

# OPEN SKIES EVENTS SUPPORTS LES AMIS DE LA SAINT-CAMILLE

2023



## GBEDAVO FARM NEAR DASSA, BENIN

This year, Les Amis de la Saint-Camille is financing the establishment of an agricultural farm at this location. This farm will serve as a place of reintegration for individuals who have received treatment for their psychiatric illness at a nearby center located in Dassa. This objective will be complemented by the following:

- A contribution to the research for food self-sufficiency for those residing in and receiving treatment at any of the five Saint-Camille centers in Benin
- A contribution to the research for financial autonomy through the sale of surplus agricultural products harvested there.

Open Skies EVENTS joins the donors who are contributing to its realization. At this agricultural center, more than 2,000 banana trees will be planted, and various crops such as onions, squash, tomatoes, potatoes, lettuce, yams, etc., will be cultivated, along with staple crops like maize, cassava, sorghum, and other grains.



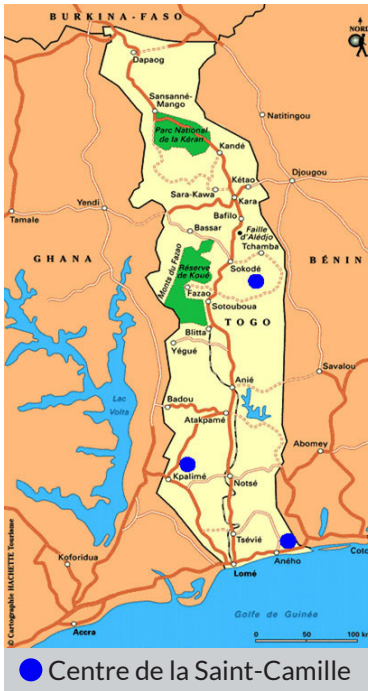
open skies

EVENTS

LES AMIS de la  
SAINT-CAMILLE

*misère... ESPOIR!*

# OPEN SKIES EVENTS SUPPORTS LES AMIS DE LA SAINT-CAMILLE 2022



After a two-year absence due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our contribution this year to Saint-Camille will be allocated to well drilling at the Saint-Camille Centre of Sokode in Togo. The Saint-Camille is finalizing a two-year project with Mission Inclusion (previously known as The Léger Foundation) at this location.

This project includes the solar electrification of the Mental Health Centre with an irrigation system for a large vegetable garden as well as for a six-hectare plantation of cashew trees. A first well exists for the needs of the personnel of the centre and of the patients receiving care (2,182 patients have been in-house patients and 14,907 external consultations were provided at this site) as well as for the irrigation of the vegetable garden.

The cashew plants (600 plants) have been in ground since last year and should start bearing nuts in a year or two. They will be a significant source of protein to the nutrition of people in this centre as well as the two other centres of Saint-Camille in Togo (Kpalimé and Zooti).





The maintenance of these plants will also serve as a reintegration activity for men at the end of their training at the centre prior to return in their living environment (regain physical wellness, regain confidence in their personal abilities, learn some agriculture techniques such as composting, mulching, etc...). The maintenance of these plants can also have a positive effect on women. They may resume lost habits due to their mental illness as opposed to believing their lives were «over» while progressively working in traditional practices (harvest, nutrition and cooking, gardening, etc...) in hopes of resuming lost habits due to their mental illness instead of believing that their lives were “over.” If there is a surplus, it will be sold in order to bring revenue to the NGO to contribute to covering the cost of the purchase of medication.

The impact of our contribution will improve the situation of several thousand people cared for (from 2 to 3,000 individuals/year) for at least about twenty years and probably more.



open skies

EVENTS

LES AMIS de la  
SAINT-CAMILLE

*misère... ESPOIR!*

# OPEN SKIES EVENTS SUPPORTS LES AMIS DE LA SAINT-CAMILLE

2019



This year, our company gave her support to Saint Camille Association (a NGO based in Africa) by paying for the installation costs (materials and labour) of 60 solar panels at the Health Care Center in Adjarra, Benin. This Center provides physical health care to mentally ill people in psychiatric health centers of Saint-Camille based in Benin, for those who cannot have access to the Public Health Services because they fear them. The population of Adjarra & its surroundings also benefit from these services at a lower cost. Last year, more than 8,000 people have been treated at this health center. The solar energy will power this Health Equipment Center allowing them to offer new services such as radiology, small operating room, ultrasound, etc.. This medical equipment will be sent from Québec by les Amis de la Saint-Camille; a NGO that we support.

  
open skies  
**EVENTS**

LES **AMIS** de la  
**SAINT-CAMILLE**  
*misère... ESPOIR!*

# OPEN SKIES EVENTS SUPPORTS LES AMIS DE LA SAINT-CAMILLE 2018



This year, our contribution went towards the training of female & male nurses specializing in psychiatric care as well as towards the purchase of medication for patients. With the help of Les Amis de la Saint-Camille, we have provided financial contributions in order to support a 2 day theoretical training in Cotonou, Benin on April 15-16, 2018. These nurses work in 28 Relay Centers around the country as part of Saint-Camille's local services for people who suffer from psychiatric diseases. The training was given by an active team of psychiatrists from France that have the ability to qualify these nurses. The first picture shows Dr. William Alarcon, psychiatrist, speaking to the group. Then you have a copy of the certificate that is given to all graduates and finally Dr. Alarcon in action, training student in one of the centers along with a religious nurse.

  
open skies  
**EVENTS**

LES **AMIS** de la  
**SAINT-CAMILLE**  
misère... **ESPOIR!**

# OPEN SKIES EVENTS SUPPORTS LES AMIS DE LA SAINT-CAMILLE 2017



In 2017, we funded the supply of neuroleptic drugs (against psychiatric diseases) for a full year to 200 patients treated by this NGO that we support in Africa. The first picture shows two recovered but still medicated patients who say thank you. The other two photos illustrate the taking of medication in the courtyard of the Avrankou Center (Benin). The table shows the seven basic drugs used by Saint-Camille, then the morning distribution to the patients. Will come as every day, the evening distribution.



  
open skies  
**EVENTS**

LES **AMIS** de la  
**SAINT-CAMILLE**  
misère... **ESPOIR!**

# OPEN SKIES EVENTS SUPPORTS LES AMIS DE LA SAINT-CAMILLE 2016



Thatched hut that we financed in the middle of the women's sector of Tokan-Cotonou Center in Benin. All around the Center, four buildings to accommodate a total of 128 patients. A similar hut was built in the men's section. This hut is precious for the shade it brings to the neighborhood. An all around fixed bench inside (in cement and tiled) makes it possible to either sit or sleep. It is also the place for activities like self directed relaxation, discussion groups, etc ...

*Photo: Ernest Houlenou, director of the Tokan-Cotonou Psychiatric Care Center.*



  
open skies  
**EVENTS**

LES **AMIS** de la  
**SAINT-CAMILLE**  
misère... ESPOIR!