

COURAGEOUS SISTERS GHANA

IDAHOBIT -2025 STATEMENT

Theme: The Power of Communities

On this International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT), Courageous Sisters Ghana (CSG) stands in unwavering solidarity with LGBTQ+ individuals and communities across Ghana, Africa, and the world. This year's theme, *The Power of Communities*, is a testament to the vital role that collective action plays in advancing human rights, fostering resilience, and creating inclusive societies where everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, can live freely and safely.

The Reality We Face

LGBTQ+ individuals in Ghana and the world continue to face systemic discrimination, violence, and exclusion. From unlawful arrests and forced evictions to physical attacks and social ostracization, the threats against our community persist. The introduction of discriminatory legislation, the spread of harmful rhetoric, and the reinforcement of patriarchal and heteronormative structures further deepen the challenges we encounter. Despite these realities, our communities continue to rise, resist, and thrive.

The Strength of Community

Community is more than just a shared space, it is a source of strength, protection, and empowerment. In the face of oppression, our communities have become sanctuaries where love, care, and support flourish. Whether through grassroots organizing, convenings, peer counseling, emergency response networks, or advocacy efforts, we have demonstrated that collective power can dismantle systems of violence and create meaningful change.

At Courageous Sisters Ghana, we have witnessed firsthand how community-driven initiatives have transformed lives. Our mental health support programs, peer counseling network, and grassroots interventions have provided essential services to those who need them the most. By coming

together, sharing knowledge, and uplifting one another, we build the resilience necessary to challenge injustice and push for policies that uphold human rights for all.

A Call to Action.

As we commemorate IDAHOBIT 2025, we call on allies, policymakers, and society at large to recognize and respect the fundamental rights of LGBTQ+ persons. We urge the Ghanaian government and international human rights bodies to take decisive action against discrimination, repeal laws that criminalize LGBTQ+ identities, and ensure that justice is accessible to all. Silence is complicity, and we need voices from every sector to advocate for equality, inclusion, and safety.

To our allies: Stand with us. Speak out against homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia. Challenge harmful stereotypes and educate those around you. True allyship means taking action, amplifying LGBTQ+ voices, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

To our LGBTQ+ siblings: You are not alone. Your identity is valid. Your existence is powerful. Our communities are here to uplift you, protect you, and celebrate you. Together, we will continue to resist, reclaim our narratives, and demand a world where love and dignity are non-negotiable rights.

In Unity, We Find Power!

As we reflect on *The Power of Communities*, let us remember that change is not just an individual effort, it is a collective movement. Through solidarity, advocacy, and unwavering resilience, we will continue to build a future where every LGBTQ+ person can live with dignity, free from fear and discrimination.

In unity, we find strength. In community, we find power. Together, we rise.

#IDAHOBIT2025

#ThePowerOfCommunities

#QueerResilience