

Essential Oils



doTERRA Donates to Assist the Ghana Make a Difference Program, Supporting Orphans in Ghana

GMAD strives to help children without aid for infectious diseases, food, or shelter.

The doTERRA Healing Hands Foundation made a contribution to help the Ghana Make a Difference program, a nonprofit organization that provides Ghanaian orphans with shelter, food, and a nurturing environment. doTERRA's donation went toward assisting Ghana Make a Difference (GMAD) to support children of Ghana as they are reintegrated to their biological families, or connected with an adoptive family. GMAD has built a children's home in the village of Dabanyin, where 50 children live with caregivers and volunteers.

For many children and families in Africa, life is about survival. According to GMAD volunteers, some of these children have lived in the elements with little shelter, no clean water, and exposure to various diseases as they walk around barefoot outside. In the Dabanyin area, infections caused by parasites and insects are extremely common, including African sleeping sickness, and Malaria. African sleeping sickness, also referred to as African trypanosomiasis, occurs when an individual is bitten by a tsetse fly that is infected with the *Trypanosoma* parasite.¹ While many efforts have been made to help with the Malaria problem in Ghana, this infection is still the leading cause of mortality and morbidity in Ghana, specifically for young children.²

While many of the children in Ghana struggle with infectious diseases, a lack of food and shelter is also a major problem. For children who do not have the support of their parents, GMAD strives to offer safe shelter, ample food, and a loving environment.

With the help of volunteers and generous donors, GMAD helps to educate, feed, and care for the children in the Dabanyin village home. By coordinating medical services, providing loving caregivers, and offering education opportunities, the programs of GMAD seek to ensure that the orphans are taken care of. Donations from the doTERRA Healing Hands Foundation and other corporations or individuals help GMAD to continually assist Ghanaian orphans by providing them with basic necessities. To learn more about Ghana Making a Difference, or to see how you can help, visit the organization's [website](#).

1. "East African Trypanosomiasis FAQs". http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/sleepingsickness/gen_info/faqs-east.html

2. "Malaria Situation and Response". <http://defeatmalaria.org/ghana>