



This year, in each newsletter we will feature a different beneficiary. Here is Felix's story of survival.

I'm always amazed by the perseverance of our beneficiaries. Felix stands out for what he has been able to accomplish in spite of hardships.

Felix is twenty-one years old from Ankamu and is currently living in Kasoa. He is the fourth of eight children. After his parents' divorce, at seven years old, he was trafficked three times to different masters by his father.

Felix was first trafficked to the Ivory Coast, where he spent three months of his life. He was then sold for \$3 and sent to a village along the Volta Lake. Felix was subsequently trafficked for \$42 and handed off to different masters in the same community. He worked as a fisherboy on Lake Volta for several years.

Each day he would go fishing at dawn and return in the evening. It was physically demanding work: casting and dragging fishing equipment, diving to remove tangles from nets, scooping water from the canoe. Felix also suffered abuse and sustained injuries at the hands of his masters. He was insulted, hit with paddles, caned, and starved.

Felix's brothers, who had been trafficked to the same village, feared that his master was going to inflict serious harm on him. They contacted their mother to rescue Felix. The issue was reported to the police for immediate action, and the media became involved; a child protection organization obtained information regarding Felix and his three siblings. While the rescue effort was complicated, and required the intervention of the judiciary service, Felix and his brothers were ultimately released and sent to a recovery center. BTCTE became involved during this time.

It was there that Felix started his education; he soon enrolled in mainstream schooling. He completed junior high school and eventually graduated from senior high school. He achieved exceptional scores on his exams, and was admitted to the University of Ghana.

As of today, Felix is studying to obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree. His story is a testament to achievement in the face of adversity: if kids are given the resources to succeed, they can accomplish anything.

It is with the continuous generosity of our supporters that we are able to share such success stories of our beneficiaries. Thank You!

Evan Robbins  
President

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#### Would like so support Felix or any of our beneficiaries?

[Click here](#)

#### When You Support a Child:

- You will receive a video about the child, including a description about the child's background, education/career goal, current circumstances and photographs.
- Updates will be provided every two months about how your child is progressing. These may include photos, a video message from the child, and relevant information about how your child is doing.
- If you are interested, you will be able to send letters or photos to your child through BTCTE.

#### A Supported Child Receives:

- Financial support to successfully achieve an education and a career
- School fees, housing/boarding costs, uniforms, food, toiletries, school supplies, etc.
- Food for families who have sponsored children living at home
- Periodic visits by our field officers to check on our children's welfare. Our holistic and proactive approach includes monitoring our students' physical and emotional health as well as their academic or vocational performance. This way problems can be identified and addressed to keep our students on track.
- Self-esteem that comes with growing skills.
- Emotional support and comfort that comes from knowing that someone cares about their well-being.

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#### Upcoming Events

**March 1:** 12th Annual Dance School Benefit held at Metuchen High School

**April 15:** Spring Tricky Tray held at Brownstone Bar & Grill in Metuchen

**May TBD:** Annual Fundraising Dinner Celebrating 18 Years of Service

**October TBD:** 7th Annual Sam Liss Memorial 5K

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Thank you to all who support BTCTE!  
If you would like to donate,  
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