

Charles Narh Teye

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Ghana's Rising Paralympic Stars...
Going For Gold, Inspiring a Nation

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HISTORY:

Charles was born in Tema and at one week old he developed an infection that went undiagnosed and left him with a wasting disease in his legs. At four weeks old, Charles underwent a double transtibial amputation. At the age of four, the Nswarm Orthopaedic Centre provided Charles with prosthetic legs – until that point his family saw no hope for him being able to walk. Charles endured a sad and lonely childhood finding it difficult to comprehend why his legs would not grow back. His parents did not allow him to play with his brothers as they were trying to protect his prosthetic legs, which his parents could not afford to replace. Charles was ostracised at school as his peers believed they would catch his disability.

Aged 26, Charles heard a radio announcement from the National Sports Council calling for all physically disabled people to attend a sporting event – Charles attended and was inspired to get involved and took up Power Lifting. At the event, Charles was given membership to Pippa's Gym so that he could train free of charge and was subsequently offered employment as a gym instructor. He has since progressed to become a Gym Manager.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

2011 – IPC UK Invitational Powerlifting Competition, Bronze
Head Physical Trainer for Ghana National Amputee Soccer Team

“Sport made me realise I could do everything able people can.”

RIGHT TO DREAM

Charles is one of four Ghanaian para-athletes who are currently being supported by Right to Dream – the athletes are receiving specialised coaching, accommodation, sport psychology and opportunities to compete at international competitions to enable the athletes to focus all of their efforts on reaching their true potential, qualify for and fly the flag for Ghana at the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

It is Right to Dream's vision that wheelchair track athletes Anita Fordjour and Raphael Botsyo Nkegbe, powerlifter Charles Narh Teye and paracyclist Alem Mumuni will become role models for society, challenging negative perceptions towards the disabled and inspiring the next generation of children with disabilities to get involved in para-sports and believe that they too can achieve great things. The long term vision is to establish a youth para-sport programme at the Right to Dream Academy where the most talented will be offered full scholarships to develop their sporting talent and enroll in our established education and character development programmes.



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