

NARRATIVE REPORT

Project # 95220

Date of report: June 21, 2017

Project Name: Liberian Church Ebola Response

Report for the period: May – June 2017

Vision of the project

The vision of this project is to equip the Evangelical Church of Liberia with the funds required to engage meaningfully in multiple facets of Ebola response with the aims of protecting those at risk, providing for those who are suffering, and caring for those who are grieving. ECOL will intensify Ebola awareness campaigns, assist with the societal reintegration of those who survive, provide relief support to affected family members, and provide counseling services to those living through this trauma.

Project background

Liberia is Africa's oldest republic with a population of just over 4 million people. In recent history, the country suffered through a long-running civil war which killed approximately 250,000 people and left the country in economic ruin (the GNI per capita is \$330). The conflict also left the country with a vulnerable public health infrastructure making the government unable to effectively manage the rampant transmission of the Ebola virus. The Ebola virus has been spreading in Liberia since March. There have been approximately 5,000 cases to date (with approximately 65% fatality). There are approximately 20,000 contacts of infected people indentified and about 10,000 of these are actively being followed up. The church is in the epicenter of caring for the vulnerable, the quarantined, the grieving, and the survivors.

Progress

The Liberian Church Ebola Project team distributed relief items to **38** Ebola affected people during the months of May and June 2017. This was the second relief distribution by the project team in 2017. Each beneficiary received a 25 kg bag of rice, one 3-gallon container of refined vegetable oil, a pack of cube, 10 bars of laundry soap, and half dozen of bath soap. A follow-up counseling went alongside the distribution. Each beneficiary had a counseling appointment with a pastor.

One of the beneficiaries, Solomon King, who is an Ebola survivor, is in need of professional help. He is now addicted to alcohol since he was discharged from the Ebola Treatment Unit. Solomon lost both parents and a younger sister to Ebola in 2014, and contracted the virus himself while giving care to his infected family members.

STORY:

Bindu Konneh, an Ebola survivor and relief beneficiary, has made great progress since she started benefiting from the project nearly two years ago. She used the grant we gave her to start a small business which has been doing very well. She has used the profit from the business to get her only son into college and to take care of family needs. Bindu has recovered well and

currently shows no severe Ebola survivor-related symptoms/illnesses. When we visited her last month, her response was, “I am so grateful to ECOL for helping me reach this far in my recovery. I never thought that I would feel like a human being again. My oil palm business is doing well, my son is in college and I am happy. I am very grateful that God cares for even me and He has sent you to make the difference in my life. Thank you so much.”

PHOTOS:



Ebola survivor Solomon King



Ebola orphan James Togba with Pastor Moses



LEFT: Pastor Moses (1st on 2nd roll from left) with Ebola orphans and their caretaker grandfather (last on 2nd roll). RIGHT: Bro. David Konyon and children. The wife/mother died of Ebola in 2014.



Pastor Moses in photo with two female beneficiaries - ____ (left), partially paralyzed by stroke, and ____ (right) a bling widow.

Prayer request

Please join us in prayer for:

- **the Lord's continued provision to enable us assist those in need regularly.**
- **Solomon King who is in need of professional help to resolve his addiction problems.**

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