

Harvest Club Newsletter: Adolescence - Changes and Choices



YOUTH HARVEST FOUNDATION GHANA

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Issue 2 Theme: **Becoming An Entrepreneur**

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Mission: The Harvest Club Newsletter is a space for young people to share facts and opinions about sexual education, reproductive health, and other youth issues with their peers, policy makers, and the general public.

How to set up your own business?



Issaka Fataa Botech

When you think about life it is very important to start somewhere and know how to plan your life, for example setting up your own business. To start a business you need to consider a lot of things, including; planning, type of business, confidence, finance, prayers and hard work.

Planning: Before one starts his or her business you need to plan. If you know yourself very well you have to know how a

business can help you because you don't set up a business for fun.
Type of business: What kind of business would make you achieve your ambition? Would that give you enough of what you are heading towards too or would it destruct you from the important parts of your destiny?
Confidence: That is the most important part. You need to have confidence because there will be a lot of challenges. I once had a friend who set up a business. He was selling for the first time and had financial problems. He swore that he will never set up a business again. I had to laugh, because he lacked confidence.

So don't be like my friend as you are not playing. When you want to do something good for yourself you need to withstand anything. You never know when and how success will come.
Finance: Every human on this earth faces financial problems, so you can do it as well. Never look down upon yourself. Just believe in yourself.
Prayer and hard work: You have to be hard working because no matter what you do, without hard work you will not make it. Please, those who want to become business (wo)men you need to consider a lot but basically you need to consider this format.

Interview with Charles and Isaac, JA executives BIGBOSS

Q. Can you briefly explain the JA program?

A. It is a program organized by YHFG to develop the talents of young SHS students, as well as teaching them how to set up a business by themselves. In this way you will get to know how companies

work and the difficulties they face. (more about the JA program on page 3)

Q. Which product did you make?

A. Schoolbags with the school logo, but it was not our intention. We wanted to produce exercise books, but our capital was not enough for production. So we

had to change our mind. We then wanted to produce key holders, belts, handkerchiefs and neckties, but getting the raw materials in Bolga was a problem.
Q. What other challenges did you face?

A. First of all it was a challenge to convince

What are Harvest Clubs?

Formed in 2003, Harvest Clubs are discussion groups in all 6 of the SHS as well as 3 JHS schools in Bolga that meet weekly to talk about sexual education and reproductive health issues. The clubs were formed as part of the YHFG - Healthy Sexual Life Campaign project and have resulted in a group of trained young people who can effectively communicate with their peers on HIV and sexual health issues.

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What it takes to be an entrepreneur By Akparibo Fuseina BOGISS



Akparibo Fuseina

An entrepreneur is often identified as the 4th factor of production. It's someone who organizes or combines the other 3 factors of production; land, labor, capital, to make profit out of it.

Ways of making a

business successful:

Foremost; he must have *vision* and *foresight*. An entrepreneur must be

able to make future projections, so that the decisions he makes today will still be relevant in the future. Secondly, he must be *courageous*. He must be brave and determined to take decisions and see to the implementation of them. Thirdly, he must have good *human relations* with his employees

and customers. For the customers to come back the employees have to cooperate. Last but not least, he must be *persistent*. As business is characterized by success and failure, the entrepreneur must continue when there are failures, because there is light at the end of every tunnel.

Benefits & problems entrepreneurship By Amoaa Christian ZUSS

What are the benefits?

- It requires a **small set up capital**: A reasonable amount could be used to start up an one-man business and this motivates the owner to start the business and work harder.
- It is **easy to start** because there are no formalities as in the case of partnership. There are even instances where no registra-

tion of the business is done but it can start operating, for example kiosks or shops.

- You **enjoy the profit** made by the business alone as the owner provides the capital and runs the business personally. This will encourage you to work harder.
- It **fits into any environment**: Small business units can be situated in any place

or environment. It can easily adapt to the conditions that prevail at that particular place.

- **Being independent**: There is a feeling of complete independence, as the owner can take decisions and change them at any time. E.g. he can decide at any time to open and close the shop.

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'THE ENTREPRENEUR MUST CONTINUE WHEN THERE ARE FAILURES, BECAUSE THERE IS LIGHT AT THE END OF EVERY TUNNEL.'

Interview with JA executives BIGBOSS continued



Charles & Isaac

students to become a member and buy shares, in order to raise the needed capital. The students feared that they would not succeed and the money would be lost.

Another problem was the selling of the bags. Our price was higher than the market price for the

bags, so the students didn't want to buy at first. When we reduced the price a little we were able to sell them all and made profit.

Q. What did you learn from the whole experience?

A. Setting up a company is not a small task. A lot goes into it. You have to

take the risk to know if you can succeed or not. In all it's a nice program. The youth will learn a lot from it. When you complete school you will have first-hand knowledge on what it is like to work in a company. It's like we have already worked in a company before.

About the JA program

The JA program was started in 2009 by YHFG in collaboration with Junior Achievement Ghana in the Senior High Schools. The aim of the program is to increase the capacity of the youth to become successful entrepreneurs in the future. You will learn how to come up with a product and what do you have to do to make the business a success. Who knows maybe YOU will become the next big business(wo)man in Ghana!

After the program you will know how:

- to invest and plan for the future
- have knowledge on how to design and sell a product
- to manage and work together in a team
- to get money for your business idea

The program will start again in September.



Poem by
Azure Simon, BOTECH

*I woke from my slumber
My dream, I remember
I smile as if rushed back into my mind
But the smile faded as I face reality
Lying on the street
With no shoes to cover my feet
I rose from the cold floor
I had not a penny to my name,
People referred to me as 'poor'
Saying I was of no great fame
I starved with sadness and anguish
At the dress in my hand
It belonged to my sister, Doris
We were together just yesterday
Trying to satisfy her hunger
She crossed the street to the other side
of the road
Within a few seconds, I heard her scream
I never did eat the meal
I lost my meal and my sister
The driver did not even wait a minute
I knelt beside my sister
Knowing not what to do since no one
came to my aid
I walked away with tears in my eyes
The tears still flow to this day
Why me? I always asked myself
I don't know how come I came to the
street
Hope I get a better life so I get out of the
street*

WORDSEEKER

WORDSEEKER

M	G	S	G	N	Y	G	Y	M	O	N	O	C	E
G	A	O	N	K	T	G	C	S	Y	A	A	A	N
N	Z	R	I	R	I	H	N	R	G	J	T	P	N
H	S	G	K	H	N	C	E	S	O	S	A	I	J
T	I	A	A	E	U	T	I	G	L	S	R	T	E
V	S	N	T	B	T	C	C	F	O	E	E	A	E
E	Y	I	K	D	R	U	I	I	N	N	S	L	V
S	L	Z	S	F	O	D	F	N	H	I	O	Y	Y
L	A	A	I	W	P	O	F	A	C	S	U	E	U
E	N	T	R	E	P	R	E	N	E	U	R	N	T
J	A	I	E	O	O	P	E	C	T	B	C	O	O
S	P	O	L	I	C	Y	A	E	E	U	E	M	R
P	I	N	N	O	V	A	T	I	O	N	S	A	E
J	N	E	K	S	R	Y	A	R	D	Q	S	E	M

WORDSEEKER

Seek the following words in the puzzle:

resources, entrepreneur, innovations, finance, business, organization, economy, opportunity, capital, technology, efficiency, risktaking, market, money, analysis, product, policy,

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Jokes, The three wise criminals

In Sokabisi there lives a man who has a mango tree behind his house. One night three boys decided to go and steal the fruits of this same mango tree. They succeeded in climbing the tree without the man noticing it. That night, at the time they were plucking the mangoes, the man heard some noise and came out with a torchlight and pointed at the mango tree. While he was pointing, the light flashed on one of the boys, who happened to be the youngest. He asked; 'who is that?' The boy responded like a cat, saying 'miaooh, mmiaooh'. The man believed it was just a cat. The man again pointed the light and flashed the second boy and asked; 'who are you?' The boy responded like a fowl, saying 'kookokookooh'. The man again believed it was a fowl, but continued to point the light at the tree. This time around he flashed the oldest among the three boys. The man shouted; 'Who is that?' The boy responded with a sound like that of a cow saying; 'mmoo,mmoo, mmoo' The man said; 'Come on, climb down here yourself, have you ever seen a cow climbing a tree before?'



A short story by Christian from ZUSS



Once upon a time, there was a man called Abedima. Abedima lived in a village called Katanga in Zuarungu within the Bolga municipality. He had three children before his wife died. The names of his children were: Abasiyoo (the firstborn), Atariyem (the second born) and the last one Akanzonera. One day Abedima fell sick and called his children into his room and said; 'my children, I'm about to die. In this world the only property I have is three eggs. So each of you should pick one and know how to manage it as that will be your future.' After saying that, he died and was buried.

The firstborn Abasiyoo carelessly broke his own and he was worried that he could not eat or hatch his egg. The third born Akanzonera ate his own and got protein out of it. But Atariyem, the second born, hatched his egg with someone's hen. He did not eat his own egg to get instant protein but he hatched his own. By the grace of god his chick grew and laid 10 eggs. He removed three to cook and hatched the remaining eggs. The remaining ones hatched well and he had 8 poultry birds. The next six months six of his birds laid 10 eggs each. He removed 30 out of the 60 eggs and hatched the remaining 30. Four years later he became the richest man in Katanga.

My fellow youth, do not play with your life today like Abasiyoo who carelessly broke his egg. Apart from that, prepare for the future. Do not try to use your life today and in the future you will be suffering. As Akanzonera did by eating his egg and was suffering later. So my dear brothers and sisters, let us be patient, careful and hardworking like Atariyem. So in the future we will not be sad like Abasiyoo and Akanzonera.

Riddles

1. What is inside the middle of the sea?
2. When I am clean, I'm black. When I'm dirty, I am white. What am I?
3. A man was driving a black car. The car lights were off, and the moon was not out. How did the driver manage to see a cat crossing the street?
4. I do have form and size. You can see me but not feel me. I have neither substance nor weight. What am I?
5. Every living person on earth has seen me but no one will ever see me again. What am I?



Jokes; Dancing to the tone + Newly delivered

Mawutor was dancing with Ayinebisa at a night-club. He smelled bad odour from her. He inquired of it. Muwator: "Hi darling, which perfume did you use tonight?" Ayinebisa: "Dear, you know I always use the perfume with 3 cats on it." Mawutor: "Oh that's why. It seems one of the cats is dead."

A woman gave birth to a baby girl. People started visiting her to wish her safe delivery. A woman told her "Sister Adwoa, your daughter has got a nice head." "It is a mark from me", she replied. Another woman said "Your daughter has got nice finger nails." "A mark from me as well", she replied again. A woman said "How comes your daughter has got such a huge mouth?" She replied sadly "It is a mark from the father."

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What are the problems of being an entrepreneur?

• *Mismanagement*: poor business management could lead to the termination of the business as it could run out of money. • *Lack of raw materials*: where there is no supply of goods or raw materials for the enterprise to work and sell, the business could fold up.

• *Competition*: where there is so much competition from businesses that are producing similar goods for sale, it might be difficult for the enterprise to cope with the competition.

• *Death*: the owner finances, manages and controls the business. Therefore, when he or she dies the enterprise will come to an end. Entrepreneur-ship has

contributed a lot to the development of the country economy, as well as to individual lives. I therefore urge people, especially university graduates and the youth, to engage in one-man businesses. As there is no work in the public sector in this country, you cannot sit around till you grow old before you get a job.



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What is Youth Harvest Foundation Ghana (YHFG)?

YHFG is a non profit organization that works towards the vision of self reliant and self-sufficient youth in healthy communities. Its mission is to support research to identify unfulfilled needs of young people and to develop, implement, and fund breakthrough solutions that have a lasting impact.

Would you like to get involved?

Do the topics in this newsletter interest you? Would you like to learn more about these issues? Would you like to share your opinions? If you are enrolled in any of the regional high schools you can join the Harvest Club. The clubs are managed by a five member executive committee and for each club, a school tutor is appointed by the head of the school as a patron to the club. You can contact the patron of your school's club and complete a membership form to become a member.

Due to the success of the Harvest Clubs, the YHFG in partnership with other youth NGOs, is also in the process of creating similar community clubs for youth who are not currently in school. Until then, if you are not in school you can help increase awareness by sharing this newsletter and talking openly about these issues with your friends and family!

Easter Break

Hello everyone!

Although many of you are enjoying your Easter break with your family, for those who remain in Bolga, we have not forgotten about you! We have two programs for you during the break; one for the SHS club members and one for the JHS club members.



For our SHS students we offer a computer training course. We will teach you in basic computer skills as well as the use of the internet and of course all for free! We already started the registration process, but for those interested pass by the Youth Centre and we will see how we can include you. Don't forget to bring your ID card. Those we just snapped the pictures for the ID cards, we have written down your names, so don't worry.

For our JHS members we also have a nice program. There will be a drama course, which will end with a performance for you and your peers to watch at the end of the break.

**We are expecting you at the Youth Center this Easter break!
Have fun!!!**