# 2024 FINAL REPORT

# A Joint Report of the

# Oheneba Foundation (Ghana) and Oheneba Foundation (USA)





Supporting the Social Welfare and Development of the Sewfi Obeng-Mim Traditional Area

# 2025 PROJECT PROSPECTUS

In 2025, the Oheneba Foundation in Ghana and the USA will continue to work with H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame, the Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim, H.M. the Omanhene, and the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council.

As we look ahead to 2025, we're streamlining our activities to focus on the most impactful initiatives. Our top priority is supporting our seven dedicated community teachers, and we are seeking donations to cover their salaries for the year.

# Total Fundraising Goal for 2025: USD 23,040

We are also seeking support for other community projects and schools with a total funding goal of USD 23,040. Your contribution will make a significant difference in the lives of our teachers, students, and the broader community. Thank you for considering donating to support our community development initiatives!

Here is a breakdown of our funding goal:

Construction of an **Our Lady of Hope Health Care Center** in Sefwi Obeng-Mim: USD 16,000. A pledge has already been received, and USD 15,000 has been raised, partially funded by the Rev. Deacon Mark Arbeen and the Grand Priory of Asia. The project will be completed over two years, and construction has already begun. However, the ongoing high cost of building materials has affected this project. We are adding an additional USD 5,000 to help cover material inflation.

**Teacher Salaries**: USD 5,040. USD 360 per month for seven community teachers. USD 60 per month for each teacher. This project was fully funded for 2024 with the help of the Grand Priory of Asia, and we hope to fund it again in 2025.

**College and University student support**: USD 3,000. This program has been a great success as we have supported over 150 students in the Western North region of Ghana.



**Sefwi Missionary Centre program**: USD 5,000. This program will help 15 specially selected youths interested in learning to teach and spread the word of God.

**Sefwi Wiawso Senior High Technical School**: USD 5,000 will be used to construct a secure entrance to the school (Main Gate).

# 2024 PROJECT UPDATES

The Oheneba Foundation (Ghana) and (USA) are happy to report the following regarding the ongoing socio-economic development of the Sefwi Obeng Mim traditional area and our work in the greater Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area. In addition to the following projects, the Foundation is proud to report that our 10-year development plan is on course. H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II focuses on the people and their future. This is his legacy and that of every member of the international Asafo and his supporters.

## WATER, SANITATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Koto Medals Water project: The last Koto Medal water project was drilled at Sefwi Asafo, a community near Sefwi Wiawso. It is currently waiting to be opened. This will give us 100% water coverage over the stool land area. HRH Oheneba Nana Kwame visited the solar water pump site to inspect the maintenance work.

Donations from Oheneba Foundation supporters are used for socioeconomic development, including basic infrastructure such as water and sanitation.

The main village public toilet is complete.

Various road reconstruction projects are also currently undergoing.



## **H**EALTH

The Oheneba Foundation, in collaboration with Suaman District Education Service and the Suaman District Health Services, organized a breast cancer awareness program for girls in school. This initiative is aimed to educate and empower young girls with knowledge about breast cancer, its prevention, and early detection. We believe that awareness and education are key factors in saving lives, and we thank everyone involved in making this program a success. We will continue to support and prioritize the health and well-being of our young girls.

The Foundation has created a special fund for the Queen Mother, a professional nurse, H.R.H. Obaahemaa Nana Yaa Odei I. The Fund is focused on health education and young women. We thank H.E. Kofo Amanda Witkowski, KGCFD and her fundraising team in their constant support of the Queen Mother and young women health initiatives.





#### **EDUCATION**

The Foundation has supported over 150 university and college students and fifty senior high school students.

The Teachers House extension is under construction. The government requested this expansion to accommodate teachers at our ever-growing royal school, and we are working with them to transfer the school to their funding and management.



At Sefwi Asawinso Presbyterian School (a B school in the system), HRH Obeng II presented the staff with six hand-made teacher tables and chairs to improve academic work. The manager, parents, teachers, and schoolchildren were happy to receive this donation, which the Oheneba Foundation funded.

Also, at the Sefwi Asawinso B school, HRH Obeng II joined the dedicated teachers and enthusiastic students in unveiling the freshly painted blocks in the school classrooms. The vibrant colors and renewed space sparked joy and excitement among the students and staff. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Royal House Group and our esteemed member, Juhani Hujaned, Leader of the Finland Group of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog, for their generous support in making this transformation possible.

The beaming smiles on the teachers' and students' faces say it all—this is more than just a fresh coat of paint; it's a renewed sense of hope and opportunity.





Thank you for helping us brighten the future of these young minds!

In more educational news, 100 workbooks were distributed to school children in Sefwi Asafo, thanks to the generosity of Xender's Charity Foundation and HRH Obeng II.

The kindergarten school building will begin construction after the health center is completed.





Among many others, the Foundation would like to thank the following supporters specifically for their generous contributions to enriching the lives of the students and teachers of the stool lands: Jessica Lo, Dr. Benson Chang, Dr. William W.T. Poon, Ivy Wong, Dr. Peter Lau, Professor Alice Chiu Tsang Hok-Wan, and Dominic Tam.

OHENEBA FOUNDATION (GHANA)
CASH ON HAND FOR PROJECTS:
USD 15,479

OHENEBA FOUNDATION (USA)
Cash on Hand for Projects:
USD 1,147

# International Foundation Representation and Recognition

H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng I, Mimhene, embarked on an exciting cultural journey, visiting renowned destinations worldwide. Highlights of the 2024 tour include:

Attending the Manchester University
 2000-year celebration as a special guest,
 fostering global academic connections.





• Participating in the vibrant Port Harcourt River State Festival, immersing in the rich cultural heritage of Nigeria.







Enjoying a royal dinner with the prestigious Gold Fire Dogs in

Singapore, strengthening international relationships and cultural exchange.

These diplomatic and cultural engagements promote cross-cultural understanding, education, and cooperation.





The daughter of H.R.H. participated in the cross-cultural journey and is seen here at Manchester University.

In December 2024, H.R.H. was elected to the Board of Governors of Sefwi Wiawso Senior High Technical School as the new Board Chairman. We congratulate Nana on his well-deserved appointment and look forward to his leadership in driving the school's growth and development.

Finally, in 2024, the Omanhene and Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council raised the stool of Sefwi Obeng-Mim to be held from this time forward only by a Divisional Chief. The National House of Chiefs of the Republic of Ghana confirmed and recorded this status. In addition, the Republic of Ghana's Ministry on Chieftaincy and Religion officially confirmed that H.R.H., as a Divisional Chief, has the authority to bestow traditional honors under the approval and protection of the Omanhene of Sefwi Wiawso.

# THE OHENEBA FOUNDATION IN GHANA AND THE USA

On the anniversary of his enstoolment in 2019, H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II stated,

I am Tufohene (Warlord). We fought wars for territorial expansion to gain more land and resources for the people to use. Sometimes, we waged wars to control trade routes and gain access to important markets, while other wars were to secure the state's boundaries. Today, there are no more wars. I, therefore, declared war on illiteracy, poverty, disease, and unemployment to promote development in my Kingdom and beyond, calling for the needed support in this regard. I am committed to fighting a different type of war in the 21st century, a war in the form of development.

Under the Republic of Ghana law, The Companies Act, 1963, Act 179, H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II, Chief of Sefwi Obeng-Mim, created and registered with the Republic the Oheneba Foundation as a Community Development Fund to help finance development initiatives, projects, and programs in the stool lands under his care.

The Foundation focuses on five key areas: Education, Health, Water and Sanitation, Agriculture, and Infrastructure.

# **GOVERNANCE**

**The Oheneba Foundation** (**Ghana**) was registered in Accra on 21 February 2020, registration number CG012342020 and tax ID number C0035079169. On 20 October 2020, the Department of Social Welfare certified it as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) operating in the Suaman District Assembly (Dadieso), registration numbers DSW/SDA/NGO/02, R.G.D./CG012342020.

The Foundation has a formalized governance structure and funding mechanism. The Foundation has a 7-member Board of Trustees. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II appoints board members. The Board Officers are H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II (Dacosta Ofosuhene), Chairman; Patricia Ataah Kwarteng, Director; Agyiri Clearance, Secretary; Eddie Nikol, Auditor; Asante Stella, member-at-large.

Honorary members of the Board are Obahemaa (Queen Mother of Development) and Nana Akua Kra II (a.k.a. Tee Gambles-Francis) of the U.S. State of Hawaii. The Rev'd Dr. Christian D. Boyd of the U.S. State of Wisconsin as the Royal House Project Coordinator, Fundraising Officer, and Grand Chancellor of the Royal House's international Asafo association.

Patricia Ataah Kwarteng is the foundation's director and oversees the country's day-to-day operations.

The Board meets annually to review projects and programs and approve the Foundation's budget and expenditures. An independent financial auditor audits the foundation's accounts annually.

The Oheneba Foundation (USA), Inc. was formed in 2022 as an independent corporation in the State of Wisconsin as a Non-Stock Profit Corporation under Sec. 181.0202 of the Wisconsin Statutes and designation as able to receive tax-deductible donations under the Internal Revenue Code 26 U.S.C. §501 (c)(3) of the United States of America. The Oheneba Foundation (USA), Inc. State of Wisconsin Entity ID is 0040065, and Federal EIN 87-3943248. The Oheneba Foundation (USA) operates in the U.S.A. as a nonprofit corporation, National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE) classification code Q30: International Development. It corresponds and makes grants to the aforementioned Oheneba Foundation in Ghana.

The registered Board of Directors comprises Kenneth Wayne Parris, President; Robert Samuel Kawalopua Kakalia, Secretary; Christian Dominic Boyd, Treasurer; and Turner Walker. Dr. Boyd also serves as managing director and registered agent. H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II is an honorary member of the Board.

# **FUNDING**

The Foundation is primarily funded through contributions from donors worldwide, especially members of the Royal House's Order of the Golden Fire Dog and Order of Obeng II. Both royal orders are dynastic orders of merit that reflect the traditional Asafo of Akan. Other donors are individuals moved by the work and passion of H.R.H. and other foundations and non-government organizations (NGOs) whose purposes align with the Foundation's.

# THE DEVELOPMENT AREA

Sefwi Obeng-Mim comprises numerous farming communities in the Juabeso District in the Western Region of the Republic of Ghana. The Obeng-Mim Stool lands have about 1,500 people, many subsistence cocoa farmers. The primary development area is located in the middle of the Krokosue Forest Reserve under the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area, one of the largest forest reserves in Ghana. Due to the community's location, it is difficult to access the most basic developmental project by the central government and government funding. Providing safe and clean potable water, medical and educational development, and other human services are left to the traditional chieftaincy institution.

# **DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

#### **EDUCATION**

It is crucial to secure bright futures for young people in our communities. That is why the Foundation invests in scholarships, classroom blocks, libraries, ICT centers, early childhood development centers, teaching and learning materials, and accommodation for teachers and the education directorate.

#### HEALTH

Enhancing quality of life, preserving human dignity, and adding value to life have become possible through increased access to quality health and maternal care in our communities.

# AGRICULTURE

Significant investment in agriculture continues to improve the livelihood of members of our communities. Through the provision of inputs and extension services, farmers are producing more and contributing to the enhancement of Ghana's food and nutritional security.

#### Infrastructure

The provision of infrastructure, including community centers and good roads, has eased transportation and improved the quality of life of members of our host communities.

#### WATER AND SANITATION

In collaboration with government agencies, NGOs, and other key stakeholders, we are addressing issues regarding access to potable water and sanitation in our communities. Through small-town water supply systems, mechanized boreholes, and hand-dug wells, our communities have unfettered access to potable water.

# **DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND FUNDRAISING HISTORY**

# 2024 DEVELOPMENT REPORT SUMMATION

# Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim

•	School Painting	(Asawinso B School	USD 100
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• Our Lady of Hope Health Care Projects USD 15,000

FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR 2024: USD NO GOAL WAS SET

Total Amount Received 2024: USD 20,900

#### 2023 DEVELOPMENT REPORT SUMMATION

# Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim

•	Our Ladv	y of Hope Medical	Clinic	USD 7,000
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- Sefwi Wiawso Tech School AV System
   USD 3,000
- Dr Wm WT Poon Primary and JHS Ed Support USD 25,000
- Jessica Lo College Scholarships
   USD 25,000
- The Wong Shu Apartment and Chang Chin Sen Apartment

	Teachers' Residence Facility Expansion	USD 8,000
•	Prof Alice Chiu Tsang Hok-Wan Royal School D	istrict Support
	Teacher Salaries	USD 3,397
•	Dominic Tam JHS Admin Motorcycle	USD 1,500
•	Medical School Computers	USD 600
•	Queen Mother Projects (Women's Health Ed)	USD 1,000
•	Child Medical Bill Support	USD 2,000
•	Prayer Mats (Designated) for Muslim School	USD 200
•	Vocational Scholarships (Seamstress)	USD 1,000
•	Koto Medal Water Project	USD 2,000
•	General Donations	USD 700

The total amount received is the combined amount of the USA and Ghana foundations. Administrative costs are the fees banks assess to transfer funds, at \$530 for the USA.

Fundraising Goal for 2023: USD 26,000

Total Amount Received 2023: USD 80,397

# 2022 DEVELOPMENT REPORT SUMMATION

# Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim

•	Poon Junior High School Building	USD 17,000
•	Sports Complex	USD 2,500
•	Teachers' Residence Facility Expansion	USD 10,000
•	Teacher Salaries	USD 3,000
•	Obeng-Mim Scholarships	USD 8,000
•	Omanhene Scholarships	USD 6,000
•	Medical School Computers	USD 200
•	Young Ghanaian Women's Health Fund	USD 492.50
•	Solar Powered Water Well Pump	USD 8,000
•	Sanitation (rural public toilet)	USD 2,000
•	Child Medical Bill Support	USD 3,000

Koto Medal (to be used for water projects)
 USD 2,900

• General Donations USD 1,000

FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR 2022: USD 17,857.69

Total Amount Received 2022: USD 62,822.50

#### 2021 DEVELOPMENT REPORT

# Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim

# USD 33,418

•	Teachers' Residence Facility	USD 7,523
•	Community Center	USD 4,108
•	Road Repair	USD 3,271
•	LET/Municipal Work Truck	USD 9,814
•	School Facility Extension (3 classrooms)	USD 8,701

## 2020 DEVELOPMENT REPORT

# Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim USD: 19,964

- The HKBPA Teachers' Dormitory was completed in early 2021. The facility houses the teachers of the Royal School, providing common space and private living quarters. The construction cost with a construction firm has been quoted to cost USD 25,000. The Sefwi Obeng-Mim community has offered to provide the labor to build a teacher facility. Thus, the fundraising amount required was USD 8,000 to cover the materials costs.
- Construction and plumbing of Village Well #2, USD 3,500.
- The purchase of a ceremonial drum for the children in the Royal School is USD 70.
- Collection and distribution of face masks and hand sanitizers, USD 1,000.
- Support of 25 elder women affected by the pandemic economy, USD 375.
- Construction of Royal School washrooms, USD 2,000
- Purchased and distributed machetes to the cocoa farmers to help them in their harvest for USD 400.

- Village road repairs, USD 2,000
- Salaries for the Royal School teachers: USD 1,900.
- Underwrote a partnership with an artisan basket weaver to create harvesting baskets for the cocoa farmers, USD 100.
- Purchase cocoa seedlings for the Royal Cocoa Farm project, whose proceeds will help fund future stool land development and help raise the people out of poverty, USD 619.

## 2019 DEVELOPMENT REPORT

# Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim USD: 14,500

- A 3-Unit School Building: USD 7,000 investment in education and children's future by local and international sources.
- Construction and plumbing of Village Well #1: USD 3,500.
- Royal School Children Backpacks: USD 500.
- Furniture, Teacher Equipment, School Supplies, Uniforms, and Assistance with Teachers' Salaries: USD 3,000.
- Nurse's Motorcycle to travel between villages in the stool land: USD 500.

# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

# Introduction to the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Kingdom and The Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim

# **CHIEFTAINCY INSTITUTION IN GHANA**

The chieftaincy institution in Ghana is a system that structures and regulates the activity of local chieftains (or monarchs) in the Ghanaian society and state. In 1925, when Ghana was called the British Gold Coast Colony, provincial councils of chiefs were established in all three colony territories, partly to give the chiefs a colony-wide function. The 1927 Native Administration Ordinance clarified and regulated the powers and areas of jurisdiction of chiefs and councils. In 1935, the Native Authorities Ordinance combined the central colonial government and the local authorities into a single governing system. New native authorities, appointed by the governor, were given broad powers of local government under the supervision of the central government's provincial commissioners. The chieftaincy institution of Ghana has been enshrined in the Republic's Constitution (chapter 270-277) and the Chieftaincy Act of 2008.

Those who hold the sacred title of "Chief" (Nana) in Ghana, from the Asantehene and Paramount Chiefs (Kings) to Divisional Chiefs (ruling Princes or sub-kings) to chiefs, sub-chiefs, and Adikrofo within Royal Houses (Nobles), all considered constituted and sovereign rulers in their designated traditional areas with their traditional councils.

#### SEFWI WIAWSO TRADITIONAL KINGDOM

The Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim is under the Paramount King of Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Kingdom, His Royal Majesty Katakyie Kwasi Bumagama II. The Sefwi kingdom goes back in history to the ancient times of Ghana.

The Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Kingdom covers an area of 2,695 square miles crossed by the Tano and Bia rivers. That is approximately the size of the Delaware and Rhode Island states combined.

- The total population at the last census was 572,020.
- Five significant towns include the capital of Sefwi Wiawso, home of the King's Palace.
- The kingdom has two colleges: Wiawso College of Education and Asafo Health Care College.
- English and Akan Twi are the languages.
- Sefwi is Ghana's agricultural powerhouse. The area is known for exporting cocoa, cassava, and other agricultural products.
- It is also home to natural resources such as gold, bauxite, and timber.
- With cocoa farming as a main occupation of the people, Sefwi produces two-thirds of Ghana's cocoa.
- The Sefwi land is great for investment and development, given that it is blessed with almost all the natural resources of Ghana.

The Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim has a natural forest reserve with various animal species and unique weather conditions. We are the perfect place for a camera safari in West Africa. There are numerous tourism possibilities besides safaris, including many ancestral sites and our famous Yam Festival (Alluolue), held in November. We have the Tree of God (Nyame Dua), the Ancestral Hole (which has healing powers, and the Abombirim Sacred Tortoise Forest. We welcome you to visit our beautiful land and help us develop it, build schools and clinics, increase tourism, and meet our friendly Sefwi people.

## **CHRONOLOGY OF SEFWI OBENG-MIM**

The stool land (kingdom) of Sefwi Obeng-Mim, under the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area, was constituted in 1935 under the first Chief/King, Nana Kwame Obeng I. His Majesty, Obeng I, with his chief priest, ushered in reforms to the constitution and ceremonial regalia (cloths, ornaments, and decorations). Although the kingdom seems small compared to other stool lands, its people and leaders have been a powerhouse in



developing their region, the whole Traditional Area, and post-colonial Ghana.

# The Historic Succession of Sefwi Obeng-Mim Chiefs

- 1. Nana Kwame Obeng I (1935-1960)
- 2. Nana yaw Brobbery (1960-1990)
- 3. Nana Kofi Ntori (1990-2001)
- 4. Nana Kwame Ofori (2001-2005)
- 5. Nana Kwame Wusu I (2005-2011)
- 6. Nana Kwame Ofori II (2011-2016)
- 7. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II (2016-Current)

H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II, known in his private life as Mr. Ofosuhene Dacosta, was enstooled and outdoored as the Chief of Sefwi Obeng-Mim within the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area of the Western North Region of Ghana, West Africa, on 3rd June 2016. Nana is recognized by the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council as the rightful enstooled chief of the area by the Elders and Kingmakers. The Paramount Chief of the Sefwi Wiawso Tradition Area and President of the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council is H.R.M. Katakyie Kwasi Bumagama II, father of H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II. H.R.M. Katakyie Kwasi Bumagama II elevated H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II as a Divisional Chief on 16th July 2017.

#### THE ASAFO OF SEFWI OBENG-MIM

H.R.H. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II is an innovator. H.R.H. has created an international community and network of supporters, forming an international Royal House whose mission is to serve with honor and worthiness. To fight the war on illiteracy, poverty, disease, and unemployment, Obeng II, as Tufohene, created an international Asafo, marshaling warriors to fight alongside him for the rights and welfare of Sefwi Obeng-Mim and all people around the world courageously. The Asafo comprises two regiments: The



Golden Fire Dog and Obeng II. For international understanding and utilizing the British tradition as a reference, the two regiments are called "royal orders" and the warriors, "Akofo." As a sovereign prince/traditional chief under the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana and the customs and traditions of Akan and Sefwi people, the Oheneba and the Tufohene Nana Obeng II had the traditional authority to form his Asafo or "dynastic royal order" and grant, appoint, and bestow titles and ranks to his warriors. Since 2019, these warriors have done fantastic work under the Tufohene for the people of Obeng-Mim and the development of the stool lands.

All the members of the Royal Orders are ennobled members of the Royal House. In the Akan tradition, the members are part of the House's Asafo and are *ɔkofo onuonyamfo*, which may be translated from Twi as "most excellent warrior" or "noble warrior." Onuonyamfo is also the traditional word used to translate the British title of "Sir" held by knights from English into Twi.

The international Asafo is governed by the Tufohene and the Magistracy, which are composed of members of the Royal Orders and bear honorary chieftaincy offices within them, as described in their Constitutions, or rightfully enstooled chieftaincy under traditional area and customs.



# The Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog

The Aduana people are believed to have been led out of the ground by a dog that had fire in his mouth. Hence, they are referred to as Ogyaasefuo. It is also believed that the first Aduana had a dog that was once out to search for food, and on seeing it, the dog thought there was something to eat for him and got his mouth seriously burnt. When the owner saw it coming with the fire, he said, "m'atwea woabre me adie" meaning 'my dog you have brought me something worthy'.

The Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog was constituted and inaugurated under the auspices of the Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim to promote the ancient code of the military protectors of the ancient Akan Kingdom (the <code>okofo onuonyamfo</code>).

The International members of this Royal Order are dedicated to developing the Stool Lands under the care of the Royal House. Acceptance into the Order is based on the assessment of the human values and quality of character of the applicant, without distinction or discrimination based on religion, social class, race, political tendencies, physical disability, or sexual orientation. Advancement in rank is based on merit.

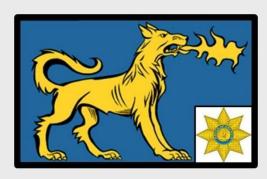
The ranks, in order of accession: Kofo, Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KFD); Kofo Commander, Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KCFD); Kofo Grand Officer, Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KGCFD); Kofo Grand Cross, Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KGCFD); and Kofo Grand Collar, Order of the Golden Fire Dog (GCFD). Every member bears the Akan ennobled title, *Kofo*, or Warrior.

# The Royal Order of Obeng II

The Royal Order of Obeng II was designed as a dynastic order of merit reflecting the traditional African royal orders that differentiated them from European models. The membership of this order is restricted to the Chief or King of Obeng-Mim stool land and the very few other persons who have honored the Chief and the traditional area through their noble acts of love and charity that build up the area and its legacy for future generations. The Chief is the Tufohene or Grand Master of the Royal Order and grants the dignity of the Order to others found to be of merit by His Majesty and the Royal House. Those who hold the rank of Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog may receive the honor of Kofo Grand Cross of the Order of Obeng II (KGCO). They bear the Akan title, *Akofo Onouonyamfo*, or The Most Excellent Warrior. The Chief may also grant the honor of the Grand Collar of the Royal Order of Obeng II (GCO) to other recognized heads and members of royal houses,



nobles, and heads of state, as well as a lifetime achievement to a member of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog. They are given the Akan title, *Adehye Akofo*, or Royal Warrior (reflecting their adoption into the House and treated like family).



# **Banner Award**

Awarded to Royal Warriors of the Royal Order of Obeng II, Established 17 April 2021.

The Akan warriors are fierce fighters. The warrior that stands beside the Warlord and protects the Royal flag is the Frankaahene/Frankaahemaa ("chief of the flag bearers"). They are the "unshakeable army of the hills." Honoring and remembering this Akan tradition, H.R.H. may bestow a similar dignity and honor as a meritorious award for one's

achievements and service to the Royal House and the people of Sefwi Obeng-Mim. The award is granted to those in the dynastic Royal Order of Obeng II who are Grand Collars. The award comprises an inheritable Title and Honor, and the Royal Warrior shall name their heir whatsoever. Each member is entitled to bear in their heraldic achievement an Asafo banner of their design, per the Royal House's Heraldry Guide provided by the Chancellery, as well as the Golden Fire Dog in their coats of arms either in canton or an escutcheon at their election. They may use "1st Bannerman [surname] of Obeng II" (for example, 1st Bannerman Boyd of Obeng II) as well as enjoy the post-nominals "B." followed by "GCO" and other post-nominals of Royal Orders and rank of this Royal House. On request of the Royal Kofo and at the prerogative of H.R.H., the title and honor may be bestowed to the honoree's legal spouse, which is held for life (non-inheritable). The Royal Warrior may directly petition H.R.H. through the Chancellery for their heir whatsoever who are over the age of 21 years to be admitted, after submitting the appropriate passage fee, as a Kofo Grand Cross of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog. Thereafter, the heir may bear the inherited award as long as they remain active in the work of the Royal Orders. The inherited post-nominal after the original awardee shall be numeric and the surname of the original awardee (i.e., 2nd B.GCO Boyd of Obeng II). The Royal Knight or Dame shall register the inheritors in line of succession of the title and honor with the Chancellery. If no successors are named or alive or refuse the title and honor, the particular title and honor reverts to the Royal House and becomes extinct; thus, no future claimants are possible. His Majesty may remove the title and honor by his right and prerogative and on recommendation by the Royal House or the Sefwi Obeng-Mim Traditional Council.

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Contributions to Projects may be made online: https://www.royalhousemim.org/contribute Or through PayPal and Wire Transfer directly to the Foundation. Please contact the Oheneba Foundation (USA) for more information.