



SAVE A CHILD'S HEART

# MEET ATHENA OHENEWAANK RUMAH



COUNTRY: GHANA  
DOB: MAY 14, 2020



**ATHENA IS A BRIGHT  
ONE-YEAR-OLD GIRL FROM  
ACCRA, GHANA.**

Athena arrived in Israel in late August, 2021 for treatment of her congenital heart defect.

Athena is an only child. Her favorite color is ash grey and she loves to eat fruit. She is happiest when her mom is holding her. Her Father, Kuoadwo, works in embroidery and her mother, Unique, is a beautician .

**Athena was born with a ventricular septal defect (VSD). A VSD - also known as "a hole in the heart."**





VSDs are the most common congenital cardiac abnormalities. They are found in 30-60% of all newborns with a congenital heart defect, or about 2-6 per 1000 births.

When Athena was about three months old, her mother noticed she was wheezing and struggling to breathe. They went to the hospital where they were given a referral for an echocardiogram, so doctors could get a better picture of what was going on in Athena's heart. Athena and her mother traveled about four hours by car to Korle Bu Teaching Hospital where Athena was diagnosed and it was determined that she would need intervention to survive.

**AFTER ARRIVING IN ISRAEL,  
ON SEPTEMBER 22 2021  
ATHENA UNDERWENT  
LIFE-SAVING HEART SURGERY  
AT THE WOLFSON MEDICAL  
CENTER, FOLLOWING WHICH  
SHE RECOVERED AT THE  
CHILDREN'S HOME.**

Soon Athena will return home with her mother and a mended heart!

