

## REPORT ON THREE DAYS NON RESIDENTIAL BASEBALL CAMP, 2020 KUMASI

### INTRODUCTION

Rescue Sports foundation in conjunction with Breakaway Outreach based in the United State of America organized a three days non residential baseball training program in Kumasi, Ashanti Region of Ghana. The aim/purpose for organizing such an event was to spread the word of God across the length and breathe of the world of which West Africa precisely Ghana is not left out. Not only is this program different from the usual evangelism/missionary works that Christians embark on, this is extraordinary because this time we are using sports as vessel through which we share the gospel and win souls into the kingdom of Godwhiles having fun.

The **VISION** of RSF is to help identify skillsand nurture potentials among the youth and expose them to the international platforms where they can display their God given talents and still maintain their FAITH in GOD and influence their team mates and even their fans positively.

It is for these reasons and purpose that Rescue Sports Foundation in Ghana had to collaborate with it partner organization Breakaway Outreach in the United States of America to train kids in playing baseball and by so doing reaching them with the gospel and making them disciples of change.

The visiting team from Breakaway Outreach USA arrived in Ghana on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and was met on arrival at the Kotoka International Airport by a team from RSF here in Ghana lead by the board chairman and the director of the foundation in the person's of Rev. ED Arcton and Pastor Benjamin Annor. The team after exchanging pleasantries, headed straight to the VIP bus station to board a bus to Kumasi in the Ashanti Region where the training and all the other activities will be taking place.



The visiting team together with the team from RSF arrived in Kumasi later in the evening and was ushered into their hotel rooms to rest and prepare themselves for church service the next day which was a Sunday. The RSF team lead the visiting team from Breakaway Outreach USA in the person's of Pastor Jimmy Larche and his son Zak to Pentecost International Worship Center, Asokwa to fellowship and call on individuals and

institutions interested in sports to come and support this worthy coarse of Rescue Sports Foundation (RSF). The team later visited Living Waters Assemblies of God at Maxima, a suburb in Kumasi to also fellowship and call on interested individuals and institutions to come and support the program.

The team also visited spirit fm, a local radio station in Kumasi for an in-studio interview hosted by the director of



(RSF) Coach Benjamin Annor later in the afternoon. In attendance was a physically challenged lady who came to share her testimony with listeners on how she defied all odds and rejections from family and friends to survive on her own. Also in attendance was Rev. Vincent Asamoah the country director of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) who came to support and encourage the depressed and rejected in society to hold on to their faith because help is just around the corner, also were some board members and staff from RSF. The day ended with a little get together lunch with our visitors and later on a board meeting was held to officially welcome our visitors and recap on the activity lined up for the upcoming days.



## DAILY REPORT ON THE THREE DAYS BASEBALL TRAINING, FROM 27<sup>TH</sup>-29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2020.

### DAY 1:

The program started with an opening prayer from the board chairman of RSF (Rev. ED Acton) which he followed with a motivational speech. He later on introduced our resource persons to the participants around in the person of Pastor Jimmy Iarche and his son Zak, leader and founder of Breakaway Outreach in the United States of America.



Day one was an introduction to baseball and training of trainee Coaches on the basic rules and techniques in playing baseball, as well as using that medium as Christians to portray Christ and help transform others to be followers of Christ. Our resource persons (Jimmy and Zak) upon given the opportunity shared the word of God and a few testimonies of some sportsmen and women who balance their faith in God and fame as athletes to win souls for Christ.

The trainee coaches were later grouped into 5 stations to form the diamond shape, a typical baseball formation that is the various positions in baseball game just like soccer from defense to attack. He took them (the trainee coaches) through each station, their functions, purpose and task as baseball players. He later took them to the field to practice what has been demonstrated.

During the demonstration session the participants were given the opportunity to ask the resource persons questions concerning the game baseball. It was a fruitful and exciting session at the end of the day. The trainee coaches after the practical session formed a very strong united technical team and were very much prepared and ready for the challenge/task ahead of them, that is to make disciples of the Gospel on the field of playing baseball. Some breakaway outreach T-shirts were given to those who were in attendance for the first day of the non residential baseball training camp. 20 trainee coaches participated on the first day.



The team from (RSF) led by the board chairman together with our resource persons went for a tour at the Manhyia Palace Museum in Kumasi, the Ashanti Region of Ghana to know about the rich culture of the Ashanti Kingdom. The tour guide took the team round the museum and gave a brief history of all the past monarchs that reigned over the Ashanti Empire for centuries up to date. The resource persons later bought a craft from the museum that signifies unity. The team went back to their hotel after the tour to rest for the day and prepare for day two activity.



Demonstration session with the trainee coaches on the first day at C.P.C (Amanfrom), Kumasi in the Ashanti Region of Ghana and a visit to the Manhyia Palace Museum.

## DAY 2

This was the day for the training of the kids from various schools. The section commenced with a prayer from the board Chairman of Rescue sports Foundation. It was then taken over by Pastor Jimmy and Zack.

Pastor Jimmy spoke about the history of baseball and used the opportunity to also introduce Christ to the kids with the story of Morgan and his twin brother in which Morgan had to sacrifice to stay in the prison for his twin brother to be set free. He emphasized just as Morgan sacrificed for his brother so did our Lord Jesus Christ take our place on the cross and died for our sins to set us free from the bondage of sin.

The various schools were grouped into the 5 stations generated the previous day and the coaches took the students through the basic fundamentals of the baseball. Each station was assigned different roles with the coaches as trainers.

Each station's coach had to take the players through the stage and there was a rotation after 20 minutes of training section and 10 minutes recession after each session. At the end of the day each student had the opportunity to go through all the five stages of the game. During the course of the training various gifts such as baseball caps, T-shirts and other souvenirs were given to outstanding participants. The kids were then refreshed to end the training section. In all, the total number of Schools were 17 with 20 teachers as coaches and 165 students as players.

As part of the program outline the team visited Bonwire, the heart of Kente cloth weaving in the Ashanti Region to learn about the dazzling way of weaving Kente as well as the various types of Kente available; its types and symbolic names. The crew were then taken back to the residence for rest and regain strength for the next day.





Training session with the kids on playing baseball and a visit to the Kente weaving center at Bonwire in the Ashanti Region of Ghana.

### DAY 3

This was the final day of training. It all began around 9:00am with a prayer and continued with some shake up exercise before engaging them with the days training drills and a recap of the previous days training activities. Pastor Jimmy after the training session met with the trained coaches and gave them a final briefing on the whole program and the way forward to sustaining and maintaining the purpose of organizing the baseball training camp. Certificates were awarded to the participated coaches and group pictures were taken with the various schools. The kids were then refreshed to end the training section. In all, the total numbers of Schools were 20 with 25 teachers as coaches and 207 students as players.

The team from RSF led by the board chairman held a final meeting with our resource persons on the way forward to strengthen the relationship between Rescue Sports Foundation and Breakaway Outreach (USA). Also presentations were made by Rev ED Acton (board chairman) on behalf of Rescue Sports Foundation to Pastor Jimmy and his son Zak as well as to the Wife back home in the united state. The team finally returned to their hotel to rest and prepare for their return back home to the United State of America.





The final day training session with the kids and presentation of certificates and taking group photographs with the participated schools.

## CONCLUSION

The crew met at the end of the training session to quickly assess the entire programme. Pastor Jimmy Larche our resource person gave his overall impression about the entire project and his intuition was that he was pleased with everything that went on from the time with the coaches as well as that of the kids.

He explained that it was fun and flexible and that he was overwhelmed by the attendance of 24 and about 207 kids.

The teachers who had by then become the coaches all had the initiative of building strong teams to start training toward interschool leagues. He gave the assurance that training tools will be kept by the team in Ghana for easy access during training and to be returned. He gave assurance that more equipment will be needed and that efforts will be made within the shortest time possible time to bring down new balls, bats and catchers as well as other instruments for the game to triumph. He also emphasized that in the absence of the real baseball, soft balls could be used for training subsequently the availability of the balls will make the work easier.

It was resolved that the idea of introducing the baseball here was to bring the American coaches to Ghana in the near future and also organize and participate in international leagues. It was discovered that most of the schools did not have fields to train upon and that will become a challenge in the mean time but the CPC Park is always available for all schools to train and improve their skills.

During the meeting it was discovered that some government schools were very much attracted to participate since the whole programme was only done for private schools. Hence the new introduction should be made attractive enough to win other school to partake.

In order to achieve this there will be series of adverts and awareness creation to win new schools, the participating schools will then be split and grouped according to ages when the number increases. The participated schools will also be revisited to accumulate responses and hence introduce the way forward unto the league for schools.

Overall, it was a successful programme and the idea of using sports to share the message of the cross was attained and the crew shared their testimonies.

**EXPENDITURE FOR THE NON RESIDENTIAL BASEBALL CAMP**

<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>AMOUNT GHC</u>
25 <sup>th</sup> January, 2020	
• T & T from Accra to Kumasi	180
• T & T from STC to PCG Guest House	7
• Luggage	30
26 <sup>th</sup> January, 2020.	
• T & T to PCG guest house	20
• T & T from guest house to PIWC -	20
• T & T from PIWC to Living Waters AoG	25
• T & T from Living Waters AG to Spirit FM	15
• T & T from Spirit FM to Kumasi City Mall	10
• T & T from Mall to PIWC	10
• T & T from PIWC to Guest House	20
• Lunch	320
• Kente cloth	65
27 <sup>th</sup> January, 2020	
• T & T from Guest House to CPC	50
• T & T from Manhyia to Guest House	10
• Manhyia Tour Tickets	90
• Box of Bottled Water	25
• T & T for Eddie	10
• Canopy Hiring	120
28 <sup>th</sup> January, 2020	
• T & T from Guest House to CPC	45
• Refreshment: Fan Milk products.	130
• Biscuits	60

- Coaches Drinks 60
- Extra Sachet Water 10

29<sup>th</sup> January, 2020

- T & T from Adum to Stadium 15
  - T & T from Stadium to CPC 45
  - Refreshment 250
  - Bottled Water box 25
  - T & T from Kumasi to Accra 165
  - T & T from PCG guest house 15
  - T & T from Achimota to Airport 50
  - Sewing of Cloth 80
  - Overall Lodging for 5 days 750
- 
- 2,692
-