

**"We Are The World: Making It a Better Place"**  
**Reginald Nii Odoi Esq., Harvard Law School**  
**International Disability Rights Affirmation Conference 2018**  
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A little explanation about this service.

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Transcription is provided by Virtual Ability, Inc. The transcriptionists are:  
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[2018/10/06 09:31] OperativePhoenix Resident: Hello and welcome to Virtual Ability's 2018 International Disability Rights Affirmation Conference (IDRAC). I'm OperativePhoenix and I have TBI and currently recovering from sprain fracture. In SL, I do History and English activity for English learners. Today I'd like to introduce Mr Reginald Nii Odoi, Esq. He's a practicing Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ghana. He's also the President and founder of the NGO, Good Shepherd Love Foundation, a Delegate of the Young Diplomats of Ghana Program, and a student of Harvard Law School. As he is an experienced barrister and solicitor, Mr Odoi has been working tirelessly trying to find ways to embetter the whole world. Today, he will be telling some of his findings to us, in his presentation titled, "We Are The World: Making It a Better Place." At the end of the presentation, you can ask questions and comment, so please refrain from interrupting our presenter who is new to the Second Life. Welcome, Mr. Odoi. The floor is yours.

[2018/10/06 09:32] LV (lorivonne.lustre): <<Transcription begins>> RO = Reginald Nii Odoi

[2018/10/06 09:33] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Good morning. It is a pleasure to be here

I hope everyone can hear me. Thank you for the welcome and introduction

Operative

We are the World: Making It a Better Place

[2018/10/06 09:33] VAIPresenter8 Resident: We are the World: Making It a Better Place

"There comes a time, when we heed a certain call. When the world must come together as one.

There are people dying and it's time to lend a hand to life, the greatest gift of all. we can't go on pretending day-by-day that someone, somewhere soon may make a change.

We're all a part of God's great big family and the truth is that love is all we need. We are the world. We are the children.

We are the ones who make a brighter day, so let's start giving.

There's a choice we're making, we're saving our own lives. It's true, we'll make a better day, just you and me.

Send them your heart so they know that someone cares and their lives will be stronger and free as God has shown us by turning stones to bread and so we all must lend a helping hand"... Michael Jackson

[2018/10/06 09:35] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: I am sure many of you are quite familiar with this song

(slide 2)

Introduction

The words of this song really meant a lot to me after I recently met Daniel, who is one of the few visually impaired law students studying law at one of the Universities in Ghana.

He narrated to me his ordeal and how he goes about the course. As a former law student, I could really imagine how humongous a task it was for him.

I really came to understand the realities that PWD faced in life especially in less developed countries like Ghana.

Daniel was looking for a private law firm to do an internship in Ghana. His efforts proved futile. Why?

Because he told me that many firms were not motivated to take him on.

For those who would have considered it, they did not because they claim they do not have the friendly environment and technology to assist him. So sad!

The statistics of the World Health Organization and the World Bank show that a substantial number of the world's population today is affected by one disability or another.

To be specific, sixteen (16%) percent of the world's population is disabled. Thus, one (1) of every seven (7) persons in the world is said to possess one disability or the other.

In my native country, Ghana, it is estimated that about ten percent (10%) of the Ghanaian population comprises persons with disability.

Unfortunately this number is supposedly not going to reduce now as there is an expectation that it would increase in the coming years. What is the situation of persons with disabilities the world over?

It is commendable to say that countries such as Germany, the United States, Estonia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, etc. have been labeled as disability friendly countries and are making good strides towards achieving an all-inclusive society.

Sadly, the situation elsewhere like in my native country Ghana is nothing much to write home about.

Such persons for no fault of theirs who constitute the largest minority group in the world are often regarded as a burden, very unproductive and thus unable to contribute positively to society leaving them in a never-ending cycle of poverty.

They are mostly denied certain rights/freedoms and issues concerning them are relegated to the background as being unimportant.

The Government and society at large deliberately or inadvertently turn a blind eye and deaf ears to their plight and predicament.

In Ghana and many other countries, there is a culture of silence mainly as a result of religious and cultural practices that restrict discussions on issues relating to disability.

As a result, persons with disability get less attention, education and even medical care which inhibits the development of their full potential.

To develop an all-inclusive society built on the principles of equality, justice and the rule of law, it is important that steps are taken to come into terms with issues surrounding Persons with Disability (PWD).

We must mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of such persons and in the process create awareness of well-meaning persons of society to aspire for the integration of all and sundry for all round development.

(slide 3)

The words of Nick Vujicic encourage me greatly that there is hope!

He says; "I'm officially disabled, but I'm truly enabled because of my lack of limbs. My unique challenges have opened up unique opportunities to reach so many in need."

I see opportunities. These lie with us. This lies with our leaders. This lies in making the world a better place for all and sundry.

We are the world. We must lend a helping hand at all cost and make it a better place.

My presentation would look at the barriers facing PWD. It would take Ghana as a case study to paint a brief picture of the situation of PWD in the world.

It would look in brief at the state of the law in place to protect PWD. In conclusion it would look at the way forward towards a better and all-inclusive world where no one is left behind.

(slide 4)

- Major Barriers facing PWD
- Disproportionately lower access to education for PWD in nations across the globe;
- Attitudinal barriers, e.g., stereotyping, stigma, prejudice and discrimination.
- Communication barriers.
- Physical barriers and inaccessible environments.

- Policy barriers, e.g., denying access to programs, services and opportunities.
- Transportation barriers.
- Marginalization at work or limited job opportunities.
- Inadequate access to health care services for PWD.
- Civil rights violations, e.g., restrictions on rights to exercise legal capacity to vote, to marry and have children.
- Cultural and social barriers.
- Social isolation and psychological difficulties.

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### The World Stage in Brief – the Role of the law and the Sustainable Development Goals

Over the past several decades, disability rights movements have made important strides in advancing recognition of human rights and fundamental freedoms of PWD.

This is reflected in major national reforms the world over.

In 2006, the global community formally recognized the importance of advancing the human rights of persons with disabilities through the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

It has become one of the most rapidly ratified human rights treaties in history.

It outlines the legal duties of states to ensure the full enjoyment of a wide range of economic, social, civil and political rights specifically by PWD.

The treaty ensures that all states embed in the domestic laws the principles of the Convention.

It broadly defines PWD as including individuals with long terms physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments.

Its aim is to ensure that the many barriers faced by PWD all over the world is reduced and in the long term removed completely.

The Convention has been very necessary because though social and cultural factors contribute to these barriers, inadequate legal rights or their enforcement form the very foundation of inequality.

Constitutions of States being the foundational texts of nations establish the fundamental rights of a country's citizens

and the principles and regulatory frameworks for the development of its laws and policies.

As they are more difficult to amend, they provide the basis for challenging and overturning discriminatory legislation and play a very important role in civil rights litigation.

They are mainly used to leverage the promotion of equal rights in courts.

These legal documents generally provide for and categorize rights into the following groups namely guaranteed rights, aspirational rights, quotas, exceptions, denials and affirmative measures.

(Slide 6)

There is general consensus that constitutional provisions on their own are unlikely to be sufficient for change.

However they are the needed starting point for the effective promotion and realization of the rights of PWD.

The international resolve to address the many issues affecting PWD is strengthened by nation's unending commitment and partnership with the United Nations towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which ended in 2015.

The SDGs also known as the Global Goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace, equality and prosperity.

The SDGs work in the spirit of partnership and pragmatism to make the right choices now to improve life, in a sustainable way, for future generations.

Disability is referenced in various parts of the SDGs specifically in portions related to education, growth and employment, inequality, accessibility of human settlements, as well as data collection and monitoring of the SDGs.

A critical look at Goal 4 on "inclusive and equitable quality education and promotion of life-long learning opportunities for all" pays attention to eliminating gender disparities in education

as well as ensuring equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable. This includes persons with disabilities.

In addition, there are targeted calls for the upgrade of all education facilities to that which is disability sensitive thus providing a safe and all-inclusive learning environments for all.

Also, Goal 8 is geared toward the "promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth, productive employment and decent work for all."

This is geared towards PWD as well stressing the need for equal pay for work of equal value.

Closely linked is Goal 10, which strives to "reduce inequality within and among countries" by empowering and promoting social, economic and political inclusion of all especially PWD.

Last but not the least is Goal 11. This is aimed at ensuring that countries "work to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and sustainable."

To realize this goal, countries are called upon to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improve road safety, expand public transport all paying special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations such as PWD.

These Goals admittedly, if followed religiously by member states, would greatly improve and possibly eradicate the plight of PWD.

(slide 7)

The Case of Ghana – A look at the current legal framework

The 1992 Constitution of Ghana guarantees the establishment of a framework of government which "shall secure for the people of Ghana the blessings of liberty, equality of opportunity,

prosperity and above all the protection and preservation of Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms at all times.”

Thus the rights and dignity of PWD is guaranteed as it is the case with every other Ghanaian or individual with express provision that these rights be enforceable by the courts of Ghana.

The 1992 Constitution has an elaborate provision for the protection of Disability Rights.

It provides emphatically that PWD must have the right to “live with their families or with foster parents and to participate in social, creative or recreational activities.” It further stresses that disabled persons shall not be discriminated on in terms of their residence.

Thus, they shall not be made to stay away from society unless that is indispensable and required for treatment purposes and the improvement of their lives.

The Constitution of Ghana expressly provides for the protection of PWD against all forms of exploitation, discrimination, abusive or degrading conduct.

The laws provide that in judicial proceedings in which a PWD is a party, the legal procedure applied must take into consideration the physical and mental condition of the person.

The provisions in the Constitution even extend to infrastructure and the whole business and employment arena.

In the case of infrastructure, it provides that as far as practicable, every place to which the public has access shall have appropriate facilities for disabled persons. In terms of business and employment, it makes provision for the offering of special incentives to disabled persons engaged in business and also to business organizations that employ disabled persons in significant numbers.

In general, the Constitutional framework in Ghana is set up to strongly frown against instances where different treatment is given to different persons attributable mainly to their respective disabilities.

In 2006, Ghana adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities but it was only in 2012 that this was ratified by Parliament.

The Optional Protocol on the Convention was also adopted to augment the global commitment to develop a truly inclusive and universal human rights framework.

The 1992 Constitution mandated that the Parliament of Ghana take steps to enact laws as are necessary to ensure the enforcement of the provisions of the Constitution.

In 2006, Parliament enacted the Persons with Disability Act to provide for persons with disability and create an environment that will advance their economic well-being.

The Act is made up of 60 sections. Like the 1992 Constitution, the Act establishes the fact that PWD have rights which are inviolable.

These rights includes that right to live with that person's family or the right to participate in social, political, economic, creative or recreational activities.

The Act largely frowns upon discriminatory actions against PWD.

(slide 8)

The Act covers issues about the living standards of PWD providing that for whatever reason,

PWD must be allowed to reside in places where the environment and living conditions are good and as close as possible to those of a person without disability of the same age as the person with disability.

In terms of the use and access to public facilities, the Act provides that PWD must have equal access to all public facilities and services as is the case with persons without disabilities

and as a result owners or occupiers of public places must provide appropriate facilities that make the place accessible to and available for use by PWD.

The Act makes the failure to comply an offence punishable by summary conviction with a fine.

(slide 9)

The Act also provides for employment rights of PWD. It makes it mandatory for the Department of Social Welfare to actively assist PWD to secure jobs.

The Act ensures that PWD be provided with relevant working tools, adequate training and appropriate facilities that they require in order to efficiently perform the duties of their employment.

The Act protects PWD against indiscriminate redeployment, posting and transfer by their employers.

To further advance the economic well-being of PWD, the Act provides that where such persons are unsuccessful in finding jobs after a two (2) year period, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection is required to give that person appropriate training, provide that person with necessary working tools and materials and assist that person to access loan capital for that person to start a business.

In terms of education, the Act makes it mandatory for a child with disability of school going age to be enrolled in school to pursue education for free, failure of which the parent, guardian or custodian would be liable for summary conviction to a fine.

The Act ensures that disabled children have access to all the facilities that would enable them study with ease.

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A very important issue that the Act makes provision is that of transportation.

It makes it mandatory for the state to consider the needs of PWD in the design, construction and operation of the transportation networks.

The Act allows PWD to import vehicles specifically adapted for their use and even allows that certain classes of PWD be given the opportunity to own a driving license upon passing a driving test and satisfying conditions prescribed by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA).

The Act makes provision for special treatment for pedestrians with disabilities whilst allowing reservation of seats for PWD and even those who drive vehicles are to be given special parking spots.

Health related issues of PWD are not left out.

The Act makes it mandatory for the formulation of health policies and programs that largely benefit PWD

and mandates the Ministry of Health to collaborate with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to provide periodic screening of children in order to detect, prevent and manage disability.

Lastly, the Act as a whole provides incentives to persons who have the interest of PWD at heart as well as to PWD themselves.

The Act makes it mandatory for the Government to grant a person who employs a person with disability an annual tax rebate of the taxable income in respect of each person with disability employed.

Similarly, the Act provides that the Government exempt PWD from the payment of import duty and any other tax relating to the importation of vehicles into Ghana so as to make their lives easier.

Also, the Act ensures that manufacturer of technical aids or appliances in the country for the use of PWD be given tax exemption.

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It is commendable to say that in light of all these and in the spirit of equality, a number of PWDs in Ghana in recent memory have risen to enviable heights in government and leadership with special mention of the former Minister of Chieftaincy and Traditional Affairs, Dr. Henry Seidu Danaa and Mr. Ivor Greenstreet, Presidential candidate of the Convention People's party (CPP) amongst others.

However, this is just the story of just a few. The general situation has been very worrying for PWD.

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The sad reality

The Al Jazeera network recently broadcasted a video footage of the ritual killings of disabled Ghanaian children in the Northern and Upper East regions of Ghana who were thought to be possessed of evil spirits that would bring ill fortune to their families.

This led to a report by ace Ghanaian journalist Anas Aremeyaw Anas, who also uncovered the process by which parents take their disabled children to "concoction men" to administer poison to kill them.

Also, a report released by Human Rights Watch (HRW) in March, 2013 described how thousands of people with mental disabilities are forced to live in psychiatric institutions

against their will and with little possibility of opposing their confinement.

It was also uncovered the existence of "prayer camps" where many send their mentally disabled family members who are often chained to trees in the hot sun and are forced to fast for days as part of a "healing process."

We still read of shameful stories about negative and discriminatory treatment being meted out to PWD.

Very recently, on 5th May, 2018, a story which got a lot of media attention in Ghana involved a lady named Rita Kriba who was unfairly and allegedly prevented from boarding an Africa World Airlines (AWA) flight to Kumasi from Accra because she was disabled and used crutches.

Though she has vowed to take on the management of the airline in court for their discriminatory policy, these are things that should not be heard of in Ghana or anywhere in the world.

It is clear from the above that Ghana is not a novice to the quest to protect the rights and living standards of PWD.

This is because the legal framework though not perfect seems adequate to cater for the needs and interests of PWD.

The question then would be that why is Ghana and other countries still grappling with issues of unfair treatment, unfavorable living standards and discriminatory acts against PWD?

To my mind, the major issue lies in the willingness to enforce the laws already available to protect PWD. These provisions tend to lie idle in books that remain on shelves for no reason.

It is clear that the necessary laws have not been implemented effectively in order to address issues.

States must take steps to enforce the Constitution and the laws so as to ensure that the rights of PWD are not easily trampled upon.

(slide 13)

The quality of a society is determined by how it treats and deals with its most vulnerable citizens.

As a result, it is my suggestion that all PWD (especially those not gainfully employed) be guaranteed by the Government monthly stipends as well as being guaranteed jobs or seed capital in order to make them financially stable and independent.

There should indeed be the enforcement of laws in favor of PWDs.

The various states departments in charge of labor, employment and social welfare should be equipped and required to actively secure decent jobs for PWD that come with reasonable remuneration.

There should be regular supervision and monitoring of employers to ensure that they provide the working tools and appropriate facilities for PWD in order that they can efficiently carry out their work in the same manner as persons without disabilities.

Government should really implement the incentives provided in the law especially giving tax rebates and other benefits to employers who take on PWD as their employees.

One other major flaw is in the area of the quality, standard and design of facilities in most public areas thus making them almost inaccessible to PWD.

A study shows that most buildings in Ghana are not compliant with international disability guide lines thus not making it disability friendly.

Also, public facilities, such as the car parks, main entrances, staircases and corridors, etc., are not readily accessible to PWDs.

Additionally, directional posts, underfoot warnings, Braille texts, seats for wheelchair users, etc., were conspicuously missing in most of the buildings.

It is also recommended that Governments show commitment by making provision in the national budget funds to pursue programs and projects relating to PWD.

Governments must empower enforcement Agencies who would enforce the provisions of the law and bring offenders to book.

The Government and other civil societies must contribute their quota by taking adequate steps to fully implement laws and policies to protect its disabled population especially in the areas of building and facilities, transportation, health and the like.

The Government must establish and enforce premises standards to ensure that dignified, equitable, affordable and accessible buildings, facilities and services within buildings are provided to PWD.

All acts of discrimination should be publicly condemned and frowned upon.

PWD should be made to feel a part of the society that they indeed are of and special treatments such as reserved parking spots, reserved seats, free transportation, education and other such incentives are more important and should be enforced and maintained.

One could always go on and on with this. What really matters is that Stakeholders continue to explore and discover new solutions to challenges that PWDs face.

Majority of people with disabilities who still face various forms of discrimination and live in abject poverty especially due to inequality and their inability to assert their rights.

We all have a part to play, all hands must be on deck. Achieving these SDGs is inextricably linked to overall development of our individual countries and the world.

The international organizations should keep a close watch on countries that are less compliant with international standards and come together to enforce compliance or enforce sanctions.

Now is the time. We must ensure action and not words. We must heed to the call.

The world must come together as one We must act now!

(slide 14)

[2018/10/06 10:08] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Thank you very much for listening. I am open for questions now

[2018/10/06 10:09] Gentle Heron: [10:08] Youri Ashton: Question: I noticed the sad reality part of your story tells a story about people that have no knowledge about the subject and revert back to old ways and beliefs. Wouldn't it be a much better idea to give special lessons to at least the children for a more stable future?

[2018/10/06 10:10] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Thank you Youri. It is very sad that in the 21st century that there are still primitive cultural beliefs

There should be attention to educate the general public about PWDs, especially in the more isolated areas

They need to know that PWDs are not possessed or bewitched

There needs to be a campaign to educate all about PWDs

[2018/10/06 10:11] Shyla the Super Gecko (krijon): It seems as if Ghana has a great legal framework in place; better perhaps than the United States. You state it is not enforced, what are the barriers to legal enforcement and are you making a call for activists to come forward and educate the government and public about PWD so that the land of the law is better enforced? If it is not a call to activists or for activism, who is being called to action? And what do they need to do?

[2018/10/06 10:10] Youri Ashton: We learned yesterday it isn't great in the USA either, but yes it seems to be even worse in countries like Ghana.

It may even be better than countries like the Netherlands which does have a great system in place and enforce it. I agree on what Shyla said.

[2018/10/06 10:12] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Thank you Shyla. I try as much as possible to advocate for the rights of PWDs

There is a role for NGOs as well

However, we need to acknowledge that corruption is real. That the funds and resources for PWDs are often taken for personal gain by some

What we must do is more advocacy and campaign for the actual work to be done, not just have another conference. It is more than sitting around and drinking coffee

The laws are there. They need to be enforced.

[2018/10/06 10:15] Shyla the Super Gecko (krijon): thank you

[2018/10/06 10:14] Youri Ashton: If I may add to that Reginald, I think it isn't only losing interest but more likely not having the financial means to solve problems like this for countries like Ghana. While well developed countries may have the financial means but choose to ignore it and spend t rather on other things.

[2018/10/06 10:13] David Weinland (gipsholger.seubert): I have heard that disabled persons are beaten often in Ghana

[2018/10/06 10:15] Gentle Heron: [10:13] Mook Wheeler: QUESTION: The UK and Ghana seem to have a lot in common! Comprehensive written laws which supposedly uphold disability rights, but a very different reality in practice. What plans do you have, what plans have you made, to try to force the changes that are required? And is there anything any of us can do to help you with these plans?

[2018/10/06 10:15] Mook Wheeler: COMMENT: It is my experience that lack of enforcement is usually very closely tied to corruption within the system.

[2018/10/06 10:16] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Thank you Mook. I am very passionate about this.

[2018/10/06 10:16] Reginald Odoi Esq. (vaipresenter8): [www.tgslf.com](http://www.tgslf.com)

[2018/10/06 10:16] LV (lorivonne.lustre): <http://www.tgslf.com>

[2018/10/06 10:16] Orange Planer: <http://www.tgslf.com>

[2018/10/06 10:17] LV (lorivonne.lustre): You may want to check out The Good Shepherd Love Foundation, an NGO which seeks to bridge the social divide by promoting societal inclusion, advocacy and mentorship for vulnerable members of society.

[2018/10/06 10:17] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: We advocate for PWDs and find resources (food, clothing, etc). We arrange for education and conferences to share ideas.

Funding is a challenge

We are reaching out to these people so they know they are not alone.

God willing, we will be able to work with other organizations and bring the information about issues to the media

[2018/10/06 10:18] Youri Ashton: plans and ideas are a great start, but in the end you need good will from the governments and money to bring them to fruition. Which is often where things fail due to greed.

[2018/10/06 10:19] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Sustainability is a real issue. How do we continue the fight to attain our goals.

[2018/10/06 10:19] Mook Wheeler: Thank you Reginald! Your compassion and passion are inspiring!

[2018/10/06 10:19] Dorie Bernstein: Such excellent information, thank you!

[2018/10/06 10:19] Gentle Heron: Thank you Mr. Odoi for this important message, and thank you also for taking time from your studies to be with us today. Yesterday we learned about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the UN CRPD ( <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html> ). You mentioned that Ghana has ratified it. (I note that the US has not done so.) Does the curriculum at Harvard Law School include information about international policies such as this?

[2018/10/06 10:19] LV (lorivonne.lustre): GH: I will send the comments to you to read later.

[2018/10/06 10:20] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: I am a masters student at Harvard. There are a lot of courses related to international policies.

I am doing one on African policy issues

I am writing a paper on disability rights and the Convention

I use these activities to promote my ideas. However, without the resources to sustain our passion.

It is difficult to keep going.

We are the world! God willing we will do it

[2018/10/06 10:22] Marcus Llewellyn: From your mouth to His ears. :)

[2018/10/06 10:22] Youri Ashton: not religious myself, but amen to that Reginald!

[2018/10/06 10:22] Gentle Heron: Can you please tell us a little more about the work of the Good Shepherd Love Foundation, the NGO that you founded? I believe it serves people with disabilities in your country. How can we support its work?

[2018/10/06 10:23] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: We have a group of young people from different backgrounds, all passionate in their beliefs. we are not financially strong however

I wanted to create an environment where people who are passionate can come together and reach out to persons who are vulnerable.

We do fundraising and adopt a village. We go there a couple of times a year and bring resources for them - food, clothing, etc

We work with them. To make the world a better place

We are looking for ideas.

We do education and awareness outreach.

Our main goal is to help persons who are vulnerable to meet their needs.

We are looking for partnerships. financial, clothing, equipment, exercise books

People in Africa are tired of the talk. They want help to meet the needs

I need more partnerships to help make our goals.

[2018/10/06 10:27] Youri Ashton: talk is cheap, you need to act after making plans. Not talk more

[2018/10/06 10:27] LV (lorivonne.lustre): GH: That is a strong message! Would you be willing to come back and talk to us again?

[2018/10/06 10:28] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: yes please. I would also be willing to learn from your community, to be part of it.

[2018/10/06 10:28] Gentle Heron: That's great! Our group is usually FULL of ideas.

[2018/10/06 10:28] Youri Ashton: Reginald, thank you for being here. Happy to follow your presentation, I hope to see you again. Please feel free to contact me for ideas

[2018/10/06 10:29] LV (lorivonne.lustre): GH: Youri, could you email Gentle.

[2018/10/06 10:28] Gentle Heron: gentle@virtualability.org

[2018/10/06 10:29] Youri Ashton: No problems

[2018/10/06 10:29] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: here is my email

[2018/10/06 10:29] Reginald Odoi Esq. (vaipresenter8):

[reginaldodoi0926@gmail.com](mailto:reginaldodoi0926@gmail.com)

[2018/10/06 10:29] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: I will do my best to be responsive to whoever reaches out

[2018/10/06 10:29] LV (lorivonne.lustre): For those who want to support the Good Shepherd Love Foundation

[2018/10/06 10:30] David Weinland (gipsholger.seubert): good shepherd foundation sounds christian

[2018/10/06 10:30] Rhiannon Chatnoir: and if he is interested in continuing to explore virtual worlds, he might be interested in his nonprofit being part of the Nonprofit Commons community of practice that meets here in Second Life

[2018/10/06 10:30] Youri Ashton: I think this man will be able to make a difference. Not just in his own country but world wide, he sure has the basics of the subjects straight and knows what needs to be done.

[2018/10/06 10:31] Reginald Odoi Esq. (vaipresenter8): Thank you Youri

[2018/10/06 10:31] LV (lorivonne.lustre): GH: I am afraid that we have to close now, with Mook's comment being the last.

[2018/10/06 10:31] Gentle Heron: [10:29] Mook Wheeler: COMMENT: You mentioned that Ghana has a very responsive media to issues, which helps to spur government reaction. Could you somehow take advantage of that? And also of social media, and internet channels? The more public you make your cause, the more reaction you will get.

[2018/10/06 10:30] LV (lorivonne.lustre): RO: Thank you Mook for your comment I will take a cue from what you have said and work on it.

[2018/10/06 10:31] Mook Wheeler: we have to let you go now, Reginald, but come back soon! :))

[2018/10/06 10:31] Youri Ashton: good luck with your studies

[2018/10/06 10:31] David Weinland (gipsholger.seubert): be blessed reginald

[2018/10/06 10:31] Reginald Odoi Esq. (vaipresenter8): Thank you so much and hope to hear from you all

The Good Shepherd Foundation it is  
bye

[2018/10/06 10:32] LV (lorivonne.lustre): <<transcription ends>>