***Introduction***

The Akaa Project is an NGO that was started in the Eastern region of Ghana in 2008 by Lauren Grimanis, a student at the College of Wooster, OH. Lauren initiated the project after volunteering in Ghana in the summer of 2007. In the village of Asiafo Amanfro, Lauren witnessed a need for young children to attend school. The nearest school was a one hour mountainous walk; children from Asiafo Amanfro did not begin elementary school until the ages of 10 -12 years. With the aid of her parents, her community, and the members of Asiafo Amanfro village, Lauren started the Akaa project to address the need for early childhood development. Since its inception, with the help of microloans, private donations, and partnerships with public organizations, a six room elementary school with sanitary facilities has been constructed; over 100 children from neighboring villages attend. From 2008 – 2017, the children have gained access to a library of over 100 books, e-readers, and computer learning camp. In addition, advances have been made to promote health education and professional development for the village women.

Based upon non-profit strategies, where should Akaa focus its future growth strategies? What are the needs? What are the available financing options?

***Outline***

**State of Development in Ghana** **Government, Private-sector, and NGO activities**

Background of Ghana and eastern Ghana **in Eastern Region of Ghana**

Related stats Government development activities; focus on

Population women and children

Developmental needs in the country NGO Landscape - competitors and potential

Development Challenges in E. Ghana partners

Particular challenges of children and women Private sector companies in the area focused on

development activities

**Development Opportunities and The Akaa Project**

**Challenges in 2017** Background

Uncertainty in donor community Organizational Chart

Uncertainty of funding of international Resources required to meet future objectives

development agencies Partnerships and sources of financing

State of NGO private sector partnerships Accomplishments to date

**Future**

Objectives

Core focus going forward

Resources required to meet objectives

Partnerships and sources of financing

Metrics to evaluate success