



Affinity Access International

Empowering through Accessibility

Empowering Through Accessibility

INSIDE

Welcome Message from
Founder / 3

About Us / 4

Our Mission and Vision / 4

What We Do / 5

Internal Chronicles / 5

Krobea Adomako speaks:
The Beginning of a life-long
journey / 6

Impact Spotlight / 7

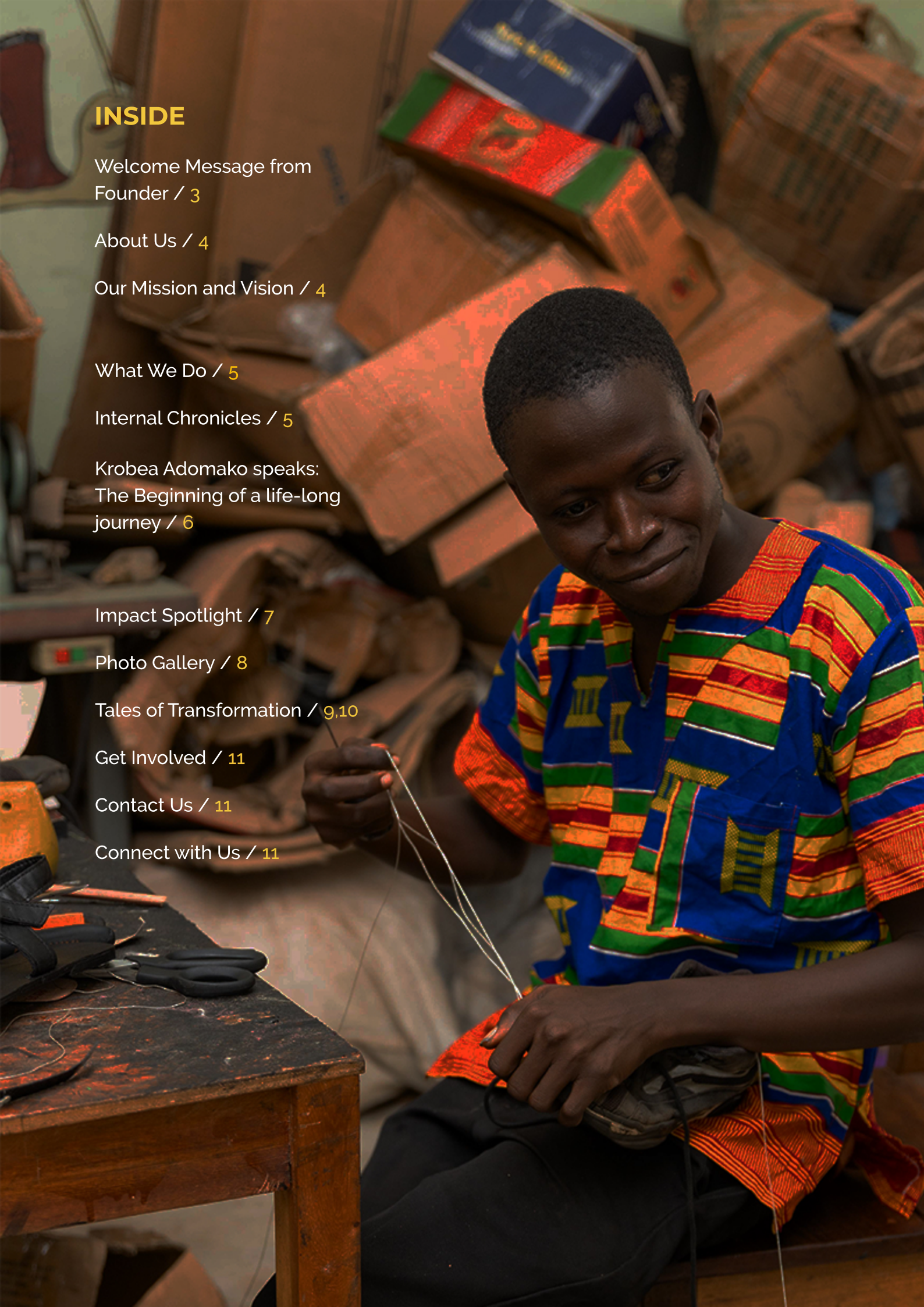
Photo Gallery / 8

Tales of Transformation / 9,10

Get Involved / 11

Contact Us / 11

Connect with Us / 11



INTRODUCTION

WELCOME MESSAGE

Greetings Friends!

It is with great pleasure and heartfelt gratitude that I introduce you to Affinity Access International (AAI), dedicated to Empowering individuals with special needs in Ghana and beyond through Accessibility.

Our remarkable achievements, which have significantly improved the lives of persons with special needs in Ghana are captured in this comprehensive report. We have achieved incredible milestones through strategic partnerships, capacity building programmes, and ultimately our outstanding expertise in therapy for persons with special needs.

The AAI family keeps getting bigger and better through the commitment and exceptional performance of our team, and our progress metamorphose into profound transformational stories in the communities we serve. From the child who found their voice through our speech therapy sessions, to the young adult who gained independence and self-worth through our capacitybuilding programs, AAI makes real and inspiring impact.

Nevertheless, our journey is far from complete. We are committed to expanding our reach, improving lives, our services, and advocating for the rights and needs of those we serve. This can only be possible through massive support from donors, volunteers, partners, and community members.

I extend a warm invitation to you to step into the AAI world, basking in our accomplishments and programs to impact lives. Our dream is to build an inclusive society, one in which access is made possible with you in it.

Thank you for being a part of the AAI family, your effort drives our mission and vision. Together, we anticipate even greater heights!

With sincere gratitude,
KROBEA ASANTE ADOMAKO
Founder
Affinity Access International (AAI)





ABOUT US

Affinity Access International (AAI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming the lives of individuals with special needs in Ghana. As a U.S.-based non-governmental organization, our mission is to provide cutting-edge and accessible speech and language therapy, along with other essential therapies. We are committed to developing the skills and capacity of children with special needs and offer comprehensive training for health professionals and caregivers to ensure a holistic approach to support and care.

Our vision is to cultivate a society where every individual, regardless of economic or social status, has access to the highest quality of speech and language therapy and other vital therapies. We strive to build a community that values inclusivity and empowers individuals with special needs to become skilled, productive, and fulfilled members of society. Through our dedicated efforts, we aim to create a nurturing environment where every person has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

OUR MISSION AND VISION

MISSION

Our mission is to enhance the lives of individuals with special needs in Ghana. We provide cutting-edge and accessible speech and language therapy, along with essential services which prioritize building the capacity and skillset of persons with special needs. Our commitment encompasses a comprehensive training program for health professionals and caregivers, ensuring a holistic approach to support and care.

VISION

To build a supportive global network where individuals with special needs, regardless of economic or social status, have access to the highest quality of speech and language therapy, essential services, and opportunities for capacity building and skills development.

WHAT WE DO

► THERAPY SESSIONS

Offering speech, occupational, and physical therapy to children and individuals with special needs.



► EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Providing specialized educational materials, teacher training, and scholarships.

► TRAINING SERVICES

Training individuals in skills such as mat making, shoemaking, hairdressing, and dressmaking.



► COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Conducting advocacy and awareness campaigns and distributing mobility aids to those in need.

INTERNAL CHRONICLES

Welcomed New Board Members

AAI strengthen edits leadership team by introducing two newly appointed board members, Juliana Marfo and Edward Adomako. These distinguished individuals bring a wealth of experience and expertise from various fields to advance the AAI mission. We are confident that their contributions will enhance our impact and drive positive change in the communities we serve.

Team Expansion

In an ongoing effort to better serve our beneficiaries and broaden our reach, AAI has expanded its team with the addition of several talented professionals. This expansion includes specialists, consultants, researchers, and communication professionals, local staff among others. By growing our team, we aim to increase our operational efficiency, enhance our service delivery, and foster innovation in our programs. We are excited about the diverse skills and new energy these individuals bring to AAI.

Rebranding

As part of our strategic growth and evolution, AAI has undertaken a rebranding initiative. This includes a refreshed logo, a revamped website and a new redirection for the organization. Our new brand reflects our commitment to inclusivity, innovation, and impact. The rebranding effort aims to better communicate our mission, values, and the scope of our work to our stakeholders. We believe this new identity will strengthen our presence and resonate more deeply with our community and partners.

Call for Volunteers

AAI is calling on dedicated and passionate individuals to join our volunteer program. Volunteers are the backbone of our organization, providing invaluable support in areas such as event planning, program delivery, and community outreach. By volunteering with AAI, you will have the opportunity to make a tangible difference in the lives of children and adults with special needs. We offer a range of volunteer opportunities to match different skills and interests. Join us in our mission to create a more inclusive society.

Local Alliances

In our commitment to fostering collaboration and maximizing impact, AAI has formed several strategic alliances with local organizations and institutions. These partnerships are designed to leverage shared resources, knowledge, and expertise to address common challenges and achieve mutual goals. By working together with local allies, we aim to enhance our program effectiveness, reach underserved communities, and create sustainable solutions for persons with special needs. We believe that through these alliances, we can drive greater social change and community development.



KROBEA ADOMAKO SPEAKS: THE BEGINNING OF A LIFE-LONG JOURNEY

Reflecting on my visit to Ghana, I was deeply moved by the powerful connections forged with parents and families of children with disabilities. In just **30-45 minutes** of interaction and education, I've witnessed a remarkable transformation—a **spark of hope ignited in the hearts of parents**, some of whom had nearly lost it.

Offering guidance on referrals and directing them to the right professionals for accurate diagnosis and treatment of various comorbid conditions has been both humbling and gratifying—all provided free of charge. The **sense of relief and empowerment on the faces of these families reaffirms the importance of my mission.**

Contributing to these families, many of whom felt isolated and overwhelmed, was incredibly rewarding. It's a reminder of the profound **impact** we can have when we come together **with compassion and expertise.**

The goal is clear: to **foster meaningful connections while ensuring families have access to the resources they need.** Through my LinkedIn community and beyond I'm committed to providing a listening ear and sharing my details with families who simply need someone to talk to about their child's condition in Ghana and beyond.



**IN 30-45
MINUTES
HOPE WAS
IGNITED**



**FACES
GLOWING
WITH
RELIEF**



**IMPACT WITH
COMPASSION
& EXPERTISE**



**FOSTERING
MEANINGFUL
CONNECTIONS
THAT ENSURES
ACCESS TO
NEEDED
RESOURCES**

WHY THERAPY

UNICEF estimates that about 240 million children worldwide live with various disabilities. These children, like all others, have ambitions and dreams for a better future, and as such, access to adequate and quality education is key to unlock these aspirations. Nonetheless, children with disabilities are often neglected in policymaking. This unfortunate act restricts access to education and limits participation in social, economic, and political life. They are most likely to be out of school, face barriers due to discrimination, stigma, and the lack of appropriate disability services in schools.

According to the 1992 Constitution of Ghana in Article 25.1(a), "All persons shall have the right to equal educational opportunities and facilities and with a view to achieving the full realization of that right, basic education shall be free, compulsory and available to all".

Engagements in Ghana with stakeholders by the Affinity Access International (AAI) team on issues regarding individuals with special needs suggest that,

1. Individuals living with special needs are shunned by the society, thus guardians or parents hide them. Some are even abused...

and sometimes killed based on certain cultural beliefs. Some poor parents are ostracized and treated with disdain.

2. Therapy is expensive and may only be patronized by the middle and upper class

3. There is a wide access gap in specialized care for individuals with special needs

4. The specialists available are not well-endowed with knowledge and skills needed to cater for these individuals

5. There is no specialized local center equipped to offer the best form of services consistently at an affordable price for all.

IMPACT SPOTLIGHT

Our Impact spans across our many offerings:

! THERAPY SERVICES

13,000+

Therapy sessions conducted yearly

70%

of participants demonstrated improved communication and motor skills

! EDUCATION PROGRAMS

1,500+

children and adults from disadvantaged backgrounds enrolled in special needs schools and after-school programs supported and organized by AAI respectively

52%

of students showed significant improvement in academic performance

77%

of adults joined vocational training programs to learn a skill to start up or work with enterprising local businesses

! TRAINING SERVICES

550

individuals including caregivers, clinical staff and local therapists trained with AAI

60% of caregivers improved caregiving practices for their children or the children they support

45% of clinical staff enhanced their skills for service delivery

70% of trainees secured employment or started their own businesses

! COMMUNITY OUTREACH

2000+

community members through advocacy and awareness programs.

Educated 90% of community members to celebrate the contributions and potentials of children with special needs

Identified 88% of individuals with special needs to provide therapy from our mobile clinics

Distributed 1,200 wheelchairs and mobility aids to local clinics and families

PHOTO GALLERY

Photo 1: A group of individuals with special needs at the Edwenase Rehabilitation Center engaged in a bead making training session.



Photo 2: A trainee with special needs mastering the art of sewing and tailoring.



Photo 3: A group of trainees practicing hairdressing techniques on mannequins as part of their training.



Photo 4: A pure and wholesome moment of support between a caregiver and a child with cerebral palsy.



Photo 5: The leadership of AAI on a visit to the Edwenase Rehabilitation Center to donate items and conduct a therapy training session for participants.



Photo 6: Therapy Sessions with patient



TALES OF TRANSFORMATION

BENEFICIARIES

"When I found out about my son's condition, I was sad. My hope was to see my son walk, talk and play with his siblings and AAI helped us with that- we have seen massive improvement since we started attending therapy sessions. They educate us on how to handle negative comments from people and now, I cannot be bothered. My neighbors have become nicer from the consistent awareness programs organized by the AAI. I appreciate the help and strength they gave me to stand the test of time."

- Felicia Boamah

(Parent, Child with Cerebral Palsy)

"AAI has been a lifeline for us. The therapy sessions have helped my daughter communicate better. The support group has given me the strength to carry on. I am grateful."

- Janet Laryea

(Parent, Child with Autism)

"My daughter's journey with cerebral palsy has been challenging, merely for the fact that we cannot pay for therapy. It is so expensive and financially draining. AAI helped to alleviate this financial burden and their commitment to my daughter's condition is admirable."

- Rev. Samuel Adogbla

(Parent, Child with Cerebral Palsy)

"AAI came to me when caregiving was taking a toll on me. I have benefitted greatly from their training program. I am filled with hope for the future."

- Rev. Samuel Adogbla

(Parent, Child with Cerebral Palsy)

TRAINEES-EDUCATION

"Thank you AAI for supporting my skill development in shoemaking. Today, I run my own business and can support my family."

- Kofi Anane

(Vocational Trainee)

"The after school programs organized by AAI are delightful. I have been empowered to be confident and embrace my abilities."

- Akosua Akowuah

(Student)

"I work at the Sunday school division of the church. The AAI training sessions have been enlightening. We have children who require special attention at Sunday school and understanding them helps to provide the support they need."

- Adwoa Agyepomaa

(Sunday school teacher, Makers Chapel)

"I always look forward to the caregiving lessons with the AAI team. It helps me to understand my child and communicate with him better."

- Maame Ama Gyasi

(Parent, Makers Chapel)

"I have learned a lot from AAI. Taking care of children with special needs can be challenging but the caregiving education has made my work easier. I hope they continue to support us."

- Lucy Quist

(Sunday school teacher, Makers Chapel)

TALES OF TRANSFORMATION (CONTD.)

TRAINEES-HEALTH

"Ever since I joined AAI's training programmes, I have acquired knowledge and skills to effectively and efficiently perform my work at the hospital. I also volunteer at times for the mobile clinics they set up in host hospitals and communities."

- Janice Bawah

(Nurse, Komfo Anokye Hospital)

TRAINEES-HEALTH

"I have always longed to have access to such incredible teaching moments and I found that in AAI. It's always a great honor learning from a team of experts."

- Stephen Brown

(Local Therapist)

PARTNERS/ALLIANCES

"I was elated to join the AAI board. The work they are doing in Ghana is commendable. It is amazing to see a young enterprising man give back to the community. These kind of initiatives are not given much attention in our country and I am in awe of the feat they have achieved since its inception. I cannot wait to see what they unravel in the coming years." - **Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital**

VOLUNTEERS

I love helping people. This is an opportunity to contribute to a good cause.

- Sandra Nyamekye

"AAI offered me insight into the world of NGOs. They do so much with so little so I like to volunteer my time to help make the world a better place. I hope we accrue enough funds to help more people in many deprived communities where individuals with special needs are neglected."

-Cecil Wiafe

GET INVOLVED

Join Us in Making a Difference and to Change Lives. Here's how you can get involved:

Donate

Your contributions help us provide essential services and support to children and individuals with special needs.

Volunteer




Join our team of dedicated volunteers and make a direct impact in the community.

Partner





Collaborate with us to expand our reach and enhance our programs.



CONTACT US

-  Website: <https://affinityaccessinternational.org/>
-  Email: info@affinityaccessinternational.org
-  Phone: +1 (614) 843-6963
-  Address: 401 Broadway, Suite 100, Tacoma, Washington 98402, US

CONNECT WITH US

-  Facebook: Affinity Access International
-  Twitter: @AffinityAc12047
-  Instagram: @affinityaccess
-  LinkedIn: Affinity Access International





Thank You for Your Support - your generosity and involvement make all
the difference for individuals with special needs