



CHILDREN EMPOWERED FOR SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM
BASSA COMMUNITY, KAKATA, MARGIBI COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN MINISTRY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN LIBERIA

A. CESPRO, What is It?

CESPRO is an acronym of Children Empowered for Sustainability Program.

It is an outreach arm of our Ministry to meeting the spiritual, social, emotional, mental, and physical needs of girls children and youth victims of rape by outlaw fellow Liberians;
Girls made sexual slaves during the civil war;
Girls victims of abusive situations and overwhelmed by deep poverty;
Those who are suffering of neglect and have turned to forced prostitution in their demise where sexual intercourse practices are given in exchange of a shelter in the city of Kakata;
Those who have turned to drug addiction because of not knowing what to do and where to go next; an inducement into immorality, juvenile delinquency with consequence of early pregnancy.

For the 75 girls registered after intensive interview in New Kakata to regain their dignities and worth, I propose through this program, alternatives as suggested in the Program and Activities section.



Orientation of 75 girls interviewed in New Kakata

B. Girls social context

- Internally Displaced Girls, uprooted from Bomi and Bong counties, running away from LURD Rebels' atrocities during the war;

- Some were captured, abused and lived by force with boy friends belonging to either GOL or LURD forces with very limited freedom of movements

- Poor and have little or half education are living by groups to survive through sexual intercourses;

- Early pregnancy and have a child or two born in the midst of uncertainty;

- Little ones are roaming the street and victims of exploitation; Suffering of neglect...

C. Programs and Activities

- Self – reliance program : rebuild trust and self esteem in them;
- Counseling and spiritual guidance: detraumatize those affected and sexually addicted and other addiction; time to suggest alternative vision of gaining life;
- Devotion and contemplative Prayer: find reconciliation with their pain; bear the pain of rejection from the world, time to portray Apostle Paul's message in I Cor. 6:18 - 19

- Sexual education and family planning
- Teachings on HIV / AIDS and drugs abuse with vision to train them to become AIDS AWARENESS CHILDREN CLUBS in the communities
- On this cycle, Skills Training in Pastry / Baking, Soap making, Tie and dye, Sewing and crocheting with their 18 machines (improvement), typing and secretariat hints, cosmetology for now



Typing class with Ms. Nyama



Sewing class & new machines



Lynda from the Sewing class



Textile Tie and dye in action

E. IMPROVEMENT

- I have improved the number of skills during the three first months of this cycle operation with little funds;

- Feeding added on the program for two days a week to help girls in their struggle for life



- Sport activities added to cater to their physical fitness

Needs are numerous: Funds (running off funds) to purchase training materials, needs of micro credit after six month training (Graduation) - what will be next? – *This is an opportunity to do ministry and influence a girl behavioral change!!*

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