

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CHELSEA AND GHANA INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER SIGNS FOR ARMS AROUND THE CHILD**

Following the success of their star studded golf event back in May, Arms Around the Child (AATC) have scored another coup by announcing that Chelsea and Ghana international footballer Christian Atsu has put pen to paper (in a different way!) to become an ambassador for the charity.

Christian Atsu the Ghanaian midfielder who moved from Porto to Chelsea back in 2013 and also featured for Everton and Malaga is an icon in his home nation having attained 30 caps for his national side. In 2015 Atsu helped his team (the Black Stars) to the final of the Africa Cup of Nations in South Africa where he was awarded goal of the tournament and the received the coveted player of the tournament accolade.

Arms Around the Child provides loving homes, treatment, education, health care, protection, love and respect for the spirit and soul of orphans and children living in child headed households, affected by HIV/AIDS, trafficking and abuse in India and Africa. AATC believes in a world where children living in extreme adversity have their lives transformed into a bright future, they deserve happiness, hope and respect. Leading international superstars including Mark Ronson and Florence Welch supports the charity.

On being named Ambassador Christian said, "I feel very honoured to be given this role as Ambassador for Arms Around the Child. I hope that in accepting this role, I will be able to help Arms Around the Child raise awareness of their work, what they need to help those children in crisis and to show those who do donate what an amazing difference their support can make."

Despite having a busy footballing schedule and preseason, Christian recently travelled back during his summer holidays to his home to spend time with his friends and family. Whilst there he visited an orphan care home supported by AATC in Senya Beraku.

Christian said "Meeting the orphans whose lives have been transformed through Arms Around the Child's support and hearing the sad stories full of abandonment and sorrow, then to see how they have adapted and grown together as one big happy family is inspirational."

Recognising the pain and sadness that children face when they no longer have parents to support them, he added "It's clear that many children are suffering, there are 132million orphans worldwide

**T:** 0207 033 0415 **E:** [aj@prandeverthinginbetween.com](mailto:aj@prandeverthinginbetween.com)

**W:** [www.prandeverthinginbetween.com](http://www.prandeverthinginbetween.com)



and I shall do my best to support some of these children in my homeland and beyond. Investing time, talent and resources results in happier and healthier lives.”

Ellie Milner, Arms Around the Child’s CEO said: "Christian’s contribution to helping raise awareness of the large numbers of orphans and children living in adversity is welcomed. Christian is passionate, empathetic and keen to learn more about how we work to support in the best way he can.”

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