The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc.



Throughout 2022, We Witnessed the Beauty of Transformed Lives And The Birthing of Hope for a Better Future!



A Special Thank You from the Founder, *Mrs. Sharon L. Ruff*



The gift of compassion from so many has allowed us to meet our program goals for 2022 for our five on-going projects: Orphanage/Child Welfare Homes Projects; Humanitarian Projects; Education Enrichment Projects; College/Higher Learning Project, and, the Seeing Heart Project. Throughout this year, LO/HP, Inc. continues to open doors to significantly change the quality of life for abandoned, abused, neglected, orphaned or impoverished children and youth, mostly from rural villages, who were trapped into a lifestyle of suffering and hopelessness, a reality that most of us have never known. Then, as they have grow into their teen years and into early adulthood, there is tremendous satisfaction in knowing that we have instilled in them more than hope, but a good character, academic achievements and technical skills needed for a better future.

1

Our Humanitarian Projects have continued to provide food, medical and financial assistance to the poorest of the poor in rural villages through our Operation Blessing Project and through our grants and aide to urban and rural seniors, unwed mothers and their children, and the handicapped. LO/HP, Inc. continues to focus on educational scholarships, including grants for uniforms and tuition assistance as well as full scholarships for transportation, tuition and school requirements for our Vocational School students who will be graduating in 2023. We are pleased that we have been able to continue giving monthly subsistent grants to Blind families through our Seeing Heart Project. These resources have instilled dignity. All of the sponsored Blind families have prospered, built their own homes, provided food for their families and sent their seeing children to school.

None of this could have happened without compassionate people responding to the cries of Liberia's poor who earnestly just desire an opportunity to have a decent quality of life, just like you and me. *Thank you for helping us...help them.*

We have sent three shipments of urgently needed items for our orphanage and elementary/junior high school to Liberia. 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 effort.

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\$100USProvides bathrooms; sanitationsystems; clean water projects; ortuition /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

Inside this issue:

A Word from the Founder	1
Rural Poverty Screams	2
Sponsorship Opens Doors	3
Portraits of Gratitude	5
Christmas Cheer for All	6
Urgent Needs	7
Contact Us	8

The Poverty Level in Rural Villages Screams For Someone to Help

 $\mathbf{2}$

During the Christmas holiday season, LO/HP, Inc. sponsored a surprise visit to seniors and impoverished families in rural villages in Liberia to present its residents with food and other items. A bag of rice, magi cubes, veg. oil and seasoning was a welcomed gift and will provide the foundation of dinner meals for at least one month. The cost of each gift was \$35US and transportation to the various villages cost \$50US. Due to funding limitations, we were not able to provide dried fish or the hygiene items that are normally part of our gift package. For a donation of \$50US we can provide the full relief package for one family. The villagers, who did not receive, would not let our representatives leave without promising to return and to increase our distribution to other needy families. You can see by the smiles on the faces below that those who received were more than grateful that we cared enough to bring them holiday cheer. The children were especially happy about the candy and cookies. We need donors to help us provide food and basic necessity gift baskets to these needy families. Our goal is to award them twice yearly - in the Spring and during the Christmas holidays. *Will you make a generous donation of \$50US to provide much needed food for the rural poor in 2023?*



Sponsorshíp Opens Doors Where Dreams Come True

3

It is only through generous donations that we are able to create opportunities for sponsorship through our various projects. We are so proud of those who received Education Enrichment sponsorships this year and stayed the course, graduated from their studies and now are success stories of changed lives. We are also proud of our New Business Start-Up grants awarded to two of our Unwed Mothers who have now crossed over from individuals in dire need of monthly support to now being able to provide support for themselves and their children. Let us congratulate them!



Emmentry

has had all his basic needs met (food, shelter, clothing, education and medical care in a loving environment) as a resident of our sponsored Salvation in Christ Orphanage and Humanitarian Refuge Home, Inc. since 2016. Before then, he lived in extreme poverty with no hope for a bright future. Now, at age 23, he is a *2022 high school graduate*; the oldest and first of his 7 siblings to achieve such honors. Due to their family's poverty level in rural village, there was no money for school and most were required to work after age 5 just to be able to eat. Thanks to the generosity of donors, he is equipped with a high school diploma and has great dreams of getting a job and helping to support his family.



Naomi

became a 2022 high school graduate through sponsorship under our Unwed Mother's Project. This project provides a month subsistence grant, assistance with medical needs for herself and two children and an education grant to attend high school. She is now prepared for the next chapter in her life so she can be self-supporting. Her goal is to open a small market business selling a variety of products. LO/HP, Inc. has awarded her with a New Business Start-up grant which pays 6 months rent and money for the products she will sell. Becoming an entrepreneur is a dream coming true. Thank you donors! Without you, none of her life's accomplishments could have been realized.



Josephine

has been under our sponsorship since 2005 when she was just 7 years old . She continues to be a resident of the SIC orphanage helping to care for the younger children. She received several LO/HP, Inc. educational grants for home economic courses. Here she just graduated from a *2022 interior decorating course. We are excited about her future plans* to open a catering/interior decorating business next year. LO/HP, Inc. plans to extend the current kitchen building to accommodate a separate instructional area where cooking and food preparation classes for girls and young women in the area can be taught by Josephine. Thank you donors! Empowering Josephine allows her to Pay-It-Forward to others in need!

4

Sara

has reached another milestone in her success story with the help of LO/HP, Inc.'s compassionate donors. Through sponsorship in our 2022 Unwed Mother's program, she was awarded a New Business Start-up grant. Her goal was to launch a coal business which could provide for her family's needs while she continues to pursue her educational goals of becoming a nurse. This goal has been reached. We were able to provide the funding for her first shipment of coal. I am pleased to report that her coal business is doing well. She is able to pay her rent, school fees for her 2 sons, and she has enrolled back in school to realize her educational dreams. Only through this picture can we express her sheer gratitude for the changes we have made in her life. Again, such success stories are only accomplished through donors.

Maima

had been one of our sponsored children for years. She was a resident in the SIC orphanage home from elementary school to high school and always had a beautiful smile and warm heart. Upon high school graduation, she left the orphanage and returned to her village to care for her sister who was gravely ill. A few years later, she became pregnant and returned to the city. Now, at age 29, as a single mother with 2 children, she is having a daily struggle to find odd jobs to pay her rent and provide daily meals for her family. Upon learning of her plight, we accepted her into our Unwed Mother's Project to significantly change her life. The project provides a monthly subsistence grant and an education scholarship to attend a Nursing Aid program. Only through LO/HP, Inc. could she have this tremendous opportunity.



Roland, in the picture on the left, was given a piece of colorful fabric to cover his body to take this picture once he was chosen for sponsorship. But, notice there were no shoes to cover his bare feet. This image captures the typical condition of destitute children whose rural village in Bong County is only accessible by canoe.



In the picture on the right, you see a different **R**oland, along with **C**ooper and **V**ictor, from the same village, who were accepted into our sponsored SIC orphanage home this summer.

Let me introduce them to you and share their testimonies.

Roland wearing the blue shirt is 12 years old in the 1st grade. He and his 6 siblings were staying with their grandmother where they often went without food for days. He had limited clothing, no medical care and slept on the dirt floor with palm leaves for a mattress to shelter them from the cold earth. He attended ABC classes for a few years, then his grandmother became sick, unable to walk, so with no money for school fees his 1 hour 30 minute walk or canoe ride to the school ended. Since his arrival into the home, he has expressed gratitude every day for this opportunity with a big smile on his face.

Cooper wearing the orange shirt is 11 years old in the 1st grade. He was staying with his grandmother in a rural Bomi village when an appeal was made for his sponsorship. His father left his mother and the other 5 siblings 2 weeks after his birth. Uneducated and unable to find work, his mother left the children with their grandmother and moved into another county. His life was one of constant struggle as daily food was difficult, and there was no money for education, no hope for a better life and sadness was his daily portion until he received sponsorship.

Victor, who is the tallest, is 14 years old in the 5th grade. He attended school before his mother died and his uneducated father became extremely ill. He and his 5 sisters and 3 brothers were then sent to live with their aunt. Most often they ate once daily and sometimes other than a starchy vegetable root there was no food to eat. Without daily food, adequate clothing or shoes, and no mattress or pillow for sleeping, Victor speaks about their every day struggle just to survive. Now, thanks to donors, he is a happy child with a bright future.





Portraits of Gratitude!

 $\mathbf{5}$





Monthly donations provide clothes, shoes, food, washing powder, body soap, toothpaste. toiletries. and other necessities.



Daily delicious, nutritious meals go well with lots of laughter and happy faces. Thanks donors!



Over 100 educationalmovie DVD/VHS tapes were donated for their enjoyment.



A generous donor supplied the most wanted item on the SIC orphanage children's Christmas list. In addition to the large popcorn machine and small generator, they were surprised with a pre-Christmas party. Now there is more than enough popcorn for everyone and one more thing to add to their happiness.



The old wooden orphanage visitor's booth was destroyed by severe weather over the years. Thanks to donations, this is the new brick replacement.



All elementary through junior high school SIC orphanage residents received new uniforms, shoes, socks, pencils, copy books and book bags. Many, many thanks to each of you who responded to our appeal.

Christmas Cheer for SIC Orphanage & Project Recipients!

6





Every Christmas season, thanks to donations, LO/HP, Inc. gives monetary gifts to the cook, matrons, security, and to the seniors, the handicapped, the Blind, the unwed mothers, and the young adults in our sponsored educational enrichment project. The carpenters, electricians, plumbers and others who provide discounted services through the year also receive monetary gifts. Their smiles show their gratitude.

The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc.



Current Urgent Needs --Will You Help Us....Help Them?

AN URGENT CALL FOR SPONSORS







7







Christie, age 15 Grade 9

Konah, age 6 Grade 1

Samuel, age 14 Grade 6

Natasha, age 9 Grade 2

Comfort, age 11 Grade K-2

Aliyah, age 9 Grade K-2

Sponsorship is the most important component to the success of our Orphanage/Child Welfare Project. Just thirty-five dollars (\$35US) monthly ensures that our sponsored children (orphans, abandoned, abused, neglected or living in extreme poverty) have all their basic needs met. Sponsorship provides daily delicious/nutritious meals, clothing, shoes, education, medical and supervised recreational activities in a secure Christ-centered nurturing environment. There are currently 29 residents in this home – 19 females and 10 males ranging in age from 6 to 18. Many of them, including those above, do not have sponsors. Sponsorship would guarantee a continuation of their residency and the beautiful smiles on their faces. *Will you become a sponsor?* They're waiting to hear from you.

INTERNET ACCESS WOULD BECOME THEIR GATEWAY TO KNOWLEDGE

Throughout Liberia, there are enormous gaps in the opportunity for the average person to gain the knowledge and skills needed to escape poverty and a lifetime of suffering and hopelessness. With the improvements LO/HP, Inc. has made over the years, the SIC orphanage and school facility is now in a position to significantly increase the number of people served by becoming a resource and development training center to those who they currently serve and many within the community. The next step in this forward leap is to establish internet services within the compound which will be a gateway of knowledge that has never been available to them. The benefits of having this resource of access in all subject areas and in various technologies, vocational and technical skills are immeasurable. This life changing and revenue generating project can start with an initial investment of *\$2,312US* for *one year provision* of internet services including the \$150US monthly service charge. We need donors and international trainers. *Please give to this cause!*

KITCHEN EXPANSION PROJECT – CATERING SERVICES



LO/HP, Inc. constructed the kitchen building in the orphanage compound in 2018 and all cooking is done on the porch using coal made from burnt wood. We are appealing for **\$2,500US** to build an addition to this structure which will allow an indoor cooking room 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.

COMPUTER LAB EXPANSION PROJECT

The current computers at the orphanage school still use Vista and XP operating systems and are definitely in need of an upgrade. So, we are seeking the donation of **20 All-in-One Computers**, **20 computer tables**, **2 scanners**, **3 printers** and a projector system to upgrade their computer lab. To meet the demand for additional electrical power, we are also appealing for **12 solar panels** and **12 solar panel batteries** to augment our existing Solar Panel System which is often overpowered by the electrical load demand. We will be seeking these items from outside Liberia due to the quality of electrical equipment available in the country. Whatever assistance you can provide will be greatly appreciated. *Become an advocate! Help us...Help Them!*

Mrs. Sharon L. Ruff, Founder/ CEO The Liberian Orphanage/Humanitarian Projects, Inc. Post Office Box #1050 Washington, D. C. 20013 Phone: (202) 232-LOHP Website: www.lohp-usa.org

E-mail: liberiancare@yahoo.com

Our Mission

8

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.



Developed nations are enormously blessed! We take so many things for granted that are considered luxuries in other countries. Such is the case in the Republic of Liberia where there are no public welfare, medical or food stamps assistance programs for impoverished individuals, and where access to electricity, clean water and public sanitation systems is limited.

Liberia is a developing country and is in transition, but it is still one of the poorest countries in the world. Many of its citizens also have no access to education and no way to escape poverty. A small donation can mean so much to the children in Liberian orphanages, the Blind, Unwed Mothers, and the disadvantaged at every age. There are dire needs at every level. **Please search your hearts and give a donation today?**

It gives us great satisfaction to sponsor life-changing projects for orphanages, humanitarian efforts, unwed mothers, educational enrichment and our special initiative for the Blind. These projects have been successful due to the efforts of caring sponsors, partners and volunteers just like you. We welcome all those who have a heart of compassion towards the poor and the needy. Whatever assistance you can provide will be greatly appreciated. Please consider becoming a monthly sponsor or a partner today. We need Braille laptop computers and new washing machines & dryers.

Foreign made vehicles (cars, trucks, and school buses, less than 6 years old in good running condition) [USA parts are hard to get in Liberia.] are urgently needed. Volunteers are also needed! Perhaps you can provide supportive assistance for our humanitarian projects. Make tax-deductible donations payable to "LIBERIAN ORPHANAGE / HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS, INC." or "LO/HP, Inc."

Donate through Paypal on our website: <u>www.lohp-usa.org</u> or mail your donation to the address above. Your donation will significantly improve the quality of life for the poor!

Name:		
Address:		
City	_ State Zip code	
I pledge to donate monthly\$ (sponsorship of orp	han(s); Specific child	
I pledge to donate monthly to the Blind Initiatives\$; specific project		
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\$1,000or	more (please specify)	