

# Each Life Changed Today, Births Hope for a Better Tomorrow!



# A Word from the Founder, Mrs. Sharon L. Ruff

If our mission was expressed by one symbol, it could be that of a "beating heart" representing our commitment to help open doors for the poorest of the poor "to escape" extreme poverty and a life of

despair, hopelessness and daily suffering. If someone asks, "What gives you satisfaction in life?" Among my answers would be, "Demonstrating compassion-in-act" that changes, improves, empowers, elevates, and/or transforms the quality of a person's life." Thus, I am so pleased to have this platform to help sensitize the general public to the extreme poverty conditions and the unanswered cries for help from the average citizen of the Republic of Liberia, West Africa and other impoverished people worldwide. Since 2009, our Orphanage, Humanitarian, and Educational Projects and various Special Initiatives has changed lives, empowered and set people free from terrible conditions to become productive members of society. These results are more than satisfying, more than inspiring; they are simply priceless!

This is another year where I personally **CHALLENGE** everyone with a compassionate heart to use their skills, talents, finances and other resources to help those who seem to have been abandoned by society. **A better tomorrow can be the reality of the poor, if "you" decide to extend a helping hand to them today.** And, yes, there are already many people and organizations focused on improving the plight of the underprivileged poor worldwide. Nevertheless, there is and always will be pockets of people who have not been reached and thus, blocked from ever reaching their full potential in life. **No one should have to live their entire life in hopelessness and shame.** 

You can be the one who sounds the next call to action, starts a movement, creates an organization or supports organizations like ours to fill those gaps and improves the quality of life for those in dire need. It only takes a little passion. Just imagine yourself or your family in their place and do for them what you would want someone to do for you and your loved ones! The first step maybe a small one; but, in a little while, just like LO/HP, Inc., others will join you and your efforts will take root producing a bountiful harvest of changed lives.

We have sent three shipments of urgently needed items for our orphanage, school, humanitarian and rural village relief efforts in Liberia, West Africa. However, we are still seeking donors for our Operation Blessing Project to send and distribute a 40-foot container of humanitarian aid relief items including clothing, shoes, linen, personal hygiene, books/education materials and medicine/medical supplies free of charge to orphanages, child welfare home, unwed mothers clinics, seniors, and to the Blind in rural and urban areas of great need. Six thousand (\$6,000US) is needed for this

# Will You Help? Make Monthly Pledge

#### Bronze Pledge \$35 US

A child's basic needs -- food, shelter, clothing & medical.

Silver Pledge \$50US Humanitarian aid grants, emergency medical assistance, or agriculture seeds/equipment.

#### Gold Pledge \$100US

Provides bathrooms; sanitation systems; clean water projects; or tuition /uniform/ school supplies-12 elementary/middle children.

#### Platinum Pledge \$150US

Provides basic sponsorship grants to orphanages: food, staffing, furnishings or agricultural/ farming/husbandry projects.

#### One Time Gift \$500US \$1,000US or more

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# Adopt An Orphanage for "A Month"

Many people, churches and civic groups have expressed a sincere interest in helping the poor which extends beyond sponsoring a child, but are unable to make a long term commitment. Perhaps, you or your organization can commit to sponsoring the Salvation In Christ Orphanage and Humanitarian Refuge Home, Inc. (SIC) for 1 month. Get involved, you won't regret it. The satisfaction in knowing that your sponsorship provided daily quality care to these deserving young ones is immeasurable. Let me share a few pictures of "my adopted family." For a month, they can be "your adopted family" too!



Natasha, 9 Grade 4



Cooper, 11 Grade 11



Aliyah, 9 Grade 1



Joseph, 17 Grade K-2



Patience's Amazing Transition https:youtu.be/55N9120t4vQ Speaker: Chat & Chew Ministry



Celebration of their New Popcorn Machine



Elem/Middle School Students in New Uniforms

The monthly budget for basic needs for SIC is \$1,530US, with \$465US for salaries and stipends, and \$1,070US for food and cooking, personal items and other necessities as itemized below:

**FOOD ITEMS:** Daily market, fish, chicken, pork, rice, beans, gari, magi cubes, red oil, vegetable oil, fruit and vegetables, can milk, sugar, butter, tea, juice, onions, dried pepper, salt, flour, yeast, baking powder, tomato paste, coal and transportation...**\$840US**.

**PERSONAL ITEMS:** Deodorant, lotion, hair grease, girl's personal items, toothpaste and brushes, bath soap, iron ball soap, soap powder, toilet paper and bleach...\$120US.

OTHER BASIC ITEMS: Mosquito spray, trash pickup, rat poison, govt. electricity and DVTV cable..\$110US

Clothing, shoes, underwear, linen, furnishings, educational scholarships, school expenses, medicine nor medical care are listed above. However, since our inception, we have provided for the monthly expenses for SIC. However, as with most small non-profit charities, meeting monthly expenses can be difficult. Will you consider sponsoring this child welfare home for one month? If you are unable to sponsor the full operation of SIC, consider sponsoring one of the categories above. Every donation helps us maintain our standards for quality care.

## Updates From Our Unwed Mothers Project

Recipients in our Unwed Mothers Project are no different than other unwed mothers in third world countries who live with their children in extreme poverty. They too have hopes and dreams to become successful in life and escape the daily hardships they face from lack of food, clothing, decent housing and money for education and medical needs for themselves and their children. They know very well that doors of opportunity for improvement in life are closed to them; thus, their circumstances will never change. Results: daily hopelessness thrives! Through our grants, we aim to empower our recipients with the skills and tools they need to succeed including monthly grants for basic needs, educational scholarships and medical care, as well as, grants for New Business Start-up projects. Here is an update on the journey to success from two of them.

#### Naomi's Transition









Naomi was released from our Unwed Mothers Project after receiving monthly grants for basic needs for herself and her 2 sons for the past 3 years. She had finished the 10<sup>th</sup> grade before becoming a single parent eventually having 2 sons with no support from their fathers (picture 1). She sought our help for both, a monthly living grant and an education grant to finish high school. As we reported when we first highlighted her plight, her ability to care for her sons had been a constant struggle as she lived with an aunt who gave her toothpaste to sell in the community. She had to walk all day long, rain or shine, through different market places selling the same toothpaste as many others. When none were sold on a given day, there would be no or little food for her and her sons to eat. Malnutrition caused one of her sons to become sickly and his condition worsened because she had no money for medical care. In addition to a monthly living grant, we awarded her with money for her son's clinic visits and medicine and a two-year education scholarship to complete high school. Upon graduation (picture 2), we then awarded her a New Business Start-up grant (\$400US equivalent to \$68,000 Liberian dollars) for 6-months rent and money to purchase goods to sell at a local market (picture 3). She has since moved into her own apartment and is able to provide for herself and her 2 sons. She has evolved into a confident, independent woman and matured in motherhood. Thanks to generous donors, Naomi has been empowered with the skills she needs to continue her success in life.

Florence's Transition







Florence came to our attention over a year ago after escaping from her father who had forced her and her daughter to move with him to a neighboring country. Her journey as an unwed mother began after graduating from high school and reaching the age of 21. She fell in love with and became pregnant by a church member, an unemployed college student who promised to marry her. However, her father disapproved of him. Life in her new environment was extremely hard. She hand-washed clothes and scrubbed floors for a year whenever she could before she had saved enough money to return to Liberia, where she quickly found herself homeless and staying with different friends and church members. Once again, she worked small jobs but her resources were so meager she couldn't afford to rent an apartment, provide food or basic necessities for herself and her daughter. Her baby's father contributed what little he had and she was doing her best; however stability in Florence's life was far beyond her reach. Her physical health began to decline by the time we learned of her plight and she was accepted into our Unwed Mother's Program. She immediately began receiving a monthly allotment for rent and basic needs and received many hours of counseling. Eventually, she was awarded a New Business Start-up grant (\$400US equivalent to \$68,000 Liberian dollars) for 6-months rent and goods to sell at a local market (picture 2). Her business did well and three months later, according to our guidelines, our assistance to her ceased. Income from her business gave her the stability she needed. Months later, she became engaged to her baby's father and they were married (picture 3). We celebrate with them that we were there to help in their time of need. Because donors gave, there is a happy ending.

## Repairs, Renovations and Upgrades Are a Constant Factor To Quality of Life!



Rain damage necessitated replastering & repainting school.



School second floor gets a face lift with electrical wiring and paint.





Bricks molded for construction projects.



New roof for big boy's house.



Repairing the well pump.



Bathhouse door frames.



Bug infested tree removed.

#### ENMA School's Roof Still Half Finished

The structural integrity of roofs on 3 buildings was weakened due to bug infestation in the supporting wood frames. LO/HP, Inc. provided a grant to repair or replaced most of these issues. One roofing project still needs our attention. Budget constraints only allowed us to replace half of the ENMA School's damaged roof, the portion where the solar panels are installed. To finish this roofing project, we are appealing for the following:

<u>Item</u>	# Pieces	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Item</u>	# Pieces	Unit \$	<u>Total</u>
Zinc	3 bundles	\$120US	\$360US	Wood 2x2x14	26 pcs	\$2.50US	\$65US
Roofing Nails	4 packs	\$5US	\$20US	Wood 2x4x14	18 pcs	\$5US	\$90US
Wood treatment	1 container	\$15US	\$15US	Wood 2x6x14	6 pcs	\$6.30US	\$38US
Labor			\$165US	Transportation	_		\$20US

Total for the "Roofing Project".....\$773US

### **ENMA School Needs Ceilings for the Second Level**

Typical, many school buildings in Liberia have no ceiling beneath their roof. It was the same at ENMA which exposed the classrooms on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level to water damage during the heavy rainy season. Recently, LO/HP, Inc. sent funds to install a ceiling in one classroom shown below in the beginning stage. This room will be used to house over 800 text books and teacher guides, computers, a printer, projectors, hanging charts, school supplies, and other educational development material.

<u>Item</u>	# Pieces	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Item</u>	# Pieces	Unit \$	<u>Total</u>
Wood 2x2x14	60 pcs	\$2.50US	\$250US	Nails	2 boxes	\$35US	\$70US
Ceiling Sheets	35 pcs	\$6US	\$210US	Transportation			\$25US

Total for the "Ceiling Installation for 2<sup>nd</sup> level Project" ....... \$635US

### The SIC Orphanage & ENMA School Need Ceramic Floor Tiles





This year, we were able to install ceramic floor tiles in the dining room of the kitchen building (picture 1). The remaining rooms in this building, most of the floors in the orphanage compound residential buildings and all floors in the ENMA school building are bare cement slab. While linoleum floor mats cover the cement slabs in the bedrooms (picture 2), these mats must be replaced *frequently* due to regular tearing with use. We are seeking donors to provide ceramic floor tiles and the tile adhesive to install them. LO/HP, Inc. will pay the shipping costs. *Help us...Help Them!* Listed below is the total number of square footage needed:

The floor measurement for each of the two levels of the ENMA school building is 39x39 feet totaling 3,402 square feet for this facility. The floor measurement for SIC main house bedrooms and office is 1,153 square feet, the SIC back porch is 90 square feet (outside tiles); kitchen building is 397 square feet (inside) and 196 square feet (outside tiles) and bathhouse is 336 square feet. All medium to large ceramic tile donations are welcomed. The total square footage for inside areas is 5,288 square feet and 286 square feet for outside areas.

Your donations will make a difference! Together, we can finish what was started!

## Congratulations Galore!

May we present the 2023 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATION CLASS from the Salvation in Christ Orphanage and Humanitarian Refuge Home, Inc. (SIC). You might notice the older than normal ages of some of these graduates. In Liberia, regardless of age, students must start school in the Kindergarten -1 class, then K-2 before entering 1st grade. We are so pleased to be a part of their lives as they grow up and continue to excel. A special thank you for donors who provided a full educational scholarships for them and for all the residents of this child welfare home!



Alexandria, age 10, Promoted to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.





Monica, age 14. Promoted to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.



Konah, age 6, Promoted to the 1<sup>st</sup> grade.



Joseph, age 17, Promoted to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.



Lydia, age 15, Promoted to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.



Samuel, age 14, Promoted to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.



John, age 16, Promoted to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Celebrating Achievements Beyond High School

Graduation day finally came for five of our **EDUCATION ENRICHMENT PROJECT** students enrolled in the Monrovia Vocational Training Centre's 22-month program. We are so pleased to be among those who congratulate these young adults. Some are the first in their families to have completed high school and all of them are the first to have a door of opportunity to receive a full-scholarship for vocational training. We thank each donor who contributed to their success: tuition, uniforms, security boots, rain coats, school books, monthly stipends, transportation, graduation fees and the required "tools of their trade" for use in their practicum. Liberia will benefit from their new knowledge and skills as now they are equipped and empowered for the further development of their country. And, their families will also gain significantly in tangible ways. These graduates will become respected leaders in their families and communities, inspiring the next generation and become supporters of the very old.



Samson, Electricity & Air Cond./Refrig.



Morris, Heavy Duty Mechanic



David, Electronics



Flomo, Electronics



John, Computers

Michael was a fellow student in this school. He too was on a full scholarship; but, from a teacher who told him there would be no further assistance. After more than 18 months of classroom instruction, he was denied entry into the classroom because he did not have \$10US (\$1,700 Liberian dollars). This \$10US was required from each student to pay the repair cost of a damaged piece of classroom equipment. By the time we heard of his plight, Michael had missed 2 months of class. We awarded him a \$25US grant: \$10US for the fee and \$15US for other needs and he returned to school completing all his classes. As the deadline for paying the \$200US graduation costs neared, LO/HP, Inc. surprised him with another grant to cover his graduation fees. The video of Samson above announcing the surprise to Michael will be posted on the LO/HP, Inc. YouTube channel.



#### **Contact Us:**

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#### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to significantly impact the lives of abandoned, abused, neglected and orphaned children in Liberia, West Africa and to engage in humanitarian projects that will improve the quality of life for disadvantaged Liberians, and other underserved individuals around the world.





Imagine living in a underdeveloped country with so many unmet needs. Then, imagine the joy of sponsorship which removes the stain of shame and gives them tools for success. A small donation can mean so much to the poorest of the poor: children living in orphanages/child welfare homes, unwed mothers, educational opportunities, medical care, stipends for the Blind & the disadvantaged at every age in urban areas and rural villages. *Together, we can improve their lives*.



LO/HP, Inc. aims to continue sponsoring orphanages, child welfare homes, humanitarian, educational and operational blessing projects, as well as our special initiatives for the Blind. These projects have been successful due to the efforts of caring sponsors, partners and volunteers just like you. We welcome all who have a heart of compassion towards the poor. GIVE FREELY to HELP US...HELP THEM! Whatever assistance you, your organization or civic group provides will be greatly appreciated. Please consider becoming a monthly sponsor or a partner today. Visit the website for priority needs! Foreign made vehicles (cars, trucks, and school buses in good running condition) are urgently needed. [USA parts are hard to get in Liberia.] Volunteers are also needed! Make a tax-deductible donation payable to "LIBERIAN ORPHANAGE / HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS, INC." or "LO/HP, Inc. at the above address." Use

PayPal on the website at www.lohp-usa.org or Scan the QR code or CashApp – \$LiberianCare or the form below to mail in your donation.

### Thank You for Your Consideration of Our Appeal.

Name:					
Address:					
City State	Zip code				
I pledge to donate monthly $\$$ ; $S_{I}$	Specific child				
I pledge to donate monthly to the Blind Initiatives $\$$ ; specific properties $\$$ ;	roject				
I pledge to donate monthly for education projects\$; Construction projects \$					
Please call me () or e-mail me at					
I cannot make a monthly pledge but I will make a one-time contribution of					
\$20\$50 \$100 \$500 \$1, 000 or more (please spec	cify)				