

2019 IMPACT REPORT

CENTER FOR ACHIEVEMENT



PAGUS:AFRICA

Imagine what is possible. Make a difference.



Dear Friends,

After 15 years of working in Ghana, we have accomplished a great deal together and impacted the lives of hundreds of students while providing essential services to their communities. Over 160 students have received sponsorships, and more than 1400 have benefited from our community health and education programs. While educational programs are our main focus, over the years we have built schools, provided clean water sources, distributed schools supplies, furnishings, and other resources important in community development. It took love, determination and people like you to keep it all going.

Our Center for Achievement's (CFA) core group of up to 25 participants is the foundation upon which all else builds. By investing in these young people, we are shaping a brighter, more prosperous future that starts now. Thank you for partnering with us to nurture these young leaders.

As you read on about the camps, clubs and classes we offered in 2019 in the communities that surround the Volta Region's capital city of Ho, note the smiles and interest in the faces of the participants. We lead activities and utilize teaching methods that are designed to engage, delight, and empower the young people we serve. Our programs help students learn while developing their skills and self confidence. Our staff encourages students to explore their world and we challenge youth to see possibilities they never before imagined and to share what they learned with others.

Thank you again for helping to make this possible.

Ellen Berenholz
Founder and Executive Director



Edith and Snyder are two of our Path to Success students that entered University in 2019.

Edith is studying Integrated Community Development and Snyder is studying Development Planning. They are both attending University of Developmental Studies in Wa, Ghana.



OUR MISSION

We empower youth in Ghana to be change-makers in their communities.

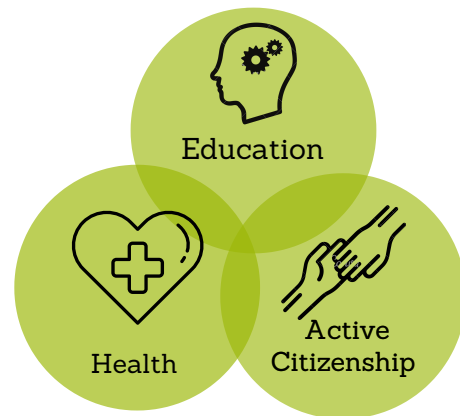
OUR VISION

A nation of civic-minded youth empowered with education, self-confidence and relevant skills that allows them to reach their full potential.

CORE VALUES



IMPACT AREAS





Our PATH TO SUCCESS Leadership program



gives students ages 15-26 the opportunity to gain skills and experience that they would not otherwise access in school or at home, in addition to financial assistance with school fees and supplies.

Students participate on a part-time basis when enrolled in school. After graduating from high school, they spend a year or more as a full-time student-intern. We currently have funding for 21 students and are prepared to take up to 35 once fully funded.

Path students work in a professional environment at the CFA office in Ho. They are trained to enter communities and deliver programs aligned with community needs. Students gain life and leadership skills, and leave our program prepared for further education and employment.

When you sponsor a Path to Success student, you are investing in a leader prepared to make a lasting impact in their community and the world.

2005 • Launch of sponsorship program; 13 student beneficiaries

2014 • Center for Achievement opens in Ho
• Launch of Path to Success serving 23 students

2016 • 1st Path to Success student enters University

2019 • 1st Path to Success student graduates University
• 5 more students started University with Pagus' support
2019 • 164 students sponsored to date



Educate: Read for Success

Our Read for Success program recognizes that reading and writing are essential foundations for every child. While English is the national language of Ghana, EWe is the mother tongue in this region. This poses a serious barrier to learning in schools, as educators in Ghana teach exclusively in English. Through CFA programs, students have the tools they need to learn and excel in school.

Our trained student-interns taught a total of 76 students in 4th and 5th grade using phonics, storytelling and reading aloud in classes. Students discovered the joy of reading and self-expression; they took pride in their improved performance.

Contributors can pledge a set amount each year to fund educational programs that will ensure students gain the necessary foundations for a better life.

2014 to 2019

- 300+ students benefited in our before and after school reading groups
- 240+ students participated in reading activities during library periods
- 500+ students participated in our Read for Success classes
- 1,000+ hours of English instruction and support provided
- 2,800+ books donated



Educate: Extracurricular Programs

Reading after school and during Easter break allows for our Path to Success students to engage younger children more creatively in reading and writing. Readers are grouped according to level of comprehension, rather than age or grade.

From pre-school to junior high school, students flock to take part in these free and fun activities.

By supporting these fundamental programs with a generous contribution, we can offer these programs to boost literacy and improve the lives of additional students in surrounding communities.

We welcome corporate and private sponsors to partner with us.



2011 to 2014

- Piloted before and after school reading program led by school teachers
- 180+ student participants

2015 to 2019

- After school clubs focus on reading
- Annual Easter Reads program for all ages
- 300+ student participants



Minding the Gaps

Excitement ran high when the government announced free high school education in 2018, but it was soon apparent that the infrastructure was not adequate to house and educate the number of students that enrolled. Half of freshmen students were excluded from classes between December and March as part of a track system implemented to address the system's shortfalls.

Students with means were able to avail themselves of classes offered by private schools or with tutors. Those without such means were left behind. Youth from rural communities were seriously impacted and were at-risk of failing.

CFA quickly organized and offered free Math and Science classes for those students in our communities. We assembled makeshift classrooms and offered free transportation so all who were ready to learn could participate.





Educate: Camp 2019

Campers enjoyed three weeks of fun and exploration in August in our Annual Art Camp on the Lokoe Basic School campus on the outskirts of Ho. Path to Success students planned varied and highly engaging activities that delighted the children. Creative arts, sports, theater, song and dance were organized with a focus on environment and teamwork. Each day also included reading time to help students cultivate a love for books. Free transportation, lunches and snacks were provided for over 100 campers.



2007-2011 Annual Art Week, run by international volunteers

2012-2014 Annual Art Week run by local teachers

2015-2019 Annual Art Camp run by Path to Success students!

Girls' Empowerment Club

At both Lokoe Basic school and in the Wayanu community, CFA's Girls Empowerment Club provided a safe and fun place for girls on their lunch breaks and after school to participate in activities and learn new skills.

Topics ranged from bullying to computers to personal hygiene and menstruation. Girls learned new songs, made videos in order to highlight their individuality and gain confidence, played games and created crafts.

This club is the only one of its kind in the region, and girls are excited to have an engaging program where they can learn and grow while strengthening their friendships.

2014 - 2019 Our Girls Empowerment clubs provided girls in three communities with vital skills and identified and provided at-risk girls with additional support services.





Clean Water

In 2018, Center for Achievement installed a mechanized borehole and poly-tank system that supplied clean water to the residents of Wayanu. While the water resource has changed the lives of residents in that community, CFA recognizes that supplying clean water requires periodic testing and regular maintenance. We assisted the community in developing a Water Committee and are dedicated to helping them manage the water supply independently and without significant help from outside agencies like ours

CFA has worked to engage local youth in the maintenance of the water supply through education and training. We aim to inspire young people to take pride in and to protect this vital resource.

"I was happy that CFA could provide this resource and ongoing support. This has strengthened my interest in community development." ~Wisdom Akrah, CFA student



Leadership Development - Key Aspects

- **DECISION MAKING:** Make responsible decisions to achieve your goals.
- **TECHNOLOGY:** Learn keyboard skills, Office programs & internet safety.
- **LEADERSHIP:** Become a role model and change-maker.
- **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT:** Reach for the highest bar so that you can be your best and contribute to the greater good.
- **GROWTH MINDSET:** Be curious, dream, discover & pursue your passions.
- **RAISE AWARENESS:** Bring attention to global issues that extend beyond your community.
- **LEARN:** Engage in rigorous discussions, listen actively & consider new ideas.
- **COMMUNICATE:** Effectively utilize body language, written language, and communicate with clarity and confidence.
- **CONFIDENCE:** Discover what is special about you and share it with others.

PATH TO SUCCESS FOOTPRINTS



Evelyn's Story



We first met Evelyn when she was 6 years old. She lived with her mother and sister in Wayanu, a 3-mile walk from the provisional Airfield School (Pagus replaced this with a permanent structure in 2010). Evelyn's bright spirit and curious mind impressed her teachers so much that they advanced her two full grades!

In 2013, at the age of 12, Evelyn successfully applied to Pagus for a Heritage Summer School scholarship. She was the youngest student to receive that award.

When she finished junior high school, Evelyn applied for and was awarded a 12-month internship in the Center for Achievement Path to Success program. The internship provided time for her to mature and develop vital communication and social skills. It also provided Evelyn with an opportunity to advocate for her community's need for a clean and sustainable water solution. She advanced the project and continued to play an instrumental role until CFA completed the project with a mechanized borehole and water distribution system in 2018.

With support from CFA, Evelyn was admitted to Ola Girls Senior High School, one of the top high schools in the region. In 2019, Evelyn gained admission to Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi. She has expressed that the experience she gained at CFA has enabled her to succeed at the University level. She continues to be part of the Path program and benefits from financial assistance thanks to the support of her sponsors.

In-kind Donations



In-kind donations are a meaningful way to contribute to our educational programs. They help us to provide essential learning tools to students in need and help to make our Center for Achievement a vital resource for the community.

In 2019, we received a large donation of office furniture and supplies from ADP, plus floor tiles, books, laptops, and school supplies from other supporters. Rock-it Cargo has generously provided us with the resources to ship 3 containers of these donations to Ghana.

These donations will furnish Center for Achievement's new facility, due to open in June 2020. Excess furniture and supplies will be sold to defray costs of construction.

Laptops and smartphones remain on our wish-list for in-kind donations. We invite you to join us in providing students with vital technology.

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Looking Forward

The CFA Campus, purchased in 2018, consists of three buildings: one is used for staff accommodations, one for student accommodations, and the third is slated to become the CFA Training and Resource Center by July 2020

The new center will provide a dedicated classroom expanding the resources and learning opportunities available to students in the region. Our staff will leverage the additional space to impact more students, helping them to broaden their skill sets and understanding of the world.

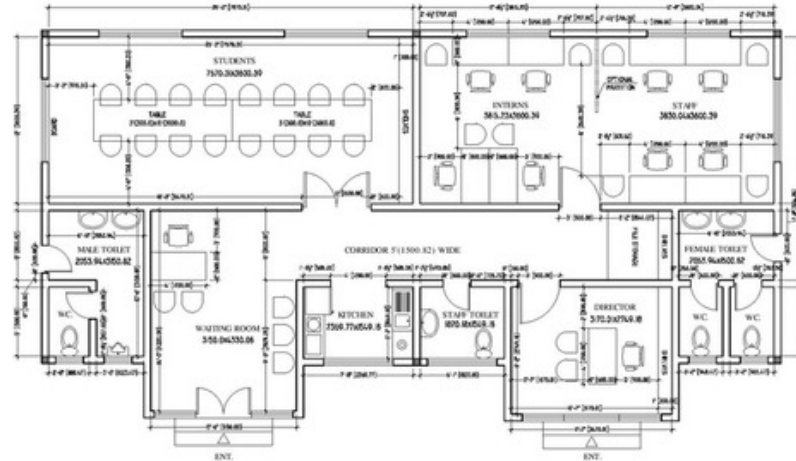
In 2020, we are seeking support for painting and facility improvements. Your contributions will help us to create a vibrant and inviting campus that our students will feel proud to attend.

Goals

- Expand access to the Center for up to 35 students
- Create additional classroom and office spaces



CFA Campus - Future Classrooms



Resources & Financial Management

Pagus, Inc. is entirely funded by private donations. To maximize our impact, every expenditure is carefully evaluated for efficiency and efficacy.

In 2019, we received in-kind donations of furniture, equipment and supplies, in addition to a cash donation designated for the renovation of our intended new CFA campus. We are seeking an additional \$1500 to complete this project.

In keeping with our goals for 2019, we developed our board membership, updated our accounting system to allow for more detailed reporting, and kept our spending in line with our budget without compromising our ongoing programs.

We continue to actively work to increase our donor base and collaborate with other entities so that we can maintain our commitments while increasing our capacity to serve additional youth in surrounding communities.

INCOME 2019

\$74 K cash donations

\$9.2 K proceeds from sales of goods and rental revenue

\$28.7 K in-kind donations of goods and services

\$111.3 K Total revenue

SPENDING 2019

\$104.7 k total expenses

Total value of fixed assets \$42K

FOR EACH \$1 DONATED IN 2019

\$.84 was spent on CFA programs

\$.16 was spent on Pagus administrative costs

1,015 individuals benefited directly from our programs

The Future is in Your Hands

Our ability to sustainably provide young people with a positive path for their future is only possible with your support.

With your support we will:

- Expand outreach to additional youth and young adults, enabling them to participate in our programs.
- Replicate our successful effort to provide clean water solutions to additional communities in need, saving innumerable lives and improving the quality of life for those in the region.

Help us to reach our goal of raising \$150k for the year's basic activities and a capital campaign of \$20K to improve our facilities and re-roof one of our buildings.

Volunteer and Help Make a Difference

We value your expertise and support of Pagus. Please contact us to discuss areas where your assistance can strengthen us further.

HOW TO DONATE:

It's easy to set up a one-time or recurring donation through Pagus: Africa online giving.

Or, donate by check and mail to:
Pagus, Inc.
215 Laurel Lane
Haverford, PA 19041

We can also take your donation information over the phone.
Call Ellen at 610.299.3373

Please reach out to learn more:
info@pagusafrica.org

We are enormously grateful to our donors and the organizations that work with us to help youth reach their full potential. Your support helps young people to change their world through engagement in effective and engaging educational activities.

Pagus Center for Achievement Board of Directors



Ellen Berenholz
Executive Director, USA
and Ghana



Brian MacDonald
Board Member, USA



Lola Ibrahim
Board Member, USA



Sal Berenholz
Board Member, USA



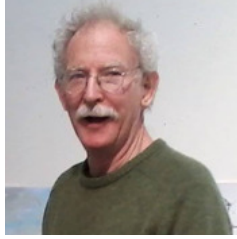
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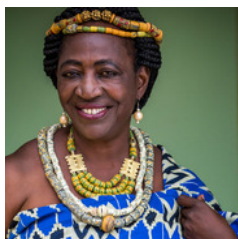
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Board Member, Ghana



Mama Atrato
Board Member, Ghana



Killian Edem
Board Member, Ghana



Gideon
Board Member, Ghana

Young people hunger for a brighter future. They are motivated to work their way out of poverty and into a life of possibilities. Our board members are dedicated to empowering youth in Ghana to become the best versions of themselves.



A Heartfelt Thank You to All of Our Donors

With your support, we have been able to reach over 1,000 rural residents, give youth a path to a better life and strengthen their communities.

\$5,000 and above

David Bernstein, Rock-it Cargo, Maxine Gowen and Brian MacDonald

\$1,000 - \$5,000

Sal Berenholz, Beth Berman, Ralph Kerr, Joan McNamara, Robert Opalsky, Qualcomm, Karen Raz, Judith Sarment, Rosemary Smith, Marilu and Carl Spector

\$100 - \$999

Michael & Caryl Levin, Eriko Amino, Rick & Eileen Andrews, Peter Archer, Brooke Bees, Jared & Robin Berenholz, Michel Bloch, Arlene & Albert Brest, Jeff Camhi, Steve Compton, Sabine Cranmer, Sarah Durkin, O'Flanagan Family, Lynn Fergusson, Mark & Lorie Foust, Alan Frankel, Louisa French, Earl Gohl, James Gowen-MacDonald, Kristen Gowen-MacDonald, Timothy Gowen-MacDonald, Ruth Hartz, Jacob Hawkesworth, Joan Heath, Neil Heskell, Max Jackson, Gaynor James, Tristan Jappa, Keith Jones, Marcy Kagan, Rick Keenan, Jim Kelsh, Steve LoCastro, John D. McGovern, Susan McNamara, Thuong Nguyen, Katherine O'Flanagan, Max & Fredda Opalsky, Susan Pezzano, Lou Savastani, Pia Sawhney, Blanche Schlessinger, Rochelle Seltzer, Carol Shore, Diane Uniman, Lisa Ward, Lee Wexler, Judy & Harvey Zalesne Philanthropic Fund, Peachtree & Ward Catering, Helena Wong

Pagus Center for Achievement works in concert with other NGOs, governmental organizations and private entities to create meaningful impact in Ghana while working towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations.





GOAL #4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning: More than half of children worldwide are not meeting minimum proficiency standards in reading and mathematics. Refocused efforts are needed to improve the quality of education. Disparities in education along the lines of gender, urban-rural location and other dimensions still run deep. More investments in education infrastructure are required. In 2016, only 34% of primary schools in LDCs had electricity and less than 40% were equipped with basic hand washing facilities.

Pagus CFA IMPACTS:

- Reading programs organized and taught by CFA provided a vital foundation in literacy. We credit our success to our child-centered approach that is focused on creating strong foundations.
- We emphasize good hand-washing habits on all project sites. Tippy Tap hand-washing stations are established and promoted at schools and in the communities.



GOAL #5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large. Implementing new legal frameworks regarding female equality in the workplace and the eradication of harmful practices targeted at women is crucial to ending the gender-based discrimination prevalent in many countries around the world.

Pagus CFA IMPACTS:

- CFA incorporates gender equality and empowerment in every program we run. Our Girls' Empowerment Clubs provide girls and young women with a safe place to learn about reproductive health and discuss issues they face in school, at home and in their communities.
- At CFA, students and student-interns learn to discuss gender roles and are encouraged and empowered to advocate for themselves and the girls and women in their communities.
- Edith, one of our student-interns, entered a university program this year so she may pursue her dream of advocating for and empowering women.



GOAL #6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Clean, accessible water for all is an essential part of the world we want to live in and there is sufficient fresh water on the planet to achieve this. However, due to bad economics or poor infrastructure, millions of people including children die every year from diseases associated with inadequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene.

Pagus CFA IMPACTS:

- An estimated 500 people living in one of the communities we work with outside of Ho Municipality utilize the borehole and water distribution system we provided in 2018. We continue to assist where needed to maintain the system and promote safe drinking water.
- Several neighboring communities are in need of similar systems and have requested our help. We will assist them as soon as funding becomes available.



GOAL #12: Ensure sustainable consumption. Sustainable consumption and production aims at “doing more and better with less,” net welfare gains from economic activities can increase by reducing resource use, degradation and pollution along the whole life cycle, while increasing quality of life. This includes educating consumers on sustainable consumption and lifestyles, providing them with adequate information through standards and labels and engaging in sustainable public procurement, among others.

Pagus CFA IMPACTS:

- CFA became a ‘green office’ in 2018. Staff and students bring reusable containers for lunches and discourage the use of plastic bags.
- We incorporate sustainability into the curriculum and use recycled materials in art projects. CFA spreads awareness to communities and schools to reduce waste and to keep communities clean.

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REACH OUT TO LEARN MORE: INFO@PAGUSAFRICA.ORG

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