

Sharecare Ghana

Sharecare4u 

Annual Report &
Financial Statements for
the Year ended 2017

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 : CG 094052017

TIN : C0009300252

Social Welfare Reg. Number : DSD 3972

AMA Registration Number : A.026/10/596

Registered Address : P.O. Box CT 4910
Cantonments
Accra
Ghana

Director : Nana Yaa Agyeman

Executive Council : Doris Ahiney Armar - Chairperson
Rosaelyn Ekua Adadzewa Otoo
Adwoa Sey
Farida Bedwei
Nana Yaa Agyeman

Company Secretary : Joseph Kwasi Amegah Gadagbui

Bankers : GCB Bank Ltd

Auditor/Accountant : Portfolio Financial & Management Systems

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 DIRECTOR

A new Strategic Plan was developed in 2017 as part of the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to the disability movement in Ghana through Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD), under the activity called “EXPANDING PARTICIPATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES”. This is a two-year support from 2016 to 2018.

The document outlines a vision and agenda for growth and expansion of Sharecare Ghana in two key areas, namely, organizational development, and advocacy for the rights and welfare of people with autoimmune and neurological conditions in Ghana.

The Strategic Plan was developed by the members of Sharecare Ghana through a process that was facilitated by a resource person selected by the GFD. We had a two day strategic planning workshop at the Ghana Blind Union conference room in Accra on 12th and 13th April 2017, at the end of which GFD produced a draft report. Our comments and additional inputs were later integrated to arrive at the final version of the Strategic Plan which will guide us for the next five years.

Thanks to the kind support of SWEB Foundation, Women of Europe Association, the Local Development Fund of GFD, Aviation Alliance Ltd. and some individuals, Sharecare Ghana was able to carry out its activities in 2017.

Many more children were brought to the Sharecare Rehabilitation Centre during the year, which makes it imperative now to find a bigger space to accommodate all the children and possibly give them one meal a day. That is the priority for the Centre in the year ahead and it is a challenge because we would like to remain in the Osu Anorhor community (as a community-based rehabilitation provider), but cannot afford the rent in the area. We are looking to the ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, district authorities as well as businesses and churches in the area to help us achieve this objective.

Our membership of GFD has been worthwhile and with the launch of the Disability Endowment Fund, we hope ‘business Ghana’ will show a little more interest instead of focusing on what they find ‘glamorous’.

In the same spirit, we ask health authorities in Ghana look outside the regular diseases and give more attention to non communicable diseases, which are causing several deaths in the country.

In gratitude to our generous sponsors,



Nana Yaa Agyeman
Director

REVIEW OF YEAR 2017

1. ACTIVITIES: CBR, ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS CREATION

BLOOD GROUP TESTING AND NUTRITION PROJECT

This advocacy project sponsored by the Local Development Fund of GFD was aimed at proving that a diet suited to the blood group could alleviate seizures, spasticity and other health problems of the children. With the kind support of PathoLab, blood samples of all the children were drawn and twenty were selected for the dietician to give them diet plans.

Halfway through, it was realized that the mothers were not following the diet, making the findings inconclusive. The focus of the advocacy was therefore shifted with the permission of the sponsor to Early Diagnosis and Intervention for children with cerebral palsy. The report on the first stage of this advocacy was released on World Cerebral Palsy Day.

ELECTION PROJECT 2016

The election project was completed at the end of February. Sharecare Ghana in a joint project with Ghana Federation of Disability Organizations (GFD) and member organizations sensitized persons with disabilities (PWDs) on electoral processes and Election 2016. The project was facilitated by STAR-Ghana with funding from UKaid, European Union and DANIDA.

SHARECARE REHABILITATION CENTRE

The Sharecare Rehabilitation Centre continued to open three times a week because funds were not raised for the projected five days a week. The attendance was encouraging, though a few of the regulars were unable to attend because they have moved to communities far from the centre. On average each child came at least once a week and 20 children came regularly for physiotherapy.

Eight children went for reviews during the year at various hospitals and some were put on admission for some time. One of the children had a seizure and later suffered a stroke, which incapacitated him. His parents remain positive that he will regain all that he had achieved.

Six children attended various schools during the year, four under SWEB Foundation sponsorship, and two sponsored by Sharecare Ghana. A sponsor is paying one child's fees.

The Centre participated in several social events during the year. An official of United Way Ghana organized a party for the mothers. World Cerebral Palsy Day was observed and mothers participated in their numbers.

The Young Professionals Association of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, University of Ghana, visited and gave a donation to the mothers.

A Christmas party was held at Mmofra Park to end the year's activities. The mothers also attended a party organized for them by Kinder Paradise at Prampram.

PHYSIOTHERAPY EQUIPMENT AND FOLLOW-UP

Sharecare Ghana continued activities of the project sponsored by Women of Europe Association to provide physiotherapy equipment and monitoring at home for children with disabilities. Fifteen children who benefitted from this project received equipment including gaiters, standing frames, back slabs, special shoes, special stools and wheelchairs.

All the children had physiotherapy sessions and their mothers were taught what to do at home without the assistance of a physiotherapist. The project ended in November 2017. We reiterate the appreciation of the mothers and the organization for this assistance from Women of Europe Association and for the change made to the lives of these children.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Parents Support Group:

Two parents attended a workshop at Dodowa in the Eastern Region of Ghana for one week in July to acquire skills in making chairs using boxes and cardboard. They also attended a Cerebral Palsy awareness workshop organized by SWEB Foundation and a seminar organized by New Horizon School on the contributions of siblings in the care of children with disabilities.

Member Support Group:

The support group met every month with attendance ranging from 25 to 10 or less. Topics included protecting the spine, diet, job opportunities for mothers, education on MTN mobile money and a talk by Engage Now Africa. Members also observed World CP Day on 6th October, 2017. The day was to create awareness about CP in children and Sharecare Ghana was given the opportunity to share research findings on perceived causes of CP, and advocate for early detection and intervention for children with Cerebral Palsy.

MOBILE PHYSIO AND ADULT PHYSIO

Aviation Alliance Ltd. continued supporting Sharecare Ghana in 2017 with monthly donations of 500 Ghana Cedis. It was used for the "Mobile Physio" project, which covers physiotherapy for children with disabilities who cannot easily access the facilities of the Sharecare Rehabilitation Centre.

As at December 2017, 21 children with disabilities had benefitted from this project, and most of them had improved.

Adult physio session went on but the attendance was not encouraging. The donor decided to suspend sponsorship until the numbers improve.

2. PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKING

GHANA FEDERATION OF DISABILITY ORGANIZATIONS

Sharecare Ghana participated in several activities of the federation including the launch of the Disability Endowment Fund, a forum for the implementation of the inclusive education policy and launch of a project on sexual and reproductive health for PWDs. Engagement with National Council on Persons with Disability to make the Disability Law conform with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities also continued.

GFD said Sharecare Ghana's structure did not conform to theirs and said the organization should be visible in at least two regions. Sharecare Ghana was therefore asked to address these issues.

SWEB FOUNDATION

Sharecare Ghana attended the PO heads conference and Contact Persons' workshop organized by SWEB Foundation.

SWEB Foundation developed a guide for the Child Protection Policy, which is still being developed.

3. FUNDRAISING & FINANCES

Investment

Investment with Liquide Consult yielded GH¢9,000 in 2017.

Dues

Membership dues collected for the year amounted to Gh¢1,220.00.

Donations

SWEB Foundation supported the rehabilitation of 16 children during the year under review. Sharecare Ghana received support from the Local Development Fund of GFD for a three month project. The Women of Europe Association support in November 2016, carried forward into 2017.

Sharecare Ghana received monthly donations from Aviation Alliance, Dr. Joyce Aryee and an anonymous donor.

Finances

Total income for the year was GH¢60,005.83 as against GH¢116,157.51 the previous year and expenditure was GH¢73,387.05 as against GH¢102,663.30 the previous year. Investment of GH¢30,000 in fixed deposit was rolled over. The detailed financial report is attached.

4. SHARECARE ESTABLISHMENT

Re-registration

The re-registration process was finally completed in September 2017. Sharecare Ghana had to reduce the number of directors in the course of re-registration due the cost involved in amending the old and adding new directors.

Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022

Sharecare Ghana reviewed the Strategic Plan for 2016 to 2018 with support from USAID, facilitated by GFD. The plan was amended to a five-year plan for 2018 to 2022 though the process started in 2017. USAID is expected to fund the implementation of the first year of the plan.

Policy Manuals

Sharecare Ghana failed a due diligence investigation by a potential sponsor due to the absence of administrative and financial manual. Sharecare Ghana therefore developed Administrative and Human Resource Guidelines and a Financial Management Manual to guide the organization and staff.

SWEB Foundation provided a child policy development guide for Sharecare Ghana to adapt and adopt. The organization was unable to do this in 2017, but a consultant has promised to assist in the year ahead.

Executive Council

The Executive Council held a meeting on 21st November, 2017 to review activities carried out during the year. Directors agreed that Sharecare Ghana should take over Patient Solidarity Day since PAGE has not carried out the task. The council also decided that member support group meetings should be reduced to once a quarter because of poor attendance.

Executive Council members after the re-registration:

Dr. Doris Obodai-Sai (Nee Armar) - Chairperson

Mr. Joseph Gadagbui - Secretary

Adwoa Sey

Farida Bedwei

Adadzewaa Otoo

Nana Yaa Agyeman - Director

Management and Staff

Management meetings were held once a week to monitor and review activities. The committee comprised Nana Yaa Agyeman - Director, Rebecca Sai - Centre Manager and Wilson Essien - Welfare Officer and supervised by Mr. Joseph Gadagbui, Executive Council member.

Two National Service personnel worked at the secretariat in the year.

Prepared by:

The Management Team

June 2018