

MEMO

FROM: WILLIAM BREW- SMITH, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (SWCD)

TO: THE DIST. CHIEF EXECUTIVE/ DIST. COORDINATING DIR. (AMADA)

DATE: 6TH JANUARY, 2023

**SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF 2022 REPORT ON ASENE MANSO AKROSO DISTRICT
SHELTER HOME (FAITH SHELTER HOME)**

I submit attached, the 2022, Report On Asene Manso Akroso District Shelter Home (Faith Shelter Home)for your further action, please.

.....
WILLIAM K. BREW-SMITH
(HEAD OF DEPT., SW&CD)

REPORT ON ASENE MANSO AKROSO DSITRICT SHELTER HOME (FAITH SHELTER) FOR THE YEAR 2022.

INTRODUCTION.

Asene Manso Akroso Assembly operates a shelter (Faith Shelter) within it's jurisdiction. The purpose of the shelter is to provide social services to children in need of care and protection and all vulnerable groups/households within the District and to serve as a place of temporary place of refuge, offered on a twenty-four hour (24 hours): seven (7) days a week basis to victims of domestic violence and their children, vulnerable persons within our jurisdiction, street children, victims of trafficking, missing children, destitute, etc.

It is to serve as a place of refuge that offers a place for security, personal safety and protection from the weather, a barrier between victims of abuse and trafficking from the culprits thereby offering a sense of security, prevent health problems and diseases, to aid in protecting the dignity of clients and gives them an opportunity to live and lead a normal life and a place to help reduce vulnerability and to build resilience.

Need I say that measures have equally been put in place to effectively support persons placed in the District Shelter Home. These measures will effectively address their needs and various forms of care (from feeding to accommodation and protection) until they are referred to appropriate quarters to access the permanently required assistance.

CAPACITY

The shelter can accommodate 8 - 10 children at a time. Clients (children) are expected to be in shelter for not more than six months. However due to challenges within the wider systems, for example, cumbersome and long judicial procedures coupled sometimes with difficulties in finding relations of the children for support, there can be instances where some (children) can stay beyond the expected duration in the shelter.

Location of Centre: Atiakama Nkwanta

GPS address: EB-1221-9982

Number of room(s): Two (2) rooms

Attendants:

S/N	NAME OF OFFICER	POSITION
1	Iddrissu Amani	Caregiver
2	Samuel Arthur	Caregiver
3	Grace Kessewaa	Social worker/Attendant
4.	William Brew-Smith	Shelter Manager/ HOD SWCD

Criteria for admission

- Children at risk or in danger.
- A child facing domestic violence.
- Missing children

- Defilement
- Parental neglect.
- Destitute, etc.

Clients do not have an automatic right to be admitted at the shelter just because they are victims of abuse. The shelter is offered only after all other alternatives care such as family and friends; Fosterage; etc have been explored and are determined as not viable or available.

Client (children) are mostly referred to the shelter by network partners such as DOWVSU, Department of Social Welfare and Community Development, Ghana Health Service (GHS),etc.

SERVICES OFFERED AT THE SHELTER.

When a child is admitted at the home, the shelter takes care of absolutely every need of the child. This is necessary as part of the process of healing and recovering particularly giving circumstance under which survival of child abuse leave their homes. There are examples of cases where clients especially nursing mothers and children under twelve years are so malnourished at the time they were placed at the shelter, that they must pay frequent visit to the nutritionist in the Government hospital for care. Quite a few children are on special diet just to ensure good health. The shelter, beyond serving as a point of safety for children who are at risk of being harmed, also serve as an avenue for rehabilitation and healing where social workers work together with the children to provide practical alternative for life after the shelter. To this end, the shelter provides educational support or tutoring for children.

Whiles at the shelter, children receive confidential counselling and participate in group sessions and other empowering activities. Periodic assessments are done to ascertain the child's needs, be it medical, educational, or legal aid.

Before a child is discharged from the shelter, a Social Investigation is usually conducted to ascertain the possibilities of reintegrating the child back into the community taking into consideration other factors that could endanger the child's life or predispose him/ her to danger. Usually, when the child is discharged, she is accompanied to her new environment by the shelter social worker. Necessary documents are endorsed. The shelter does not demand or expect any kind of financial commitment from the children's family because they are mostly indigent who are unable to make ends meet.

YEAR UNDER REVIEW (2022)

During the year under review (2022), the District Shelter Home (Faith Shelter) did not receive a case that needed a client to be placed in a shelter. All cases received were attended to and disposed off immediately. Despite not receiving a The District Assembly in it's quest to champion it's drive on vulnerability support and protection notified individuals and entities through various engagements, education and sensitizations programs and durbars spearheaded by the Social Welfare And Community Development Department to bring to their attention the existence of the shelter home so as to serve as an assurance to persons in harms way as a result of various forms of abuse,neglect, etc. This is to reassure them of the needed and expected support by the District Assembly to protect them no matter what.

CHALLENGES

WAY FORWARD