

Words of HOPE

November 2018

An update from **Get HOPE Global**

10th Anniversary Edition!

Get HOPE Global envisions a world where impoverished women and at-risk girls are hopeful, empowered, and free!

Training More Trainers

Opportunities to train new Program Leaders continue to arise. In July, HOPE founder, Ruth Craig, traveled with HOPE Executive Director, Julie Melton, to Accra, Ghana. They were hosted by HOPE's



Conference Participants in Ghana

Regional Director, Paul Yeboah. As part of a follow-up grant through Global Connection International (GCI), Julie and Paul were able to train 25 new Program Leaders at a three-day Train the Trainer conference.

In addition, Julie, along with team member, Beth Ratzlaff, and HOPE intern, Mariah Hart, just returned in October from Phnom Penh, Cambodia. They conducted a Train the Trainer conference for another 26 leaders.

Participants at both conferences had hands-on opportunities to experience HOPE business training. They also learned how to teach the program to groups of impoverished women in their communities.



Teaching in Cambodia

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10th Anniversary Celebration

Long-time HOPE supporters gathered together for a special evening to celebrate our 10th Anniversary. Highlights of the evening included hearing stories from each of the founding members and the presentation of a Founder's Gift. Current HOPE team members presented a donation to the Ghana loan fund in honor of the founding of HOPE 10 years ago.



Celebrating with Ruth, Susan, Fran, and Cathy

Celebrating Our First Grant!

We are pleased to announce that Get HOPE Global has received a grant! The invitation to apply was extended by First Fruit, a grantmaking foundation that provides resources to leaders working among the poorest segments of the Majority World. Our sincere and humble gratitude is extended to First Fruit for their support.

Thanks to the research assistance of a summer intern, we are well poised to apply for other grants soon, enabling the work of HOPE to expand.



Meet “P” from India

Rescue Pink works to save the lives of girls in India. They use Get HOPE Global business training in their Entrepreneurship Program. We love receiving stories from them about the lives that are being transformed:

P is 20 years old and was married at 16. She has a little girl who is one, but her husband does not offer them any support at all. P and her daughter had no money to survive so we asked her to join our Women’s Entrepreneurship Program – their lives depended on it!

P has attended the classes and wants to open her own shop selling cooking items. These sorts of items are not easily accessible where they live, so having them in closer proximity allows her to sell them for a much higher profit. She has worked in a shop before but being in the Entrepreneurship classes (with curriculum from Get HOPE Global) taught her how to open and maintain her very own business. Before Rescue Pink she had no idea this was possible for her. She is now determined and excited about her future. She dreams of her daughter becoming a doctor and wants to work hard to help provide every opportunity for her.



Our Current Need

We continue to introduce our business training programs and train more HOPE Program Leaders at our conferences. With these increased opportunities, the need for HOPE microloan funds increases as well. We have new leaders in Ghana and Cambodia. They are waiting until current loans are repaid and our loan funds are replenished before they can begin teaching the curriculum and submitting loan applications. Any donations to Get HOPE Global at this time will shorten this delay and be used immediately. [Donate today](#). Thank you for being a champion of HOPE!

Why I Serve Vicki



Vicki Keller

“For we are ... created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

I spent over 30 years working in business management. As a Christian I found myself wanting to have a greater impact for Christ. Get HOPE Global provides that opportunity.

I know the value of small businesses. They are life changing for women owners in third world countries. Unfortunately, business training is not easily accessible for most. Get HOPE Global’s business training programs can meet women in their own communities, and are faith-based. At Get HOPE Global I can use my background, education, experience and talents to express my love of Christ by serving women. I love to see positive God-given results in ministry to women around the world.

HOPE



Special Report
Accountability Trip
Accra, Ghana
July 2018

Founder's Visit to Ghana

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We sat down with HOPE founder Ruth Craig to hear about her recent trip to Ghana. Here's a bit of our conversation...

Q. *While in Ghana you visited HOPE graduates at work. Can you describe your impressions of the HOPE women and businesses you visited?*



Ruth: There was one woman, maybe the oldest woman we saw, who was smoking fish over a fire in the heat of the day. I saw her sitting there, kindness in her eyes. She was with some younger women, maybe her

daughters or granddaughters. If I could frame that picture, the title would be "The Dignity of a Chance." HOPE is for her and for those younger women who follow. We are reaching our target: women and girls who need a way to honorably support themselves and their children. God is at work and together we are breaking the cycle of poverty one person at a time.

I bought a new pair of sandals before the trip. I wore them as I walked the dirt paths strewn with trash and mud to visit businesses. I almost threw those sandals away when I got home, but I realized I wanted to frame them instead. It was very, very special to look people in the eye and see firsthand the difference HOPE makes.

Q: *How did these encounters shape your feelings about the effectiveness of HOPE Programs?*

Ruth: The main purpose of the trip was accountability. We wanted to ensure that those who are taking our training are making their loan payments, saving, and seeing God at work in their lives. While accountability is critical, it is also enormously important to use the correct measures of success. Success for



Get HOPE Global is in changed lives—women and girls who need a chance and are getting it.

The real value we offer is in the training. Our business training changes lives. It is the cake. Our microloans are only the icing.

Q: *This trip to Ghana was your first visit to graduates of a HOPE Program. Why is that?*

Ruth: Get HOPE Global has never been about me and I didn't want people who benefitted from the program to get the impression it was. From the time I first started writing the curriculum I knew it would work. I didn't have to go there to know that. The greatest joy for me has been in the journey... from first conceiving the idea for HOPE, through writing and inviting others to join me, to seeing lives transformed.

"We are breaking the cycle of poverty one person at a time."

HOPE



Special Report

Accountability Trip

Accra, Ghana

July 2018

Q: Your host in Ghana was HOPE Regional Director Paul Yeboah. You also met with local program leaders who were trained at the HOPE Train the Trainer Conference in 2017. What impressions did you have after those meetings?

Ruth: What wonderful people these program leaders are! It is clear to me that God is telling the story of HOPE. There have been many plot twists and surprising “God-coincidences” that led us to meeting our director Paul and others like him.

Paul is a teacher, a pastor, and has strong relational skills. It is obvious that he has successfully built comradery with the program leaders in his area. He knows their struggles, encourages them, and prays for them. We discovered that he doesn't own a car. He has been traveling on public transportation for a full day to reach Winneba to encourage the program leaders and more than 400 women in our program there. He is a strong but humble leader who understands our belief that it is better to give a hand-up instead of a hand-out.

Q: Get HOPE Global was initially your dream. In the 10 years since

GHG launched, the organization has grown, you have written 3 training guides, and you've observed the effectiveness of the program in the lives of women. What reflections do you have as you look back?

Ruth: I have been a teacher, a single mom, a business owner and business trainer. I've done mission work that showed me the need for creating a tool like the HOPE Business Program. God clearly put together that story.

I didn't do it alone! I am so grateful for the others who played crucial roles in those early years. The idea that got me



thinking came from Cindy Blomquist during a brainstorming session with a different organization. From there the women who now serve on the board each added their unique gifts, and continue to do so. Susan Florentine did research. Fran Donnithorne refined the writing.

Cathy Simmonds oversaw the financial aspects of the plan. They each served in many additional ways too. And there were too many to mention on the HOPE team who spent time and added their talents. There is a beautiful sisterhood on that team. It has been a story of what God was doing and what he was doing in us.

Q: What are your thoughts as you look forward to the next few years for Get HOPE Global?

Ruth: God is answering our prayer for HOPE to spread far and wide and deep. At the same time we are putting “feet to our faith” as new program

leaders in Ghana are waiting for other loans to be repaid in order to provide loan funds for their groups.

HOPE is grateful to Paul Yeboah for the planning and preparation that made this trip a success.

“It is clear to me that God is telling the story of HOPE.”