

## Ghana Red Cross Society donates PPE to GHS



Presentation of PPE to GHS



GRCS President, Kwame Gyimah-Akwafo Presenting PPE to GHS D.G, Ghana Health Serves, Dr. Patrick Kuma - Aboagye also in the picture is GRCS Secretary General, Samuel Kofi Addo

The Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) has donated personal protective equipment to the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to fight the corona virus disease (COVID-19). The donation was made possible through the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent.

The items included gloves, surgical masks, protective gowns, single use disposable non-woven material, resistance to fluid glasses, Clear rigid plastic and eyes front sides protection worth CHF 23, 397.00.

Presenting the items, the President of GRCS, Mr Kwame Gyimah-Akwafo said the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent solicited support to assist the various national societies to help combat the spread of the deadly pandemic.

The Director General of Ghana Health Service, Dr Patrick Kuma-Aboagye, receiving the items thanked the GRCS for the gesture and promised to use the items for their intended purpose. Dr Kuma-Aboagye said the fight against the pandemic needed inclusive support and urged Ghanaians to continue observing the safety etiquettes.

# GRCS Partners UNICEF to Administer Polio Vaccine



The Ghana Red Cross Society in collaboration with UNICEF and other partners embarked on social mobilization towards mOPV2 campaign for the round one and two polio vaccination in some worse-performing districts and municipalities in the Greater Accra, Northern, Upper East Regions to complement the efforts of Ghana Health Service and all its partners.



*Red Cross volunteers give polio vaccine*

The campaign targeted children under five years across the three regions. The Ghana Red Cross mobilized 250 volunteers of which majority were mothers' club members, trained and deployed in some worse-performing districts to create awareness and demand for the mOPV2.



*Red Cross volunteers collecting data on polio vaccine*

The efforts of the Ghana Red Cross Society was to contribute to the national target of reaching 864,696 children between the ages of 0 and 59 months to be vaccinated. Data collated by the GRCS indicated the projected targets for the exercise were exceeded, suggesting that the campaign was successful. A total of **24,037 HHs** were reached during the round 1 of Polio immunization campaign, **168,254** children aged 0 months to 59 months were taken for immunization and **312,371** people were educated on Polio messages. The use of Open Data Kit (ODK), a data collection application was used for data collection by all partners during the campaign, this improved monitoring at all levels.



*Red Cross volunteers embark on polio vaccination*

# Ghana Red Cross Scales up Handwashing *to prevent* COVID-19



The Ghana Red Cross Society has embarked on activities such as house-to-house education, radio announcements, sensitization on safety protocols and the setting up of handwashing points at public places, to prevent and stop the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Society launched its handwashing activities in the markets and all the malls in the Greater Accra Region among them, the Accra Mall, West Hills Mall, China Mall, Junction Mall and Achimota Mall.

Volunteers mounted handwashing points in both the malls and the markets and educated the people on the processes of handwashing and went into the communities and educated the citizenry on the importance of handwashing, as the best means of preventing and stopping the spread of COVID-19 in the country.



*Handwashing to prevent COVID-19 spread*



*Red Cross Volunteers support handwashing at the shopping mall*



*Handwashing to prevent COVID-19 spread*



*Handwashing promotion by Ghana Red Cross Volunteers*

# GHANA RED CROSS SOCIETY ENGAGES MEDIA *on* COVID-19 PREVENTION



**A**s part of its preventive measures to stop the spread of the COVID-19 and educate the public on the dangers of the pandemic, the Ghana Red Cross Society has embarked on a series of radio panel discussions and conducting the popular community announcement about the disease and its effects on national security.

Staff and volunteers of the society are using the community information centres in educating the communities on the COVID-19 protocols. Four (4) communities have so far been engaged, due to the ban on noise-making in most of the communities by the traditional authorities, because of the celebration of their festivals. Three radio stations were used for the community education. They were Ada Radio, Ahata FM and Obonu FM.

The radio and television interactive talk shows and phone-in sessions helped to collect feedback from the community members. An information van was also used in the education as well as the playing of jingles on radio. The van visited each district a day, for one and a half months. The Red Cross distributed 200 pieces of face masks to the people who requested for them as part of its social intervention to prevent the spread of COVID-19.



*Community mass sensitization on the prevention of COVID-19*



*Red Cross volunteers educate public on prevention of COVID-19*

## Red Cross Mothers Club support quadruplet Mother to deliver safely at a health facility



*Mother gives birth to quadruplets through the help of Red Cross Mother Club*

The Red Cross Mothers Club in the Singa Community of the North Gonja District has assisted a pregnant woman to safely deliver quadruplets at the Tari Health Centre.

Madam Salamatu Yaw who was a participant in a Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) Programme at the Singa Community, was identified by the Red Cross Mothers when they noticed that she was showing labour signs. Four members of the Red Mothers Club quickly escorted Salamatu to the Tari Health Centre for skilled delivery.

After the delivery, the mother and the four (4) babies were immediately referred by the doctors to the Tamale Teaching Hospital by the midwife for further medical care at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

The Project Coordinator Red Cross Safe Motherhood Project, Mr Evans Kevi led a team to visit Madam Salamatu and the babies at the Intensive Care Unit of the hospital and presented cash and food items for their upkeep.

The Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS) in collaboration with the Ghana Health Services (GHS) is implementing Maternal Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) Project in 120 needy and hard to reach communities across 10 districts in both Northern and Upper East Regions of Ghana. The community-based intervention, is being implemented through the use of GRCS Mothers Clubs and intended to complement the government's efforts to reduce maternal and newborn deaths in the project beneficiary communities.

The activities of these dedicated and committed women have impacted significantly over the years in their respective communities. They promote healthy maternal and child health practices with special emphasis on antenatal care, skilled delivery and postnatal care among others.



# GRCS presents DISASTER RISK REDUCTION TOOLS TO COMMUNITIES

*Upper East Regional Manager donates disaster equipment to Bongo Community*

The beneficiary communities were Ania –Kunkua, Asebga, Atonobugoro, Asebreg and Azorsidaana. As part of the efforts to help curb and deal with disaster issues in the district, volunteers would also be trained in Community-Based Disaster Management.

Mr Paul Wooma, the Upper East Regional Manager of the GRCS, indicated that the presentation was a fulfilment of the promise his outfit and the SRC made during the training of the Community Preparedness Response Teams last year. He called on the government to place more premium on disaster prevention, instead of waiting for disaster to strike before the country uses huge sums of money to contain them.

He called on the volunteers to use the tools for their intended purposes and appealed to the communities to desist from open defecation, indiscriminate burning and littering of the environment.

**T**he Ghana Red Cross Society (GRCS), in collaboration with the Swiss Red Cross (SRC), has presented Disaster Risk Reduction tools to some disaster-prone communities in the Bongo District of the Upper East Region.

They were life jackets, fire extinguishers, shovels and pickaxes, machetes, wheel barrows, veronica buckets, rescue ropes, bicycles and First Aid kits, and given to five selected communities to help them prevent and manage disasters that may occur in them.

# GREATER ACCRA RED CROSS INTENSIFIES PUBLIC SENSITIZATION ON COVID-19



*Mass media sensitization on COVID-19 prevention*

The Greater Accra Region has been the epicentre since the COVID-19 outbreak in Ghana. The Ghana Red Cross Society has consequently initiated many activities to sensitize its people on the safety protocols. The overly populated communities were identified and volunteers sent to educate community members on the safety protocols such as physical distancing as well as distribute face masks and set up some handwashing centres.

The lorry stations are places where people are likely to crowd and break the safety protocols. There was education of drivers, driver mates and station officers on safety protocols and handwashing centres set up at these lorry stations to help in handwashing before boarding of a vehicle. There was education in all the major markets in Greater Accra and handwashing centres set up in some of the markets.

The Greater Accra branch of the Ghana Red Cross Society with support from the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) and Swiss Red Cross embarked on risk communication in communities using megaphones and community Information Centres to complement the Government's efforts in the area of social mobilization. The region distributed 500 locally produced face masks to volunteers and members.



*Ghana Red Cross volunteers on house-to-house education on COVID-19 prevention*

# GHANA RED CROSS distributes STARTER PACKS to households



*Ghana Red Cross Volunteers distribute food items to vulnerable households*

Society supported 50,000 households in the Greater Accra and Greater Kumasi with Starter packs for breakfast, to mitigate the hardship during the lockdown. 450 Volunteers were recruited and trained from the regions as well as some community leaders who were engaged on the safety protocols of the COVID-19 to help with education on the pandemic.

The Volunteers identified, registered and educated the households on the prevention procedures, proper hand washing, social distancing. Household heads were also registered and given ration chits to distribute to the people and also advise the households to stay home. The Volunteers sent starter packs to families in their homes, to prevent them from congregating, crowding and contacts to avoid contracting COVID.



*Ghana Red Cross Volunteers distribute food items during lockdown*

**F**ollowing the WHO declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic and since its outbreak in Ghana, the Greater Accra was put on lockdown for three weeks, so also were Koso, Tema and Greater Kumasi, where many families, the vulnerable groups, were in dire need of food and water. To alleviate their plight, The Nestlé's' Groups in partnership with the IFRC and the Ghana Red Cross

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