



## Our MESSAGE

### Background

John and Celestina are originally from Entumbil, Ghana, an impoverished rural town two hours drive from the capital Accra. They moved to Canada 41 years ago wanting to explore opportunities that would be available to establish better lives for themselves and their children. Through three children, and later eight grandchildren, they experienced firsthand the benefits of early childhood learning and daycare services offered in their new homes of Calgary, Edmonton, and Canada. So, in 2018 they donated a building and space they owned in Entumbil for early childhood learning for the next 30 years. The cause for the philanthropic giving is Making Early Childhood Learning Affordable in the rural community. Initial expectation of 32 has now soared to 80 children being served.

Early childhood literacy is a global priority for development as cited in numerous UNICEF needs assessment studies, and referenced in the Concept Proposal posted on every page of OSL website [www.onesteplearning.org](http://www.onesteplearning.org). In 2019 a grassroots non-profit organization *One Step learning Opportunities Centre* (OSL) was incorporated in Alberta. OSL became a Canada Revenue Agency registered charity in 2020. OSL Centre is managed and controlled in Edmonton, Alberta. OSL is a grassroots non-profit charity that provides services to Canadian donors in our communities and help impoverished children. After a challenging but successful planning phase during the COVID pandemic, the grassroots early childhood learning daycare program launched in October 2021 in Entumbil Ghana. The program has launched, and it is in its implementation phase now, projecting to reach the stabilization phase in 2025.

### What OSL needs?

Some \$162,000 is needed during implementation to cover educational operations, digital capabilities, and a playground. The funds are required to implement the Strategy Framework and Projects over the next 24 months to December 31, 2024. The funds will support the shared 20% costs paid by parents, and take OSL to the stabilization phase in 2025, and sustain the grassroots program for 25 years to come. [See OSL Strategy Framework and Projects available that you could support [www.onesteplearning.org](http://www.onesteplearning.org) ].

### Our Mission

Provide elements of nurturing care for children by means of Learning-Through-Play.

### Our Vision

Create educational opportunities for rural children in Ghana that has the potential to enhance quality of life for many, especially women, and elevate the children's talents and abilities.

### Impact

- On October 18, 2021, the daycare started with 11 children, and now OSL serves 80 children daily.
- A Play-based daycare facility is now available in the town and for surrounding communities.
- A safe place for children to grow, and the security concerns of parents are diminished.
- 14 jobs have been created for teachers, security, caterers, sanitation, and gardeners; with the potential for additional roles to be created through the stabilization phase.

### Outcomes

- Early childhood literacy is improved, as children begin to understand the world around them.
- Impoverished children become lifelong learners of tomorrow through early learning.
- Parents' burden of childcare is relieved, and they can seek employment and careers; particularly, for women who are traditionally tasked with childcare in Ghana.
- Opportunity for Canadian students and volunteers to gain international placement experience.
- Collaboration with stakeholders interested in supporting a great cause for their aligned values.



These December 2022 Pictures and Videos are worth 1000 words. See more on website [www.onesteplearning.org](http://www.onesteplearning.org) Photos Gallery page.



Happy children we love opportunities offered by our daycare



Rotary & GFAE donated Water Poly Tanks for the Centre & Playground projects.



Children are always eager to learn and explore.



Rotary Club Cape Coast Ghana rep. visits and texts "Great ...we will work together to serve humanity..."



Community PTA buy-in, and discuss sustainability, playground, garden, transportation. Children's IT Lab with 9 donated ERA used Tablets being set up.



Affordability – Parents pay \$0.50 cents daily fees with difficulty that is 20% of program costs, thus the need for donors and other revenue sources.