

Meet K.A.T.E helps Ghanaian children to a better future.

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HILVERSUM – A spontaneous, happy girl entered the editorial room. Her name is Kelly de Vries. Last year she stayed for over four months in Ghana where she was teaching at a primary school. When she came back to The Netherlands she established a foundation, Meet K.A.T.E., with as goal to give Ghanaian underprivileged children hope to a better future. The letters of Meet K.A.T.E. are standing for Kelly's African Teenagers' Education. But Kate is also her inspiration.

Through her travelling agency De Vries ended up staying at typical Ghanaian family. Her youngest family member was the five year old Kate. Her faced beamed with happiness every day. „In the eyes of Kate I saw hope, in the eyes of the older children that hope was gone. In the Netherlands we take everything for granted, while in Ghana you see that not everybody has a great future ahead. I saw that children already at a young age had to take care of themselves. Because of this a lot of them will end up on the streets”, De Vries says.

But the student saw also a lot of beautiful things. During her stay in Ghana she met the Ghanaian couple Francisca and Evans. They established, with the money of their foundation FrankEve, a school where girls could learn how to sow and cook. „These girls came most of the time from the streets. Besides sowing and cooking, they also learnt English, mathematics and got sexual education from volunteers.”

„The girls slept in a house near the school. When I was already back in The Netherlands, I heard from FrankEve that the girls had to leave the house were they all slept in. For many of these girls this means that they couldn't go to school anymore, because they had to move back to their families, to provide food for themselves.”

„With the money of Meet K.A.T.E. I would like to built a new house, so these girls can work on their future again. They have an amazing drive, only many of them don't get the opportunity. It is normal for the seamstresses to practice on carton or paper, because fabrics are too expensive. I used to go to the market to buy them fabrics. When I got back and asked one of the girls to make a dress of it, she would be so happy.”

With the help of her parents and in cooperation with the FrankEve foundation, De Vries wants to provide children with an accommodation and education, to give them a chance to a better future. She will go back to Ghana March 31st to see what has to been done to help these girls. That is why she is asking people for a donation. So that the girls have a future and hope again, 'hope in their eyes'. Just like little Kate.

For more information you can visit the website: www.meetkate.nl.