



SPOTLIGHT ON TOGO:
Making a difference in this tiny West-African country



With your support, we care for over fifty destitute elderly in the Togo Kara region, approximately 250 miles northeast of the coastal capital of Lomé. They rely on your support to live. In addition to the Kara project, we also support destitute elderly in Lomé who, without your support, would be mostly beggars.

In Kara, we provide healthcare, medicine, personal hygiene items, and food including beans, rice, corn, pasta, and tomatoes. Our volunteers travel to this remote area which sits on a plateau after traveling over the central Togo-Atakora Mountains. This area is quite different than the capital area of Lomé, both in culture and wealth. Almost everyone lives off the land, but many of the destitute elderly are too infirm or disabled to maintain crops.

Awih Kodjo shared these lightly edited comments with our care partners. A widower, blind, and 64 years old, he resides in Lao Sodè:

"I say a heartfelt thanks to your organization MICHAEL'S HOUSE. I am simply saying that God came to my rescue from people I do not know. He put you on my way because you love me. Your representatives have told me that you are in America in the United States at millions of kilometers away. I ask you not to abandon us. For I am the only one living among my brothers and sisters (we were 7) and you prove to me that I am not alone. Blind as I am, I tell you that my illness began from childhood, and I was told about the Filariasis (parasitic infection of roundworms spread by flies and mosquitoes). For lack of means and care, I lost sight. I married with two children, but my wife died. My uncle took me home and later he died. So now for lack of dwelling I'm going to live with my the widowed sister-in-law and my son. My daughter lives very far away and I have not seen her in eight years. I cultivate by my intuition on small surface and sometimes guided by my son with the hoe to feed me to add to what I receive after doing small work for the neighbors. Since you have decided to help us, you have changed a lot of things in my life. Be blessed."



Awih Kodjo



Left: Our volunteer care partners preparing the bags of food for each destitute elderly person.

Right: While our mission is to support the destitute elderly, many elderly care for their grandchildren. Here are two grandchildren who get nutritious food thanks to your support.



Below: Some of those that receive food from your generous support.



Eighth Annual Michael's House Golf Tournament Held

On May 9, Hawkins Electric Service and Hawkins Electrical Construction hosted its eighth annual golf tournament to benefit Michael's House at Whiskey Creek Golf Course in Ijamsville, MD. Our deepest and heartfelt thanks for their continued support! Thank you also to the below sponsors and participants. It was a great day for a great cause! If you are interested in participating next year, please contact Patti Troy at Hawkins at 301-210-0900.



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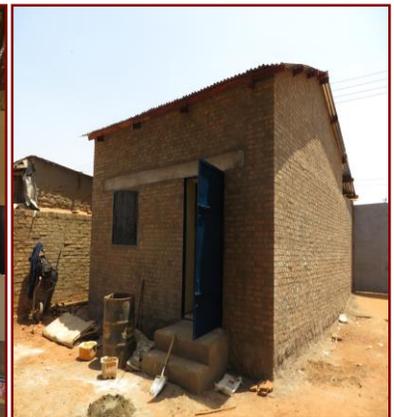
Individual

Herc Rental - Forestville, MD



Sorghum for South Sudan Project Update - Completion Expected Soon!

The building to house the grinding machine is complete and all but a few parts for the grinding machine have been delivered. Soon, the machine will be in operation to provide more food for the destitute. No longer will costs be incurred for grinding sorghum commercially. To the right are photos of the building to house the grinding machine during construction. Construction is also planned for a Rakuba, shelter without side walls, which will provide cover for the impoverished elderly awaiting food distribution. Thank you to everyone who provided donations for this project. Look for another update on this project soon.



Your support makes all that we do for the destitute elderly in Tanzania, South Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Togo, Nigeria, Uganda, Ethiopia, Honduras, Zimbabwe and Burkina Faso possible. They have come to depend on the love and generosity from those of us more fortunate on the other side of the world.

We cannot let them down!

Donate on the web (www.michaels-house.org) or make checks payable to:

Michael's House Inc., Post Office Box 856, Burtonsville, MD 20866

Michael's House is a U.S. based 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

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SUPPORT**