

THE 2023 FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION BLOOD DONATION DRIVE



**FIRM HEALTH
GHANA FOUNDATION**

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INTRODUCTION

The 2023 Founders Day Blood Donation Drive was organized by Firm Health Ghana Foundation with support from Goldfields Ghana Foundation, Rotary Club of Tarkwa, Fiaseman Rural Bank PLC, So Nice Drinking Water, Dakete Company Limited, Classic Christken Company Limited and Mohammed Brothers Company Limited. The drive took place on the 29th of September 2023 at Tarkwa Senior High (Tarkwa) and Fiaseman Senior High School (Tarkwa). The primary objective of this event was to collect 1000 units of blood from willing donors to contribute to the blood banks and help save lives. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of regular blood donation and to encourage more people to participate in this noble cause. The slogan for the drive was “A Thousand Gifts of Lives”. The event started at 9:30 am and ended at 5:00 pm.

OBJECTIVES



To collect 1000 pints of blood



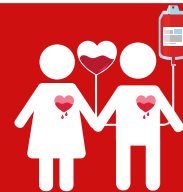
To raise awareness about the importance of blood donation



To encourage first-time donors

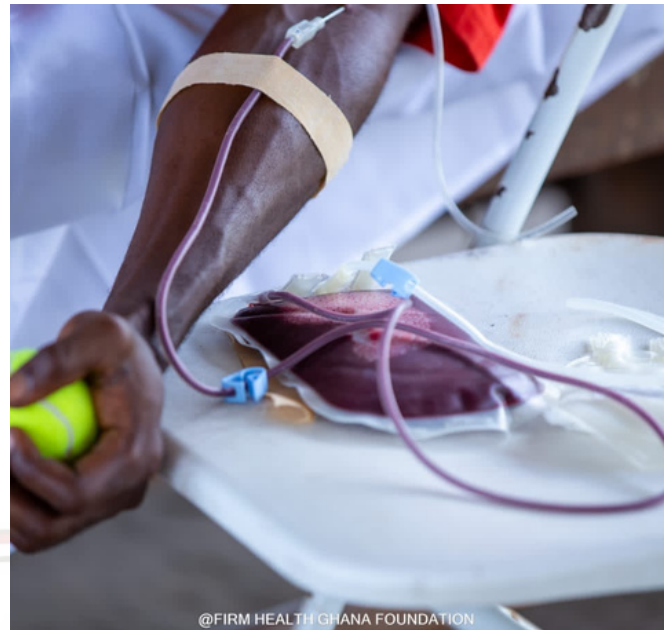


To use technology in blood donation exercise to drive data collection



To support local hospitals and patients in need of blood transfusions within Tarkwa and its environs

EVENT DETAILS:



1. Planning and Preparation

- **Organizing Committee:** The following made up the organising committee with their respective roles:

- 1 Engr. Dr Sylvester Akpah – Coordinator (Tarkwa Senior High School)
- 2 Dr. Joseph Darko – Coordinator (Fiaseman Senior High School)
- 3 Vondee Selasie – Head, IT
- 4 Charles Ababio – Head, Counselling
- 5 Nana Agyemang – Assistant, Counselling
- 6 Ms Karen Donkor – Head, Volunteers
- 7 Micheal Hammond – Head, Logistics
- 8 Samuel Kumah – Head, Communication
- 9 Andrews Kwabena Sah – Head, Laboratory

- **Pre-event Publicity:** The event adopted a mix of publicity strategies, namely;

1. Radio Publicity – 8 media houses namely; Adwinpa fm, Dynamite fm, Space fm, Medeama fm, Owass fm and Mining City Radio promoted the event for 2 weeks.
2. Community radio outlets as well as posters and banners were also used.
3. Television – A live in-studio session with Citi TV’s Breakfast Daily



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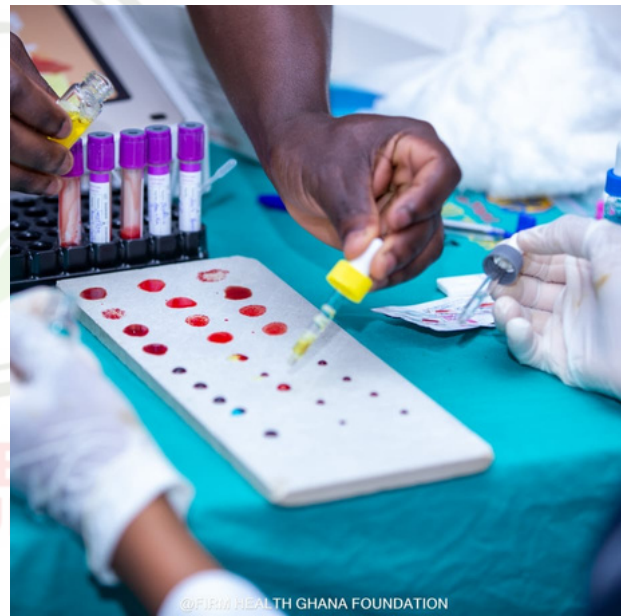
Partnerships: Firm Health Ghana Foundation is committed to developing and strengthening relationship with all community stakeholders. The foundation partnered with the following agencies:

- 1 Apinto Government Hospital, Tarkwa
- 2 Municipal Hospital, Tarkwa
- 3 Government Hospital, Bogoso
- 4 Tarkwa Senior High School
- 5 Fiaseman Senior High School
- 6 Goldfields Ghana Foundation
- 7 Fiasseman Rural Bank PLC
- 8 Rotary Club of Tarkwa
- 9 Dakete Company Limited
- 10 Mobik Energy
- 11 Mohammed Brothers Company Limited
- 12 So Nice Drinking Water
- 13 KSD Media
- 14 Smart Innovations Ghana Limited
- 15 Melon Estates
- 16 Classic Christken Company Limited

2. Event Activities

- **Registration** - Setting up an efficient blood donation registration desk is crucial to ensure a smooth and organized blood donation event. To this end, two registration desks were set up at both venues. Each registration desk was manned by four volunteers. To ensure efficient data collection and management, a computer software was deployed to collect donor information thus making it easier to manage records and generate reports. The database have been securedly encrypted to ensure that donor information is handled confidentially and complies with data protection regulations.
- **Health Screening** - Blood donation health screening is a crucial step in ensuring the safety of both donors and recipients. It helps identify potential health issues or risk factors that might prevent someone from donating blood. On the day, eight nurses and laboratory technicians manned each venue and screened all potential donors. All participants were taken through some pre-eligibility checks. Donors vital information including blood pressure, pulse rate, temperature, and hemoglobin levels were measured to ensure that donors were eligible to donate. Donors were also screened for blood borne infections such as HIV, Hepatitis B, Syphilis to ascertain donor's health history and address any probable concerns. Educational Counseling was also provided about the blood donation process, potential side effects, and post-donation care.
- **Blood Donation Process** - After passing the health screening, donors were moved to the donation area. Each venue had eight bleeding beds to ensure that more people were able to donate. At each bleeding bed, sterile needles were inserted into the veins of donors, usually in the arm. This process was relatively painless and took about 10 minutes to donate. During the donation, donors were comfortably seated, and the blood is collected into a sterile bag.

- **Refreshments and Post-Donation Care** - After donation, donors moved to the refreshment area where each donor received a T. Shirt, milo, bottled malt drink, biscuit, exercise books and pens. Donors were also given tasty milo drinks. Donors were also made to relax to observe for any adverse reactions before leaving. Donors were counseled to avoid any strenuous activities for at least 24 hours but preferably 48hrs and also encouraged to stay hydrated. Donors were encouraged to contact the blood donation organising team should they experience any unusual symptoms after donation.



BLOOD COLLECTION STATISTICS

- **Event Date and Venue:** The blood donation exercise was held on 29th September 2023 at Tarsco and Fiasec. The venues were equipped with medical facilities, staffed by trained professionals, and organized to ensure a smooth donation process for all participants.
- **Participation:** We were thrilled to have 660 donors participate in the exercise. These donors included individuals from various age groups, professions, and backgrounds, demonstrating the community's unity in supporting this vital cause.
- **Blood Units Collected:** A total of 327 units of blood were collected during the exercise. 197 units from Tarkwa Senior High School and 130 units from Fiaseman Senior High School. Each unit of blood has the potential to save multiple lives, making this collection a significant contribution to local hospitals and patients in need.
- **Donor Engagement:** Donors were actively engaged through informative sessions about the importance of blood donation.
- **Volunteer Support:** The event received tremendous support from dedicated volunteers who assisted with registration, donor care, refreshments, and overall event management. Their enthusiasm and commitment were instrumental in ensuring the event's success.
- **Community Outreach:** The exercise received extensive coverage through local media channels and social media platforms. This outreach helped in reaching a broader audience, resulting in increased awareness about the ongoing need for blood donations.

IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Lives Saved:** The collected blood units have already been supplied to local hospitals and medical facilities. They will be used to support patients with medical conditions requiring blood as well as those undergoing surgeries, cancer treatments, trauma care, and other medical procedures, potentially saving numerous lives.
- **Community Awareness:** The event contributed significantly to raising awareness about the constant need for blood donations. Through educational materials and media coverage, the community became more informed about the importance of regular blood donation, dispelling myths and encouraging a positive attitude towards donating blood.
- **Partnerships and Collaboration:** The event fostered collaborations with local businesses, schools, and community organizations. These partnerships were crucial in mobilizing resources, volunteers, and donors, indicating a growing community commitment to the cause of blood donation.





CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

- **Donor Recruitment:** Encouraging first-time donors remains a challenge. To address this, future events will focus on targeted awareness campaigns in schools, youth groups, churches, mosques and workplaces to educate potential donors about the ease and significance of blood donation.
- **Donor Education:** One of the key lessons learned was the importance of continuous donor education. Despite efforts, there are still misconceptions among some potential donors. Future events will focus on more extensive awareness campaigns to address these misconceptions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We appreciate the priceless support of our sponsors and volunteers. Without your support and commitment, we wouldn't have achieved so much. There is more room for improvement and we hope to achieve more together.



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THANK YOU

We are immensely grateful for your sponsorship of our blood donation drive. Your belief in our mission empowered us to create awareness about the importance of donating blood. Because of your support, countless lives will be positively impacted. Your generosity has indeed made a difference, and we are honoured to have you as a partner.



Mohammed Brothers Company Limited

Only Prayer Can Save Company Limited

Nhyiraba Rentals



MEDIA PARTNERS

Space FM, Dynamic FM, Medeama FM, Pure FM, Owass FM, Mining City Radio, Adwinpa FM, Best FM, Fact FM, Asomdwe FM, Trinity FM, Energy FM, Tarkwa Media Association



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THANK YOU

To our incredible volunteers, your generosity knows no bounds. Thank you for giving your time, energy, and support during the blood donation event. Your willingness to help others in their time of need is inspiring. Our heartfelt thanks for your remarkable service.

Your volunteerism is the heart of our success

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OUR PARTNERS





CONCLUSION

The blood donation drive proved to be a resounding success, not only in terms of the number of donors and blood units collected but also in creating a heightened awareness about the critical need for voluntary blood donations. The event's impact on the community's health and well-being underscores the importance of such initiatives.

We extend our gratitude to all donors, volunteers, sponsors, and partners who contributed to the success of this event. Your support has made a significant difference in the lives of patients in our community, reaffirming the power of collective action in promoting the noble cause of blood donation.

As we move forward, Firm Health Ghana Foundation remains committed to organizing more such events, fostering a culture of voluntary blood donation, and ultimately making a difference in the lives of those in need.