

# FOGWEM TIKSEEM

## CHIANA LEADERSHIP AND TECHNICAL CENTER (CLETEC)

### Get Involved

#### *Donation Drive*

We are currently accepting donations to:

- Purchase technology for the center to facilitate learning
- Support construction projects to expand the center
- Ensure that the center has reliable access to Internet, water and power

#### *Technology For Change*

We are collecting new and used laptops and tablets to be used by students at CLETEC

#### *Volunteer*

Use your skills to make a difference by volunteering with us! We are looking for volunteers to assist with various projects

To learn more about our opportunities to get involved, please visit:  
[fogwem.square.site/support-our-work](http://fogwem.square.site/support-our-work)



Meeting with members of the community and parents of trainees

### Introduction

The purpose of Fogwem & CLETEC is to support young to acquire employable skills by providing infrastructural, technical and social solutions. This newsletter outlines the progress made during the reporting period of January 2024 - June 2024.





Youth learning about automobiles from a local mechanic



Youth learning carpentry



# Activities

## Infrastructure

### *Four-Classroom Schoolhouse*

In the reporting period, materials for the roof were purchased, and a carpenter was engaged to begin the roofing work on the four-classroom building. Roof members was formed with timber, and laid on the roof to receive corrugated iron sheets. In the process, the carpenter and his team also provided training for 13 of our trainees. The mason and his team also filled and started to cast the floor concrete. With the roofing completed and the floor concrete cast, training sessions are now being held in the classrooms pending the completion of the plastering and electrical works when funds are available.

Completion of the roof and floor concrete was made possible by the generous contributions of Deacon Robert Bowers, Kathy Budnik, Sylvia & Doug Kohorst, Rick & Bettina Jensen.

### *Fence Wall Phase II*

Construction of the dry fence wall, Phase II, commenced on the eastern side of the property. Angle iron poles were installed into the ground with concrete bases, and the chain-link was anchored to the poles. The length of the fence wall is approximately 1,200 feet. Brick pillars were also constructed at the two entrances and three corners of the property to provide additional stability to the chain-link.



### *Solar Batteries Replacement and Maintenance*

During the reporting period, four batteries had to be replaced due to malfunction, resulting in poor performance. Two heavy-duty batteries were purchased and installed. The electrical wires connected to the solar panels were checked, and routine maintenance was carried out on the inverter, water pump, and switchboards. This was made possible with the contribution of Tammy and Chris Bowers.



### *Stabilized Earth Brick Making for Construction*

Stabilized earth bricks which use only 4-7 % are as good as concrete bricks. Cement has become expensive, and prices continue to increase.

This means the center cannot meet its infrastructural needs if it continues to rely on only conventional construction materials. The center therefore decided to promote stabilized earth brick molding techniques. In the reporting period, four (4) persons were trained in stabilized earth brick molding. They were taught how to identify the right type of soil—aggregates of clay, sand, and gravel—and how to mix it with 4-7% of cement before adding a small amount of water to obtain a paste-like mixture for molding. Two thousand five hundred stabilized earth bricks were molded throughout May and June. These were used to build the rectangular walls up to about 4.5 feet on all sides.



## Technical Solutions

### *Construction of Foundation Structure of Vault Building*

The future of the construction industry lies in sustainable, affordable and environmentally friendly buildings. CLETEC has been exploring these areas and is venturing into domestic and vaults construction. In the reporting period, vault construction techniques training was provided for four young men. A two-foot deep trenches were dug, and cement concrete was cast to provide the foundation for a vault building. A two-room demonstration vault building was started, and when completed, it will provide living accommodations for the security personnel.



### *Poultry and Livestock Farms*

In January, 50 chicks were purchased to start a poultry demonstration farm. Unfortunately, aggressive owls and hawks in the area claimed 13 chicks, leaving only 37. The center also bought five ewes, three rams, and three goats to start a small ruminant demonstration farm. So far, two ewes and two goats have lambed. The farms are primarily for training on housing, feeding, types of diseases, and treatment. The farms will also supplement the nutrition of the students who take lunch at the center during training sessions. Additionally, the livestock will be sold to generate income to support the center's activities.



### *Beekeeping Training*

During the reporting period, training was provided for 16 individuals, including some trainees and their parents. The training aimed to help trainees understand bees and how to prevent bee attacks. Parents of trainees joined the training due to their interest in raising bees. Typically, after training, the center helps participants acquire beehives, but this time round the center could not afford the cost. They will be helped with beehives to start their own apiaries when the center secures funding.



### *Vegetable Garden*

The center's two daytime security personnel volunteer to take care the garden. The cultivated leafy vegetables for the center and the families of those working there. They grew bean leaves, cocoa yam, bitter leaves, and other local leafy vegetables.



### **Social Solutions**

The center supports the studies of three students through sponsorships of \$30 per month for two of them and \$50 per month for one. Thanks to the generosity of the Glaser and Palumbo families. The sponsorships help to meet the students' needs both at the center and in their respective schools. The goal is to have as many students as possible supported through similar sponsorships, ensuring that they focus on their studies and personal development without the burden of financial constraints.

### *Supplementary Classes*

Most of the trainees at the center are in formal education, and attend elementary and senior high schools. The schools they attend are in not in the topic class as parents cannot afford the costs. The center therefore provided supplementary classes in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Moral Education, and Bible Lessons for 13 trainees who need help in the subject areas above.



### *Traditional Story Telling*

A session was provided for trainees to share traditional stories and discuss the lessons that can be learned from them. Before the advent of Western education, storytelling was the primary means of education in traditional societies. The center encourages trainees to explore these alternative educational methods, which have proven to be valuable to our value-based education approach.

### *Student Sponsor*

In June, one of the trainees received sponsorship from our partners. The center will receive \$30 USD monthly to support her education at both the center and school.

### **Conclusion**

The center's achievements would not have been possible without the support of our donor partners and the unyielding commitment of our volunteer artisan and workers. We are especially grateful to the board members of Story and Skill, particularly the Palumbo family, for coordinating all the nonprofit's activities.