

THE PLIGHT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN in Dédougou in Burkina Faso

"If you shelter an unmarried woman during childbirth, bad luck enters your home."

Whereas society around them slowly adapts to the changes of modernization, this belief still runs deep in the mindset of local residents.

For a pregnant unmarried young woman in Dédougou social distress is a reality she has to conform with. All too often very young girls are abused or married off. Disobedience is not a choice. Escape is sometimes a possibility.

Unmarried young women and their children bear equal hardship. All experience a stream of life-threatening dangers:

- abortion
- expulsion by their families
- social exclusion
- school drop-outs
- abandonment of newborns
- prostitution with serious risk of Aids and new pregnancies.

In Burkina Faso a woman does not enjoy the same educational and personal freedom as a man.

HELP IS OFFERED LOCALLY and at the HOUSE YOROSIN

Thanks to Nathalie Dakuo and her team the center manages to reach out in different ways. Together they:

- visit women in need of help, counsel and stay in touch with them;
- accompany women before, during and after childbirth;
- offer them a network of spiritual values and Christian solidarity;
- help them to find their dignity;
- enroll them in in-house education programs that will offer earning prospective.

The House itself serves for daily meetings, as a schoolhouse and as a learning shop for different apprenticeships. Here the women can also be with their children and learn how to take care of them.

United in prayer

Nathalie has dedicated this project to Maria, the mother of Jesus, because the Force of Faith is the foundation on which it stands.

House of Hope

House Yorosin in Burkina Faso offers a home to young girls who are pregnant, already have a child, have been abandoned by their partner or expelled by their families.

Nathalie Dakuo founded House Yorosin in 2005. In the meantime the Project House Yorosin enjoys the patronage of Bishop Joseph Sama. Bishop Joseph Sama represents its interests at the catholic conference of bishops in Burkina Faso. It receives financial support from a circle of friends at the St. Johannes der Täufer Church in Königstein/Taunus, its local Elementary School and the German Catholic Church in New York. The center enjoys a good working relationship with the local and governmental institutions. The personal relationship between the people in Dédougou, Königstein and New York is essential.

“..... House Yorosin shall be the building stone for a better society in which the dignity of a woman and her image as a God’s child is visible. That is a challenge for all of us.

Friends and People of good will, we are invited to work towards this goal.” Nathalie Dakuo