

# *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 1996.”*

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

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

## *ABOUT US*

**T**he Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc. (LO/HP, Inc.) is a federally recognized 501(c) (3) non-profit 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 is not new. From 1996 to 2009, LO/HP (unincorporated) funded humanitarian projects in Liberia, West Africa under the administrative umbrella of Grace Tabernacle...AWOH ministries located in Washington, D.C. Under this umbrella, Mrs. Sharon L. Ruff served as the Founder/Project Coordinator of LO/HP programs. Staffed completely by volunteers, LO/HP responded to the desperate cry for help from the destitute who survived Liberia’s civil war by creating humanitarian projects to help alleviate suffering among the impoverished. The primary source of LO/HP funding was pledges from individual donors and religious organizations. Partnerships with other humanitarian non-profit organizations helped bridge the gap where funding was scarce. 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 also 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!*”

**I**n 2009, Mrs. Ruff established LO/HP, Inc. and became its Founder and Chief Executive Officer. Through the efforts of Mrs. Ruff and her volunteer staff most of the current projects in Liberia have been on-going since 1996. These projects have touched the lives of thousands, relieved suffering of untold multitudes, changed lives, provided tools for success, and otherwise significantly impacted the lives of the poor who in most instances had no one else to help them. LO/HP currently operating in Liberia -

- **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 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. 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.



The first picture is of John and his wife, Hawa (both blind), and their three sighted children. The second picture is of Justin who is married to Hannah (both blind), with one of his two sighted children. Their houses were built through monthly donations through our “Seeing Hearts” Project.

### *Gallery of Before & After Pictorial of More Accomplishments*



*Bantu*

*Job*

*From Bucket to a Well Pump*

*Fenzella goes to school*





*Sores on Bare Feet..... No More!*



*Helping Needy People*



*Elementary School Being Renovated*



*Children Deserve A Better Life: From Orphanage Poverty ...to...Provision!*

## **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:

- Enhance our ability to perform administrative and program functions –
  - Obtain 4 vehicles: 1 car, 1 jeep and 2 trucks for administrative, monitoring, assessment of program activities and distribution of donations under the Operation Blessing Project.
- 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**

tuition/fees ..... \$40US  
 uniforms/ shoes..... \$15US  
 gym uniform/ shoes ...\$15US  
 school books/ supplies.\$10US  
 umbrella/rain boots....\$14US  
 book bag.....\$6US

**Total \$100US**

### **Junior High level**

tuition/fees.....\$120US  
 uniforms/ shoes.....\$40US  
 gym uniform/ shoes....\$25US  
 school books/supplies.\$45US  
 umbrella/rain boots....\$14US  
 book bag.....\$6US

**Total \$250US**

### **High School level**

tuition/fees.....\$150US  
 uniforms/ shoes.....\$40US  
 gym uniform/ shoes.....\$30US  
 school books/supplies....\$45US  
 umbrella/rain boots .....\$14US  
 book bag .....\$6US

**Total \$285US**

- Complete construction of the two educational facilities: school/ library/computer laboratories within the Paynesville community and equip them with appropriate books, furnishings and modern technology.
- Further 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 educational, emotional, physical and medical needs of each child.  
**Basic needs for a child in an orphanage.....\$30US 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*

**Priority Need #1:** \$6,000US to clear two 40-ft containers of humanitarian aid from our Operation Blessing Project through the Port of Monrovia and pay distribution costs to orphanages/child welfare homes, hospitals, clinics, and various populations of the poor in urban and rural areas. These items will be distributed free of costs to improve the quality of life for the disadvantaged in Liberia.

**Priority Need #2:** Funding for educational enrichment scholarships (grades pre-K-12) and college/higher learning scholarships for the 2020-2021 school years. Tuition/fees and related costs are: \$100US for elementary schools, \$250US for junior high schools, and \$285US for senior high schools. For college/higher learning scholarships, the average fees are \$1,000US for the United Methodist University; \$1,100US for the Stella Maris Polytechnic College; \$1,100US for the Madel McCombs College of Health & Sciences; and, \$300US for various vocational and technical schools (includes registration, tuition and transportation). In addition, \$30US monthly per student is needed for school supplies, books and handouts in these college/higher learning programs. A special door has opened for 100 children to attend the Eliza Neufville Memorial Academy elementary school for \$100 per year (includes: tuition, uniforms, umbrella and school supplies).

**Priority Need #3:** We need 50 standard hypo-allergenic pillows, 50 twin-size mattress sets (including frames) and 10 full-size mattress sets (including frames) to provide adequate bedding for our projects.

**Priority Need #4:** \$4,500US is needed for a 3-member mission trip for up to two-months. The purpose of this team is to (1) monitor and assess existing projects, (2) conduct training sessions, (3) distribute humanitarian relief items, (4) conduct feasibility studies for new humanitarian projects, and (5) oversee the renovation and completion of renovation and construction projects. Costs include VISA documents, malaria prevention medications, immunizations, roundtrip airfare, and meals allowance.

**Priority Need #5:** We need \$20,000US to complete construction of the Eliza Neufville Memorial Academy (windows, plumbing equipment, floor and ceiling tiles, 2nd level exterior balcony, plaster walls, and electrical wiring) and provide classroom/office furnishings; \$9,000US for computers, printers, and satellite equipment; and \$18,000US for solar panels and generators to provide electrical power. The total needed is \$47,000US.

**Priority Need #6:** \$64,000US to construct and provide classroom furnishings for the third 2-story building which will house a school for the Blind, a library, and a computer laboratory; \$20,000US for Braille books, and talking education aides and \$12,000US for Braille computers and printers.

**Priority Need #7:** Donations of solar panels and satellite disks for four (4) “pilot” satellite educational projects in underserved areas in the Republic of Liberia. Most areas in Liberia continue to be without electricity due to the massive destruction caused during the 14-year civil war. Hundreds of thousands of Liberian children have no education or extremely limited educational opportunities beyond the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We seek to develop four pilot satellite educational projects to help bridge the gap of illiteracy in target areas.

**Priority Need #8:** Donation of preferably\* foreign made cars, jeeps, trucks, and utility vans for administrative, monitoring, assessment of program activities, and distribution of donations. LO/HP, Inc. has no vehicles in Liberia. (\*Parts for foreign cars are readily available in Liberia.)

**Priority Need #9:** Donation of rubber or vinyl rain coats (with hoods) and rain boots for men, women, and children of every size. During the 8 month rainy season, hundreds of thousands of impoverished Liberians work on farms as their only source of food and basic survival. Most do not have shoes or adequate clothing to shield them from the icy cold rain. Most children attend school without rain gear.

**Project Need #10:** \$850US for an irrigation system to alleviate flooding at SIC compound. This repair will minimize breeding of mosquitoes and eliminate bacteria and sickness from slow-draining stagnant water.

**Project Need #11:** Donations of aids for the Blind and visually impaired, including folding canes, Braille watches, talking clocks, typewriters, talking books and wheelchairs for distribution in urban and rural areas.

## *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. 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. Mrs. Ruff lived in Liberia those first two and a half months gaining knowledge about the quality of life for the average Liberian. 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 she left the country, she adopted an orphanage for sponsorship and provided two 4-year college scholarships to impoverished youths. Throughout the entire period of the civil war, Mrs. Ruff funded many humanitarian projects which 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! 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 the poverty line in developed countries. Without benefit of national welfare, food stamps or medical programs for the poorest of the poor, one can only imagine the reality of hopelessness felt by the average Liberian: uneducated and unemployed. In addition to unbelievable impoverished conditions, the poor cannot even afford to educate their children so they won’t be trapped in poverty without decent housing or medical care. 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 first-hand knowledge, 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.”



***We Truly Need Your Help!***  
***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 (\$30US)\_\_\_\_ 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 Cash App - \$LiberianCare

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