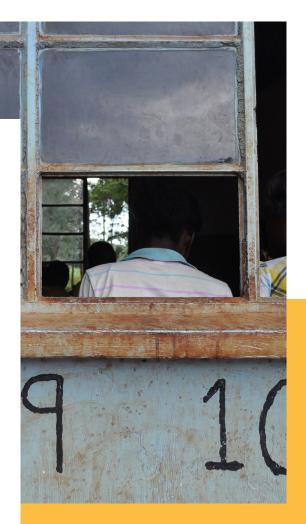


The 2019 Liberia Literacy Landscape

FRIENDS OF LIBERIA



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THE 2019 LIBERIA LITERACY LANDSCAPE

THE 2019 LIBERIA LITERACY PROGRAMS

Literacy NGO's and Organizations in Liberia and a companion to the paper, showing by county the location of Liberia literacy programs.

Presented by the Education Working Group of Friends of Liberia. www. fol.org

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HEALTH. GENDER EQUALITY. POVERTY. EVERY IMPORTANT SOCIAL ISSUE IS IMPACTED BY LOW LITERACY.

ProLiteracy International

About Us

The Liberia Literacy Landscape Paper and its companion piece, the Liberia Literacy Mapping project, are the result of five years of research by Friends of Liberia Education Working Group members Virginia (Jinny) Hesel and Mary Gemignani, to document organizations working in the area of preschool to adult literacy in Liberia.

Both Virginia and Mary were Peace Corps Volunteers in Liberia in the late 1960s. Since that time Virginia (Jinny) has worked in the field of public elementary education and then in independent school education as a history teacher and school principal in coed and single sex boys and girls' middle schools in New York City, Cambridge and Boston, MA. Mary was the director of a private early education school, a public school teacher, special educator and assistant principal. She is currently an adjunct professor at Northern Vermont University.

Website: https://english.alfalit.org/

ALFALIT INTERNATIONAL - LIBERIA INC.

Alfalit International is a faith-based nonprofit organization committed to providing educational and literacy programs in the hardest-to-reach areas of post-conflict countries. They have been operational in Liberia since 2006 where they run basic literacy and job skills programs with the mission to eradicate illiteracy. They also provide a scholarship program that, since 2016, has assisted nearly 12,000 students from kindergarten to college level who cannot afford school tuition. Because classes are held wherever Alfalit can access donated space, learning may take place in a church, on a porch, or under a tree.

Liberia Working Locations: Bong, Gbarpolu, Grand Gedeh, Nimba, and River Gee

LITERACY PROGRAMS	Presently Alfalit runs literacy programs and educational assistance with emphasis on adult literacy business skills. In May 2016 forty-four new teachers were recruited and trained specifically to work with adults on literacy skills.
FUNDING	United States Agency for International Development (USAID), private foun- dations, and individual donors. USAID granted Alfalit International 10.49 million between 2006 and 2014. Alfalit Liberia received an extended grant of \$550,000 from McCall McBain Foundation in 2016.
EFFICACY	Alfalit has afforded literacy to over 80,000 Liberians and can teach a stu- dent to read and write for approximately \$145. The Alfalit program is able to take an illiterate student through a third grade level of education within 9-12 months. In 2016, over 500 teachers and facilitators educated more than 7,800 en- rolled students.
CONTACTS	Opposite YWCA, Tubman Boulevard Congo Town Monrovia, Liberia Apartment #A 722 Tel: +231-866-8775, +231-770-425328+ Email: Info@alfalitliberia.org Alfalitliberia2006@gmail.com

Website: http://code.ngo

CODE Canadian Organization for Development Through Education

CODE supports a network of partner organizations to design, deliver, and evaluate quality literacy programs. CODE supports literacy and learning through professional development workshops for teachers and librarians, local publishing, support for libraries, and donations of books. Through CODE local authors, illustrators, editors and publishers produce children's publications in local languages.

Liberia Working Locations: Montserrado County: Monrovia

LITERACY PROGRAMS	sional development training and	CODE and the WE-CARE Foundation, Inc. work together to provide profes- sional development training and support for teachers and to create high quality, locally produced books for children.		
FUNDING	Council for International Coopera English Catholic Teachers' Associa	ook Bank, Kinross Gold Corp., Manitoba tion, Megaloid Laboratories, Ontario tion, RJL Braydon Charitable Foundation, erta Teachers' Association, private donors,		
EFFICACY	 training. 108,000 books and posters were 810 educators will be trained in Reading 20/20 (WCF) aims to estaction across 5 districts, more than 600 to 	to combine quality books with teacher e shipped to Ebola affected areas in 2014. reading and writing instruction by 2020. stablish programs in 60 schools spread eachers and principals will upgrade their children will be directly impacted by		
CONTACTS	CANADA Canadian Organization for Development Through Education 321 Chapel Street Ottawa, ON K1N 7Z2, Canada	LIBERIA WE-CARE Foundation E-mail: we-carefoundation@wecare.library Carey/Gurley Streets P. O. Box 1072 Monrovia, Liberia		

Website: http://fol.org/programs/literacy-initiative/

FAMILY LITERACY INITIATIVE

The Family Literacy Initiative (FLI) is an early childhood development program grounded in the belief that learning begins at home and that parents are a child's first teachers. FLI's goal is to help parents prepare their preschool children for success in school and in life, and to empower parents by giving them the tools, skills and confidence they need to successfully work with their children in the home.

Liberia Working Locations: Margibi County: Duazon, Neezoe, Montserrado County: Upper Caldwell Township, and West Point, Monrovia

PARTNERS	FLI is a partnership with Friends of Liberia Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY In Foundation, working closely with the Lib Bureau of Early Childhood Education (Mo	nternational), and WE-CARE erian Ministry of Education,
LITERACY PRORGRAMS	FLI uses the HIPPY approach to early lear home instruction, based on the beliefs th every parent wants what is best for his or group meetings are used to teach parent visitors, hired from within the community professional coordinator.	hat every child can learn and r her child. Weekly home visits and rs how to teach their child. Home
FUNDING	Friends of Liberia Board of Directors, Frie The Rolander Foundation, The Internatio Foundations, as well as substantial in-kin contributions from HIPPY staff.	nal Foundation, The Open Society
EFFICACY	A rigorous evaluation was conducted that Results showed that the majority of child as a result of the Family Literacy Initiative 2017, FLI has expanded to 120 families in hired and trained an additional six home in the Ministry of Education's (MOE) five-y childhood plan. Full evaluation reports an (www.fol.org).	ren showed significant progress . For November 2016 – October the same three communities, visitors, and has been included year sectoral plan and its early
CONTACTS	WE-CARE Foundation, Inc. E-mail: we-carefoundation@wecare.library Carey/Gurley Streets P. O. Box 1072 Monrovia, Liberia T. Michael Weah, Executive Director Email: wecarelib@yahoo.com Yvonne Capehart, Program Coordinator Email: yvonnecapehart@yahoo.com	Don Drach, Co-Chair, Email: dondrach@gmail.com Mary Gemignani, Co-Chair, Email: mkgemignani@gmail.com Miriam Westheimer, Director, HIPPY International Email: mwestheimer@hotmail.com

Website: http://imanihouse.org/liberia-new

IMANI HOUSE, INC.

Imani House is an international charity for children and families that has been working in Liberia since 1989. It serves a mostly female population through literacy sites in or near major markets. Building women's literacy skills and self-reliance is at the core of Imani House's mission. Imani House plans to expand its literacy programs throughout Liberia as resources become available believing that a literate population, especially among women, is essential to the development of a country.

Liberia Working Locations: Adult Literacy only: Montserrado County: Open air Duala Market, Indoor-Rally-Time Market and St. Mary's School

PARTNERS	The Liberian Marketing Association administers all market spaces in the country and collaborates with Imani House to bring the adult education directly to the market places. The Sustainable Market Women's Fund has been instrumental in assisting the Adult Education program in locating spaces in several Monrovia market places. Imani House has been an affiliate of Proliteracy on the ground in Liberia since 1985.		
LITERACY PROGRAMS	civics, and math classes ead literacy classes four days a the largest Monrovia marke • Imani House's literacy pro their literacy skills, thus the the family, prioritize educa	It Education provides free reading, writing, ch year to over 190 market women who attend week. Classes are held in or adjacent to some of ets listed above. ogram educates women by helping to build ey can improve their business practices, support tion for children and make rational decisions d leadership of the community and country.	
FUNDING	46% Government, 7% Foundation, 8% Individual Donors, 23% In-Kind Contributions.		
EFFICACY	Imani House provides func	tional adult literacy to 190 market women.	
CONTACTS	LIBERIA Phone: 231-88025-4110	U.S.A Bisi Ideraabdullah, Executive Director Email: imani@imanihouse.org Phone: (718) 638-2059 76-A Fifth Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11217	

KEEP Kids' Education Engagement Project

KEEP provides educational support for Pre-K to Sixth Grade children, targeting children from underprivileged backgrounds. It provides reading and other learning materials that help build children's reading skills and vocabulary. KEEP supports girls, particularly at the primary school level. It engages in women and girls' empowerment, economic livelihood, access to justice, promotion of rights in schools, and strengthening youth education through computer and reading literacy programs, child sponsorship and advocacy. KEEP is also involved with teacher training. It focuses on reading strategies that promote and encourage children to read better. It regularly conducts trainings with teachers in rural Liberia.

Liberia Working Locations: Gbarpolu, Grand Gedeh, Rivercess, and Montserrado Counties

PARTNERS	Open Society in West Africa (OSIWA) Liberia and Action Aid Liberia
LITERACY PRORGRAMS	KEEP sponsors programs in computer literacy, reading literacy, life-skills training, and tutorials. It ensures teachers adopt strategies to provide student access to books and reading literacy. KEEP also provides teacher training geared toward encouraging teachers to incorporate more teaching techniques to improve student reading skills.
FUNDING	Self-fundraising through dinners, walks, and lunches; Rotary Club of Monrovia, Liberia Telecommunication Authority, Tools of Learning, GT Bank Liberia, Corporate funding from Petro Trade, Kn TV, Royal Grand Hotel, Body Zone Fitness and Spa, Office Ideas, Royal Club, and APM Terminals.
EFFICACY	 KEEP provided start-up educational packets for over 3000 students and established after-school tutorials for over 2000 children. KEEP founded four reading centers and is actively involved in establishing libraries in each of the three counties where KEEP works. KEEP provided "Back-to-School" bags for beneficiaries in the greater Monrovia area. KEEP engages in girls' and women empowerment, economic livelihood, access to justice, and promotion of rights in school.
CONTACTS	Brenda Brewer Moore, Founder and Executive Director Brenda.moore@keeplib.org; morre.brenda@gmail.com Gbarpolu, Lofa County: Owen Kolleh, County Coordinator Email: info@keeplib.org Tel: 231 886624310 4 Carey and Lynch Streets, Suite 2, Monrovia, Liberia Tel: 231 777510731 and 231 886510731

LIBERIA READS! Association of Literacty Educators (ALE)

Website: http://www.facebook.com/Association-of-Literacy-Educators-Liberia

ALE is a Liberian NGO founded in 2011 by educators trained in the Liberia Reads! (LR) curriculum. Its primary objective is to promote national literacy through the expansion and practice of LR methodology and policies. ALE trainers use LR training, curriculum, books and materials to provide intensive staff development to teachers of kindergarten–3rd grade who teach in resource-poor classrooms, have limited pedagogical knowledge, and low levels of personal literacy. ALE also organizes refresher workshops, inter-school competitions, conferences and International Literacy Day celebrations.

Liberia Working Locations: Bong County: Bellemu, Gbargna, Goll Farm, Suakoko; Grand Cape Mount County: Vonzua; Margibi County: Duarzon and Kakata; Montserrado County: Monrovia and Paynesville

PARTNERS	 The Children's Reading Co International Literacy Ass 		, Florida, USA
LITERACY PRORGRAMS	language development, flu blocks: Working with Words Reading (applying phonics (teacher read aloud and inc conducted by the LR count 30-hour refresher training a • A second reading progra	ency, and comprehensions s (specific phonics and s skills to reading real boo dependent reading prace ry director and veteran after their first year. m, Liberia Reads To Lear and Liberian educators	. It is a set of 450 multileveled,
FUNDING	Children's Reading Center, I Association grants; Stella M		donations; International Literacy via, in-kind assistance.
EFFICACY	 A 2016-17 independent assessment of Liberia Reads! students using the EGRA assessment instrument found that 73% of 3rd graders met or exceeded USAID's international reading benchmarks. There are currently 29 schools practicing LR; 21 ALE trainers are certified as LR trainers. LR's guided readers and teacher read aloud books for K-3, which reflect the country's rich culture while maintaining an international, evidenced-based curricular scope and sequence, are produced in Liberia and available locally at low cost. Peace Corps/Liberia distributes LRL kits to every Volunteer, and the USAID Liberia Teacher Training Program (LTTP) introduced it into 100 schools. 		
CONTACTS	U.S.A. Geri Melosh, The Chil- dren's Reading Center Executive Director, Email: gerimelosh@gmail.com	LIBERIA Siaffa Korkoyah, ALE President, Email: siaffapreston- korkoyah@gmail.com	LIBERIA Lyn Gray, Liberia Reads! Country Direc- tor, Email: lynhowell- gray@gmail.com

Website: https://www.facebook.com/pg/infonaeal/about/?ref=page_internal

National Adult Educational Association of Liberia

Established in 1977 by a group of young Liberian educators interested in promoting literacy in Liberia, NAEAL operates several programs. It works in partnership with communities and their representatives as well as implementing partners. It coordinates activities with the government of Liberia through the Ministry of Education (MoE) and partners to reduce literacy in Liberia as well as meaningfully empowering the learners.

NAEAL is governed by a seven-member board of directors and managed by a team headed by an executive director and 11 permanent staff. NAEAL's overall mission is to promote functional literacy in sustaining community development that leads to social transformation. Ms. Allen, the executive director, called on the government and international partners to rally support for NAEAL in order to make Liberia a better society in its adult literacy development.

Liberia Working Locations: In14 of 15 counties

LITERACY PROGRAMS

• The Level 2 literacy program curriculum was launched in February 2018. Ms. Allen said "...that the launch of this program should not be beyond expectation because NAEAL is launching its National Mass Literacy program to get many adults to learn how to read, but noted that the program would be successful with the support of the central government and international partners." The new program will last nine months and targets vulnerable and economically challenged women, men, youth and children, including people living with disabilities. The Deputy Education Minister (MoE), Felecia Doe Somah says it serves as a commitment from President George Weah's "Pro-poor policy."

• NAEAL develops and uses its own literacy materials to facilitate adult learning at the community level.

• The learning approach is a combination of Reflect methodology, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), and Participatory Adult Learning Principles (PALP).

PARTNERS

The Finnish Refugee Council and working partnerships with Liberian communities and their representatives.

The Finnish Refugee Council.

FUNDING

EFFICACY	 The organization has trained more than 500 literacy facilitators and 13,00 learners across Liberia. Beneficiaries have gained self-esteem and additional skills in writing as well as improved communication skills. Two-thirds of NAEAL's beneficiaries have been vulnerable and economically changed men, women and children. The literacy program has been changing the lives of people from what Ms. Allen called "zero level" up to the point where learners can read and write letters and short sentences.
	LIBERIA
CONTACTS	Ms. Desterlyn Allen, Executive Director
	Email: naeal.executive.director@gmail.com
	Tel: +231 88 659 1634
	Siafa Morris, Adult Literacy Coordinator
	Email: naealliteracy@gmail.com
	Tel: +231 88 820 0281
	Kpor Town, Shiefflin Township, Margibi County

Website: https://www.dvv-international.de/adult-education-and-development/

PAMOJA LIBERIA REFLECT Network

Pamoja Liberia was founded in 2010 to foster solidarity among REFLECT Network and literacy practitioners at different levels in Liberia. Pamoja is a duly registered and accredited network of local NGOS. Pamoja Liberia is an affiliate of Pamoja West Africa, which promotes and facilitates access to lifelong learning for adults and young people in order to contribute to sustainable development in its member countries.

It advocates for literacy and promotes the use of the REFLECT approach for literacy training as an effective tool for empowering communities, social change, literacy and learning. REFLECT started in 1993 in Latin America in response to past failures in literacy campaigns throughout the world. It is an innovative approach to adult learning and social change, which fuses the theories of Paulo Friere with participatory methodologies.

Pamoja Liberia's mission is to advocate and enhance people's participation in community development and social transformation through REFLECT and literacy, including other participatory rural appraisal tools for lifelong learning.

Liberia Working Locations: Montserrado County: Johnsonville Township

LITERACY PROGRAMS & EDUCATION OBJECTIVES	 Priority objectives of REFLECT in Liberia are five: 1. To contribute to increasing literacy rates. 2. The establishment and monitoring of non-formal education policies. 3. The allocation of at least 3% of national education budgets to literacy programs. 4. To encourage the use of REFLECT and shared learning from good practices. 5. The establishment of effective mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the implementation of commitments to youth and Adult Education.
PARTNERS	 Liberia's Membership Organizations and NGOs: Self Help Initiative for Sustainable Development (SHIFSD) National Adult Education Association of Liberia (NAEAL) Liberia Study Group and Community Empowerment (LSGCE) People Empowerment Program (PEP) Pamoja coordinates activities of member organizations through meetings, experience sharing, and training.
FUNDING	DVV International (In English, Institute for International Cooperation of the Ger- man Adult Education Association), Pamoja West Africa, and Save The Children.
CONTACTS	LIBERIA Jeremiah Burgess, Executive Director jburgess@shifsd.org Tel: +231-(0)88 68 74 950/770024082

Website: http://peacecorps.gov/liberia/projects

PEACE CORPS RESPONSE

Peace Corps Response sends experienced professionals to undertake short-term, targeted service assignments in communities around the world for 3-12 months. Since the program was founded in 1996 as the "Crisis Corps" more than 3,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps Response Volunteers in over 80 countries. The positions are highly specialized and technical in the areas of agriculture, education, environment, health, community economic development, and youth in development. The Peace Corps Response mission has three simple goals:

- 1. Helping the peoples of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women.
- 2. Helping promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served.
- 3. Helping promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

PEACE CORPS RESPONSE IN LIBERIA

Liberia Working Locations: Bomi County: Tubmanburg, Margibi County: Kakata. *See WE-CARE FOUNDATION in this document if more information is desired.

LITERACY PROGRAMS

The WE-CARE FOUNDATION in Monrovia has been assigned two Peace Corps Response Volunteers who are working directly with WE-CARE'S school-based literacy program, "Reading Liberia." They assist with:

- Training and monitoring teachers
- Assessing students' reading skills and how to improve them
- Working with the school libraries established by WE-CARE in all of its 31 project schools

• Analyzing assessment data in order to inform the program and move forward

PEACE CORPS RESPONSE LIBERIA LITERACY POSITIONS: All below departed 9/2/2018

- Literacy Teacher Trainer: 2 positions
- Literacy Specialist: 2 positions

CONTACTS

USA TOLL FREE: Tel: (855) 855-1961 EMAIL: pcresponse@peacecorps.gov Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Headquarters 1111 20th Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20526

PROLITERACY INTERNATIONAL

Website: http://proliteracy.org/What-We-Do/ Programs-Projects/International/Liberia

ProLiteracy has empowered adults through literacy for more than 60 years. It promotes adult literacy through content development, programs, and advocacy. Their goal is to help literacy programs increase the quantity and quality of services provided. ProLiteracy's vision is for every adult to have the ability to fulfill his or her life through literacy.

International Programs: ProLiteracy is active in Liberia and 19 other countries, working with a network of grassroots' partner programs. Partners are non-literacy entities such as health organizations, human rights agencies, or community libraries. They provide training, capacity building, and grants to support literacy instruction in combination with teaching skills to address socio-economic issues impacting the targeted community. By increasing literacy, ProLiteracy and its international partners have worked to reduce poverty, improve health care and advance human rights.

Liberia Working Locations: Montserrado County: Barnersville Township, Monrovia

LITERACY PROGRAMS

Imani House International

• Market Women Literacy Classes: IHI serves impoverished adults, many of who were displaced by or suffered severe losses from the civil war; 90% of the learners are women who dropped out of school to make a subsistence living selling goods in the marketplace. The women represent various ethnic groups--Bassa, Grebo, Kru, Kissi, Vai, Kpelle, Loma, Krahn, and Gola--but all face similar challenges related to lack of access to resources. IHI literacy classes cover reading, writing, math, science, social studies, with particular emphasis on issues related to daily life.

The majority of market women learners speak the local language of their ethnic group. Some of them speak English. A primary goal of IHI courses is to help learners actively build self-confidence and leadership to confront social and political realities that threaten their dignity and human rights.

• Pilot Project 2017-2020: IHI has partnered with ProLiteracy International to create The Liberian Women's Health Manual. This is a pilot project that will bring health, nutrition and sanitation education to over 500 women and teenage girls in four rural communities and one high school. As the manual nears completion they will train health educators and begin the three-year project.

African Women's Literacy and Economic Empowerment

• ProLiteracy is working with three African NGOs over the next two years on a health literacy project that focuses on integrating health education into basic literacy programs designed to address the specific needs of women. They will work with partners in Liberia, South Africa and Rwanda to help them develop instructional content that teaches literacy within the context of local needs, resources, and culture. The project will reach 1500 women in 20 impoverished communities without access to education or health services.

PARTNERS	Imani House International (IHI) since 1982 and African Women's Literacy and Economic Empowerment.
EFFICACY	 Adult learners reached: 146 total; 139 women and 7 men; Literacy Classes and communities: 5 Reduced poverty, improved health care and advanced human rights.
CONTACTS	U.S.A. Brooklyn, NY Imani House International (IHI) Bisi Iderabdullah, Executive Director Email: imani@imanihouse.org ProLiteracy Headquarters Email: info@proliteracy.org Phone: 315-422-9121 Toll Free: 1-888-528-2224 Fax: 315-422-6369 Hours: 9-5 E101 Wyoming Street Syracuse, NY 13204

ROSETTA STEPS

Education Foundation and Literacy Center

"The Rosetta Steps Education Foundation was founded in honor of the late Rosetta Benson Harris, a teacher, mother, and mentor who grew up in New Kru Town, a slum community of Liberia." It operates a learning resource center in one of the most impoverished communities in Liberia. Rosetta Steps works to fill the literacy gap in poor and high-risk neighborhoods through the implementation of robust literacy programs in a supportive learning environment.

Rosetta Steps provides an interactive learning environment with formulated learning programs that aid in the development of essential skills in reading, mathematics and comprehension through multiple programs and learning curricula. Subjects taught are phonics, English, reading, spelling, math, verbal reasoning, physical education, drawing and coloring and writing the alphabet. All programs are designed with one goal in mind: Improving functional literacy in under-served communities and families.

Rosetta Steps' students (47 in 2017) are supported by scholarships, parent fees and donors. It also operates an adult learning resource center for building adult literacy.

Liberia Working Locations: Montserrado County: Barnersville Township, Monrovia

LITERACY PROGRAMS

• The Early Learning Foundation School, Kindergarten to Grade 2 aims to reach children at the earliest stage of the formal education process, providing the basics for strong reading skills. International standard reading and writing materials are used with emphasis on activities promoting retention and interaction. Classrooms are equipped with TVs to enhance visual learning. Each student is registered to IXL.com, an interactive reasoning and quantitative skills U.S. learning website. IXL provides a "comprehensive K-12 curriculum." Classes are taught in English, and include math, reading, literature, art and reasoning.

• Pilot Program: Read To Succeed is an after-school program designed to increase the opportunities for students from other schools to succeed in primary and secondary schools by teaching phonics, verbal, and quantitative reasoning through interactive training methodologies. The program utilizes the Early Grade Reading Assessment program, EGRA, which was introduced in Liberia in 2008. The program also teaches phonics, incorporating materials from IXL.com.

• Adult Literacy and Accelerated Learning: This program provides basic literacy skills of reading and writing and small business skills to adults with little or no experience as a means of empowering them and building self-confidence.

• Learn To Earn: Cognizant of the role adolescents and adults play in community building, Rosetta Steps Learn to Earn program teaches core literacy skills for employment and economic opportunity, understanding the gap that exists between literacy and small business practices. RS has designed a program which teaches basic reading and writing skills, parenting skills, and the livelihood skills of food, nutrition, civic responsibility, family planning, and computer literacy.

FUNDING	EXXON Mobil, National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL), National Social Security Corporation of Liberia (NASSCORP), TOTAL Liberia, Inc.
04 EFFICACY	 Rosetta Steps Learning Center planned to graduate 180 students in early 2018. Rosetta Steps has adopted a flexible payment structure that allows daily income earners to make daily payments towards the school fees for The Learning Foundation School.
CONTACTS	LIBERIA Ms. Ama Harris, Executive Director Email: info@rosettasteps.org Tel: +231 88 628 4711 Point Four Junction New Kru Town, Bushrod Island, Monrovia 1000

Website: http://ww.w.shifsd.org

SELF-HELP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SHIFSD)

SHIFSD exists to reduce poverty through access to Functional Adult Literacy (FAL). The Self-Help Initiative for Sustainable Development (SHIFSD) is a national nonprofit and nongovernmental organization. Originally, SHIFSD was established in the central region of Ghana by a group of Liberia refugees in November 2000. Upon repatriation to Liberia in August 2008, the organization was headquartered in Monrovia.

Adult literacy is where SHIFSD started and it remains at the heart of everything it does. Many students who also take part in TVET-Technical and Vocational—programs have little or no skills in literacy and numeracy and they also benefit from support literacy as they progress.

Liberia Working Locations: Bong, Margibi, and Montserrado Counties

LITERACY PROGRAMS

Functional Adult Literacty (FAL)

FAL is designed for marginalized youth and adults who missed out on formal education. It addresses the literacy, numeracy and livelihood needs of these people.

- A maximum of 25 learners/students are placed in a study circle or class.
- Depending on the size of the community, 1 or 2 study circles are established in each targeted community.
- Each study circle is managed by a Community Literacy Facilitator who is selected by the community leaders in collaboration with SHIFSD.

• Monitoring and Evaluation: FAL is supported by a monitoring and evaluation system. The M&E Officer meets with beneficiaries and stakeholders in target communities before, during and after programs to discuss procedures of planning, implementation, and evaluation or all programs. This aids beneficiaries and stakeholders to have a clear understanding of SHIFSD intervention and take ownership of programs.

• In addition to the regular computer literacy training at the SHIFSD Institute for Enterprise and Job Training, commonly known as the BRIDGE, the school administration made computer literacy a cross-cutting course including Life Skills and Personal Development for all trainees enrolled in 2017.

Liberia Foundation, Norwegian Human Rights Fund

FUNDING

	Functional Adult Literacy only: Between 2011 and 2015 SHIFSD provided
EFFICACY	FAL for 2000 adults in three counties, Montserrado, Bong and Margibi. Most of the beneficiaries started at zero level and are now able to write their own names. Some read and write simple sentences and perform basic calculations. Current information about SHIFSD's efficacy has not been provided.
	LIBERIA
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	Email: jburgess@shifsd.org
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	County
	Mobile: +231 (0) 6874-950

Postal Address: C/O P. O. Box 1164 Monrovia, Liberia

WE-CARE FOUNDATION

First and foremost, WE-CARE is committed to strengthening the education sector in Liberia. The WE-CARE Foundation was established in 1992 and incorporated in 1994 as a local nonprofit educational organization to sensitize the public in rebuilding on firm humane principle, the education sector destroyed in the Liberian civil war, through 1) the provision of quality reading materials and creative training; 2) improving the teaching skills of grade 1-6 teachers, librarians and school administrators; and 3) the overall promotion of literacy through thoughtful and child-centered ways.

WE-CARE aims to foster a love of books and reading based on the truism: Reading children become reading adults, and reading adults become informed citizens that can make sound decisions that affect their social and economic development.

WE-CARE trains teachers, teacher educators, writers, publishers, and produces engaging and relevant books for schools and the reading public. All WE-CARE services are free.

Liberia Working Locations: Bomi and Margibi Counties and Montserrado County: Central Monrovia For the Family Literacy Initiative (FLI): Margibi County: Duazon and Neezoe; Montserrado County: West Point and Upper Caldwell

LITERACY PROGRAMS

- WE-CARE Library
- Reading Liberia 20/20
- Critical Thinking Liberia (CT-L)

• Family Literacy Initiative (FLI): The Family Literacy Initiative is an early childhood development program grounded in the belief that learning begins at home and that parents are a child's first teachers. FLI's goal is to help parents prepare their preschool children for success in school and life, and to empower parents by giving them the tools, skills and confidence they need to successfully work with their children in the home.

- Story Hour For Kids
- Early Childhood Education (ECE)

PARTNERS

Canadian Organization through Development for Education (CODE), Open Society Initiative (OSI), Open Society Initiative Foundations (OSIF), Open Society Initiative in West Africa (OSIWA), Friends of Liberia (FOL), and Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY International)

AFFILIATES	Critical Thinking International, Inc., Each Child Counts Foundation, International Book Bank (IBB), International Literacy Association (ILA), Liberia Association of Writers, Liberia Library Association (LILA), RWCT International Consortium (Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking
EFFICACY	WE-CARE received the 2012 Educational NGO-Inquirer Newspaper Award. Readers are encouraged to go to WE-CARE's Facebook page and read more about WE-CARE's accomplishments. It is impossible to list everything here.
CONTACTS	T. Michael Weah, Executive Director Yvonne Capehart, Program Coordinator Email: yvonnecapehart@yahoo.com Email: wecarelib@yahoo.com Cell: 231-77024251 Cell: 231-777511175 WE-CARE Foundation (WE-CARE Library) Carey/Gurley Streets P.O. Box 1072 Monrovia, Liberia Hours: 9 am to 4 pm



The 2019 Liberia Literacy Landscape

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