



Adaklu Dawanu Salvation Army Basic School

# AFTER-SCHOOL & WEEKEND ENRICHMENT PROGRAM





**Friends of Adaklu (FOA)** is a locally-led, Ghanaian-registered NGO where all decisions and initiatives are created and managed by the people of the Adaklu District, ensuring true community-driven development.

As a fully vetted partner of Global Giving, FOA can receive tax-deductible donations through the Global Giving platform, providing transparency and accountability across all programs.

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## THE PROBLEM

Students at **Adaklu Dawanu Salvation Army Basic School** in Ghana's Volta Region face significant challenges due to resource shortages and high teacher turnover. With **50%** of 5th and 6th graders unable to read, many students struggle with both reading and math.

Attendance is low, averaging only **60%**, as many students miss school to help with subsistence farming. The dropout rate is **10%**, driven by factors such as lack of parental care, teenage pregnancy, and the need to work. With only half of the teaching positions filled and most teachers leaving after one year, students' educational opportunities and future prospects are critically limited.





## PROJECT SUMMARY

The FOA sponsored **Afterschool and Weekend Enrichment Program** at **Adaklu Dawanu Salvation Army Basic School** provides essential educational support to over 100 rural Ghanaian youth in grades K-9th. Focusing on **reading** and **STEM** activities, the program aims to improve academic skills while offering a nutritious snack to keep students energized and encourage attendance.

By engaging students beyond school hours, this program will **build confidence, reduce dropout rates,** and help **break the cycle of poverty.** Through this program, students are empowered to reach their full potential and create brighter futures.





## GOALS OF PROGRAM

- Increase average **daily school attendance** from 60% to 80%.
- **Decrease dropout rate** from 9.5% to 5%.
- Decrease junior high school **pregnancy rate** to 0.
- Improve **teacher retention** to 2+ years.
- Improve number of **teachers posted** to Dawanu School.
- **Improve reading level** and English conversation skills for students.



# ADAKLU DAWANU 2024/2025 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Grade	Total Students	Age
Kindergarten 1	4	4
Kindergarten 2	8	5
Grade 1	8	6
Grade 2	9	7
Grade 3	11	8
Grade 4	9	9
Grade 5	12	10
Grade 6	10	11
Grade 7	10	12
Grade 8	11	13
Grade 9	16	14

- Total Number of Students from KG 1 to Grade 6 = **71**
- Total Number of Students from Grade 7 to Grade 9 = **37**
- Total Population of the School = **108**



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

## 1- Can I support a specific project or group of students?

Absolutely! Just email us at [AdakluFriends@gmail.com](mailto:AdakluFriends@gmail.com) and let us know which project you'd like to support. We also offer a scholarship program if you'd prefer to sponsor an individual student or a classroom sponsorship program if you would prefer to sponsor a specific class.

## 2- What is the average attendance rate for students at Adaklu Dawanu SA Basic School? Do most students attend school regularly?

Most students are absent from school on market days and days they have to work to earn money to take care of themselves/family. The average attendance rate is **60%**.



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

## 3-Why does Adaklu Dawanu SA Basic School struggle with teacher retention?

- Unfortunately, there is **lack of appropriate housing** in the Dawanu community. The only houses in this area are mud houses with thatched roofs which are unsuitable for teachers.
- The roads are in poor condition. It takes teachers **an hour or more to travel from their homes to school** by car. Most teachers don't have cars and must pay for transportation. When it rains, the road becomes impassable.
- There is **no cell or internet service** in Dawanu.

## 4-Is there anything we can do to help improve teacher retention at the school?

Yes, we can do the following in phases to help improve teacher retention at the school:

- **Build teacher's quarters** in the Dawanu community at an affordable fee for teachers to rent and stay within the community, help students with homework, organize after-school programs, and also organize after-school extracurricular activities.
- Introduce an Annual Award Scheme to **reward and motivate teachers**. We will need to design criteria for teachers to merit this award if instituted.
- **Build classrooms** for the students in kindergarten, provide conducive learning environments, and as well make the school environment appealing and welcoming.
- Provide a variety of **teaching and learning materials** in English Language, Math, Science and Computing, games, sports and athletic equipment.
- Introduce **extracurricular activities** to motivate and keep students in school as a result of healthy competition and winning awards as they compete with other schools in Adaklu.
- Look into **Starlink service** for Dawanu. In addition to internet this might solve the lack of cell phone service



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

## 5-How many students are still in need of sponsors?

**74 students** are in need of sponsors. For more information on sponsorship visit <https://goto.gg/67134>



## 6-To help determine the appropriate educational materials to send, could you provide more insight into the educational level of the older students (5th and 6th graders)? What level are they reading at? And what level of math are they currently studying?

The subject areas for 5th and 6th graders that need educational materials are **English language, Math, Integrated Science, Computing, and Creativity Art**. Learning materials that can improve the teaching and learning of the subject areas would be helpful.

### Reading level of the older students Grade 5 and 6 are:

- **6 out of 12 students are paragraph readers**
- 10 out of 12 students are word readers
- 10 out of 12 students are alphabet readers

### The level of math the 5th/6th grade students are currently studying:

- Number (Counting, Representation, Cardinality and Operations)
- Algebra, (Patterns and Relationships)
- Geometry and Measurement, (Lines and Shapes)
- Data (Collection, organization, interpreting and analysis)



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

## 7-Regarding the attendance rate, when students miss school, what are the common reasons for their absences?

The common reason for absentees in the school is:

- Students participate in **farming activities** during school hours to help their parents feed the family.
- Students engage in **charcoal production** to earn an income for personal needs.
- Students visit the nearby animal market to help in **loading and offloading goods** for people to earn wages.

## Also, what is the dropout rate at Dawanu School? If students are dropping out, what are the main reasons behind it?

The dropout rate is 9.5% as a result of:

- Lack of parental care.
- Teenage pregnancy
- Migration of parents to urban communities to seek job opportunities.
- Students are engaged in farming jobs on people's farms to earn a wage

## 8-What would be the estimated cost of starting a snack program for the students?

Budget for Snack and Local Drink/Water Per Week

Days	Grade	# of Students	Unit Cost	Total Cost GHC	Total Cost USD
Tuesday	KG 1 - Grade 6	71 + 4 Volunteers	6	450	30
Wednesday	KG 1 - Grade 6	71 + 4 Volunteers	6	450	30
Sunday	KG 1 - Grade 6	71 + 4 Volunteers	6	450	30
Total Cost for Per Week for 71 Students and 4 Volunteers				GHC1350	\$ 90

Exchange Rate: GHC 1 - 15 USD

Exchange Rate Link: <https://www.bog.gov.gh/treasury-and-the-markets/daily-interbank-fx-rates/>



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

**9- Is it possible to find a teacher who might be interested in supporting the Dawanu Basic School Afterschool & Weekend Enrichment Program? It would be ideal to have someone in place when the current volunteer leaves for college in January.**

Yes, we will be able to find volunteers to replace Adelaide when she leaves for school. We initiated a conversation with the Education Authorities in the Adaklu District, the Volta Regional Education Directorate and National Services Authority yesterday to post Teachers/Volunteers.

During our conference call, we were asked to send an official letter. Stella will share all the official letters and cover letters collected for personnel to be sent to Adaklu Dawanu for the Enrichment Program.

**10- How can I make a tax-deductible donation to support the Dawanu School Enrichment Program?**

Visit <https://goto.gg/67083> or email [AdakluFriends@gmail.com](mailto:AdakluFriends@gmail.com)



**11- Lastly, do we need more sponsors for the students at Dawanu?**

Yes, there are students in the Dawanu community that desperately need sponsors. For more information visit: [Sponsorship Program](#)



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT THE RACHEL+ SERVER

## What is the Rachel+ Server?

**RACHEL** (Remote Area Community Hotspot for Education and Learning) is a portable, battery-powered device that contains copies of educational websites in offline format. This means RACHEL can go anywhere in the world and wirelessly deliver free digital educational content to nearby tablets, laptops, or smartphones with no internet or data plans required. RACHEL has been taken to over 53 countries since its creation, serving students in rural villages, townships, and even prisons.

Headmistress/FOA Country Director Stella Kudah and Dawanu 6th Grade Teacher/FOA Computer Instructor, Kingsley Leh visited the Hehekpoe community to learn about their experience with the RACHEL + Server **installed by Asko in 2019**. They spoke to members of the community, the headteacher of Hehelpoe Salvation Army Basic School, the ICT teacher who managed the device via a phone call since he has been transferred to a different school, the current ICT teacher, and students by asking them questions concerning the use of the RACHEL + device and the computers.

**These are the responses to questions based on the feedback we received from the Hehekpoe school community:**

### 1. When was the last time the device was used?

According to Mr. Akoto, the current ICT teacher, the RACHEL + device was in use until the school's power was disconnected in 2023.

### 2. What content is on the device?

According to the previous ICT teacher, Mr. Steven Davor, the device offers many programs including Wikipedia, programming, Basic Education Certificate Examinations and West Africa Secondary School Certificate Examinations past questions.

### 3. Is the content beneficial to the students?

With regards to the response from the headteacher and teachers, the content was very beneficial to students.

### 4. Frequency of using the device before the disconnection?

From the response of the teachers, the device was used almost every day. It was used for school lessons that required the use of the internet and not only during computer lessons.

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ABOUT THE RACHEL+ SERVER

## 5. Number of grades using the device?

According to the new ICT teacher, only grade 9 students were using it.

## 6. How many computers are functioning at Hehelpoe Basic School?

The new ICT teacher informed us that 15 out of 22 Desktop computers are functioning while 4 out of 10 Laptops are functioning.

## 7. From the perspective of teachers, students, parents and device manager, is it useful/serves the purpose for which it was established?

Yes

8. Any other relevant information worth sharing during your interaction with all the stakeholders (students, teachers resource person) including feedback from parents

### a) How do your students access the contents on the device?

Response from Mr. Gabriel Ashong, an old member of staff: "Once a laptop or phone is connected to the RACHEL + server, the models installed on the device pop up on the laptop or phone from which students can choose their area of study".

### b) Has the device ever been upgraded/updated?

The gone ICT teacher responded: "The device needs upgrade and updates. The old programs installed on the device are only things you find. New subjects and learning areas are not automatically found on the device. Thus upgrading/updating the device is important."

### c) How many computers were connected and can be connected to the RACHEL + server?

According to the ICT teachers, both past and current, ten laptops were connected, and about fifty laptops can be connected at a go.

#### **d) Can the server allow external web browsers and search engines to access the internet?**

The server allows Google Chrome and Google search engine to access information online, said the ICT teachers. Three community members, Afefa, Yohanes, and Ruth who have their wards in the school confirmed that the server was being used to serve its purpose until the power disconnection.

