

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!”



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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

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The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc.

ABOUT US

The 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’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 she and her husband 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. The generous donation 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 from businesses, organizations, schools, and religious groups played a major role in the success of LO/HP efforts. Assistance came from both national and international sources as LO/HP sought people and organizations to, “*Help us...help them!*”

In 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. Our founder, Mrs. Sharon L. Ruff and her volunteer staff 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, distributed clothing, shoes, bedding, food, medicine and other basic need items to thousands, sponsored educational opportunities for success to many and otherwise significantly impacted the lives of the poor who, in most instances, had no one else to help them. Our current 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.



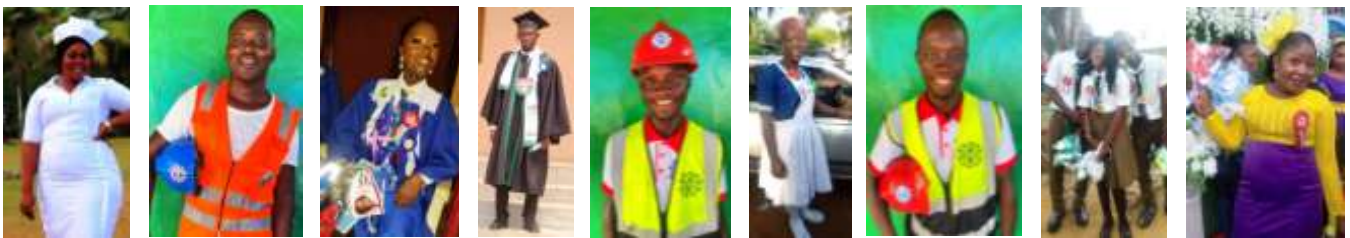
- **Humanitarian Project** — Provides grants to destitute children, adults, disabled, unwed mothers, and senior citizens for emergency food, medical care, housing and small renovation/construction projects, and provides the needy with humanitarian aid relief items: clothing, shoes, personal care, household 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 12th; 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. Special distributions of white canes, Braille watches, clothing, shoes, and household items are distributed 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



ENMA School



Musical Instruction



Flooring



Solar Projects



*Unwed Mothers Receive
Business Start-ups*



*Sanitation
Project*



*COVID Relief 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 4 vehicles: 1 car, 1 jeep, 2 motorbike 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.

| ENMA Elementary level | ENMA Junior High level | High School level |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Total \$262US | Total \$330US | Total \$440US |

- Renovate and upgrade a 2-story brick school building to offer low-cost education for elementary through junior high school and equip them with appropriate books, furnishings and modern technology.
 - Construct a 2-story 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 within the society to ensure the creation of loving, caring, protective environments for children within their care 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.
 - Build schools for the Blind which will house academic learning as well as vocational training.
- 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 #1: Construction of a **Residential/Multi-Purpose Building:** \$30,000US

We are seeking to build a two-story brick building. There will be multi-purpose training rooms (sewing/tailoring, musical instruction, and cooking/caterings, etc.) on the first level. Currently, there isn't sufficient room in the current school building for the envisioned expansion of training courses; therefore, this building is desperately needed. The second floor will house a computer room, a large multi-purpose room, a storage room and the boy's dormitory. The Liberian government has requested that the small boys who currently live in the main residential facility, where girls also reside, be relocated to a separate building.

Priority #2: 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 COVID-19, this also exposes the staff and orphanage residents to the virus. The cost of the vehicle is \$5,000US and registration & annual insurance is \$300US.

Priority #3: 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 associated with transporting residents to doctor's visits and extra curriculum activities and for staff to conduct business. 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 and registration & annual insurance is \$450US.

Priority #4: 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 including the \$150US monthly service charge is being sought.

Priority #5: 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.

Priority #6: Kitchen Upgrade and Expansion Project: \$2,500US

We constructed the kitchen building in the orphanage in 2018. It contains a refrigerator/freezer/storage room and a dining room where all meal preparation and cooking done on the front porch using coal made from burnt wood. An expansion will provide an additional room for indoor food preparation and cooking with an electric stove. This will not only be a significant upgrade but will facilitate space for catering services to generate funding for the orphanage.

Priority #7: Monthly Basic Care Sponsorship: \$35US monthly per child

There are currently 29 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 #8: Replacing Roof on Main Residential House: \$2,600US

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 was installed 20 years ago. Now, a portion of the back porch roof needs to be repaired and the entire roof of the main residential facility needs to be replaced.

Priority #9: Replacing Roof on Big Boys House: \$416US

The roof on the big boy's house is beginning to leak and patch repairs have been made over the years but the problem is constantly reoccurring. The entire roof needs to be replaced along with its supporting wood beams which are rotten.

Priority #10: Medicine and Medical Supplies for SIC Mini-Clinic: \$400US annually
Our resident nurse has developed a list of medications and medical supplies used to treat various illnesses/infections/injuries most often incurred by SIC residents. More serious illnesses are treated at local hospital.

Priority #11: 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 #12: 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 #13: 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.

The SIC *Elementary and Middle School*

| <u>Description of Need</u> | <u>Costs</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|

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| Priority #14: Electrical Upgrades: \$900US There is an urgent need for wires, sockets, plug, and control panel for the orphanage school to accommodate the electrical power from the solar panel system in order to provide electricity in all classrooms. |
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| Priority #15: Thirty All-in-One Desktop computers: \$18,000US (\$600US each) The eight computers in their current computer lab are extremely outdated with VISTA and XP operating systems and are no longer compatible for various IT programs. We are seeking 30 All-in-One desktop computers in order to alleviate obstacles to accessing information via the web so we can expand teaching, tutoring, training and research opportunities for students in this school and the community at large. This addition will also allow an increase in the number of students in the computer lab. |
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| Priority #16: An Air Conditioning Unit for the Computer Lab: \$500US An air conditioning unit is needed for temperature control for the computers and printers. |
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| Priority #17: Two Color Printers: \$800US Currently, there are no color printers in the school. Studies show that color-printed educational materials increase student's attention, learning and retention. Printers will also ensure printing opportunities for students and for staff responding to requests for reports. The cost for two printers is \$400US and the annual cost for ink is \$400US annually. |
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| Priority #18: Seventeen Windows & Screens for the SIC school building: \$2,840US Currently, there are Colombo blocks in the place of windows in this school. All but two of their windows are double windows. We seek formal windows and screens to help protect students from mosquito bites and other insects as well as to be able to close windows during heavy rains. |
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Priority #20: Free Lunch Program for SIC School Students: \$12,500US

There is an urgent need to establish a free lunch program for 200 SIC school students. With Liberia's 85% unemployment rate, most of these students come from extremely poor single family homes where they only eat one meal per day and often times, it is not nutritionally balanced. As such, most come to school without breakfast and have no lunch. Their evening meal is all they eat. Reducing hunger pains throughout the school day will significantly increase learning and retention. The cost of providing each lunch is \$.30US per meal for 20 days per month (4,000 meals) for a nine-month school session totaling \$10,800US. We are also seeking \$1,700US for start up costs for: cooking pots, coal pots, cooking utensils, bowls, cups, silverware, this amount includes washing powder and coal for the first year. Community volunteers will cook the meals.

Priority #21: Educational Scholarships for 50 SIC school students: \$5,000US

Establish an annual educational scholarship for 50 students (\$100US each to include \$40US 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. That's why SIC's school structured its costs so low and is the least expensive in the community. Nevertheless, hundreds of neighborhood children's parents simply struggle for daily food and cannot pay any cost for tuition, uniforms and school supplies. Sadly, many who are fortunate enough to enroll often dropout because their parents cannot afford to pay the balance fees or uniform costs. 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.

Let's Meet the Founder/CEO



Mrs. 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.

Mrs. 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 has 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 Liberian: uneducated and unemployed. In addition to unbelievable impoverished conditions, the poor cannot even afford school fees to educate their children or medical care for the sick. These factors are still a reality since my first visit in 1989 which play in role in the high death rate among all ages. I can't just stand by knowing that they are bone of my bone, observing this tragedy through through first-hand knowledge and do nothing!”

Mrs. 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!

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 **or** use CashApp - \$LiberianCare **or** scan the QR code below --



We would like to hear from you. Contact us via email: liberiancare@yahoo.com **or** call: 202-232-LOHP (5647).