



My People Perish

“For lack of knowledge, my people perish.” This is not only a quote from the pages of scripture but a sentiment shared by Emmanuel Hagan, a Ghanaian, and his wife Robin, presently living in the United States. Energized by their passion for the love of country, disgust concerning lack of educational opportunities available for women and orphans in Ghana, and a pressing desire to give back has fueled this Christian couple to build a school in Ghana.

Village Life

Village life was hard for a Ghanaian woman; Hagan knows that all too well. It was not uncommon to see the locals carrying heavy buckets of water on top of their heads or pounding out maize with heavy mortars and pestles in the blazing heat. Clothes were washed by hand and food was cooked over an open fire. Women grew crops that were sold in nearby towns, had babies, and were not educated; his mother was one of those women.

The Catalyst for Change

Well, he will tell you that even though it is 2006, Ghana has changed very little. Maybe, it is in these yearly pilgrimages, to his village of Inkojo that causes his heart to yearn for transformation. Or it could be seeing his baby sister accept poverty as their mother did, still not being educated denied opportunity. When one of his children bubble with joy over competing in a talent show or entering an art competition does something get stirred on the inside? Is something ignited when Abigail, his daughter, works on the computer with ease and confidence?

Sharing the Vision

Being a former volunteer with Peace Corp and Habitat for Humanity (HFH), Robin Hagan shares the love that her husband has for his homeland. Living in Swaziland and later in Ghana, she saw how impoverished villages were transformed through volunteer efforts. She said, “When HFH went into these villages, small committees with the locals were formed to address needs in the community.” With the people directly involved throughout the entire process, the work was brought into fruition. Her and her husband’s vision for this project is to apply these same fundamental principles in the planning and building phases.

The Dream Realized

The school would be located 4-5 miles outside the city line. Because of transportation issues, it will be self-containing with an orphanage and teacher housing on grounds. The educational curriculum would teach the basic subjects, but the learning would be accentuated by having self-enrichment programs in art, music, and, technology. A central focus will be a student exchange program and a sports curriculum.



Hope... Help... Future...

