

**WE-CARE FOUNDATION /FOL/ HIPPY  
FAMILY LITERACY INITIATIVE  
YEAR 2 FOURTH QUARTER REPORT  
August -November 2017**

**Executive Summary**

The Family Literacy Initiative (FLI) of the WE-CARE Foundation/Friends of Liberia (FOL)/HIPPY USA is a child-centered education program in Liberia that works with parents, giving them the skills, tools and confidence they need to become their children first teacher and preparing them for success in school. The program has ended its second year, with in its original 3 communities of Duazon, Caldwell and West Point. Beneficiaries included 120 families involving 123 children and 12 practice children of home visitors, 12 home visitors under the supervision of two coordinators. This report consists of activities which covered the last home visits, Bracken assessment training with Dr. Jo-Ann Butty, administrating of the post Bracken assessment, execution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> closing program, the administration of a parent's survey and the implementation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> general home visitors workshop. Here are the details of each activity.



## Number of home visits per home visitor from July-September 2017

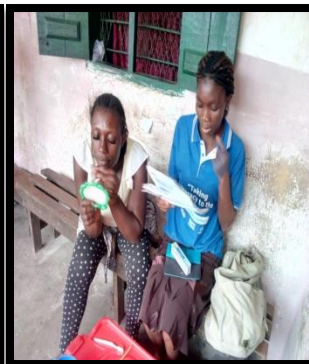
The data below explain the remaining home visits of the month of July to September; including delay family that constitutes 20 families in the three communities. The total completed visits for the three communities is 1200 and total delayed visits for the three communities is 240, there was 1440 visits from July to September this year.

**Table A**

No	Community/Name	#of family	R-visit	C-visit	D-family	D- visit	Total visit
	<b>Caldwell</b>						
1	Jeff Gbaleh	12	168	144	2	24	168
2	Henrietta Sackie	10	168	120	4	48	168
3	James Morris	6	72	72	0	0	72
4	Amina Meneplay	6	72	72	0	0	72
	<b>Total =</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>480</b>
	<b>West point</b>						
1	Nathaniel Wreh	9	168	108	5	60	168
2	Mercy Q. Nagbe	10	168	120	4	48	168
3	Tenneh Teweh	6	72	72	0	0	72
4	Genevieve Akoi	6	72	72	0	0	72
	<b>Totals =</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>480</b>
	<b>Duazon</b>						
1	Louise Zayzay	17	204	192	1	12	204
2	Florence C. Zor	10	120	120	0	0	120
3	Lovetee During	6	72	48	2	24	72
4	Rufus Joe	7	84	60	2	24	84
	<b>Total =</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>480</b>

Key-R-visit = required visit / C-visit = Completed visit / D-family = delayed family / D-visit = delayed visit

## ROLE PLAY ACTIVITIES DURING VISITS WITHIN THE THREE COMMUNITIES



## GROUP MEETING

As one of the program strengths, the family literacy Initiative conducts group meetings for its parents as a means to provide confidence building, sharing of experience, and improving literacy skills among the parents. Through the engagement during this time, the home visitors and the coordinators initiated the building of strong working and family relationships with the parents. Children within the program were also brought to the group meetings. They interacted with their peers facilitated by the home visitors in a manner that promoted literacy and social developments.

For 2017, the Family Literacy Initiative conducted 4 group meetings in each of the 3 communities below: Caldwell, West Point and Duazon. The chart below indicates the communities, number of parents in attendance , months and dates of meetings.

**Table B.**

### 1. Caldwell

		Parents				
Community	Month	Male	Female	Dates	Total	Comment
Caldwell	March	11	37	18-2017	48	Regular
Caldwell	June	8	20	17-2017	28	Regular
Caldwell	July	11	24	13-2017	35	Regular
Caldwell	August	9	25	14-2017	34	Regular

### 2. West Point

		Parents				
Community	Month	Male	Female	Dates	Total	Comment
West point	March	8	30	25-2017	38	Regular
West point	May	2	30	30-2017	32	Regular
West point	June	5	22	24-2017	27	Regular
West point	July	3	22	20-2017	25	Regular

### 3. Duazon

		Parents				
Community	Month	Male	Female	Dates	Total	Comment
Duazon	March	5	26	11-2017	31	Regular
Duazon	May	6	20	27-2017	26	Regular
Duazon	June	2	7	10-2017	9	Regular
Duazon	July	7	24	6-2017	31	Regular

**Note: The August group meeting in Caldwell including Dr. David Rosen**

#### GROUP MEETING PICTURE



**Group meeting @ Caldwell with Dr. Rosen & Mr. Weah**



**Coordinator David leading group meeting session.**



**Coordinator Gbima leading group meeting session**

## BRACKEN ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

FLI is a result oriented program and assessment is one of the key components of the program. Gear toward conducting reliable quantitative Assessment, FLI provides quality training for its assessors including the coordinators. The Bracken School Readiness test is one of the tools used for such training.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, WE-CARE/FOL/HIPPY in partnership with Dr. Jo-Anne Butty, facilitator from the USA, conducted a one day training session on the administration of the Bracken School Readiness test, for twenty one participants. The participants included three assessors, three coordinators, six home visitors, three ECD trainers, two Reading Liberia monitors, two WE-CARE support staff and two persons from the Ministry of Education, Bureau of Early Childhood Education that included the Assistant Minister, Hon. Florence Allen Jones. During the morning session all the participants were part of the training, after lunch the assessors, WE-CARE and FLI team completed the session getting the assessors ready for the administration of the post assessment with children in the program. The workshop covered the following:

- General Administration Rules
- Scoring of the raw data
- Analyzing and calculating the chronological ages
- Practice with children within the age range
- Usage of the Bracken Manuel

The training enabled the participants to have an understanding of how the Bracken assessment results would impact the program especially in following the progress of the children.

Here are some pictures of work session and practice activity.



## BRACKEN ASSESSMENT

FLI continued to carry out its assessment to provide the program with the qualitative and quantitative data to determine quality, relevance and effectiveness of the program.

The post Bracken School Readiness assessment for years 1 & 2 was conducted over a period of four days, in the following communities – Caldwell, Duazon and West Point in September from the 12- 15 , 2017. The Assessment covered 121 children in the three communities. The three Assessors were Ruby Martin, Samuel G. Nyantee and Siatta G. Dorbor. The three days were used directly for assessment in the communities and the fourth day was scoring and revisits.

**TABLE C: SHOWS THE YEAR 1 & 2 CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES INVOLVED**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>COMMUNITY</b>	<b># OF YEAR 1</b>	<b># OF YEAR 2</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>DROP</b>
12-08-2017	Duazon	26 children	13 children	39	1
13-08-2017	Caldwell	25 children	14 children	39	1
14-08-2017	West point	23 children	17 children	40	
15-08-2017	WestPoint /scoring				

### PICTURE DURING THE ASSESSMENT



Mrs. Saitta Dorbor @ Westpoint



Mrs. Ruby Martin @ Caldwell



Mr. Samuel Nyatee @ Duazon

## **SECOND CLOSING PROGRAM**

FLI held its second closing program on September 29, 2017 at the YMCA Gymnasium on crown Hill. This program brought together 120 parents, 122 children, and two community leaders from each community. Special guests at the program included: Hon Felecia Doe Somah, Assistant Minister for Basic and Secondary Education, Ministry of Education, WE-CARE Board Chairman, Mr. Kroyahn Weefur and board member Rudolph J. Merab, Hon. Yukhiko Anon former Assistant Minister, and the three regional directors of the Bureau of Early Childhood Education, friends and well-wishers.

### **PICTURES OF SOME ACTIVITIES DURING THE CLOSING PROGRAM**



*Duazon children demonstrate reading skills*



*Caldwell children demonstrate phonetic skills*



*Ruby Martin (FLI assessor) present certificates*



*WE-CARE Board along with ED & FLI children*



*Cross session of parents*



*Cross sessions of Guests*

## PARENT/CAREGIVER SURVEY

The program in working with parents to help them prepare their children for school is also helping the parents develop their literacy skills as they work with their child/children. It is from this back ground that the parent/caregiver survey was conducted. The aim was to have an understanding of the parents' needs and ways to improve their literacy skills. The survey also sought to inform the program on the parents strength and weaknesses and what are needed to improve the children learning outcomes. The survey covered 114 parents in three communities – Caldwell, West Point and Duazon respectively. The 120 parents in the program were expected to be covered by the survey. However, not all of the parents were present at home during the time of the survey. The survey was conducted October 5 – 13, 2017.

The completed tool of the survey was scanned and sent to Dr. Ron Martz for analysis. Below is the table that shows the number of parents in each community that answered the survey questions and those who were absent.

Table A.

COMMUNITY	SURVEY COVERS	ABSENT	DROP FAMILY	TOTAL FAMILY
Caldwell	40	----	-----	40
West Point	39	1	-----	40
Duazon	35	3	2	40
Total:	114	4	2	120

*The surveyors were: Ruby martin, Samuel G. Nyantee & Siatta Gatewah Dorbor*

*David & Michelle Visit within the communities.....*



*David Rosen visits within the communities.....*





## **Michelle M. Brown visits Caldwell community**

### **THIRD GENERAL TRAINING WORKSHOP**

The program conducts its general home visitors training workshop in November of each year. Year 3 home visitors' workshop was from November 13-17, 2017. The training session brought together the twelve (12) home visitors from year 1 and 2, two persons from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), Big Belle Business (BBB), the Bracken assessors, WE-CARE monitors and twelve shortlisted home visitors (of which six should have been selected) but nine home visitors were selected instead to served. This was done due to the results of the year 2 post Bracken assessment results at which time it was suggested that the home visitors would be given fewer families. . Each one of these home visitors were given less number of families and salary was allotted based on the number of families they would be working with. The home visitors came from the regular three communities and the additional new community called Neezoe.

The workshops to train both the old and new home visitors covered:

- Understanding the FLI program , its partners and beneficiaries
- Introduction to the curriculum activities (1, 2&3) and the Role play.
- The Curriculum – its components
- Understanding the parents' role
- Individual and group practices
- Conducting group meetings
- Professional development
- Dialogic reading

Workshop facilitators were:

- Michelle Meckin Brown
- Gbima K. Bahtokpah
- Yvonne Capehart Weah
- David R. Sonjor

During the formal opening the Executive Director of WE-CARE, Mr. T. Michael Weah welcome and thanked Mrs. Michelle Meckin Brown from HIPPY, USA through Friends of Liberia (FOL) for taking the challenge to come and help train the home visitors and the coordinators. In the same token, he welcome all the participants for coming and asked them to fully participate as the training was a learning curve for them. To the incoming home visitors, he told them to involve themselves in all the workshop activities as this would count in the selection process.

Mrs. Michelle Micken Brown led the first session with the HIPPY Model in which she clearly explained how HIPPY Model works and discussed the different components of it. She was followed by WE-CARE Coordinator, Madam Yvonne Capehart Weah who explained to the participants about the goal and objectives of the Family Literacy Initiative Program, how it came about in Liberia and who are the partners and direct beneficiaries.

**PICTURE OF ACTIVITY DURING THE TRAINING SESSION**



*Cross session of pictures during the training.....Mitchell & Yvonne take the lead.....*



*Cross session of role play activities during the training....*



*Coordinators David & Gbima led a group session during the training.....*

