

A Project Proposal on providing information Practical and Life skills awareness and training to Women and Girls in Soul Clinic Community, Montserrado County, Liberia

**Title**

Support to access to Skills for Self-Sustainability for Women & Girls

**Submitted to:**

Friends of Liberia

(FoL)

**Submitted by:**

Capacity For Youth (C4Y)  
Monrovia City; District4, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia

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**Project budget: USD\$1,850.00**

**Project duration: Five Months (July 2021–November 2021)**

**Project Title:** Facilitating access to Practical and Life skills for Marginalized Women and Girls in Liberia

**Institutional Background/ Profile**

**a. C4Y's Institutional Background**

Capacity for Youth is a legally registered non-governmental, non-political, non-profit and non-religious organization operating in Liberia since 2010. The organization's overall mission is to support the government of Liberia address development challenges faced by youth, women and men through different interventions including enhancement of livelihood opportunities and promotion of gender equality.

Additionally, relative to management and control, the organization is led by a five (5) membered board of advisors that is responsible for guidance and general oversight of the operations. The members inclusive of the chairperson and other officials consist of 2 females and 3 males. Furthermore, C4Y helps national government in buttressing its policy and advocacy efforts as well aspects of service deliveries in particularly in the sectors of education, youth development, protection and human rights, governance and civic participation, sexual health and rights of adolescents and youth including young women.

C4Y believes in decentralizing all form of opportunities to all counties for the minds changed of the citizens especially children/youth, and women in Liberia. C4Y also believed in making sure that unity, love, care, trust, understanding, and education are the major factors to improve a nation.

#### **b. C4Y's Institutional Profile**

Since the founding of C4Y, the organization has been involved into some critical activities both in terms of awareness, trainings and capacity building and in-kind support to various categories of population in several parts of the country.

C4Y has implemented several projects over the last eight years. In 2015, C4Y implemented the Ebola Community Action Platform Project in Grand Gedeh and Bomi counties. The project worked with vulnerable communities to build their resilience against future outbreaks of Ebola virus disease. This was an initiative with funding from USAID through Mercy Corps-Liberia.

C4Y in 2017 implemented an empowerment project for underprivileged girls and young women, with funding from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in three districts of Bomi County. The main objective of the project was to provide livelihood opportunities for underprivileged women and young girls, as well as to promote their rights.

In 2018, C4Y collaborated with a number of local CBOs and CSOs to raise awareness on protection issues during the commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism on Gender-Based Violence on International Day of the Girl Child (Day of the African Child).

C4Y implemented the UNDP Coronavirus awareness program in Grand Cape Mount County in 2020. The intervention at the time focused on ensuring local knowledge and skills become heightened to pragmatic and actionable steps in the fight against COVID-19 within their homes and communities.

Under our Grand Gedeh office, the organization is currently implementing a Gender Equality project in Grand Gedeh County funded by ForumCiv. The project is working with vulnerable communities to advocate for reforms in gender equality legislations. C4Y is also a non-profitable organization, non-Governmental and non-religious that accepts a partnership with educational organizations that runs the same or similar Programs.

C4Y remains key actor in several CSOs platforms and coordination mechanisms engage with policy and advocacy discourses both at various counties and national level.

#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PROBLEM ANALYSIS**

Liberian youths generally lack employable skills and are ill-equipped to access new economic opportunities. The C4Y recognizes that the transition towards inclusive growth will not happen unless human capabilities are enhanced and then quality of education and vocational training are improved to match the demands of the labor market. This situation has seriously affected the youth and young adults aged 14 to 36 years, who make up one-third of the Liberian population. Girls, more than women or boys lack access to financial capital and have limited opportunities to gain education, knowledge and skills that can lead to economic advancement.

With one in every three youth being unemployed, this population lack the technical skills/knowledge and the funds to initiate or resume any kind of income generating activities this exacerbating the country wide situation in terms of poverty, job security and social instability. The dilapidated state of Liberia's vocational schools mainly engages students with outdated theoretical lessons and there is limited use of training aids, visual models and modern equipment to enhance hands on practical training.

The proposed project seeks to support the development of human capital through a five months vocational training in making bean bags, hair dressing, and soap production for 250 young adults and school age girls in Soul Clinic community, Montserrado County, Liberia. This will be achieved by strengthening and building on the existing project currently on ground. The proposed budget for the training is USD\$1,850.00 (One Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty United States Dollars). This will cover the purchase of materials needed for the training, sourcing of experts, space rental, transportation of staff and other miscellaneous expenses. Each unit of the training will be formally structured with their own internal control system (finance, inventory, sales, etc.) to allow for transparency and accountability. The income generated will help beneficiaries become self-sufficient and financially independent to purchase materials and reinvest funds into the business. The successfully trained beneficiaries will in turn train other members of their community.

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C4Y foresees a situation where there might be agitation because of the small number of participants that the project will start with as most members of the community will love to benefit from the program. However, this will be solved by enlightening them about knowledge transfer. The first set of beneficiaries will in turn train others who are willing to learn.

To ensure the sustainability of the project, C4Y will partner with community stakeholders to enable us gather feedback that will help to ensure that participants receive specific training as it regards the needs of their community.

## **PROPOSAL**

### **OVERALL GOAL**

According to the International Labor Organization's 2012 report, the global youth unemployment rate has risen since 2007 and medium-term projections suggest little improvement in the next few years. Further, macroeconomic conditions create particular challenges for adolescent girls, who experience greater rates of unemployment compared to boys in nearly every region of the world, Liberia is not an exception. Efforts to improve their employability are constrained by a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector characterized by serious shortcomings in terms of quality and relevance, access and equal funding.

At the end of the project, C4Y expects that the beneficiaries will have learnt how to make bead bags, hair dressing, and event decoration and soap production. It is also expected that beneficiaries will be provided with value mobility and greater autonomy that may come with future employment.

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The youth population of Liberia constitutes the labour force but is exposed to high unemployment, underemployment and vulnerable employment rates. A socially and economically marginalized youth population can pose serious risks to national security, social cohesion and economic stability.

Therefore the overall objective of this project is to empower young adults and school age girls in Soul Clinic Community, Montserrado County and lift them from poverty by increasing their chances to gain productive employment by creating a steady stream of income that is responsive to the economic needs of the beneficiaries.

This project will also improve the possibilities of helping them generate income/revenue by introducing production units that will enable them to produce products and render services to their community.

This project takes into account the Liberian Government policy on equal and full participation of females at all levels of education. This project is therefore targeted at 40 - 50% high rate of female participation. In order to attract more females especially the adults, C4Y will sensitize community members on the need for female participation. More so, the project will promote inclusion of female instructors in the program. The instructors will serve as role models and work closely with the beneficiaries.

The project will introduce mandatory sensitization to raise awareness regarding sexual harassment and Gender Based Violence to stop traditional gender stereotypes from being a barrier to the success of female participants.

## TIMETABLE

**Proposed Timetable/Activity Workplan:** Planned Activities, timelines, and assigned/responsible party,

No	Proposed Activities	Expected Outcomes	Timeline (Months)					Responsible	Comment
			1	2	3	4	5		
0	Recruitment and orientation of project staffs	Needed staffs are recruited and inducted	X					Capacity for Youth	Capacity for Youth already have staffs that have been and still carrying on this training in the community on self-initiative
	Conduct project inception and startup workshop/ Launch for	A staffs and key stakeholders articulated the project and prepared for implementation	X					Capacity for Youth	Capacity for Youth will undertake the cost of this activity.

	project team and government stakeholders								
	Training hall rental and seats	Training site is available	X					Capacity for Youth	Capacity for Youth already has a training hall provided by the community
	Recruitment of trainees	Trainees are available	X		X			Capacity for Youth	Trainees are already available and willing just to hear from Capacity for Youth
	Conduct 4 community-wide campaigns/ outreaches on Sexual Gender Based awareness and also provide life skills training on Peace building, domestic violence, conflict management, Small business management, etc	250 trainees gained knowledge on basic life skills		X	X	X	X	Capacity for Youth	Capacity for Youth has a team specialized in life skills training and ready for such work.
	Conduct regular field monitoring and support	Targeted indicators are checked, tracked and recorded routinely	X	X	X	X	X	C4Y/FoL	

## PROJECT PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES TO BE UTILIZED

The project will be done in collaboration with Community Chiefs, C4Y staff and trainers.

## BUDGET

<b>Project Title:</b>	Support to access to Practical and Life skills for Marginalized Women & Girls in Liberia
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Project Donor:		Friends of Liberia ( FoL)				
Implementing Agency		Capacity for Youth(C4Y)				
Project Duration/Period:		Five(5) Months/April-August 2021				
Detail Budget						
#	Description	Total Budget (USD)				
		Duration/Qty	Units	Unit Cost/ Month	Total Budget	
1. Staffs/Personnel Costs includiung withholding taxes						Explanation
1.1.	Project Coordinator	5	Months	0.00	0.00	
1.2	Project Officers /Trainers ( 3 persons )	5	Months	50.00	500.00	Capacity for Youth will pay the rest
1.3	Finance/Admin Officer(40%)	5	Months	0.00	0.00	Capacity for Youth will take care
Sub-Total				50.00	500.00	
2. Program/Activities Costs						
2.1	Project Inception workshop/Launch (with stakeholders)	1	Events	100.00	100.00	
2.2	Community-wide campaigns/outreaches on the ( Theatre/Tournament) Life skills	2	Events	50.00	100.00	
2.3	Purchase of assorted materials for hair dressing department	1	Time	350.00	350.00	
2.4	Purchase of aasorted materials for Soap production department	1	Time	450.00	450.00	
2.5	Purchase of assorted materials for bean bags department	1	Time	350.00	350.00	
Sub-Total				1300.00	1350.00	
3.Travels(Travels Cost including equipment purchase, fuel and repairs)						
3.1	Field Monitoring/Supervision-Vehicle (Hire vehicle	5	Months	0.00	0.00	Capacity for Youth will be responsible
Sub-Total				0.00	0.00	
4. Equipment(Office Running Cost)						
4.1	Communication/Internet and Basic Stationaries	5	Months	0.00	0.00	Capacity for Youth will be responsible
4.2	Banking fees/cost	4	months	0.00	0.00	Capacity for Youth will be responsible

4.3	Contribution to office rental(10%)	5	Months		0.00	Capacity for Youth will be responsible
				0.00		
<b>Sub-Total</b>				<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>1,850.00</b>	

## PROJECT EVALUATION

The project will be done in collaboration with Friends of Liberia, and other community stakeholders. C4Y will build on existing platforms to guide strategy and decision making for this project. During execution, stakeholders will be consulted to ascertain the successful implementation of the project. Feedback will also be sought from the participants themselves and the training team. There will be monthly evaluation of trainees to determine their level of comprehension and the practicability of lessons taught.

## SUSTAINABILITY

C4Y believes in building upon existing institutions to ensure local ownership of business, creating a steady flow of income for the less privileged in the society. The project will partner with community stakeholders to enable C4Y gather feedback that will help to ensure that beneficiaries receive specific training as it regards the needs of their community.

Soft skills such as work ethics, attitude, conflict resolution, team building, communication and understanding of a working environment will be taught to improve attitude and behaviour which will strengthen their readiness for the society. It will also develop the actual technical and business skills needed by employers.

In addition, it is critical to establish a training system which does not require intensive financial running costs for its operation. This project will examine financial solutions, which will apply low cost training solutions, reinvesting generated funds back into the business to sustain financial requirements for operations of the project to a high standard. Goods produced will be sold locally and services will be rendered to the community at affordable rates. The project will benefit more than 250 persons. This will be done through circles (1, 2, and 3) and each circle will run for three months of training.