

## Fiema Community, Ghana

MAMA HAGAR'S TRANSFORMATION

Mama Hagar Kru is over 100 years old and lovingly known as the "old lady" of the Fiema community in Ghana. During her long life, Mama Hagar has experienced significant hardships due to the water crisis; often, her community had such little water she couldn't sustain her small-scale farming operations and rarely had enough water for her eight children.

When her local church partnered with Living Water to construct a new safe water source, Mama Hagar hesitantly decided to attend a sanitation and hygiene activity. She said, "Despite my desire to engage in community activities, I hesitated to speak before others. I struggled to find the right words and lacked the confidence to express my views on societal issues. However, I have become a new person altogether after the training."

Not only did the sanitation and hygiene activity teach residents valuable skills to safeguard their health, but it also helped Mama Hagar realize her innate ability to address her neighbors courageously. Due to Mama Hagar's active engagement in the training, the church leadership appointed her water caretaker of one of the two water points in the community.

Mama Hagar said, "I am truly grateful to Living Water for helping me to my voice. Through this training, I unearthed my great potential, despite my age as a centenarian. At this stage of my life, I feel fulfilled being an agent of transformation through sanitation and hygiene advocacy."

Before attending sanitation and hygiene activities, Mama Hagar felt timid and insecure. Now, she's equipped and empowered to mobilize her neighbors and improve her community. Safe water has transformed both the Fiema community and its beloved "old lady."



Mama Hagar smiles while discussing her experience with Living Water sanitation and hygiene activities.



This is one of the water points that provides the community with plenty of water!