

Selassy's story



Why I became a street worker

Roughly 20 years ago I joined Street Girls Aid (S.Aid), a local NGO in Accra, as a Fieldworker. My job centred on going to the street to talk to street children; to listen to them, to understand their difficulties and to assist them or direct them to S.Aid for further assistance. I had trained in Social work, so I looked forward to working in an office in a government department where clients would come to me. But here I was, going to work on the street. It looked awkward.

So why me?

After a couple of months of Street Work, observing and listening attentively to children on the street, I concluded that there was a lot to do out there to help street connected children and youth. There is; Hope to Give, Direction to Provide, Broken families to Repair, and indeed, Lives to Save. Street connected children need my support today more than ever before.

So why not me?

(Selassy Gbeglo has been a Street Worker supporting street-connected young people for two decades. He knew our co-founder Patrick Shanahan before StreetInvest was established and has since acted as Project Manager in Ghana for the Growing up on the Streets Project hosted by StreetInvest. He now works with Chance for Children, another NGO based in Accra which is part of the West Africa Network)