UNFPA GHANA PROGRAMME REPORT 2018

IGNITING THE YOUTH POTENTIAL
BY INCLUSION (THE YOLE
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM)
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The Youth Leaders (YoLe) Fellowship Program of UNFPA Ghana aims to identify innovative young people who are recent graduates of Ghanaian tertiary institutions. These innovative young people are invited to participate in a one-year fellowship program designed to immerse them in the UNFPA system with a dedicated focus on exploring the youth perspective and driving innovation.

UNFPA’s goal is to provide the YoLe Fellows with essential tools, skill sets, and the experience of participation in an international organization, empowering them to pursue their career goals.

Fellows will be expected to provide insights and contribute ideas that will enable UNFPA to be more responsive to youth issues in the Ghanaian community.

Fellows and the UNFPA will enjoy a mutually beneficial relationship by working in alignment on themes and programs based on the UNFPA Country Program.

Key Objectives and Expected Outcomes:

- To create opportunities within UNFPA Ghana and the various technical teams to engage youth in innovation, policy development, programming, and management
- To help young Ghanaian leaders hone skills in innovation and leadership
- To provide young Ghanaians with the skills needed to be successful in the job market or as an entrepreneur
- To engage and empower young people to be gender-sensitive in their approach to decision-making while targeting sustainable development
- To demonstrate the UNFPA’s commitment as a youth-centered organization
Message from the Country Representative

Niyi Ojuolape (Country Representative)
UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund, Ghana

Young people are the most vital resource in the development of any nation. Therefore, everyone ought to be passionate about their development.

In Ghana, we owe it to the 1,567,495,668 young people under the age of twenty-five to create youth-centered programs that hone their skills and capabilities and provide economic opportunities.

The peaceful, productive, and prosperous Ghana we want to see is not a possibility when young people are plagued by lack of opportunity, unemployment, sprawling poverty, and a host of other difficult circumstances limiting their potential.

As a consequence, the country is unable to reap the dividends that come from young people’s energy, enthusiasm, and innovation. Their potential contributions to nation-building and national development are left unrealized.

The United Nations Population Fund in Ghana recognized the need for conscientious efforts to ensure that a young individual can become an asset to his or her country and in response designed the Youth Leaders (YoLe) Fellowship.
This Fellowship's purpose is to enhance the capabilities of the country's youth in the hope of ensuring that every young person's potential in Ghana is fulfilled.

The UNFPA Youth Leaders Fellowship Program launched after thorough research of the needs of young Ghanaians in a rapidly changing world was completed. The Fellowship is designed for graduates, ages eighteen to twenty-five, of Ghanaian higher institutions.

The twelve-month program offers them a supportive environment for learning, receiving guided mentorship, and developing the necessary skills needed to go into the community equipped to drive social change and healthcare innovation.

The Fellowship follows a rigorous curriculum incorporating mentoring, healthcare innovation, sexual and reproductive health advocacy, business and entrepreneurial training, as well as professional development.

The expectation is that these efforts will impact and equip Fellows to go on to design community-responsive solutions, meeting their needs and the needs of the country.

It is encouraging to note, the first group of sixteen YoLe Fellows has already begun launching innovative solutions for problems in deprived communities.

This speaks highly of the limitless drive young people bring to any institution and confirms our theory and expectation for initiating the program.

Finally, in achieving Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030, we need to ensure that the needs of young people are adequately met. With this end in mind, I am convinced that UNFPA Ghana has begun a scalable and sustainable initiative that will groom hundreds of young people to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals.

Today, we may have ignited a flame in the hearts of only sixteen young people, but we hope to ignite this flame for several hundred more in the future.

Above all, we take comfort in the fact that through their training here, and in the future, the Fellows will not only impact the UNFPA in a strong and positive way, but they will also impact thousands, even millions of lives in Ghana, and by extension, the world.
Launch of the YoLe Fellowship

UNFPA Ghana’s YoLe Fellowship Program officially launched on November 5, 2018. The official opening ceremony took place on November 7, 2018, on the side-lines of the second African Youth Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Summit, held at the Accra International Conference Centre.

The inauguration was marked by a leadership training that took place with support from partners at Impact Hub Accra.

Mr. Mabingue Ngom, the UNFPA West and Central Africa Regional Director, was the guest of honour for the occasion. At the event, Mr. Ngom encouraged the YoLe Fellows to make the most of the Fellowship Program saying, “You must take full advantage of this remarkable opportunity.”

The Regional Director went on to commend the initiative as being crucially important to the attainment of UNFPA’s objectives of ‘leaving no one behind’ and ensuring that the potential of young people is fulfilled.

Mr. Niyi Ojuolape, the UNFPA Ghana Country Representative, also spoke during the occasion. He noted that the YoLe Fellowship Program is geared toward imparting skills to young people so they can drive positive social change in their communities.

Then the sixteen young people, the first group of YoLe Fellows, were called to the stage to receive congratulatory handshakes from the Regional Director as well as the Country Representative.

The inauguration of the YoLe Fellowship Program provided a fitting end to an activity-packed first day at the second African Youth SDGs Summit.

It also provided a suitable arena for youth delegates attending from across Africa and Ghana to network and learn more about the work of the UNFPA.

The event was capped by good food, and above all, good music provided by the child prodigy, DJ Switch.
Reaching the Unreached: UNFPA Youth Fellows at Old Fadama

World AIDS Day—UNFPA country office and the Ghana philanthropy forum float through Accra

YoLe Fellows and the 16 Days of activism against sexual & gender-based violence (SGBV)
Quality health care is a required human right. Thus, access to comprehensive, quality health care is paramount to improving the well-being of any given population.

The UNFPA’s Youth Leaders (YoLe Fellows) exemplified their commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goal Number Three, Good Health and Well-Being, through an organized outreach in the Old Fadama community in Accra.

Old Fadama is located in the Odododiodo constituency of Accra, stretching along the Odaw River and Korle Lagoon. It houses an estimated 80,000 people, some of whom are foreign nationals from Togo, Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali.

The area is densely populated, making healthcare and other social services inaccessible to several of the residents. Social vices such as rape, defilement, and teenage pregnancy are some of the critical challenges many vulnerable young adolescents face in this community.
Approximately 265 people, including persons with disabilities, were screened and counseled. In all, over 800 people were reached with information on SRHR.

The Old Fadama outreach was an important event for the promotion of SRHR awareness, as well as educating members of the community on the importance of good health, healthy lifestyles, and their right to quality healthcare services.

It also afforded the Fellows the opportunity to gain hands-on advocacy experience in meeting communities with needs where they live.
The 16 Days of Activism is a global campaign against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). It is commemorated every year from November 25–December 10. Ending SGBV and its harmful practices is one of the three transformative goals of the UNFPA and it is an advocacy that is pursued with a keen focus.

With the inception of the YoLe Fellowship Program, the Country Office designed a youth-centered event, giving the Fellows the opportunity to acquaint themselves with SGBV activism through organizing a vigil on the last day of the campaign.
Beginning at the Country Office, the Fellows walked through the streets of Osu to the Danquah Circle, a notable landmark in Accra, and held the vigil.

The Fellows held up lanterns during the event as well as placards with messages of advocacy such as "I am human, not a punching bag," "My body is mine," "Stop Violence Against Women," and "End Female Genital Mutilation."

The monument at the center of the roundabout was lit in orange, the symbolic color of the fight against Sexual & Gender-Based Violence.

Although the campaign served as a moment of advocacy against gender-based violence and encouraged introspective and earnest discussions, it was nonetheless filled with the spirited enthusiasm that is characteristic of young people.

The UNFPA Fellows were well-received and thanked for their efforts.
Exploring the United Nations

YoLe Fellows Visit IOM Ghana

As part of the planned activities to provide the YoLe Fellows with essential exposure to the UN system and accompanying agencies, the Fellows visited the Ghana Country Office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

They were welcomed by the Chief of Mission for IOM in Ghana, Sylvia Lopez-Ekra, with whom they held an interactive discussion session. The Fellows were briefed on the mandate and work of the IOM, its historical background, and the issues the organization is grappling with at present.

Ms. Lopez-Ekra highlighted the different perspectives on the issue of illegal migration and the various measures the IOM adopts in order to mitigate its adverse effects in Ghana.

She noted that while most of the youth in Ghana are conscious of the terrible risks involved with illegal migration, due to economic concerns, some are undeterred from making the dangerous journey.

According to Ms. Lopez-Ekra, the IOM faces an uphill task in regard to convincing young people to avoid attempting illegal migration, despite the clear evidence of the associated dangers. However, she cited the Diaspora Engagement Project, working with Ghanaians in the Diaspora, as an important human resource to accelerate local development.

The discussion evolved to Ms. Lopez-Ekra’s personal motivations. She advised the Fellows not to be afraid to start at the bottom. She believes that anyone can rise to any height in any organization, as long as they are committed to working hard and upholding values such as respect and integrity.

“As a young person, you have to be serious with your work. Be on time and ensure that you carry out tasks assigned to you and also make it a point to go the extra mile,” she advised. She also encouraged the Fellows to have qualified people to whom they can be accountable as a method of assessing their growth and personal goals.

The IOM visit proved to be important and informative as the Fellows gained knowledge into the workings of the IOM from both a global and local perspective.
A recent report by the Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC) showed that in 2017, the HIV/AIDS prevalence among young people, especially below the age of twenty-four, rose to about 45% nationwide.

Addressing HIV/AIDS is integral to the UNFPA's mission of achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health care and realizing human rights and gender equality.

In light of this, and to commemorate World AIDS Day, on December 1, 2018, the UNFPA Ghana Country Office, championed by the YoLe Fellows, joined the Ghana Philanthropy Forum (GPF) on a float to mark the thirtieth anniversary of this global health campaign. The float's theme was "Know your status."

The Fellows moved through the main streets of Accra distributing condoms as well as fliers highlighting various HIV facts and methods of prevention. The float stopped at Independence Square for an event to mark the first day of Philanthropy Week by the GPF.

This event was an important occasion for the UNFPA Ghana YoLe Fellows to get involved and promote the achievement of developmental milestones that will move Ghana closer to the Agenda 2030.
Impact Hub Accra (IHA)

Impact Hub Accra, a member of the Impact Hub Global Network, is a co-working space that promotes inclusive growth in Ghana. Through the provision of workspaces, IHA supports local start-ups and creates a globally integrated entrepreneurial network for high impact development. UNFPA Ghana recognizes the importance of holistic and comprehensive development for its Fellows and partnered with IHA to facilitate the healthcare innovation and leadership training of the Youth Leaders Fellowship. The Fellows benefit from intense, bi-weekly sessions at IHA facilitated by Ms. Emily Sheldon, the Health Innovation Director at IHA.

Health Innovation and Leadership Training

During IHA health innovation and leadership training, the Fellows learn many new and practical skills that complement their training as budding young leaders. This training is given in a highly conducive environment, using an interactive method which encourages enthusiastic participation from the Fellows. Some of the training topics covered include leadership styles, the business model canvas, and health innovations happening in Ghana and abroad.
Re:publica is an internet and society conference that launched in 2007 in Berlin. In 2018, due to collaboration between IHA and Germany’s Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation, the organizers moved the event outside of Europe to the Round Pavilion of the Ghana International Trade Fair Centre in Accra.

On December 15–16, 2018, the YoLe Fellows were privileged to participate in Re:publica as volunteers at IHA’s e-Health Lounge. At the e-Health Lounge, the Fellows had the opportunity to put their collaborative skills into action during the setup of the various lounge areas.

To boost the Fellows’ assimilation capacity and creativity, IHA sessions are sometimes held at The Shop Accra (TSA), a five-minute walk from IHA. TSA is an ideal change of scenery to stimulate creativity and facilitate learning. With its décor derived primarily from creative artefacts and sourced from local artists and manufacturers, the environment provides a learning boost for the Fellows. They relish sitting on benches and around tables that have been beautifully carved from tree trunks, exhibiting their stunning age rings. The casual setting makes the sessions more enjoyable.
This included a stage setup for presentations and panel discussions, an HIV and Hepatitis B testing booth, a food stand, a relaxation area, and a simulation of a traditional mother at home benefiting from innovative healthcare for her child.

When the booth opened to the delegates, the Fellows assisted the lounge’s visitors and participated in all the sessions, including UNFPA topics such as reproductive health, family planning, obstetric fistula, and comprehensive sexuality education.

Throughout the two-day program, presentations and panel discussions exposed the Fellows to interesting topics in healthcare innovation.

Representatives from organizations such as Redbird Health Tech, People’s Foundation for Health and Education Development (PeFHED), and Crowdfrica, among others, were participants.

Emergency health care, in particular, was discussed, especially its accessibility in rural Ghana. In addition, the Fellows were also treated to a session on music therapy, facilitated by MusicXChange.
IMPACT SO FAR...
TWO MONTHS INTO THE FELLOWSHIP

OLD FADAMA OUTREACH
255 persons tested for HIV & Hep. B
1055 persons reached
800 residents reached with info on Family Planning, STIs and general info

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM - VIGIL
500 Motorists reached
75 Community Members reached
3000 Impressions on Social Media

WORLD AIDS DAY
900+ contraceptives handed out
604 pedestrians and motorist reached
Introducing the YoLe Fellows
Abigail ASHUN-SARPY is an inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship Program. She graduated from the University of Ghana in Legon with a bachelor's degree in French and Linguistics. She is also a member of the France-Ghana Alumni Association due to a year of language immersion at the University of Poitiers in France. She solidified her fluency in French by serving as both an administrative assistant at Campus France-Ghana and the French Embassy.

Abigail has held leadership positions throughout her academic journey. She volunteered to lead various committees, planning many Campus France-Ghana events such as open day sessions and seminars. She is the winner of the 2016-2017 French Embassy Award for Best Graduating Student in French and the Société Générale Award for Best Graduating Female Student in French.

These opportunities and experiences have shaped Abigail into an emerging young leader with invaluable organizational and collaborative competencies. She is keenly building upon these abilities as a Youth Leader in the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship. Since joining the Fellowship Program, she has been actively involved in the planning and execution of projects within and beyond areas of UNFPA’s mandate.
Akosua Adueba AGYEPEONG is an Inaugural Fellow of UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Family and Consumer Science from the University of Ghana, Legon. She is also a Fellow of the Young African Leader’s Initiative (YALI) and the prestigious Hansen Summer Institute on Leadership and International Cooperation.

Akosua is currently the National Treasurer for Youth Action Movement, Ghana, the youth-led and youth-focused volunteer wing of the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG). Akosua also serves on the council of PPAG as the youth representative.

She is a member of the Management Team of Lady Foundation where she manages the foundation’s flagship project ‘The Pearl Safe Haven.’ She mentors junior high school students from her hometown of Apam through the Avid Youthbuild Foundation.

Akosua has served as a volunteer for several organizations such as the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana, UNESCO, Curious Minds, HFFG, and UNFPA.

These experiences have fueled her passion to see a world where young people, especially girls and young women, are provided an opportunity to access better reproductive health services and there are no restrictions on their rights and freedoms.
Barbara Sika KUDJAWU holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in French and Linguistics from the University of Ghana and is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship.

While pursuing her undergraduate degree, Barbara had several opportunities to participate as an intern, gaining work experience with Khrysalis Afrique Coaching and Consulting Accra (Ghana) and the Ministry of Justice in Cotonou (Bene Republic), among others.

These experiences allowed her to develop attributes such as building good interpersonal rapport with others, adaptability, and problem-solving skills. Her enthusiasm for people and cultures accounts for her speaking five languages: English, French, Ewe, Twi, and Spanish.

Passionate about community service, Sika served as a volunteer for the Rural Development and Educational Program (RUDEP).

This initiative provided her with the opportunity to teach in a rural community. She considers her introduction to the United Nations system, through the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship Program, as an opportunity to fulfill her eagerness for community service and receive valuable mentorship able to nurture her into a global leader.
Bisola Oyindamola OLAPADE is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship Program and holds a bachelor’s degree in Human Resource Management from Zenith University College, Accra.

As a member of the University’s Welfare Committee of the Student Representative Council, she has participated in many extracurricular activities and served two tenures as a hostel president at her university residence. These roles have helped her hone interpersonal and professional skills.

Similar to the experiences of other YoLe Fellows, Bisola has continued to develop hands-on experience by participating in the Country Office’s programs and events as well as organizing and participating in different field activities and outreaches.
Derrick BOTCHWAY is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship Program and a graduate of the University of Ghana, Legon, where he studied Geography and Psychology. He is also an alumnus of Accra Academy.

Derrick is passionate about Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and a strong advocate of gender equality.

He has served in several volunteering roles; he is presently the chairperson and the Southern Zonal Treasurer of Youth Action Movement (YAM), the youth wing of the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG).

He is also a social media enthusiast and a graphic designer who believes in the functionality of art in advocacy.

Derrick is convinced that the experiential learning environment as a Youth Leader with UNFPA Ghana will help him develop capabilities he will be able to use as a springboard to deeper humanitarian engagements, adding greater value to humanity.
Dorcas ATTAH is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship Program. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Human Resource Management from the University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

As a student, she served as a member and also as the Welfare Officer of the International Students Association, Zenith Chapter. Dorcas’ devotion to volunteering led her to the World Health Organization (WHO), donating her time and energy in the fight against Poliomyelitis in Nigeria.

Dorcas considers the UNFPA YoLe Fellowship Program as pivotal to her passion, working toward a world where there is a democratization of choices and rights for young people, especially young girls and women.
Evans Dodzi HEDO is a graduate of Zenith University College with a degree in Human Resource Management and an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program.

Prior to his induction into UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program, Evans served as National Service personnel at the UNFPA Ghana Country Office.

During his time there, he assisted in organizing programs and projects such as a Pre-Youth Consultation on Primary Health Care in October 2018, hosted by the UNFPA and UNICEF.

Evans is convinced the one-year Fellowship Program will increase his experience in organizational leadership and deepen his knowledge of the UN systems and processes.

Through the numerous outings organized by the Country Office, he will be involved in helping to fill the unmet needs in various Ghanaian communities.
Farida LATIF holds a B.A. in Political Studies from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program.

She also holds a Certificate in International Development Studies, with a specialization in Community Development, from Trent University in Canada.

Prior to the Fellowship, Farida undertook an internship with the Mennonite Economic Development Associates in Tamale, Ghana.

Outside of her professional ambitions, she has a personal interest in volunteering and has engaged in different projects in the areas of youth activism and women’s empowerment.

She considers the YoLe Fellowship an immense opportunity to undertake leadership training as well as exercise her enthusiasm for community development and SRHR advocacy.
Iduasam Patricia INIWARIKABO

Iduasam Patricia INIWARIKABO is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program and holds a bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Zenith University College, Ghana.

During her time at Zenith University College, Iduasam served as the Assistant Secretary for the International Students Association (ISA).

At the ISA, she coordinated the affairs of international students on campus, helping them secure their resident permits and health insurance cards.

She considers this a crucial period for gaining experience in an administrative leadership role as well as people management.

Iduasam considers her participation in the Fellowship Program as a vital opportunity to improve those skills through guided mentorship, UNFPA outreachs, and associated projects geared towards SRHR and health innovations.
Jean-Philip LAWSON graduated from the Ghana Institute of Journalism (GIJ) with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies. He served as the Communications Director at the Foundation for Leadership Excellence (FLEX), a club at St. John’s Grammar School.

He also served as a Representative to the General Assembly as part of the Students’ Representative Council (SRC) of GIJ for four consecutive years and as the Chairman of the Appointments Committee of the GIJ-SRC. He is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program.

In 2018, Jean-Philip won first prize in the maiden Professor Babatunde Osotimehin Annual Essay Competition organized by UNFPA Ghana. He is the author of a novel, The Hard Decision.

Jean-Philip considers the Fellowship Program a great opportunity to cultivate the values of teamwork, receive mentoring in UN systems, processes, and activities, and to develop the skills necessary for adapting to an ever-changing world.
Michael Nana BLANKSON

Michael Nana BLANKSON holds a bachelor’s degree in Development Studies from Valley View University, Ghana, and is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program.

Prior to joining the UNFPA, Michael won Best Delegate for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Committee of the 2015 Ghana International Model United Nations (GIMUN).

He also served as both Vice President of Committee Session and Head of Protocol of GIMUN. In November 2017, he participated in a Sustainable Development Goals and Human Rights Conference in India.

Michael is convinced that the YoLe Fellowship Program represents an important opportunity to better understand the issues plaguing youth development in Ghana, and to become an active part of a structured and coordinated effort to meet those needs.
Naa-Amy K. WAYNE holds a BSc in Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology from the University of Ghana. She is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program and has more than five years of experience in community development and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights advocacy.

As an individual with a passion for SRHR advocacy, Naa-Amy founded the group Faith, Hope, and Love (FHL), a non-profit public health organization. Reaching over 2000 people, the group’s primary focus is sexual and reproductive health education and breast cancer awareness.

She also serves as the Director of The Lady training programs that have reached over 250 ladies in less than two years. In 2017, Naa-Amy was selected along with 120 future leaders to attend the Young African Leaders’ Initiative, a five week intensive leadership immersion program in Accra, Ghana.

Naa-Amy considers the YoLe Fellowship a vital opportunity to participate in new approaches in SRHR and gain insightful knowledge into health innovations.
Rafsanjani ADAMS holds a degree in Communication Studies from the Islamic University College in Ghana and is an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA's YoLe Fellowship Program.

Prior to joining the Fellowship Program, he completed his National Service in the Communications Unit of the UNFPA Ghana Country Office during the 2017-2018 service year.

This role saw him participating and providing assistance in the implementation of programs such as youth outreaches as well as developing post-program articles and reports.

He considers the YoLe Fellowship Program as a vital opportunity to develop his leadership and communication skills while becoming an active participant in mainstreaming SGBV and gender issues through the Country Office's designed programs and outreaches.
Sarah Nuamah BOATENG

Sarah Nuamah BOATENG is a trained radio broadcast journalist with the Radio Broadcast Development Foundation and an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program. She holds a diploma in Communication Studies from the Ghana Institute of Journalism.

With a huge zeal for volunteering, Sarah led a school outreach project organized by the New Ark Foundation based in Northampton, UK. The focus of her comprehensive report was health and well-being issues for school development in Ghana as they relate to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

She is also a member of the Ahaban Green Leaf Foundation (GLF), a humanitarian, non-profit organization working to promote education, eradicate poverty, and develop the full potential of children and youth through holistic outreach programs.

As a Fellow of the Youth Leaders (YoLe) Fellowship Program of UNFPA Ghana, Sarah sees the program as an opportunity to acquire knowledge of national and community development. She hopes to gain hands-on experience in the areas of leadership, youth issues, gender issues, and community development.
Samira OSMAN is a graduate of the University of Ghana with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and an Inaugural Fellow of the UNFPA’s YoLe Fellowship Program.

She undertook National Service at Frontier Oil Ghana Limited where she handled both operational and marketing responsibilities.

Through her duties, she received an introduction to market research, public relations, and adherence to safety regulations.

Through the Fellowship and off-the-field experiences with Impact Hub Accra, Samira expects to gain increased insight into entrepreneurship and health innovations.

She anticipates the sharpening of her leadership and communication skills, achieving greater exposure to invaluable professional networks, and engaging in challenging, varied, and interesting work.

She also seeks to acquaint herself with relevant issues affecting women and children in society and becoming a change-maker in addressing these issues.
Theodora Nyamekye YEBOAH

Theodora Nyamekye YEBOAH is an Inaugural Fellow of the YoLe Fellowship Program and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and Sociology from the University of Ghana, where she graduated with First Class Honors.

Theodora is passionate about working with and for people in distressing situations. She has served as a volunteer at the Accra Rehabilitation Centre, working with persons with disabilities (PWDs) and helping people learn basic English and Mathematics.

This experience has increased her understanding of the severity of unmet needs among young and vulnerable people in society and the commitment required to close this gap.

In her estimation, the Youth Leaders Fellowship Program will provide her with ample opportunities to build her leadership and communication skills, expanding her ability to reach the vulnerable, at-risk population of society within a broader institutional capacity, and a chance to have a positive impact on more lives.
Our Mantras

Farida Latif

"Aim to live in this world without allowing the world to live inside you, because when a boat sits on water it sails perfectly, but when water enters inside the boat, it sinks."—Ali Ibn Abi Talib

Patricia Idusam
Iniworikabo

"It is better to fail in originality than succeed in imitation" - Herman Melville

Michael Nana Blankson

"I believe the career I am building is not a lifestyle but a calling."

Akosua Aduba Agyepong

"Hard work and determination wins the race."

Abigail Ashun-Sarpy

"Nothing shapes your life more than the commitments you choose to make." — Rick Warren

Dorcas Attah

"I am just a girl chasing her dreams and having an amazing adventure."—Madeline Stuart

Jean-Philip Lawson

"The price of greatness is responsibility."—Winston Churchill

Samira Osman

"Your life is your story. Write well. Edit often."—Susan Statham
Our Mantras

Theodora Nyamekye Yeboah

"The best coach with the strongest power over your performance is the coach that lives within you."—Keith Harrell

Bisola Olapade

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."—Benjamin Franklin

Sarah Nuamah Boateng

"I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear him"—Ecclesiastes 3:14

Derrick Botchway

"Analyze and correct your past mistakes before they paralyze your future."—Israelmore Ayivor

Evans Dodzi Hedo

"I believe that success is a mixture of preparation and luck."

Naa-Amy K. Wayne

"You can only become truly accomplished at something you love. Don’t make money your goal. Instead pursue the things you love doing and do them so well that people can’t take their eyes off you."—Maya Angelou

Rafsanjani Adams

"I see diversity as a gift, not a threat, because our differences make this world beautiful."

Barbara Sika Kudjawu

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better."—Maya Angelou
Learning Moments
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