

# *The Liberian Orphanage / Humanitarian Projects, Inc.*

## **The 3 Rs**

“Creating Avenues to  
Remove the Stain of Shame,  
Restore Dignity, and  
Rediscover the Wealth of Treasure  
in Humanity in Liberia, West Africa and  
other Underserved People around the World!”



Post Office Box #1050  
Washington, D. C. 20013  
202-232-LOHP (5647)

*“Significantly Impacting the Lives of Those Most in Need;  
Continuing a Work Started in 1990.”*

Tax-Exempt 501(c)(3) Public Charity

# *The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc.*

## *ABOUT US*

*T*he Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc. (LO/HP, Inc.) is a U.S. Federally recognized 501(c) (3) non-profit faith-based public charity formally incorporated in October, 2009. The LO/HP, Inc. vision is to create avenues to remove the stain of shame, restore dignity, and rediscover the wealth of treasure in humanity in Liberia, West Africa and other underserved people around the world. Its mission is:

“to significantly impact the lives of orphaned, abandoned, abused, neglected and underprivileged children in Liberia, West Africa and to engage in humanitarian, educational, agricultural, and medical initiatives that will improve the quality of life for disadvantaged and special needs individuals in Liberia and other parts of the world.”

However, the pursuit of the LO/HP, Inc. vision and accompanying mission did not begin in 2009, but in 1990. From 1990 to 1996, after our founder, Mrs. Sharon L. Ruff's, first visit to Liberia, she began her crusade to help relieve suffering of the poor in Liberia through establishing Christian Works, Inc., a private-non-profit charity in Washington, DC that sponsored orphanages, humanitarian and education projects in Liberia. Then, in 1996, when her husband and she established Grace Tabernacle...AWOH ministries, this work was placed under that umbrella as part of its Foreign Missions Department. It was then called the Liberian Orphanage and Humanitarian Projects (LO/HP). Staffed completely by church volunteers, LO/HP continued to respond to the desperate cry for help from the destitute during Liberia's civil war and increased the number of those served in their on-going projects. The primary source of funding was pledges from individual donors and religious organizations. Eventually, partnerships were developed with other humanitarian non-profit organizations. Generous donations of goods and services, including printing, technology, educational material, medical supplies, critical humanitarian aid items, and shipping costs for transporting 40-foot humanitarian aid containers came from businesses, organizations, schools, and religious groups. All these played a major role in the success of LO/HP efforts.

*I*n 2009, as funding continued to increase, The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc. was established as a separate entity; a U.S. Federal Government recognized independent non-profit faith-based public charity. Both our founder and her entire volunteer team continued their efforts to raise public awareness of the plight of the poor in Liberia and to expand the scope of their initial projects. Over the years, these projects have transitioned many from hopeless poverty to empowerment for a better life. Clothing, shoes, bedding, food, medicine and other basic need items have been distributed to thousands, and many have benefited from educational scholarships from elementary school to institutions of higher learning. After a total of 35 years of service, the impact of basic provisions and the opening doors of opportunities have significantly impacted the lives of hundreds who, in most instances, had no one else to help them. The current LO/HP, Inc. projects in Liberia are --

- **Orphanage / Child Welfare Homes Project** – Provides grants to orphanages/child welfare homes for food, clothing, education, personal hygiene, medical assistance, furnishings, staffing, renovation, construction, clean water, sanitation projects, and other humanitarian purposes.



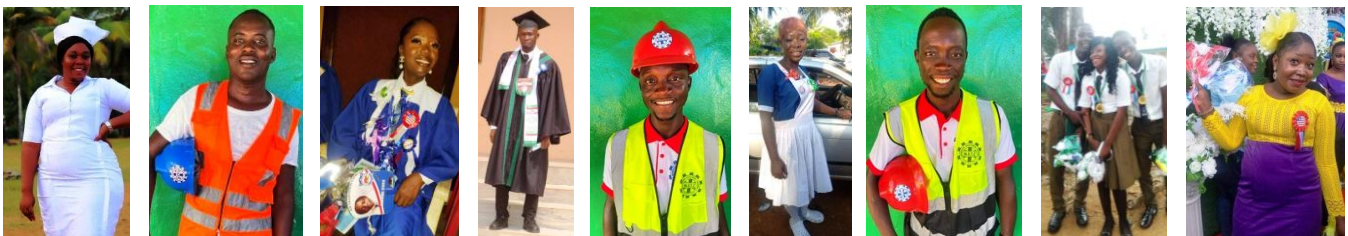
- **Humanitarian Project** — Provides grants to destitute children, adults, disabled, unwed mothers, and senior citizens for emergency food, medical care, housing and small renovation/construction projects, and provides the needy with humanitarian aid relief items: clothing, shoes, personal care, household items, educational material, etc. free of charge through our Operation Blessing Project.



- **Educational Enrichment** — Provides educational grants to impoverished children, youth and young adults for tuition assistance, uniforms and school supplies for grades K-1 through 12<sup>th</sup>; to construct, renovate and equip (includes books, satellite systems, computers, furnishings, etc.) educational facilities; and, to create alternative education programs.



- **College / Higher Learning Project** — Provides grants to disadvantaged adults for college scholarships and higher learning programs, such as medical/ dental/ nursing training, computer, vocational, agricultural and other training streams with opportunities for educational travel, internships and foreign exchange positions throughout the world.



- **The Blind and Visually Impaired Project** — Provides funds for the “Seeing Hearts” Project for monthly subsidy grants to feed, house, and clothe the Blind. As available, special distributions of white canes, Braille watches, clothing, shoes, household items and rental assistance are given to Blind families, free of charge, as well as, books and toys for their sighted children from Operation Blessing Projects.





## *Pictorial Gallery*

### *Before & After Pictures--*



### *Salvation in Christ Orphanage and Humanitarian Refuge Home - "Before & After"*



*Comfort*

*Bantu*

*Fenzella*

*Jerome*

*Mr. Bedell*



*Computer Class*



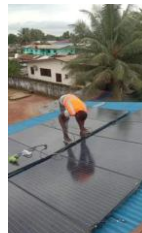
*Musical Instruction*



*Sports*



*Choir Performances*



*Solar Project*



*Unwed Mothers Receive  
Business Start-ups*



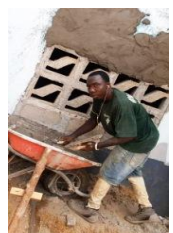
*Well  
Project*



*Emergency Food for  
Rural Villagers*



*Medical Emergencies:  
Sicknesses and Surgeries*



*Construction/Renovation Projects*

## ***LO/HP, Inc. Moving Forward.....***

Since the formal incorporation of LO/HP, Inc., we continue to seek funding for new projects to help alleviate hunger among the Liberian poor in rural villages. One such program is described below:

- **Agricultural/ Farming/Husbandry Project** — will provide seeds, plants, animals, agriculture/farming tools, vehicles and machinery for small scale farming in underdeveloped areas. In addition, we will provide training on best practice methods to help alleviate hunger.

LO/HP, Inc. also continues to advocate for the poor in Liberia and other parts of the world. Our immediate goals are to obtain grants and develop partnerships, and collaborative efforts with national and international entities in order to:

- A. Provide transportation to perform administrative and program functions –
  - Obtain 6 vehicles: 1 car, 1 jeep, 2 motorbikes and 2 trucks for administrative, monitoring, assessment of program activities and distribution of donations under the Operation Blessing Project.
- B. Provide affordable access to quality education –
  - Obtain sponsorships for underprivileged students to cover the tuition fees for the entire elementary school grade level, or junior high school grade level or senior high school grade level in order to ensure continuation of learning at each level.

<b>ENMA Elementary Level</b>	<b>ENMA Junior High Level</b>	<b>High School Level</b>
Tuition/fees/uniform...\$150US	Tuition/fees/uniform. \$150US	Tuition/fees.....\$250US
Shoes.....\$20US	Shoes..... \$20US	Uniforms/ shoes..... \$50US
Gym uniform/ shoes ...\$40US	Gym uniform/ shoes....\$40US	Gym uniform/ shoes ..... \$40US
School books/ supplies.\$25US	School books/supplies.\$35US	School books/supplies... .45US
Umbrella/rain boots.....\$20US	Umbrella/rain boots....\$25US	Umbrella/rain boots .....\$30US
Book bag..... \$10US	Book bag.....\$25US	Book bag .....\$25US
<b>Total \$262US</b>	<b>Total \$330US</b>	<b>Total \$440US</b>

- Demolish and rebuild a 2-story brick school building to offer low-cost education for elementary through junior high school and equip it with appropriate books, furnishings and modern technology.
  - Construct a 3 room brick multi-purpose building to house various training programs: a sewing/tailoring; food service/catering; musical instructions (keyboard/drum); computer training and technology and a boys dormitory and provide all training materials for the various training programs.
  - Develop programs for educational opportunities, including an exchange student program.
  - Develop a satellite education program to provide instructional classrooms connected through the world which will open up new educational opportunities in underserved areas throughout Liberia.
- C. Strengthen and support the capacity of orphanages and child welfare homes to care for abandoned, abused, neglected and orphaned children –
    - Sponsor additional orphanages and child welfare homes throughout Liberia using our model of “Standards of Care for Children” which addresses on moral conduct, educational, emotional, physical and medical needs of each child.

**Basic needs for a child in an orphanage/child welfare home.....\$35US monthly**

- Raise awareness of the plight of underserved individuals to promote the creation of loving, caring, protective environments for children through the provision of training programs.
- D. Expand projects for the Blind and severely visually impaired –
- Increase the number of Blind individuals who receive monthly living stipends through our “Seeing Hearts” Project.
- Monthly stipends.....\$35US for singles      \$80US for married couples with children**
- Establish educational scholarship programs for Blind and severely visually impaired individuals from elementary school level through college or higher learning programs.
- E. Provide resources that promote and enhance capacity building-
- Build or help sponsor adult training programs and professional development resource centers which will provide specialized programs with job opportunities at the completion of their studies.
  - Build libraries and technology centers to ensure access among the poor to educational and development opportunities.
  - Develop self-help initiatives for women, unwed mothers, and young people.
- F. Implement an Agricultural/Farming/Husbandry project –
- Obtain farming tools, vehicles, and machinery to implement the agricultural/farming/husbandry project for small scale farming in underdeveloped areas.
  - Establish advisory teams with expertise in the field to develop appropriate strategies which ensure successful implementation of the program.
- G. Provide crucial medical, vision, hearing, and dental care for the poor –
- Facilitate medical, vision, hearing and dental teams traveling to Liberia for the provision of crucial care in underserved areas with special emphasis where there are no clinics or hospitals.

### ***Priority Needs***

#### **Description of Need**

#### **Costs**

**Priority Need #1:** Demolish our brick two-story **school building**: \$1,500US

We are seeking funding to demolish our 2-story school building within the orphanage compound. This structure was built over 30 years ago to provide education to the residents of the orphanage home as well as to children within the Paynesville Community whose parents could not afford tuition from neighboring schools. Unfortunately, the local engineers who worked on this project made a miscalculation concerning the supporting beams for the second level. A recent assessment by a highly recognized engineer of the cause of ceiling issues revealed the full scope of the problems. Initially, we planned to renovate the structure, but additional structural issues necessitate it being demolished. The cost is \$1,500US.

**Priority Need #2:** Construction of a **Residential/Multi-Purpose Building**: \$3,500US

We are seeking to build a three room brick building to serve as a multi-purpose training rooms (sewing, musical instruction, and choir practice, etc.). The 2-story school building previously housed these activities; however, all classes had to be cancelled due to the structural issues. With increased enrollment at the orphanage, one room in this building will serve as the little boy’s dormitory.



**Priority Need #3: New Roof for the Main Building:**

A tree fell upon the back porch of the main residential house and damaged its roof. It also exposed a problem of rotten wood beams supporting the roof that were installed over 30 years ago. While we have done many patch repairs, the entire roof of the main residential facility needs to be replaced. The cost is \$2,500US.

**Priority Need #4: A Car/Multi-Passenger Vehicle: \$5,000US (vehicle cost) and \$300US (insurance)**

The car previously used by SIC is no longer operational. Liberia does not have public transportation and the absence of a vehicle has created many obstacles to getting things done. A private vehicle will transport multiple children to church, higher education/vocational programs, doctor's offices and shopping for food and other items. It can take hours to get transportation from one point to another, both ways. With the increase in various bacteria outbreaks, this also exposes the staff and orphanage residents to the infections. The cost of the vehicle is \$5,000US and registration & annual insurance is \$300US.

**Priority Need #5: Two Trucks for transportation and for income generating purposes. \$20,800US**

We are seeking \$10,000US (vehicle cost) and \$400US (insurance) to purchase *two* trucks for transporting humanitarian aid from Paynesville community to multi-rural villages. LO/HP, Inc. ships humanitarian aid (including clothes, shoes, household items, medicine, and educational material) to Liberia as part of our Operation Blessing Project to be distributed free-of-charge to seniors and those most in need in rural villages. The cost fluctuates and is always extremely high. Reliable transportation is desperately needed. The trucks will also be used to generate income for the orphanage. We are the sole source of funding for all of our projects and the operation of trucks in Liberia would create jobs for those who graduate from high school and would generate enough income for the orphanage to reduce, by half, the dependency upon our funding.

**Priority Need #6: Three Motor-Bikes for transportation & business: \$3,000US (3-motor bikes) and \$450US (insurance)**

The average cost of gasoline in Liberia is \$5US per gallon and the government recently closed the local food market which was in walking distance to a location which now requires the cost of transportation. Daily trips to the market are the norm and there are costs and obstacles associated with transporting children to doctor's visits, and extra curriculum activities or for staff to conduct business since there is not public transportation. Additionally, these bikes will also be used to generate income to reduce dependency on international aid. The cost of three motor bikes is \$3,000US, with \$450US needed for registration & annual insurance.

**Priority Need #7: Internet Service to develop an Educational Satellite System: \$2,312US (one-year service) and \$150 monthly thereafter**

Ensuring the delivery of quality education to the recipients in our projects continues to be a challenge. With a small investment the SIC compound can become a resource and development training hub which can provide quality education to many beyond beneficiaries of its current projects. The first step is to establish internet services within the compound which will be a gateway of knowledge that has never been available before. The benefits of having this resource of access in all subject areas and in various technologies, vocational and technical skills are immeasurable. International support from virtual teachers/trainers will add to the scope of this project. It can also become a revenue generating project for the orphanage. An initial investment of \$2,312US for one year provision of internet services includes the \$150US monthly service charge.

**Priority Need #8: Increasing Solar System Capacity: \$13,500US**

To meet the demand for additional electrical power, we are also appealing for 20 solar panels (250 watts - \$250US each), 20 solar panel batteries (12 volt, 200amp - \$350US each), inverter (3.5 kva - \$1,000US) and a charge controller (1,000 watts -\$500US) to augment our existing Solar Panel System which is often overpowered by the electrical load demand. The newly operational Liberian government electricity is not stable or reliable and is causing many issues within the country, as they are experiencing blackouts on a regular basis. The loss of electrical power interferes with ability to have sufficient power for our programs.

**Priority Need #9: Ceramic Floor Tile Project:** We are in need of donated ceramic floor tiles for five buildings within the orphanage compound. All medium to large ceramic tile donations are welcomed. The total square footage for inside areas is 5,288 square feet.

**Priority Need #10: Monthly Basic Care Sponsorship:** \$35US monthly per child

There are currently 32 SIC residents and most of them do not have designated sponsors. Sponsorship of \$35US monthly will ensure the continuance of nutritious meals, education, clothing, shoes, laundering, hygiene items and medical care in a secure nurturing residential environment.

**Priority Need #11: Metal folding chairs:** \$1,750US

We are in need of 50 metal folding chairs for the orphanage use. The cost of purchase and shipment to Liberia is \$25US for the chair and \$10US to ship.

**Priority Need #12: Six Ceiling fans** for SIC bedrooms and common areas: \$750US

With global warming, the temperature in Liberia has also seen a significant increase. Ceiling fans will help reduce temperatures, circulate the air for greater comfort of the students and teachers during intense heat, as well as, reduce the incidence of heat related illnesses. Additionally, ceiling fans will ensure that the televisions and projectors used for tutoring and training purposes will not overheat. The cost of each is \$125US.

**Priority Need #13: Sixteen Replacement Windows & Screens:** \$2,140US

All the windows & screens at the orphanage facilities are in need of replacement. There are four double windows and 12 single windows. The current windows are the original windows when these structures were built and the cost of replacing single glass panes is not cost effective.

**Priority Need #14: Musical Equipment:** \$1,000US

Currently, playing the keyboard is taught at the orphanage. The children have asked for a drum set and a tutor has been identified. They are interested in learning how to play a variety of musical instruments.

**Priority Need #15: Educational Scholarships for 50** school students: \$7,500US

Establish an annual educational scholarship for 50 students (\$150US each to include \$90US tuition + \$60US for two uniforms, shoes, gym uniform/tennis shoes, and school supplies). Forty US dollars is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an average month's salary for many Liberians. A full scholarship would give such children an opportunity to become educated and equip them with the tools needed to escape a life of extreme poverty and hopelessness. Scholarships will be provided for all orphanage residents and children from single heads of households who cannot afford to pay school tuition and related fees.



## *Let's Meet the Founder/CEO*



**M**rs. Sharon L. Ruff is a native Washingtonian, who is married with two children and two grandchildren. She was educated in D.C. public schools. Through an upward mobility program for the disadvantaged, she earned a B.S. degree in Sociology from the American University in 1976 which helped shape her devotion to the service of humanity. Mrs. Ruff held several Federal government positions, including Senior Program Analyst for the Administration on Aging, and Senior Legislative Analyst for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Then, after 19 years of Federal service, she experienced a spiritual awakening and took a sabbatical to

pursue personal development. This led to her ordination as a minister which allowed her to travel around the world as an evangelist. Subsequently, she decided to “give back” to her roots and worked for 8 years as an elementary school teacher in the Washington, D.C. public school system.

**M**rs. Ruff’s journey into the provision of humanitarian services in Liberia, West Africa started as a result of a vision that she received in 1985. In this vision, she heard, “I saved your seed from slavery and raised you up. I’m sending you to be a blessing to your people.” Then she heard that her ancestral roots were of the Kpelle’ tribe in Liberia, West Africa. Her first trip to Liberia was on December 24, 1989 which happened to be the first day of the 14-year civil war. She stayed in Liberia for two and a half months gaining knowledge about the quality of life for the average Liberian. It is during this time when she learned of their suffering: extreme poverty, deplorable living conditions, and limited access to educational opportunities, medical care, and clean water, etc. This made a profound impact on her life. Before living, she adopted an orphanage for sponsorship and provided two 4-year college scholarships to impoverished youths. Throughout the entire civil war until now, she has funded many orphanage/child welfare homes, humanitarian and educational projects which have made a significant impact on the lives of the destitute. She is often heard just stating the facts:

“Liberia is one of the poorest countries in the world. I have to help them! They’re my people who are still struggling to recover from a devastating 14-year civil war. The country still has a high unemployment rate, averaging 85%. Most workers still earn salaries that would place them on or below the poverty line in developed countries. Without benefit of national welfare, food stamps or medical programs for the poor, one can only imagine the reality of sustained hopelessness felt by the average uneducated and unemployed Liberian. In addition to coping with unbelievable impoverished conditions, the poor cannot even afford adequate clothing and food for themselves and their families, school fees to educate their children or clinic visits and medical treatment for the sick. It saddens me greatly that these factors existed in 1989 and continue to this date. As such, they play a role in the high death rate among all ages. I can’t just stand on the sidelines observing this tragedy, the plight of these people who are bone of my bone from generations past, and do nothing!”

**M**rs. Ruff envisions sponsoring Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects around the world to help other underserved populations most in need. When asked about a possible name change as the program expands to other countries, she smiles. She says that the name “Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects” refers to her commitment, as a Liberian by ancestral roots, to help the underprivileged; thereby, showing once again that “good things can and do come from underdeveloped third world countries.”

*Compassion is a "Gift" we can all give!*  
*Consider joining us in this most worthy cause. Use this donation sheet to*  
*Help us...help them!*

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*The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc.*

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

A Special One-Time gift of \_\_\_\_\_ \$US; **or** Make a Monthly Pledge:

Bronze (\$35US)\_\_\_\_ Silver (\$50US)\_\_\_\_ Gold (\$100US)\_\_\_\_ Platinum (\$150US)\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You can specify usage:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| * Orphanages / Child Welfare Homes _____       | * Children in Poverty _____            |
| * Humanitarian Aid _____                       | * Educational Enrichment _____         |
| * College / Higher Learning Scholarships _____ | * School/Library/Computer Lab _____    |
| * Seeing Hearts/ Helping the Blind _____       | * Agricultural/Farming/Husbandry _____ |
| * Special Projects / Urgent Needs _____        | * Other _____                          |

Every donation of any amount will **Help Us...Help Them!**

I would like to: Volunteer\_\_ Receive Newsletters \_\_ Form a support group in my area \_\_\_\_

**ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX - DEDUCTIBLE! PLEASE SEND YOUR DONTATIONS TO:**

LO/HP, Inc., Post Office Box #1050, Washington, D. C. 20013, **or** use **PayPal** on our website at [www.lohp-usa.org](http://www.lohp-usa.org) **or** use CashApp - \$LiberianCare **or** scan the QR code below --



We would like to hear from you. Contact us via email: [liberiancare@yahoo.com](mailto:liberiancare@yahoo.com) **or** call: 202-232-LOHP (5647). Learn more about us on our YouTube channel: The Liberian Orphanage-Humanitarian Projects, Inc. at <https://www.youtube.com/@LiberianCare>. Please enjoy the 3 ½ minute orphanage video celebrating their new life at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUXxvpIBTAQ>.