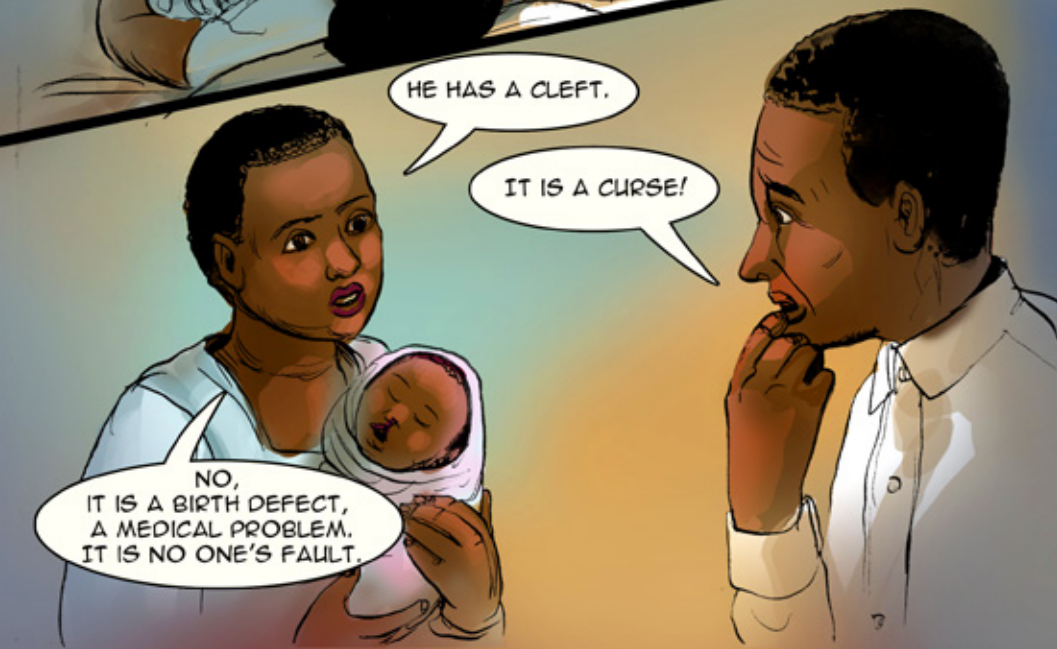


SmileTrain Presents
A New Smile for Kodjo

In a small village in Ghana,
a child has just been born...



ALTHOUGH CLEFTS ARE A COMMON MEDICAL PROBLEM THAT CAN BE REPAIRED, IN MANY COUNTRIES—INCLUDING GHANA WHERE THIS TRUE-LIFE STORY OCCURRED—THEY ARE SEEN AS AN OMEN THAT WILL BRING MISFORTUNE TO THE FAMILY AND VILLAGE OF THE CHILD.

WHAT DID YOU DO? HE CANNOT STAY.

HE IS OUR CHILD. WE BROUGHT HIM INTO THIS WORLD.

NO ONE CAN KNOW. THE VILLAGE WILL TURN ON US. WE WILL LIVE IN ISOLATION.

WE WILL KEEP HIM HIDDEN AWAY.

HE WILL BE SAFE. WE WILL BE SAFE.

HE CAN ONLY GO OUT AT NIGHT.

ABOUT CLEFTS:

Clefts are one of the most common birth defects in the developing world. An estimated 170,000+ children are born with cleft lip and/or cleft palate in the developing world every year.

A cleft happens when the lip or palate (upper roof of the mouth) do not develop properly during pregnancy. The result is an opening in the face that poses tremendous problems.

Children with clefts cannot eat properly, so some do not develop fully. Others have problems forming words. All of these girls and boys face a life of alienation and ostracism, simply because they are poor and had the misfortune of being born with a cleft.

However, there is a treatment for clefts, something you will learn about later...



IN MANY VILLAGES IN GHANA, CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH UNTREATED CLEFTS ARE CALLED "THE GHOST PEOPLE." THEY ONLY COME OUT AT NIGHT, SO THE OTHER VILLAGERS CANNOT SEE THEM.

IN KODJO'S VILLAGE OF WUDOABA, FARMERS WITH UNTREATED CLEFTS ARE FORCED TO SELL THEIR CROPS AT NIGHT IN WHAT THE LOCAL VILLAGERS CALL "THE GHOST MARKET."

SUCH IS THE STIGMA OF LIVING WITH AN UNTREATED CLEFT.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. WHEN KODJO EATS, THE FOOD COMES OUT OF HIS NOSE.

THAT IS WHY HE WILL NOT GROW. THAT IS WHY HE CRIES SO MUCH.



I HAVE HEARD OF ANOTHER CHILD LIKE THIS...

GO AWAY.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOUR FACE?

NO ONE WANTS TO PLAY WITH YOU.

YOU DO NOT BELONG HERE.

YOU BRING US BAD LUCK.

DON'T TOUCH HER. YOU WILL GET IT, TOO.

NO ONE WILL MARRY YOU. YOU WILL LIVE ALONE.

WHAT KIND OF GIRL ARE YOU?

...THERE WAS A HOLE WHERE HER LIP SHOULD BE. THE FAMILY WAS SHUNNED.





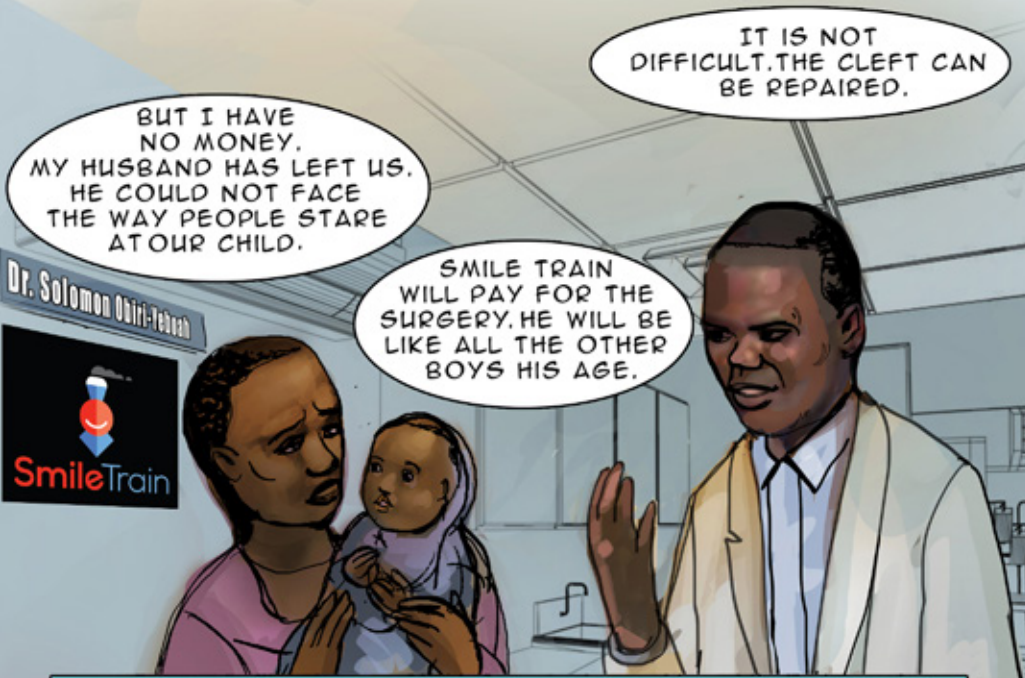
IT IS OKAY. I AM FROM SMILE TRAIN. WE HELP CHILDREN LIKE YOURS. THEY ARE NOT 'GHOST CHILDREN' THEY HAVE A BIRTH DEFECT THAT CAN BE FIXED.

I KNOW A DOCTOR—A SURGEON—WHO WILL REPAIR YOUR SON'S CLEFT.

AFTER HIS SURGERY, NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW HE HAD A CLEFT. YOU WILL SEE.

IT IS FREE.





BUT I HAVE NO MONEY. MY HUSBAND HAS LEFT US. HE COULD NOT FACE THE WAY PEOPLE STARE AT OUR CHILD.

IT IS NOT DIFFICULT. THE CLEFT CAN BE REPAIRED.

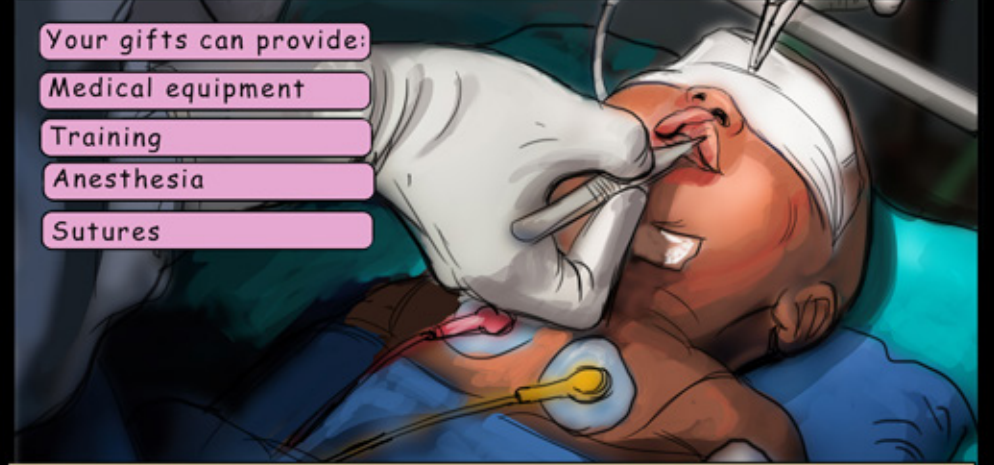
SMILE TRAIN WILL PAY FOR THE SURGERY. HE WILL BE LIKE ALL THE OTHER BOYS HIS AGE.



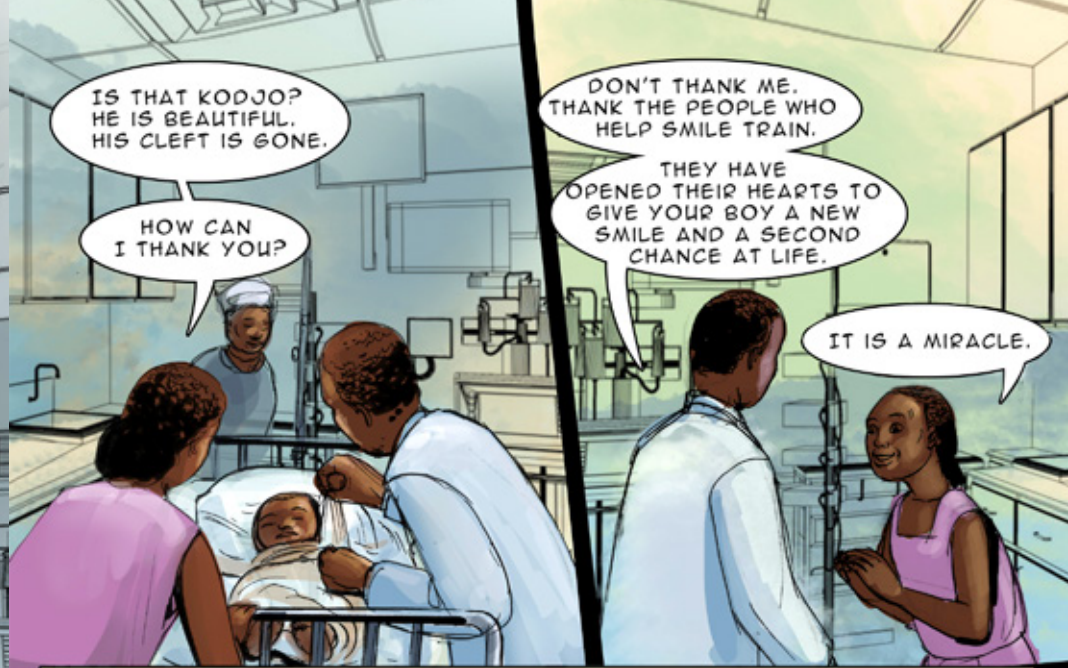
THANKS TO GIFTS SMILE TRAIN RECEIVES FROM GENEROUS DONORS, DESPERATELY POOR CHILDREN RECEIVE CLEFT REPAIR SURGERY...FREE.

IN AS LITTLE AS 45 MINUTES, SMILE TRAIN PARTNER SURGEONS PERFORM A SAFE, SIMPLE SURGERY THAT REPAIRS CLEFTS.

- Your gifts can provide:
- Medical equipment
 - Training
 - Anesthesia
 - Sutures



OUR PARTNER SURGEONS DONATE THEIR TIME AND TALENTS. OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS PROVIDE THE FUNDING THAT PAYS FOR THE SURGERY. YOU, TOO, CAN GIVE A CHILD A NEW SMILE AND A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE.



IS THAT KODJO? HE IS BEAUTIFUL. HIS CLEFT IS GONE.

HOW CAN I THANK YOU?

DON'T THANK ME. THANK THE PEOPLE WHO HELP SMILE TRAIN.

THEY HAVE OPENED THEIR HEARTS TO GIVE YOUR BOY A NEW SMILE AND A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE.

IT IS A MIRACLE.

THANKS TO THE GIFTS WE RECEIVE FROM OUR DONORS, SMILE TRAIN REPAIRS A CLEFT EVERY 5 MINUTES. WHERE THERE WAS ONCE A CLEFT, THERE IS NOW A SMILE—AND A CHILD WHO HAS BEEN SAVED.

Because we repaired Kodjo's cleft early:

HE CAN EAT PROPERLY,

HE WON'T BE BULLIED,

GROW STRONG,

OR CALLED NAMES,

AND SPEAK PROPERLY.

OR LEFT BEHIND BY OTHERS.



Now that Kodjo's cleft has been repaired:

HE WILL HAVE THE CHANCE
TO ATTEND SCHOOL.

RAISE HIS HAND AND
ANSWER WITHOUT FEAR.

BE PROUD TO LEARN.

LEARN TO READ AND WRITE.

MAKE FRIENDS.

DEVELOP A TRADE.

GET MARRIED.

SUPPORT HIS FAMILY.

BE A RESPECTED MEMBER
OF HIS COMMUNITY.

LIVE A LIFE FILLED WITH SMILES.

AND THANK SMILE TRAIN FOR
HIS SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE.

I'M
DR. OBIRI-YEBOAH,
THANKS TO SMILE TRAIN,
I AM ABLE TO HELP MORE CHILDREN
WITH CLEFTS. KODJO IS MY FRIEND.
I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO HELPING HIM GO
AS FAR AS HE CAN. BECAUSE I AM A DOCTOR
AND HE IS WITH ME SO MUCH, OTHERS CALL
HIM DOCTOR, TOO. IF YOU ASK HIM NOW,
HE WANTS TO BECOME
A DOCTOR!

SINCE SMILE TRAIN'S FOUNDING IN 1999, WE HAVE PROVIDED MORE THAN ONE MILLION CLEFT SURGERIES ABSOLUTELY FREE. THANKS TO THE GENEROUS GIFTS WE RECEIVE FROM CARING AND COMPASSIONATE PEOPLE LIKE YOU, WE GIVE CHILDREN WITH CLEFTS THE SMILES THEY DESERVE.



THANKS TO OUR NETWORK OF MORE THAN 2,100 PARTNER SURGEONS—MANY WHO DONATE THEIR TIME AND TALENTS—WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE FREE CLEFT SURGERY EVERY 5 MINUTES OF EVERY DAY.



WE TURN CLEFTS INTO SMILES...
...WITH A SAFE AND SIMPLE SURGERY
THAT COSTS AS LITTLE AS \$250.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP A CHILD LIKE KODJO,
PLEASE VISIT SMILETRAIN.ORG TO FIND OUT MORE!



SmileTrain
Changing the World One Smile at a Time

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