

# Sharecare Ghana

Sharecare4u 

Annual Report &  
Financial Statements for  
the Year ended 2013

Sharecare Ghana is an association of people with autoimmune and neurological conditions, including families and caregivers. The association, founded in 2006, was registered in November 2007 as a non-profit organization, and launched in 2008.

- Charity Registration Number : G 22,564
- Social Welfare Reg. Number : DSW 3972
- Registered Address : P.O. Box CT 4910  
Cantonments  
Accra  
Ghana
- Director : Nana Yaa Agyeman
- Executive Council : Doris Ahiney Obodai-Sai - Chairperson  
Adwoa Sey  
Lara Cookay  
Phyllis Christian  
Anne Sekyi  
Thiawa Dieng-Opon  
Farida Bedwei  
Agnes Fobi  
Iris Anie-Annan  
Nana Yaa Agyeman
- Company Secretary : Joseph Gadagbui
- Bankers : Ghana Commercial Bank Ltd
- Auditor/Accountant : Portfolio Financial & Management Systems
- Advisors & Patrons : Dr. Albert Akpalu – Physician Specialist/  
Neurologist, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital  
Dr. Nii Adjetey Bonney Andrews – Neurosurgeon,  
neuroGHANA  
Alhaji Abdul-Rahman Harruna Attah –  
Managing Editor, The Accra Mail.
- Broad Objectives : To create awareness about autoimmune and  
neurological conditions; support and advocate for  
people with these conditions and promote research  
into these conditions and the disabilities they cause.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

We are grateful to the Almighty for having brought us this far and enabling us to achieve the various objectives set for the year. A good number of successes were chalked during the year under review.

I wish to congratulate all Sharecare members for a memorable 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration during which a lot of awareness was created about auto-immune and neurological diseases in general and Sharecare in particular.

The Executive Council deserves commendation for the various collaborative efforts undertaken, prominent among which are the forging of new partnerships with development Without Borders (DSF), SWEB Foundation and Team CSR. I pray that these ties grow from strength to strength.

I salute and thank our resource persons and all organizations and individuals who have supported Sharecare in various ways over the years.

Finally, I say ‘Bravo!’ to Nana Yaa for her promotion to serve on the National Council on Persons with Disability (NCPD) and to the entire membership of Sharecare, I say ‘Happy New Year’ and may the Good Lord grant us good health, hope and strength to face each day and a Relapse-Free 2014.

**LONG LIVE SHARECARE!!!**

Doris Obodai-Sai

## **REVIEW OF YEAR 2013**

### **1. SHARECARE ESTABLISHMENT**

Sharecare had a fairly successful year in its stated mission of regrouping persons including children with autoimmune and neurological conditions through awareness creation, advocacy, support and care. Membership increased significantly especially of children with neurological disorders and most of the planned activities were carried out.

### **2. OPERATIONS AND STAFF**

#### **a) Executive Council**

The Executive Council held the mandatory two meetings during the year as required by the amended Sharecare Constitution. The meetings were held on June 15<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup> 2013.

#### **b) Management Committee**

The Management Committee with the assistance of the volunteers was able to carry out project activities and propose new ones for the upcoming year.

The committee was tasked to employ a secretary/accounts officer to reduce the load on the volunteer handling those schedules and establish a more professional administrative system. This was deferred to the upcoming year.

### **3. AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION**

#### **a) 5th anniversary celebration**

The celebration was successful with all the guest speakers turning up – First Lady Mrs. Lordina Mahama, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection Nana Oye Lithur, Dr. Albert Akpalu, Dr. Margaret Armar-Klemesu as well as the President of Ghana Federation of the Disabled and National Council on Persons with Disability Executive Secretary who gave solidarity messages. Sharecare members also attended in their numbers and a mother's testimony touched many of those present.

The media gave the anniversary wide coverage and it was also posted on several websites and social media sites. Prior to the day Sharecare members were interviewed on a number of radio and TV stations and the interviews continued weeks after the event.



Mrs. Mahama  
greeting Sharecare  
members at the  
function

Members also used the occasion to create awareness at a number of churches about the anniversary and auto-immune and neurological disorders in general.

The planning committee deserves credit for seeing this major event through to a successful end. A sponsor of the celebration, H4P Crew filmed and recorded the anniversary for posterity.

#### **b) Sharecare Centre**

Sharecare has rented two rooms in Osu Alata to be used as office and centre for Sharecare children's therapies.

The rent paid covers the next three years after which it will increase by agreement reached and signed with the landlord. Renovations were satisfactorily carried out by the landlord and the agreement takes effect from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.

A list of equipment for the centre has been drawn up and it is intended to raise funds to acquire this equipment. It is also intended that permanent staff should be employed for the centre.

#### **c) Sharecare Support Group**

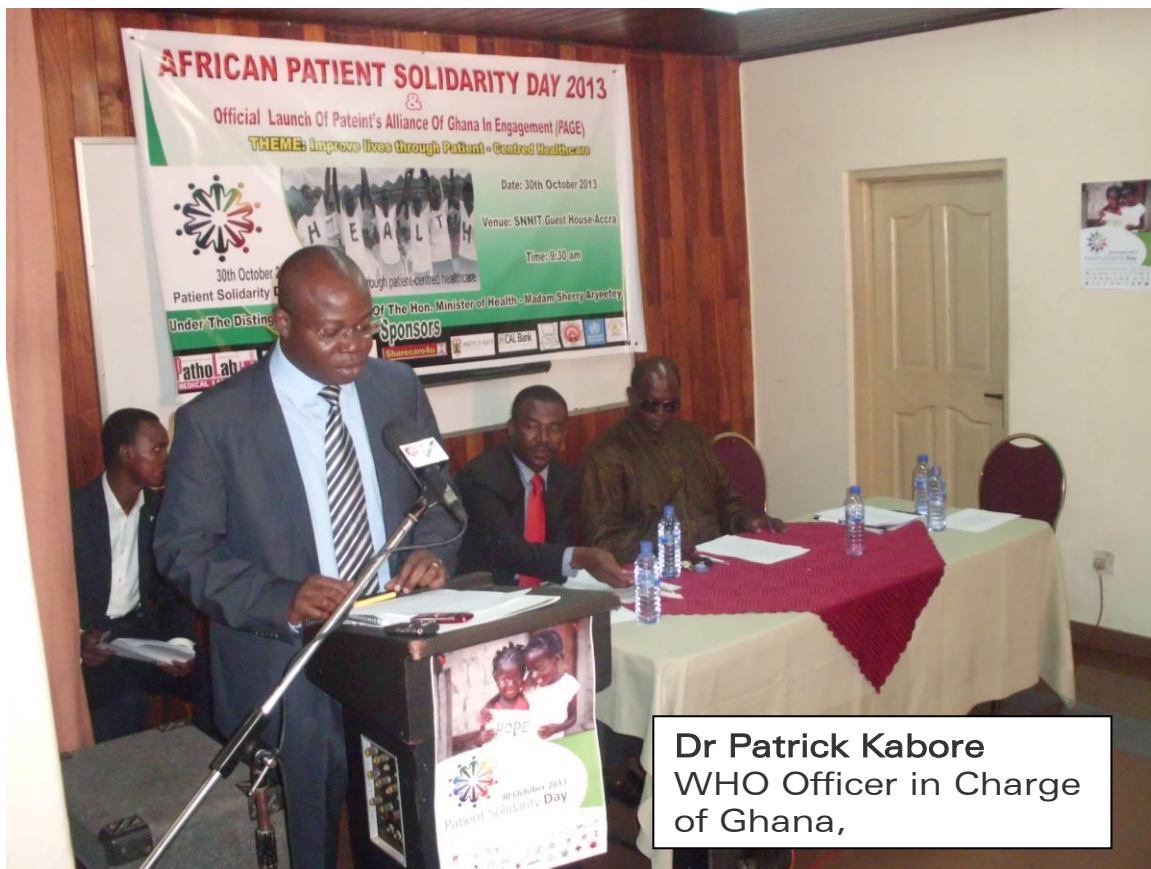
Monthly meetings with various resource persons were held as scheduled. Topics included: Palliative Care, Physiotherapy, The Spine and Chiropractic Treatment and Pranic Healing.

#### **4. ADVOCACY & NETWORKING**

##### **a. Patient Solidarity Day**

The African network of the International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO) for the first time observed Patient Solidarity Day across ten African countries including Ghana, under the theme: "Improve Lives Through Patient-Centred Healthcare".

Sharecare Ghana, Mental Health Society of Ghana (MEHSOG) and other patients' organizations across the nation came together to celebrate the day on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013.



The event was graced by speeches from the Resident Representative of WHO, National Health Insurance Authority (NHIS), the Director of Institutional Care Unit (ICU) of Ghana Health Service (GHS) who attended on behalf of the Director General of GHS and two personnel from the Ministry of Health (MOH), who attended on behalf of the Minister of Health. Subsequently, Patients' Alliance of Ghana in Engagement (P.A.G.E) was launched in the Minister of Health's speech.

It is intended that Patient Solidarity Day in 2014 would be under the auspices of P.A.G.E. Sharecare Ghana and MEHSOG, which were conveyors of the inaugural event will fall under the ambit of P.A.G.E in subsequent celebrations.

PSD 2013 was climaxed by a “Health Screening” activity, which was also well patronized.

The inaugural celebration of PSD in Ghana took off on a good note. The event laid the foundation for what is to be expected over the coming years. However, a considerable amount of work still needs to be done in order to sustain its yearly celebration.

At this stage, monitoring of the programme was done through the dissemination of materials to media houses before and after the event as well as alerting IAPO on Ghana’s planning meetings. Evaluation was done internally to measure the outcome of PSD.

A number of recommendations have been made for forward planning which have been made available to P.A.G.E.

**b. District Assembly Common Fund (DACF)**

A few members of Sharecare benefited from the percentage of the District Assembly Common Fund allocated to persons with disabilities. Though this was welcome, Sharecare is advocating for the organizations of persons with disabilities to handle the distribution to make it more equitable.

**c. National Council on Persons with Disability (NCPD)**

The Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection inaugurated the new board of the National Council on Persons with Disability in December with a call on it to determine whether the Disability Law needs amendment to bring it in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability.





Sharecare's Director was privileged to be appointed a member of the new board.

**d. Development Without Borders**

Sharecare entered into partnership with Development Without Borders (DSF) based in France to receive volunteers in required fields. The initial request is for a speech therapist, occupational therapist and physiotherapists to help in the Sharecare therapeutic centre.

**e. SWEB Foundation**

SWEB Foundation strategic partner organization (SPO) to the Liliane Foundation (LF) will assist with the health and education needs of some Sharecare children in the upcoming year.

From 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, Sharecare and other partner organizations (POs) implementing the LF supported Direct Child Assistance (DCA) in Ghana were invited to Koforidua for the 2<sup>nd</sup> POs Conference. Participants were reminded that the DCA, which was started since 2011, would now be country-owned.



The conference discussed the implications of this transformation and disclosed that the core strategy of LF is now ‘Child Empowerment (CE)’, with Child Development and Enabling Environment as key components. Child Empowerment has therefore been launched into the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) strategy.

SWEB the SPO has earmarked ten POs which already implement community oriented programmes, to begin the CBR process from 2014 and Sharecare is expects to be included among these POs.

**f. Team CSR**

This organization is a link between corporate organizations and NGOs in the planning and execution of corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects. At the initiation of Team CSR, Sharecare is looking at a care-giving project with a care giving institution in the coming year.

**5. FINANCES**

Sharecare’s income as at December 31<sup>st</sup> 2013 is GH¢32,060.60 from donations and membership fees and expenditure is GHS22,273.25. GHS17,000 has been put in a fixed deposit account which has been yielding interest every six months (Please see financial report).

We are grateful and sincerely thank our donors and sponsors for the year – Mrs. Lordina Mahama, H4P Crew, Stanbic Bank, Ghana Commercial Bank, Melting Moments, Cal Bank, African Regent Hotel, Dr. Joyce Aryee, SSNIT, Patholab and the numerous individual who made it possible to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary and have kept Sharecare afloat.

***Prepared by:***  
*Nana Yaa Agyeman, Director*  
*January 2014*