



ahoto partnership for ghana

*Connecting Resources With the People Who Need Them Most.*



## Our Mission

The Ahoto Partnership for Ghana is a non-profit organization, run by students at Cornell University, Harvard University and McGill University. Together with our Ghanaian sister organization, the Free Foundation – run by concerned residents of Cape Coast, Ghana – we are committed to improving the lives of the people who live in the slums and villages around Cape Coast, Ghana.

Our mission is to partner with the communities we serve to design, implement and sustain health, education and development initiatives.

“Ahoto is among the more innovative and well-run groups I have observed...they are cognizant of the culture they are in and sensitive to the needs of the communities they are working with”

– Mr. Jacob Kotin, Director of Ministry, Quality and Strategy, World Vision Ghana



Based in the village of Akotokyir, we are uniquely suited to achieving these goals due to our continued presence in Ghana, our invaluable working relationships with local leaders and government representatives, and our familiarity with, and active engagement of, the communities we serve. Additionally, our positions at Cornell, Harvard and McGill – epicenters of innovation in public health, medicine, technology, leadership and social-entrepreneurship – allow us to connect new developments in various fields to the places and people who need them most

At Ahoto, we believe that Akotokyir is just the beginning. Over 15 communities within a five-mile radius of Akotokyir face similar endemic problems. As of January 2010, best practices of our projects in Akotokyir have been implemented in surrounding villages. In the long run, Ahoto hopes to develop a continued presence in many of these communities.

## The History

In the summer of 2007, Michael Kapps traveled to Ghana on a medical internship, where he saw first hand the state of social and health policy in the communities surrounding Cape Coast. There, he met schoolteacher Michael Lagede and student Emmanuel Gayasi, who were interested in helping the small underdeveloped community of Akotokyir. Together, they founded the Free Foundation Ghana in 2008, a non-profit designed to promote and implement health initiatives in the village, and surrounding region. In 2009, Kapps, along with our executive directors, founded the Ahoto Partnership for Ghana, a sister organization of the Free Foundation, based in Cambridge Massachusetts, designed to connect the Free Foundation and local residents with the resources and expertise they need for long-term development.

“[The Ahoto Partnership] chose Akotokyir because [they’ve] seen first hand what the people there are going through every single day”

– AtlanticFM radio, Ghana

Since then, Ahoto has continued its work and expanded its scope, organizing health education camps, National Health Insurance Scheme subsidization, anti-malaria campaigns and consulting with government officials about health policy in Ghana. We continue to work tirelessly on new projects in the area.



## Projects

### Health Camp – Koforidua (July 2010)

Following the success of our projects in Akotokyir, we established ourselves in nearby Koforidua with a health camp, in collaboration with local health workers and students at Cape Coast's Medical School.

This camp encouraged residents to seek formal healthcare for common ailments, promoted awareness of medical resources already available in Ghana and surveyed local needs to inform future projects.

Our health camp attracted hundreds of people, and was made possible thanks to the warm welcome we received from Koforidua and its leaders.

### Stop Malaria Campaign—Akotokyir, Wiomuah and Efutu (January 2010)

*More than 3 million cases of Malaria are reported every year in Ghana, making this disease the number one cause of death for Ghanaians. By distributing mosquito nets, registering young children and their mothers for health insurance and spreading Malaria awareness, our Stop Malaria Campaign has touched hundreds of families across three communities in Ghana.*

Mosquito nets are a simple and proven solution to this problem. However, according to our surveys, less than a third of the population in Akotokyir own nets.

In January 2010, The Ahoto Partnership carried out a three-pronged campaign to combat malaria in a few of the villages north of Cape Coast, including Akotokyir, Wiomuah, and Efutu. 400 insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) were distributed to mothers of children under five, the highest-risk group.



In addition to the distribution of ITNs, the Ahoto Partnership paid the premiums to register 210 children under five and mothers for the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), to allow for long term access to healthcare to combat this disease. *NHIS allows registered participants free access to essential medications and medical care.*



Additionally, Ahoto updated local school curricula to include modern health education regarding preventable diseases. A sustained awareness about malaria prevention is critical to the continued success of any medical campaign like this.

### Health Camp - Akotokyir (July 2009)

From July 9-11, the Ahoto Partnership for Ghana collaborated with volunteers from Cape Coast's Medical school and local health workers to operate a health camp in Akotokyir. This camp encouraged residents to seek formal healthcare for common ailments, promoted awareness of medical resources already available in Ghana and surveyed local needs to inform future projects.



Additionally, our cooperation with local village elders helped to cement our continued presence in Akotokyir.



## Upcoming Projects:

### Stop Malaria Campaign – Koforidua (2010)

This year, Ahoto hopes to extend its Stop Malaria Campaign to Koforidua, in collaboration with local health officials, students and non-profits.

### Agricultural Improvement Initiative (2010-2011)

As of early 2010, the Ahoto Partnership has been in discussions with communities in the Cape Coast region to address agricultural business needs. Ahoto will be working with local partners to add increased value to the products and processes of rural Ghanaian farmers.

*Additional details will be available shortly.*

## Sponsorship

At Ahoto, the success of our projects is realized with the invaluable contributions made by our extensive network of volunteers, sponsors and partners. Without these generous individuals and institutions it would be impossible to help the people of Akotokyir.

Please read below, to learn how you can join us today.

**Volunteer.** Part of what makes the Ahoto Partnership for Ghana great, are the time and energy of our volunteers in North America and in Ghana. If you are interested in volunteering with us please send an email to [contact@ahotopartnership.org](mailto:contact@ahotopartnership.org) (subject: Volunteer).

**Friend of Ahoto.** Our work would be impossible without the generous donations made by our various sponsors and donors, or, as we call them, Friends of Ahoto.

We greatly appreciate our sponsors' contributions and do our best to recognize them. As a result, Ahoto is an excellent promotional opportunity for any organization.

**Partner.** All of our projects are based on "connecting resources with the people who need them most". We partner with organizations and individuals who have the resources and expertise necessary for long-term development to bring meaningful growth to the communities where we have established invaluable working relationships.



## Contact Us

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Partners & Sponsors.  
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invaluable to us.

