

PERSPECTIVES



NEW



BRANVE



AUROORA

15 YEARS OF HOPE AND IMPACT

When our board took their first steps in northern Ghana in 2009, they had a shocking realization: 80% of children in Ghanaian orphanages had at least one living parent - they were orphaned not by the death of their parents, but by poverty. These children were separated from their families, not because they no longer had anyone, but because their relatives saw no other way out.

This realization changed everything. Instead of supporting orphanages, they decided on a radical change of perspective: we strengthened families so that they can stay together. We empowered communities to protect and support their own children. Because they were convinced that every child deserves to grow up in an environment characterized by love, safety and security - preferably in their own family.

Over the last 15 years, we have learnt that child protection is a complex network. It is inextricably linked to access to education, to the question of whether a family can support itself, and with economic prospects. As a result, our approach has continuously expanded into a holistic programme that addresses all of these areas.

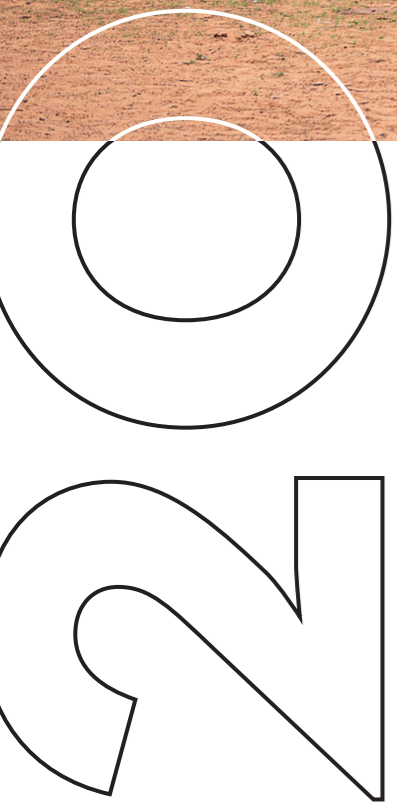
The challenges in northern Ghana are considerable: children who have to work instead of go to school. Girls who are married off far too early. Families who don't know how to put the next meal on the table.



But together we have achieved something invaluable in these 15 years: the certainty that change is possible. Not through short-term help, but through persistent work on the roots of the problems. Not through solutions from outside, but through the power of the communities themselves - made possible by your loyal support.

“This is the story of 15 years of hope and impact - and it is far from over.”





A YEAR OF GROWTH AND SUCCESS

In our anniversary year 2024, we made significant progress with your help - in Ghana as well as in Austria.

In addition to our projects in the areas of child protection, education and poverty reduction, the fight against malnutrition was a particular focus of our work in Ghana last year. With your contribution, we were able to reach 14 communities with our „Feeding Hopes“ project. Over 700 families learnt how to feed their children healthily using locally available resources. For 60 severely malnourished children, we provided concrete help in the form of therapeutic food and medical care - support that was life - saving for many.

The counselling of more than 400 breastfeeding mothers and the training of local health personnel are bearing fruit: most of the children treated are healthy again and more and more parents are attending preventive check-ups.

By supporting the establishment of home gardens, we have also laid the foundation for independent, long-term care for families - an important step on the way to greater independence and food security.

In this context, after many years of purely voluntary work, our board members have decided to work in Austria, and to invest in our human resources: Our co-founder Julia Obereder has been supporting BRAVEAURORA since April 2024 with 15 hours per week in the areas of strategy, impact measurement, financing and public relations - a significant step towards even more professionalism and effectiveness.



This reorientation is also reflected in this revised impact report, which provides more objective data and makes our work even more transparent.

The Impact Report 2024 consists of two parts:

Part 1, which you are currently reading, contains the most important highlights and stories from 2024 as well as key impact figures.

Part 2 provides more in-depth information: How do we actually work? Who are the people behind BRAVEAURORA? Exactly which projects are we implementing? as well as information on other highlights from 2024, such as our donor trip to Ghana or our unforgettable anniversary celebration in Linz.

The quality of our work was recognized in 2024 by several national and international awards - including from The International Alliance for Women (TIAW) and the Ghana Philanthropy Forum - recognition that encourages us to continue on our chosen path together with our partners.



You can find the second part of the report online using the following **QR code** or at braveaurora.com/impact-report

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LOOKING TO THE *FUTURE*

In the following chapters, we will take you on a journey through our four programme areas - child protection, education, poverty reduction and nutrition. You will find out what tangible progress we have achieved together with you and our partners in 2024 and how the lives of local people have improved in concrete terms.

Be inspired by what we have achieved together. Discover how you can continue to work with us for a future in which children and families in northern Ghana can live in dignity, security and with promising prospects.

Our vision follows the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, which are to become a global reality by 2030. Education for all, gender equality, fair working conditions and sustainable economic growth are particularly important to us. We are also committed to a world in which peace, justice and reliable institutions are a matter of course. We work hand in hand with our partners every day to create a future that is sustainable, just and peaceful - for all of us.



”With this in mind, the entire BRAVEAURORA team wishes you an enjoyable read!”

TASHA'S LIBERATION FROM CHILD MARRIAGE



TASHA

Tasha is 16 years old and lives in Timpella, north-east Ghana. Her favourite subjects are science and biology. What makes her special: Tasha puts her heart and soul into helping other people.

Tasha, a 16-year-old girl from a small village in north-east region of Ghana, had big plans for her future. She dreams of becoming a nurse to help the people in her community. But this dream seemed to be shattered when her father told her one day that she would have to marry a man more than twice her age. For her family, who struggled to survive on a daily basis, this marriage seemed to be the only way out of poverty.

Tasha was desperate. She didn't want to get married or give up her schooling. But her opinion didn't count - in her village, the men traditionally decided the fate of the girls. Shortly afterwards, she found herself in her husband's house - instead of learning mathematics and biology, she now spent her days cooking, cleaning and looking after the household.

The turning point came when a woman from a neighboring community visited her village. This woman had herself once received help from BRAVEAURORA when she was in a similar situation. She had long conversations with Tasha's mother about the importance of education and the health and social risks of child marriages - espe-



cially for young girls. These conversations worked: Her mother finally approached BRAVEAURORA and asked for support.

Many of the people we once supported are now passing on their experiences and empowering others. This creates long-term impact networks.

BRAVEAURORA's social workers immediately made contact, talked to the family, explained the rights and risks and supported Tasha in ending the child marriage and resuming her schooling.

She now attends Wulugu Senior High School, where she is completing a home economics course. She is an enthusiastic learner because her dream has grown bigger: In

addition to her vocation as a nurse, she also wants to educate other families about the dangers of child marriage and encourage young girls to stand up for their rights.

Tasha has made a difference in her village: Where girls previously had to remain silent, her story has now opened a door. She has become a role model for other young women who also dream of a self-determined life.

“I was married off when I should have been at school.”

– Tasha



FOR A SAFE CHILDHOOD

The challenges

In northern Ghana, many children are at risk every day - from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Many children live in orphanages even though they have parents. Girls face additional challenges: Child marriages force them to give up their education and grow up far too early. The lack of hygiene products means that they have to stay away from school during their periods. And gender-specific violence is often made invisible by social taboos.

BRAVEAURORA's approach

With our holistic impact model, we tackle several issues at the same time: We strengthen families so that they can keep and protect their children. We build protection networks in the communities that recognise dangers at an early stage. And we sensitise the population on children's rights and child protection. Our goal is to create an environment in which children grow up safely and their rights are respected.

OUR IMPACT 2024

Girls Clubs

DIGNITY AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Our Girls Clubs tackle a topic that has been a taboo for far too long: menstrual hygiene. Here, they do not only gain practical knowledge but also find a safe space to talk openly about their bodies and develop self-awareness. The clubs provide materials for reusable sanitary pads and break down old prejudices through education and dialogue.

The impact

Girls are more open and self - confident about their menstruation

YOUNG AMBASSADORS FOR REINTEGRATION

Children who once lived in orphanages themselves are now our most convincing advocates. As ambassadors, they share their personal experiences and advocate for family-based care. Their authentic stories open up hearts and change perspectives on the topic of child protection.

The impact

Awareness is increasing within communities on the importance of growing up in a family for children's development

12

new Girls Clubs established in 12 villages.

24

mentors trained and 24 seamstresses have been trained in the production of reusable sanitary pads.

1.700

sanitary pads distributed to reduce school absences.

276

Girls in 12 villages strengthened and empowered.

1.671

People were reached directly and sensitised on family based care.

3

Radio programmes broadcast with a reach of 15.000 listeners each - a powerful medium for spreading the importance of family instead of institutional care in remote areas.

Case management & social counselling

PROFESSIONAL HELP THAT ARRIVES

Our work in the area of case management and social counselling forms the foundation for sustainable child protection. Together with the Department of Social Welfare in Ghana, we are improving access to social advisory and counselling services for vulnerable families. The support is direct, practical and tailored to individual needs.

The impact

Reduction of school dropouts from 3% to just 0.6%

Workshops for parents and children

NON-VIOLENT EDUCATION AND SELF-PROTECTION

Our „Positive Parenting“ intervention utilises UNICEF materials, to support parents in building loving relationships with their children. At the same time, children learn in interactive workshops to understand their rights and recognise violations.

The impact

Corporal punishment has halved from 38% to 18% and children are better able to recognize danger and seek help more actively

9

Social workers in two districts were trained in case management and digital documentation tools.

6

Homes monitored -

This is how we ensure that every child receives appropriate care, can return to their families on time and curtail unauthorized new admissions.

547

Community members informed about available counselling services.

2.538

Parents were trained in 13 communities.

2.658

Children reached and strengthened.

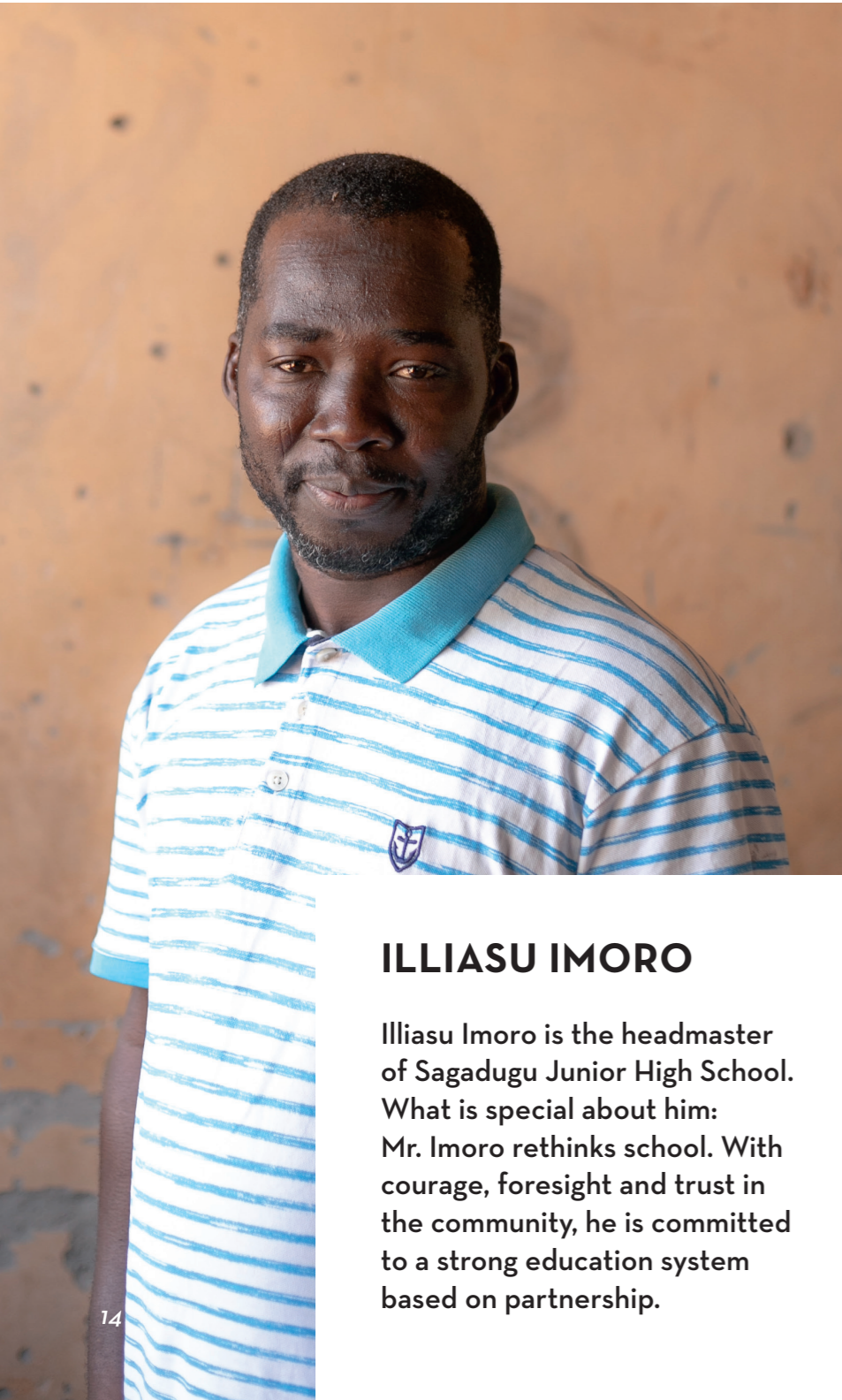
27

reintegratd children and their families were visited to ensure their well-being in families.

We provide direct support to

44 vulnerable people.

HOW A HEAD-MASTER MAKES A DIFFERENCE



ILLIASU IMORO

Illiasu Imoro is the headmaster of Sagadugu Junior High School. What is special about him: Mr. Imoro rethinks school. With courage, foresight and trust in the community, he is committed to a strong education system based on partnership.

Mr Illiasu Imoro, headmaster of Sagadugu Junior High School, doesn't just dream of a better school - he works every day to make this dream a reality. When he got to know of BRAVEAURORA's education programme, he immediately recognised its potential: „It's not just about better grades - it's about an approach that rethinks education from the ground up.“

What particularly impressed him: the systemic, community-based approach. „This model is more than a project -it's a movement,“ he emphasizes. In the education programme, teachers, pupils, parents and community representatives are equally involved. This creates a deep sense of co-responsibility - and that changes more than just school desks.

Since the introduction of the programme, the learning atmosphere in Sagadugu has changed fundamentally. The teachers teach with new motivation, the lessons have become more practical, and the pupils show noticeably more



“I hope that every school school can have this experience. Because when education is deeply anchored in the community, real, sustainable change is the result.”

– Mr. Illiasu Imoro

enthusiasm and initiative. Targeted training has enabled teachers to design modern, child-centred lessons - an investment whose impact extends far beyond the school grounds.

Mr Illiasu is convinced that if this approach catches on, the education system in the entire region can be transformed. Not through theoretical reform, but through lived practice, trust in local actors and a shared vision for the future.

Mr Illiasu's story is a good example of what is possible when local responsibility meets a strong, partnership-based system. It illustrates how systemic change starts from the bottom up - and how a school project can become a model for the future of an entire region.

FROM UNEQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION

The challenges

Many children in northern Ghana do not go to school or drop out early - due to poverty, child marriages or a lack of hygiene products for girls. In rural areas in particular, there is a lack of qualified teachers, learning materials and basic infrastructure. Education, which is actually a basic right, remains out of reach for many - with far-reaching consequences for the future prospects of entire generations.

BRAVEAURORA's approach

BRAVEAURORA opens doors to education through targeted support: school materials, scholarships, extra tuition classes and teacher training. At the same time, we strengthen the communities so that they can utilise existing resources more effectively and anchor education sustainably in their community.



OUR IMPACT 2024

Teacher training

QUALITY IN THE CLASSROOM

In close collaboration with the Municipal Education Directorate, BRAVEAURORA trains teachers in practical lesson planning, teaches modern didactic methods and supports the implementation of new curricula - for quality and lively dialogue in the classroom.

The impact

Proportion of technically and methodologically competent teachers increased from 40% to 51%

Textbooks & playground equipment

FOUNDATIONS FOR EFFECTIVE LEARNING

BRAVEAURORA provides important learning materials and thus creates conditions for sustainable educational success. At the same time, play equipment for kindergartens promotes early childhood development and makes it easier for the later transition to school.

The impact

Access to essential learning materials increased from 17% to 30%

1.217 Pupils benefit from improved teaching.

Active involvement of school improvement supervisors and partner schools

57

Teachers receive practical training.

Age-appropriate play equipment for

87

kindergarten children.

3000

Textbooks for maths, English and science provided.

Afternoon lessons

LEARNING THROUGH PLAY - CLOSING GAPS

In four partner schools, creatively designed additional lessons were organised for 10 to 15-year-olds. The sessions, which take place three times a week, help to catch up on learning gaps and consolidate important basic knowledge.

Scholarship programme

OPENING UP EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS

BRAVEAURORA supports children from former orphanages and particularly high-achieving pupils with educational scholarships - including the „Severin Scholarship“ for the transition to secondary school.

EDUCATION ON SEXUAL HEALTH & SELF - DETERMINATION

In safe spaces, young people learn more about sexual health, their rights and personal self-determination. This preventive programme strengthens knowledge and self-confidence, protecting against violence and premature drop-outs.

758 young people took part regularly.

The impact

Significantly improved performance in maths and reading skills

19

The impact

Access to higher educational qualifications for disadvantaged children

Pupils (including 12 former orphans) received **scholarships** for secondary school and university.

Monthly workshops in

9

schools.

The impact

Decrease in teenage pregnancies in the project communities

1.000

young people reached directly.

SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEUR WITHOUT A SCHOOL CERTIFICATE



Manlokiya Emmanuel from Guabuliga faced an uncertain future after completing lower secondary school. His school results were not good enough for secondary school and there were no career prospects - a scenario familiar to many young people in northern Ghana.

Emmanuel wanted more. When BRAVEAURORA offered him a three-year training programme to become a welder, he seized the opportunity with both hands. The road was rocky - and not just professionally. While his colleagues gradually gave up, he too had to take a break from time to time to earn the money. But he returned and kept going.

With perseverance, Emmanuel successfully completed his training and passed the National Vocation Training Institute examination.

EMMANUEL MANLOKIYA

Emmanuel Manlokiya is a welder and entrepreneur from Guabuliga, northern Ghana. Despite dropping out of school, Emmanuel has never given up. Today, he trains young people and gives them new prospects.

With BRAVEAURORA's start-up package, he opened his own welding shop in Guabuliga - in the same village where all doors once seemed closed to him.

Today, Emmanuel is a successful entrepreneur, husband and father of two children. And he is passing on his skills: he is now training five apprentices himself - young people who, like him, are looking for a second chance.



“The moment I held my own welding machine in my hands was the beginning of a new life for me. Today i'm an entrepreneur - and proud of it.”

— Manlokiya Emmanuel



PERSPECTIVES CREATING ON SITE

The challenges

Many families in northern Ghana make a living from agriculture - but poor soil, crop failures and a lack of access to markets cause great uncertainty. Women often lack access to income and credit. Many migrate to large cities in the south and leave their children behind. Young people also have few alternatives to agriculture due to lack of vocational training opportunities.

BRAVEAURORA's approach

BRAVEAURORA creates sustainable income prospects - especially for women and young people. Vocational training, financial education, mentoring and the establishment of savings and credit groups promote self - reliance and economic stability.

OUR IMPACT 2024

Mobile vocational training programmes

CRAFTSMANSHIP COMES TO THE VILLAGE

Our mobile skills training courses bring craft expertise directly to rural communities - from tailoring and hairdressing to cosmetics. In this way, local people can acquire skills that will enable them to start a business. They earn their own income - without having to leave their families.

135

participants (120 women, 15 men, including persons with disabilities) trained in 10 communities.

229

children benefited directly from their parents improved income situation.

44%

have already founded a viable business.

Savings and credit groups

FINANCIAL SELF-DETERMINATION

Our Village Savings and Loans Associations enable women in villages in particular to obtain microloans and financial security - especially for women who often have no access to formal banking services.

70%

of the participants report significantly higher household savings.

9

new regional groups founded, over 300 participants.

135

people received training in business management and financing.

DIGITAL MARKETING AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION

Our social media marketing training courses enable small businesses in the villages to market their products in a targeted manner. They learn how to calculate their prices in order to make sustainable profit. They generate income and discover new sales channels through social media, which opens up additional markets for them.

Pricing has become more transparent - for sellers and buyers alike

30

Entrepreneurs are trained as multipliers who pass on their knowledge to a further 60 entrepreneurs (90 people in total).

30% of start-ups report **more business through social media** after 6 months.

SUCCESSSES OF THE LAST 15 YEARS

1.545

people in 14 villages trained in 26 professions.

285

stable businesses founded - Many of them now train apprentices themselves, multiplying the impact.

Diverse professions such as tailoring, make-up/decoration, pomade making, smock tailoring, bakery, peanut processing, pottery, sanitary installations, weaving, yoghurt production, soap making, welding, organic gardening, motorbike mechanics, etc.

ABDUL RAHAMAN HAS SURVIVED



When a member of the BRAVE AURORA child protection team was on his way to his farm, he saw eight-month-old Abdul Rahaman - emaciated, weak, barely able to react - all signs of acute malnutrition! He learnt that Abdul's mother had died shortly after giving birth. Since then, his aunt had been caring for him - lovingly, but without sufficient means to feed him properly.

The situation was life-threatening. Abdul Rahaman was taken to Walewale District Hospital, medically stabilised and provided with therapeutic nutrition. The treatment costs were covered by BRAVEAURORA - a great relief for the family.

But the help did not stop there. The child protection team continued to support the family: the aunt received targeted nutritional counselling, including practical advice on how to feed children

ABDUL RAHAMAN

Abdul is now 2.5 years old and lives in Tia, northern Ghana. What is special about him: Abdul fought his way back to life with the support of his aunt and BRAVEAURORA - and shows what is possible when children get help in time.

Tips for preparing nutritious meals with local ingredients. The family was supported with food to ensure Abdul's recovery. In addition, the aunt received start-up funding for a small business - today she sells goods at the market and earns her own income. Abdul Rahaman is now two and a half years old, healthy and active - He has not been ill since our intervention.



“I used to have no income and hardly any hope. Today I look after my nephew, earn my own money - and know that Abdul has a future.”

– Abdul's aunt



FOR HEALTHY GROWTH DESPITE CRISES

The challenges

Climate change is hitting northern Ghana with full force: crop failures, hunger and increasing malnutrition are the consequences - 18% of children under the age of five are already affected. Poverty, inadequate nutritional knowledge and a lack of health care further exacerbate the situation.

BRAVEAURORA's approach

BRAVEAURORA pursues a dual strategy: we provide help with therapeutic food and medical care for children who are already malnourished and at the same time focus on effective prevention. Training for parents, further training for local health personnel and home gardens for self-catering strengthen families in the long term and sustainably.

OUR IMPACT 2024

FEEDING HOPES PROJECT

In the West Mamprusi municipality, our Feeding Hopes project promotes food security - with locally adapted solutions to combat malnutrition and build resilience to the consequences of climate change.

Individual counselling of

447

Breastfeeding mothers.

759

households in 14 communities received training on healthy child nutrition.

60

malnourished children were provided with therapeutic food and medical assistance.

75% of the children treated have fully recovered and 15% had to discontinue treatment due to relocation, 5% are still in care. Sadly, one child died as a result of malnutrition - unfortunately, our help came too late for this baby.

The impact

Improved early detection: The number of documented cases of severe malnutrition is increasing - a sign that more children at risk can be identified and treated

9

Health professionals trained in systemic data collection and production of therapeutic food.

15

Home gardens created, from which 90 people benefit directly.

NUMBERS WITH AN IMPACT

Our work would not be possible without financial support. The income generated in 2024 is the basis for everything we have been able to achieve. In 2024, BRAVEAURORA (Austria, Ghana and Switzerland) generated **income** totalling

418.056,18 €

80.000 €

was donated by our **corporate partners** and contributed significantly to the expansion of our programmes.

300

individual donors form the foundation of our work and thus show the great trust in our projects.

“At BRAVEAURORA we know: Our support works - directly, sustainably and where it is needed.”

Elisabeth Maschek-Mühlbacher,
CEO Assistant & CSR Manager,
Frauscher Sensortechnik GmbH

The **expenditure** of BRAVEAURORA (Austria, Switzerland and Ghana) in 2024 totalled

361.225,92 €

88,3 %

of our funds were channelled directly into **project work in Ghana** - for better child protection, access to education, income generation and the sustainable development of rural communities.



Transparency is very important to us. That is why the full financial report can be found **HERE**

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

Focus 2025: Every child deserves a family - not a home.

In Ghana, too many children are still growing up in institutions - separated from their roots, without the stable bonds they need for healthy development. In 2025, you can help to change this. Under the motto „Families, not orphanages“, you have the opportunity to play a direct role in helping children grow up in loving families instead of anonymous institutions.

Together with you and the Ghanaian authorities, our goal is to:

- Reintegrate 65 children from institutions into families (foster care or foster families)
- Educate 4,000 people about the importance and benefits of family care
- Strengthen 13 communities through workshops on positive parenting
- Launch a broad-based media campaign in Ghana with radio programmes, videos and informative materials
- further develop the foster care system through in-depth training and continuous support
- Prevent the creation of new orphanages in northern Ghana

BECOME A PARTNER

Behind every project are people who coordinate, accompany and take responsibility - and an organisation that makes it all possible. To ensure that every project donation arrives where it is most urgently needed - with the children and families on site - structures, planning and reliability are needed in the background.

“This is precisely why the BRAVEAURORA partner programme was created: It strengthens the foundation of our work - and ensures long - term impact.”

With an earmarked donation from 10 euros per month (or 120 euros per year), you help to ensure that we have a strong backbone in the organisation.

10€ monthly



DONATE SECURITY

Your donation makes it possible for a social worker to visit a child's home to monitor their new family wellbeing.

30€

one-off

GIVE THE GIFT OF STABILITY

With this amount you finance a care package or a family, with food and hygiene articles in the important transition phase after their reunification.

100€

one-off

GIVE THE GIFT OF A HOME

Your donation covers the costs for the complete reintegration of a child - including social work support and concrete support for the start into a stable family life.

350€

one-off

PROFESSIONALISM

With this contribution, you support the training of social workers in the field of foster care - for a long-term better care for children in need of protection in a family environment.

500€

one-off

YOUR DONATION HAS AN EFFECT - CONCRETE AND SUSTAINABLE!

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THANK YOU! NPUSIA PAM!

Our special thanks go to all volunteers, supporters and our major donors who make our work possible with their extraordinary generosity and long-standing support.

Josef R. Melchart
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