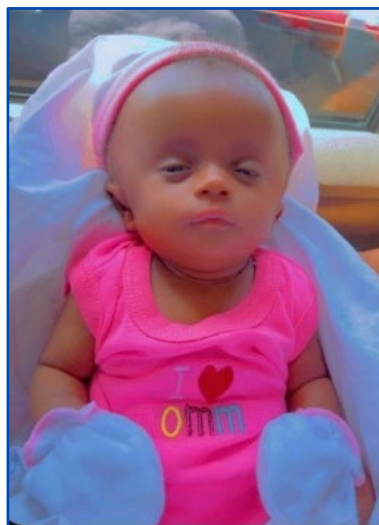
*Kweku- Before and After*

At the OTC, we never know where our path of faith will lead us, but we always trust that God has a plan for all of us while we walk it. Among the many great blessings we have received and the important lessons we have learned, perhaps none have been more impactful than those we have experienced with the precious babies we have served over this past year.

In February of 2023, the social welfare team informed us that a child, born on

October 12, 2022, had been left at the government hospital because he had hydrocephalus. They told us that they put the baby boy in an orphanage. Knowing that this child might not receive the critical care that he needed, we asked them to bring him to the OTC so we could help. When Kweku arrived, we found him to be very malnourished and battling a significant degree of infection. Upon a full medical review, we learned that we needed to feed and treat him for one month before he could have surgery to have a shunt inserted. The shunt would relieve the pressure on his brain and his prognosis would be excellent. That month passed, and with the care he received he grew strong enough to have the surgery. It was successfully performed at FOCUS Hospital in March of 2023. With continued care, food and love, Kweku has developed beautifully. In terms of growth and milestones, he is just where he should be for his age. We cherish him, and he is a light in our lives.

Shortly after Kweku fully recovered from his surgery, another baby with hydrocephalus was abandoned at a nearby orphanage. The care team there reached out to us for assistance and we were able to arrange and finance her shunt surgery. Nyamedia has received wonderful, loving care from the team at the orphanage and is thriving. We are grateful to them for taking such great care of her.



*Nyamedia- Before and After*

# All Children are God's Gift - continued



Finally, our Frances was left at the hospital in November of 2023, just after she was born. With multiple physical challenges and weighing just 1.5 kilos, the concerns about her were many. Yet, with faith, we brought her to the OTC knowing that she was worthy of our care and love. Sadly, Frances passed away on January 28, 2024. It is hard to lose a baby yet we know that we offered her all that we could give. God brought her to this world and gave her to us for a reason. She showed us how to love and hope. We remain grateful that we were able to offer this baby a good place to spend her life, and we extend sincere thanks to all who helped with the care of this special child. Although we are all feeling this loss, we are grateful that we had this time to provide her with a home and to receive the gifts that this child brought to all of us.

At the OTC, we are blessed to be continually reminded that all children are indeed a gift from God.

## Kweku has made great progress



# Working Together in Partnership



*Australian High Commissioner to Ghana, Berenice Owen-Jones & Second Lady of Ghana, Samira Bawumia*

The generosity of OTC's donors is something that makes our work possible year after year. It enables us to serve our patients at the Centre and in the surrounding communities, providing them with the compassionate care they need and deserve. This year we made a special appeal for donations to help us establish our new facility in Walewale where we are bringing our services to northern Ghana. Our extended community in Australia heeded our request with overwhelming generosity.



*Enoch Jiggles Boakye Jr., Berenice Owen-Jones, Iddi Baah-Kurey, Billy Williams, Eric Kwasi Baah*

The OTC has a long-standing relationship with Australia. In 2023 Australia provided substantial support for both the Nsawam OTC community and for the establishment of our Walewale location. This support was made possible by *Rotary Donations in Kind* (Australia), *Wheelchairs for Kids* (Australia), *GTS Drilling* (Ghana), and the *Australian High Commission* (Ghana). Together, these organizations donated 300 items including medical and rehabilitation equipment, children's wheelchairs, and office furniture to help equip Walewale. The Australian High Commissioner to Ghana, Her Excellency Berenice Owen-Jones, joined the Second Lady of Ghana, Mrs. Samira Bawumia, along with other ministers of the Ghana Government to formally handover the Australian equipment to the OTC.



*Billy and Berenice Owen-Jones*



*Billy Williams with Sister Elizabeth*



*Billy Williams*



*Donated wheelchairs*



*Mr. Iddi Baah-Kurey, Head of HR for GTS Drilling*



*Berenice Owen-Jones presents gift to Sr. Elizabeth*

## Working Together in Partnership - continued



*Sr. Elizabeth speaking at the Melbourne Cup Event*

Additionally, at the 2023 Melbourne Cup Charity Ball, the Australian High Commission raised 139,143.26 cedis (approximately \$11,000 US dollars) to support the work of the OTC. The High Commission stages its biggest fundraising event each November to coincide with Australia's world-famous Melbourne Cup horse race. We were honored to be a chosen benefactor of this event. The donation allowed us to put 100,000 cedis (approximately \$8,000 US dollars) towards the purchase of a generator for the Walewale facility, and the balance will be used to provide rehabilitative care for children at the OTC in Nsawam. It was with profound gratitude that we accepted this donation, as it enables us to continue to serve our communities in an impactful and meaningful way. Partnerships such as the one between Australia and the OTC make a significant difference in people's lives every day. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to everyone involved in making this possible.



*Berenice Owen-Jones, Sr. Elizabeth, Billy Williams with OTC patient*



*Mrs. Samira Bawumia, Second Lady of Ghana speaking with child*



*Billy with Emmanuel, an OTC patient*



*Berenice Owens-Jones, Australian High Commissioner to Ghana with Kweku*

## Events at the OTC

We at the OTC are immeasurably thankful for all the donations that allow us to continue to faithfully serve the people of Ghana. In 2023 we helped organize two events where we welcomed Jennifer Mensah-Bonzie of the Vigilo Mobility Project and Kobby Okum of the Ghana Impact Project. Words cannot express our gratitude for their monetary and food gifts. Without donations like these we would not be able to have the same kind of impact on our patients and the community.



*Jennier Mensah-Bonzie,  
Founder of Vigilo Mobility Foundation*

**Ms. Jennifer Mensah-Bonzie, Founder of the Vigilo Mobility Foundation, shares her reasons for giving in her own words:**

“I give back to my community because I was diagnosed with polio at a young age, and the Orthopedic Training Centre helped me believe in my potential. Inspired by advocates like Brother Tarcisius and Sister Elizabeth, who dedicated themselves to assisting the physically challenged in Ghana, I am committed to empowering others facing disabilities.”



*Vigilo Mobility Foundation food donation*

Jennifer was born in Ghana and moved to the United States in 1996. She started the Vigilo Mobility Foundation to raise awareness and funds for the OTC and other organizations like it. Jennifer credits the OTC with helping her achieve mobility and independence.

“I continue to give back to my [OTC] community as a heartfelt expression of gratitude and with dedication to empowering others in need. I aim to

advocate for individuals with disabilities in my home at the OTC and extend support to underserved areas in Ghana, my native country.”



*OTC staff, residents and patients gather for Vigilo event*

## Events at the OTC - continued

Mr. Kobby Okum, President of Ghana Impact Project, shares his reasons for giving in his own words:

“In 1995, when I was 11 years old, my family emigrated from Ghana to the U.S. Beyond the adjustment to a totally different environment, I was shocked to see students in my school whisking around in electric wheelchairs, dashing through the hallways and appearing to enjoy reasonably independent lives.

“I hadn’t seen physically challenged children in Ghana. I clearly remember coming home from school one day and asking my parents why there were so many physically challenged children in America. That was when I learned that we had such kids in Ghana too, but I hadn’t seen them because they had no way to be out and about. Hardly any schools, or for that matter, any public facilities, had ramps or elevators. Worse, some members of society saw their physical challenges as contagious, or as a curse from God. I was 11, and I knew that someday I would bring Ghanaian children the equipment they deserved.

By 2021, I was well along in my advisory career. The harsh realities of the Covid-19 pandemic reminded me of my childhood promise to myself. It was time to bring that promise to fruition. I founded the Ghana Impact Project, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, to accomplish two goals. The first is to raise money to provide mobility resources, such as prosthetics, wheelchairs and crutches, to the physically challenged in Ghana. The second is to raise awareness and to educate people to help curb the stigma of being physically challenged in Ghana. In 2022, its first year, the Ghana Impact Project raised \$10,000 that provided prosthetics for 20 Ghanaian children.”

### Divine Word Missionaries Honors Sr. Elizabeth

On February 19th, 2023, Sr. Elizabeth Newman was recognized by Divine Word Missionaries for her “tremendous contribution and dedication to the progress and sustainability of the Orthopedic Training Centre over the years.” Sr. Elizabeth traveled to St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Dansoman where Divine Word Missionaries presented her with a plaque in appreciation for her active collaboration, commitment and continuous service. The ceremony also marked the 85th Anniversary of the Divine Word Missionaries presence in Ghana. Ten individuals were awarded this recognition, and Sister Elizabeth was the only woman and non-SVD to be honored.



*Kobby Okum, President of Ghana Impact Project*



*Kobby Okum presents check to Sr. Elizabeth*



*Sr. Elizabeth with her DWM Recognition Award*

# Brother Tarcisus Prosthetics & Orthotics Training College

## Human study e.V Project

The second phase of the Human Study e.V Germany Human Resource Development Project in partnership with Mahidol University in Thailand commenced in August 2023. After successful completion of the second phase, trainees will receive an International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) Cat 1 Degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics. A total of six trainees from the OTC and BTPOTC in Nsawam are currently enrolled in the three-year program along with four foreign nationals from Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Yemen and Uganda.



*Brother Tarcisus Prosthetics & Orthotics Training College (BTPOTC) Students*



*2023 Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Graduates*

## 2023 Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) Terminal Exams and Graduation

All twenty students of the Diploma 8 group who were presented for the KNUST Terminal exams passed successfully, and ten of these students passed with distinction. The students graduated in December 2023 and received their diplomas in Prosthetics and Orthotics Technology.

# Brother Tarcisus Prosthetics and Orthotics Training College

## Walkabout Foundation Free Wheelchair Distribution Project

From May 22-26, 2023, the Walkabout Foundation teamed up with the Orthopedic Training Centre in Nsawam and the Kabaka Foundation to distribute custom-fitted wheelchairs to people with disabilities. The majority of the people who received wheelchairs were children with cerebral palsy and older people with mobility impairment. During the five-day tour, 104 wheelchairs were distributed to patients at the OTC; the Salvation Army Rehab Centre in Agona Duakwa; the Kabaka Foundation, Regional Prosthetics and Orthotics Centre in Takoradi; and the New Crystal Hospital in Tema.



*Patients receive wheelchairs*



## Completion of Ghana Tertiary Education Commission (GTEC) Program Accreditation

BTPOTC Nsawam completed its accreditation for the Diploma in Prosthetics and Orthotics Technology program. The application was successful, and the GTEC Board granted approval and authorization. The college received institutional and program accreditation certifications on December 14, 2023 which will last for the next five years. This accreditation will serve as a stepping stone to complete the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics accreditation for the college.

## The Prosthetics and Orthotics Workshop Expansion

With the help of the SVD Council, the college secured a much needed space at the Catholic Conference Centre. Sr. Elizabeth Newman, Director of the OTC, financed the renovation of the space into a workshop where students will have practical prosthetics and orthotics lessons. This will help reduce crowding at the current workshop.



*Renovation of new workshop space at the Catholic Conference Centre*

## The SVD Provincial Inaugurated a New Board of Governors for the College

A seven member board was inaugurated on October 7, 2023 at the SVD Provincial Superior's residence in Osu, Accra. The team consists of individuals from different professional backgrounds who are committed to the development of the Brother Tarcisus Prosthetics and Orthotics Training College. They will work to provide direction and ensure compliance with both local and international prosthetics and orthotics education standards.



*New Board of Governors for BTPOTC*



# Working Together to Serve Our Patients



*Workshop*



*New Workshop Ceiling*

Our workshop continues to play an integral role in caring for patients by manufacturing prosthetics and orthotics. The statistics show that they had a very busy year, making close to 3,000 orthopedic appliances. Thanks to the generosity of *KLM Wings of Support* and *Wilde Gazen* from Holland, we were able to install a new ceiling, making it brighter and cooler inside. We are very grateful to these organizations for their monetary gifts. They have made a wonderful positive difference for our employees.

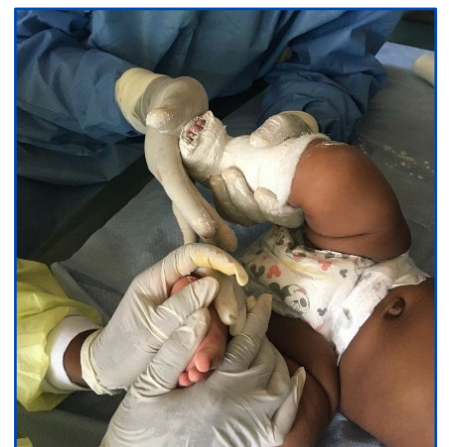
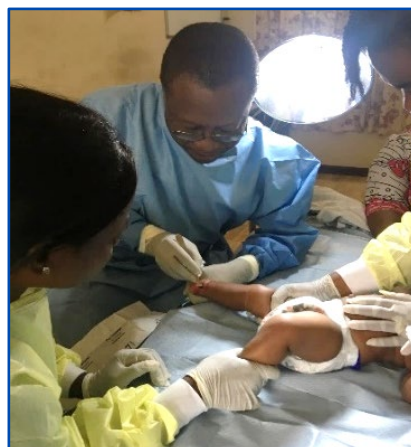


*Moms with babies in the Club Foot Program*

We can see the direct impact of the workshop's efforts in the treatment of clubfoot and in the support of our patients with cerebral palsy. We continue to use the Ponseti Method to treat clubfoot, which involves a systematic series of casting and orthotic bracing to non-surgically and permanently make the correction. We have been very pleased with the success of the program, and our families are grateful we use this noninvasive procedure.



*Baby with Club Foot Deformity*



*Tenotomy*

# Working Together to Serve Our Patients - continued



CP Daycare



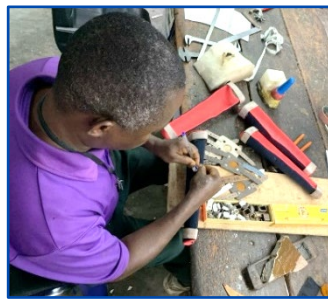
Baby with Dennis Brown shoes

The workshop also makes splints for our children who attend the Cerebral Palsy Day Care. The CP Day Care provides a safe place for children to receive physical therapy and education, and it allows them to feel part of a community where they can learn and grow. This program is a tremendous help to parents who are able to go to work knowing that their children are well cared for.

The trek program also relies on the workshop to make prosthetics and orthotics so they can be delivered to patients who are not able to travel to either OTC compound. The trek program was not running on the regular schedule in 2023, but in 2024 we will have a trek team for the south led by Mr. Anthony Osei and a trek team in the north to cover the areas far from Walewale led by Mr. Raphael Dzameshie. We are proud of all of our OTC programs, and we are grateful that they can work in conjunction with each other to best serve our patients.



Mr. Anthony Osei-  
Workshop Manager



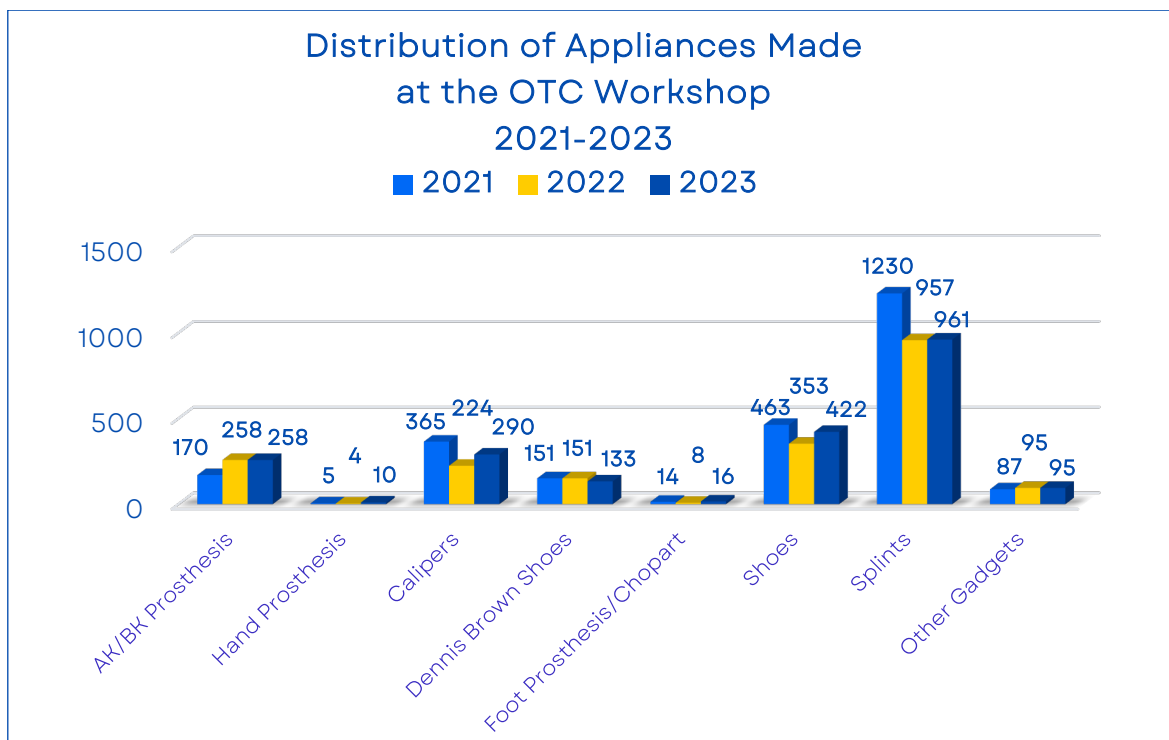
Splint Maker



Limb Maker



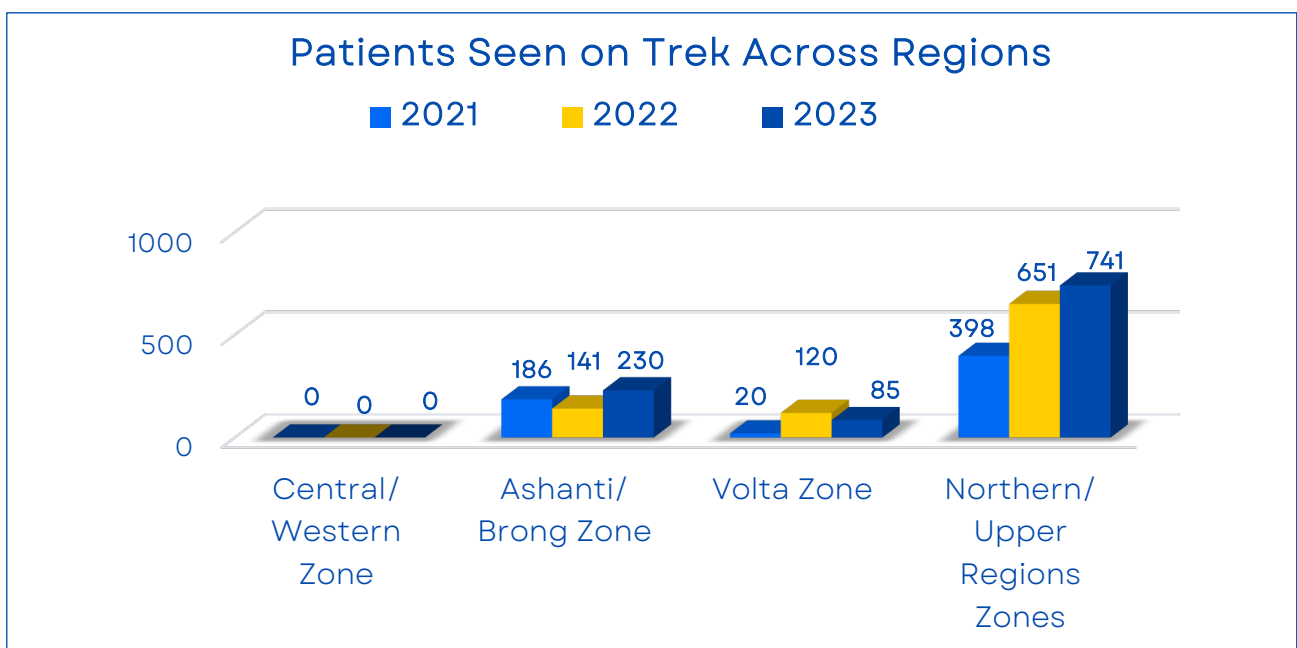
Shoemaker



# Working Together to Serve Our Patients - continued

## Patients Seen at OTC and on Trek in 2023

Months	Weekdays at OTC	Central/Western Zone	Ashanti/Brong Zone	Volta Zone	Northern/Upper Regions Zones	Totals
January	480	0	1	0	381	382
February	460	0	35	0	0	35
March	437	0	0	44	0	44
April	344	0	38	0	0	38
May	494	0	42	0	0	42
June	282	0	5	0	360	365
July	406	0	34	0	0	34
August	361	0	0	0	0	0
September	356	0	0	0	0	0
October	439	0	0	0	0	0
November	382	0	38	41	0	79
December	329	0	37	0	0	37
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4770</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>1056</b>



# Education is a Core Component



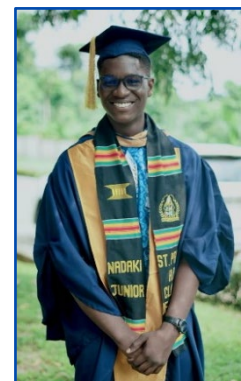
*Blessing, Richard, Kobe,  
Fausia & Evan  
attend MicJaden  
International School*

At the OTC, the rehabilitation of the whole person is at the heart of why we do what we do. When someone begins a journey of care with us, we focus on their immediate and long term health concerns. Yet, in order to make a comprehensive impact on the lives of our patients and their communities, we work diligently to make sure that these patients become people who take an active part in living full lives and making meaningful contributions to the communities in which they live. Within that effort, education has always been a core component of the program of care at the OTC. This is particularly important with the children we serve.

We treasure our youngest patients and are grateful for the joy of facilitating and providing the love and medical care that they need to be emotionally and physically healthy. We realize, though, that it is vitally important for our young people not just to be well educated, but to participate fully in school situations that provide them with robust learning experiences and allow them to be embraced as full and important members of diverse learning communities. While we provide quality in-house educational experiences for the children who receive short-term care at the OTC, we have many children who will stay with us indefinitely and who need more conventional schooling.

This effort can pose significant challenges. Our children can face cultural biases and suffer from stigmas due to their different abilities, making the school admissions process more complicated. School buses and facilities often lack adequate lifts or ramps that make them accessible. Often, children are lifted by hand when entering and exiting buses and school buildings. Then, there is the cost of tuition for each student. For all of these reasons, we depend upon the generosity of our donors through our scholarship fund, and it has yielded amazing results.

We are so excited to share the news that Kobe has excelled academically and from a private friend and donor has received a full scholarship to Ashesi University. He will study business administration. We are thrilled for Timothy, who has earned a full Mastercard Scholarship and will attend Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. He will focus on animal husbandry. Akwasi is pursuing a degree in computer science and Mayi will receive a degree in teaching. We could not be prouder of these young people who work hard to live up to their fullest potential and who will go on to enhance their communities.



*Kobe graduated from  
Our Lady of Grace  
Senior High School*



*Timothy graduated  
from St. Thomas  
Aquinas Senior  
High School*



*Mayi attends Mount  
Mary Teacher  
Training College*

# Education is a Core Component. continued

We applaud and are grateful to all the schools who offer inclusive programs and who have welcomed our students. We offer our deepest thanks to all the donors who have aided our efforts to make sure our learners can continue to look forward to bright futures, and humbly appeal for your continued support.



*Eva attends  
St. Peter's School*



*Akwasi attends  
Koforidua Technical  
University*



*Gloria and  
Princess at Roka*



*Zach leaves for  
St. Peter's  
Secondary School*



*Emmanuel attends  
Adoagyiri Methodist  
Basic School*



*Fruit Day at MicJaden*



*Grace, Esther & Kwadwo attend  
Doranka Preparatory School*



*Kobe's celebrates his 7<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday with his  
classmates*



*Lucy graduated as  
an Assistant Nurse*



*OTC kids have fun with other school kids*



*Sule attends  
St. James  
Secondary  
School*

# Our Volunteers



*Volunteer Lunch*

2023 was another wonderful year for the OTC's volunteer program with a talented, compassionate, and generous group coming to support our staff, adult patients, and of course, the children.

We rely so much on the kindness of volunteers and all they bring to share with us.

This year we welcomed volunteers from seven countries- Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. We had volunteers return, having come once or many times before. We also welcomed first-time volunteers who we all hope will be able to make their gifts of time, experience, and love a regular event. Some come for a week or two, others for months or even years. No matter the length of stay, the impact on the lives of everyone with whom they interact is significant and lasting.

This year we had volunteers with skills and experience that included educators; pediatric and adult nurses; physiotherapists; prosthetic and orthotic technicians; and wheelchair specialists. We were also blessed to host volunteers who provided administrative support and much more. With the opening of Walewale, a lot of help was needed with packing, storing, repairing and distributing of supplies and equipment.

We cannot express how very grateful we all are for the love and time that our volunteers donate. We often hear that our volunteers learn so much while they are here, and we are thankful that it is such a great experience for them as well. Billy Williams from Australia has been a volunteer at the OTC for several years, and is committed to continuing the work of his late wife, Lynette Williams, who was appointed Ambassador at large through her efforts in Ghana and Australia. Billy spends weeks on the OTC campus working on fundraising, honoring the Friends of the OTC in Ghana, and working on any tasks Sister Elizabeth directs his way. Billy describes the OTC campus as a place of "love, hope and resilience." He describes the response from the children and adults with major orthopedic and physical challenges as "inspiring." Once again, we extend our profound gratitude to all of our volunteers.



*Florence from England*



*Dutch from USA*



*Yumi from Japan*



*Adina from England*

# Our Volunteers - continued



*Billy from Australia*



*Gemma from the Philippines*



*BL from USA*



*Matthew from USA*



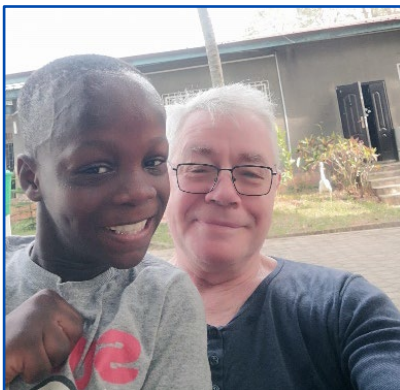
*Mike Murphy from USA*



*Taka from Japan*



*Janine and Tracey from USA*



*Michael Olek from Germany*



*Nowena from Australia*



*Julie from England*

DETAILED CASES SEEN AT ORTHOPEDIC TRAINING CENTRE

Diocese: Koforidua

District: Nsawam Adoagyiri

Region: Eastern

January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Age Group	OUTPATIENT			INPATIENT		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
< 1	104	100	204	8	7	15
1 - 4 years	596	521	1,117	7	8	15
5 - 17 years	653	661	1,314	37	43	80
18 - 59 years	1,261	1,169	2,430	85	40	125
60 years and above	319	442	761	20	12	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,933</b>	<b>2,893</b>	<b>5,826</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>267</b>

Types of Cases Treated	New Cases Treated			Review Cases Treated		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Leg Deformities	372	359	731	399	531	930
Congenital	174	135	309	421	359	780
Spinal	125	169	294	120	182	302
Spasticity	84	171	255	87	186	273
Amputations	145	89	234	859	501	1360
Polio	8	14	22	134	192	326
All Others	0	1	1	5	4	9
<b>Total Cases Treated</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>1846</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>1955</b>	<b>3980</b>

Causes of Amputation	New Cases			Follow Up Cases		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Diabetes	44	41	85	204	167	371
Road Traffic Accident	36	12	48	319	154	473
Gangrene	16	13	29	61	32	93
Industrial Accident	22	2	24	68	14	82
Osteomyelitis	9	6	15	28	37	65
Home Accident	6	4	10	37	14	51
Cancer	4	5	9	23	18	41
Fracture	3	2	5	48	12	60
Birth Deformity	1	3	4	41	28	69
Buruli Ulcer	2	0	2	14	16	30
Snake Bite	1	1	2	16	9	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>1360</b>

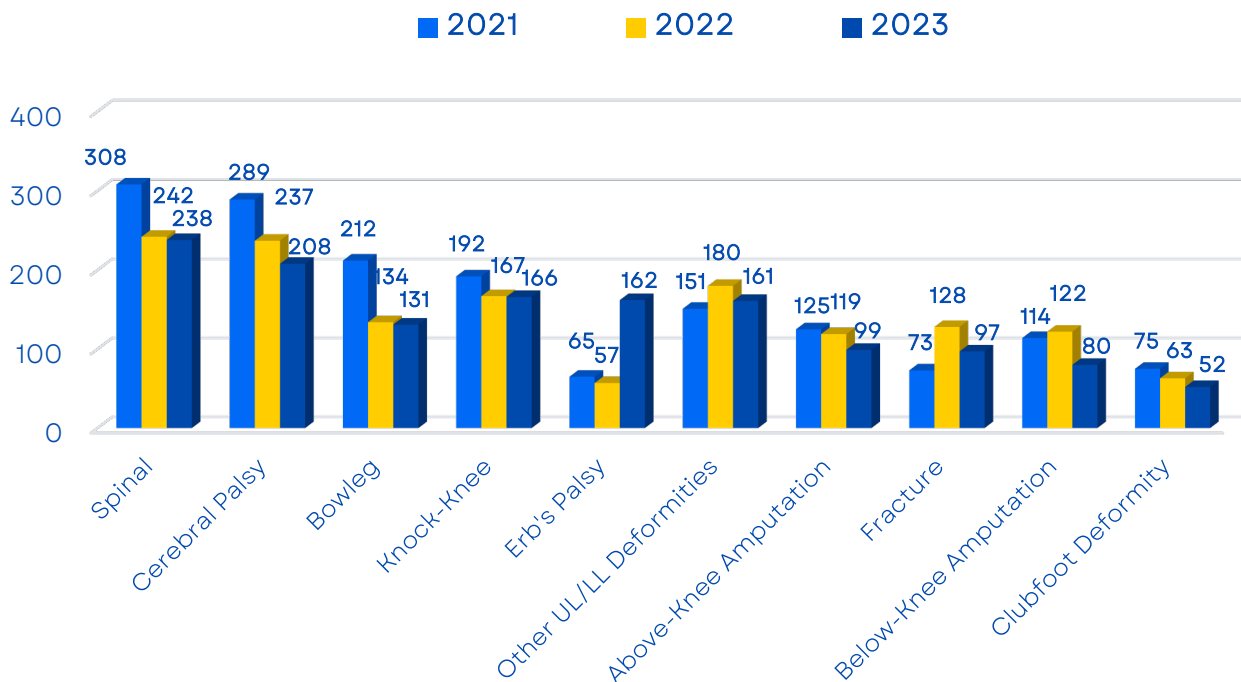


# Statistics - continued

## NEWLY DIAGNOSED CASES ACROSS YEAR AND GENDER GROUPS 2020-2023

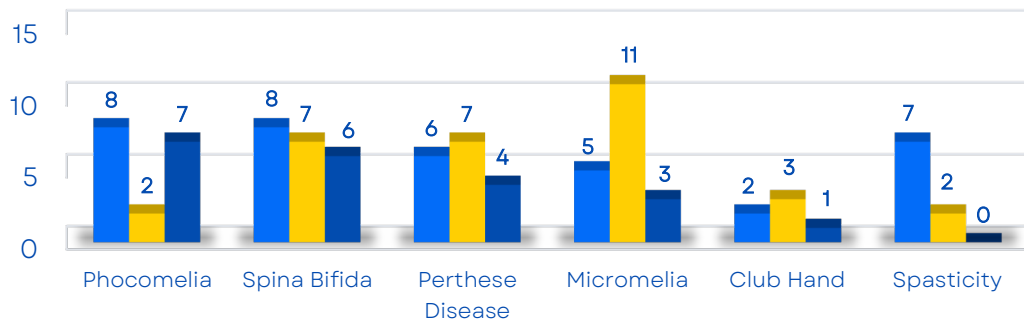
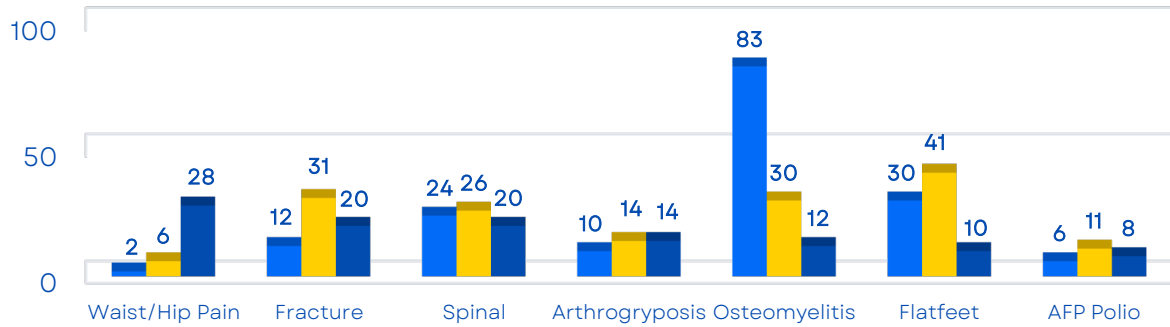
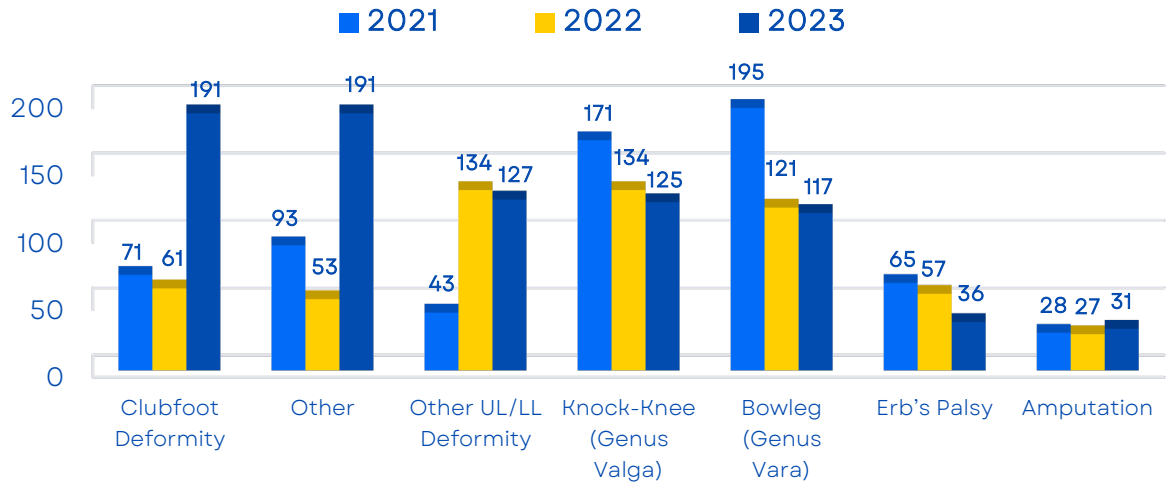
DIAGNOSED CASES	2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
LEG/ARM DEFORMITIES	376	374	411	388	388	384	372	359
SPINAL	77	145	112	196	86	156	84	171
ALL OTHERS	84	103	131	163	145	188	125	169
CONGENITAL	176	128	225	175	186	158	174	135
AMPUTATION	158	89	172	109	178	124	145	89
POLIO	10	17	19	15	21	18	8	14
SPASTICITY	3	4	5	3	2	2	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>1075</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>1006</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>938</b>

## TOP TEN CAUSES OF OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE 2021-2023

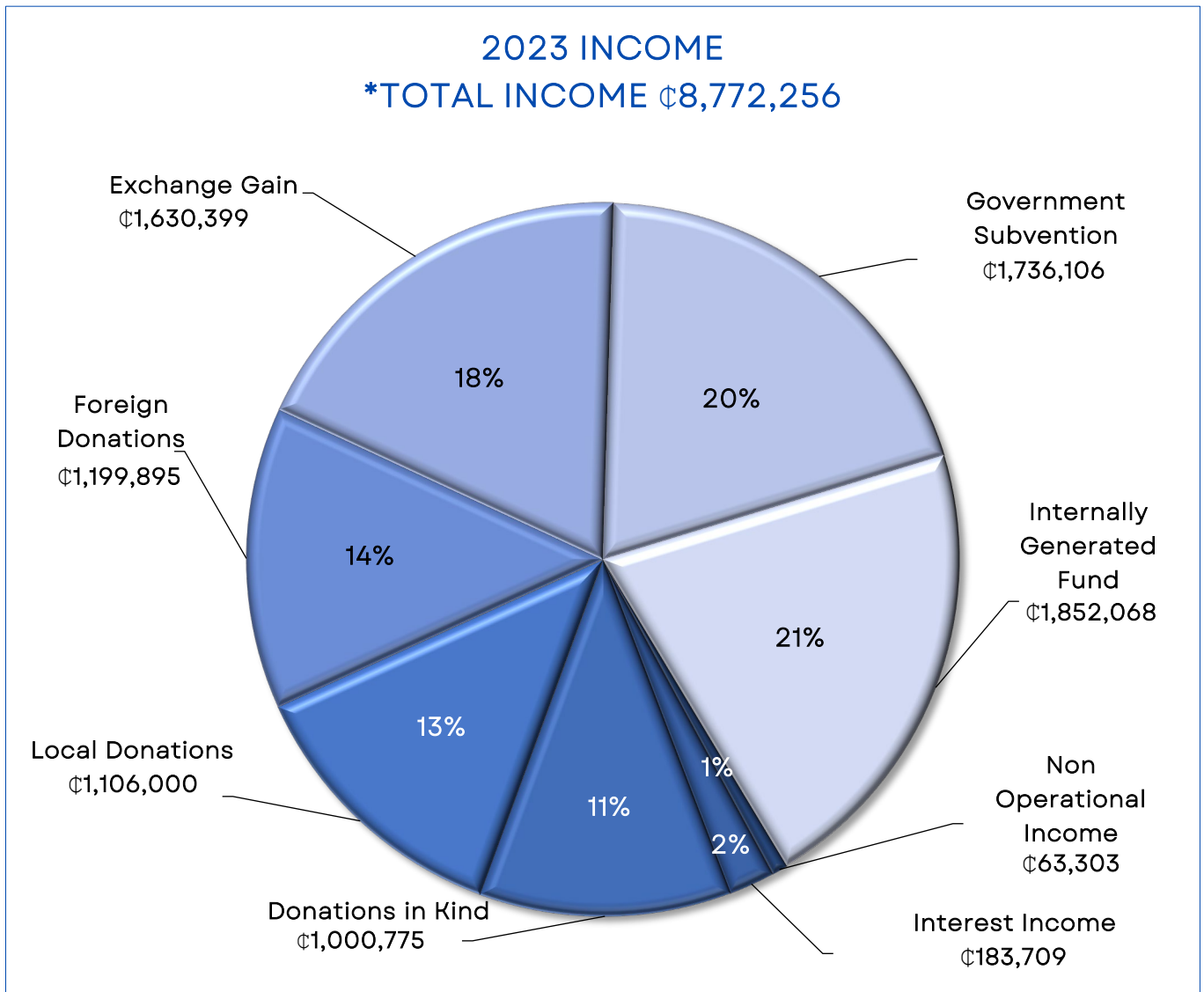


# Statistics - continued

## COMPARISON OF NEWLY DIAGNOSED CASES PATIENTS AGED 0-17 2021-2023



# OTC Finances - Income and Expenses

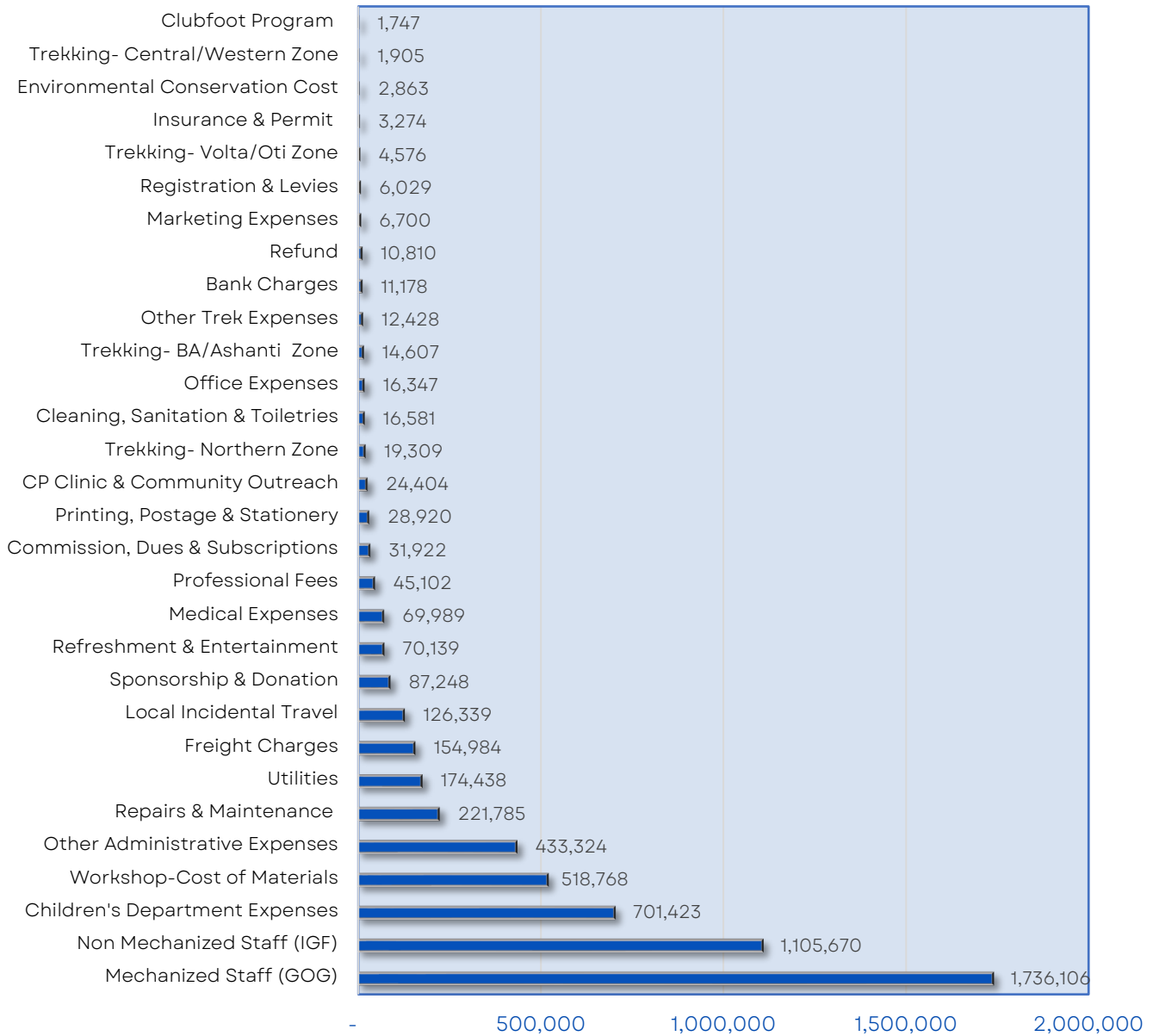


\*This report is in cedis.

To convert to US Dollars, divide by 12.87. To convert to Euros, divide by 14.01.

# OTC Finances - Income and Expenses

## 2023 EXPENSES TOTAL EXPENSES ₺11,315,118



\*This report is in cedis.

To convert to US Dollars, divide by 12.87. To convert to Euros, divide by 14.01.

# Heartfelt Gratitude

The staff of the OTC would like to extend their profound gratitude to all of the Ghanaian donors who gave so much to the OTC community. In 2023, 89 individuals, families, groups and churches, donated 428,377 Ghanaian cedis worth of goods. This continued generosity makes a profound difference to the lives of so many. In Ghana there is a beautiful cultural practice of giving to others on your birthday, and many come to the OTC to carry out this tradition by donating needed items. Because of these gifts, we have not had to purchase rice, toilet paper, or bottled water in years. Donors also bring other food supplies along with clothes, shoes, and toys. No matter the size of the gift, from a case of water to a truck full of supplies, every item counts. You are helping to feed and nourish this community, and without your support, we would not be able to do the kind of work that we are committed to. It is with sincere and heartfelt thanks that we recognize all you do for us.



# Our Wall of Grateful Recognition

**A. Royale & Co.  
Australia**

**Access without Borders**

**All for Humanity**

**Ashfoam**

**ASHOM**

**Australia High  
Commission**

**Beaver Clinic**

**BEGECA**

**Chevron**

**Diaconie Protestantse  
Gemeent-Maasland**

**Divine Word Missionaries  
Germany**

**Divine Word  
Missionaries Ghana**

**Geodrill**

**Ghana Impact Project**

**Ghana Nurses  
Association DFW**

**GIHOC**

**Holy Spirit Parish  
Berlin Germany**

**KALTIRE**

**Kevin E. Hugues  
Family Foundation**

**Kindermissionswerk**

**Kindern Leben geben.e.V**

**KLM Cargo**

**Legs 4 Africa**

**Living Word  
Church WI**

**Madam Elizabeth**

**New Crystal Health  
Services LTD**

**New Life Hospital**

**Notre Dame Clinic**

**Nsawam Foan**

**Poly Group of  
Companies**

**Rotary-Heswall**

**Rotary Donations in Kind  
Warehouse, Australia**

**School Sisters of  
Notre Dame**

**Swiss Family  
Foundation**

**We Help Two**

**West African Decor Tiles**

**Vigilo**

**Wilde Ganzen**

**Wings of Support**

**Yeko Anim**

*\*The companies recognized on this wall have given major financial support to the ministry carried out at the OTC. They represent Australia, England, Ghana, Germany, The Netherlands, the USA, and three international religious congregations.*