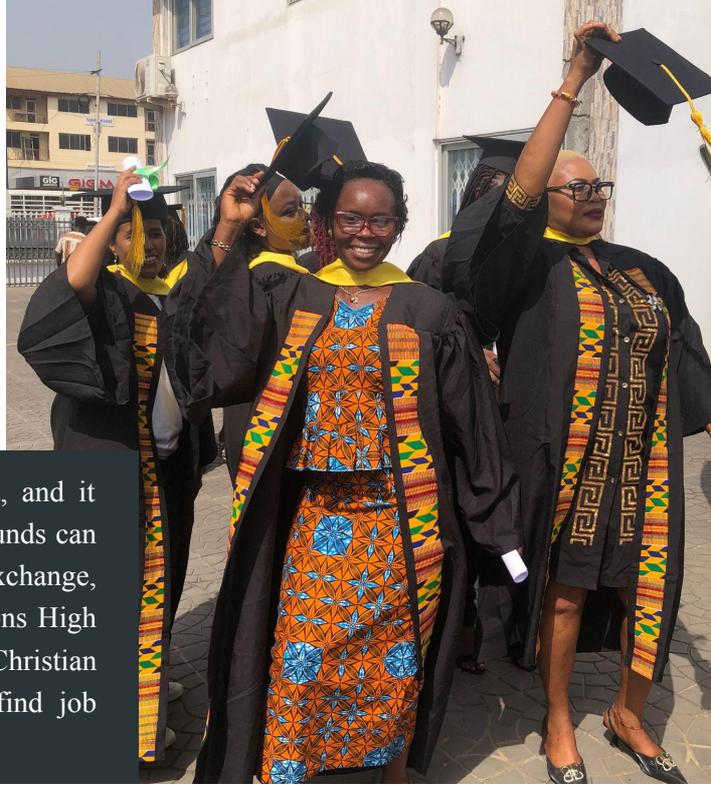


BLUE OASIS

2023



Blue Oasis is a Refugee Community Center located in Accra, and it serves as a safe public space where refugees of diverse backgrounds can meet for skills development, livelihood activities, information exchange, and recreation among others. It is financed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and managed by the Christian Council of Ghana (CCG). Blue Oasis supports refugees to find job opportunities as well as to build networks and communities.



What to Know

SKILLS TRAINING

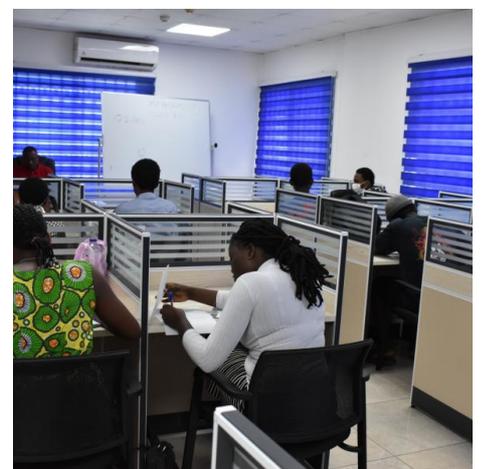
CAREER
COUNSELING

CV CLINICS

HAPPY USERS

Skills Training

In 2023, Blue Oasis provided refugees with various learning opportunities including vocational skills training (in sewing, driving, catering, make-up, hairdressing, and interior decoration), proficiency training (in English and ICT) and remedial classes for the WASSCE and BECE exams. These training programs were provided free of charge to refugees so that participants could acquire the skills necessary to access employment opportunities and higher education. Classes were interactive and learner-centered, where the facilitators actively supported the development of the students. As a result, in 2023, participants were capacitated to work in various areas, and many were able to access higher education. The picture above right is from the graduation ceremony of the skills training at Blue Oasis. It shows graduates with their skill certifications in their hands. They are now ready to make good use of what they acquired to compete in the job market and become financially independent.



Blue Oasis: Call [0592076888](tel:0592076888), Visit [18 Adumuah Bossman Street, Ring Road Central, Accra, Ghana](https://www.blueoasisgh.com)

Manager's Word

I am Godwin Ocansey, the manager and career counsellor for refugees at the Blue Oasis. The essence of career counseling is to guide refugees in identifying their potential, career interests, goals, and aspirations. I also assist them to move forward on the various career paths. Refugees can come to career counseling and talk about their interests and explore the possibilities, including training programs.

Refugees are expected to be self-sufficient. The vocational and proficiency training programs at the Blue Oasis can help them acquire necessary skills to do that. Ultimately, these services can help them open businesses, obtain jobs and improve their standard of living. I encourage all urban refugees in Ghana to come to the center for career counseling services.



Happy Users

“I find this centre very helpful because without it, I do not think I would have gotten any classes to attend. Thanks to the UNHCR, we have been given a second chance to further our education” (A 21-year-old user of the remedial class service)

“So many people were in the house doing nothing and relying on UNHCR to give them money because they did not have jobs to do. Through this Centre, many of these people have been trained and can now make a living without depending on the UNHCR financial support.” (A 20-year-old user)

Program of the Year

CV clinics were held three times for 95 refugees in 2023 at Blue Oasis. Participants gathered to learn how to write CVs, cover letters, application letters, personal statements, and motivation letters as well as how to take interviews both for employment and for scholarships. A total of 90 refugees joined the sessions in 2023. Refugees listened carefully to the trainers and asked many good questions. Some of them were preparing to write CVs to apply for job opportunities in Ghana and in other countries such as Canada. Ghana is a pilot country in Canada's Economic Mobility Pathways Project. UNHCR and CCG work with TalentLift and Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) to support skilled refugees to match with employers in Canada and elsewhere.



Having and maintaining such a community center full of information and learning opportunities is crucial for the urban refugee population in Ghana. Refugees are always welcome to just drop by to use the center's facilities such as an ICT lab and library, meet other urban refugees, and expand their networks. Blue Oasis will continue to hold informative programs for refugees in 2024.