



**PROJECTTITLE: HOPE FOR TEENAGE MOTHERS (HOFTEMO)**

Bihndumlem Humanitarian Association of Peace and Hope is a Humanitarian Association dedicated towards Holistic and Sustainable Rural Transformation. As a humanitarian organization we manage those who have lost hope through any form of social injustice and provides human life facilities to the persons. We strive to enable them achieve self-reliance. We give humanitarian assistance to those at the edge to get them to the top.

* **“BHAPH building bridges of love**” is a grassroots focused non-governmental association, non-profit humanitarian association registered and approved in accordance with law no.901053 of December 19th1990 relating to freedom of association in Cameroon.

The organization was created on the 14th of August 2015 bearing the name **Bihndumlem Humanitarian Association of “peace and hope “ BHAPH**

* Our goal is to promote human dignity social justice through cultural revalorization
* We strive for a holistic and sustainable rural transformation
* We offer services on education, culture, heath, environment, humanitarianism through advocacy, community sensitization and mobilization and youth, women and men especially those at the edge.

**Mission statement:**

* To reach out to youth, women, men, vulnerable and orphans children, prisoners through the dissemination of information sensitization and advocacy. To keep healthy behaviors and avoid unhealthy cultural practices to ensure a healthy and productive life of the people in the community

**Vision statement**

* To see a society where youth, women and the vulnerable are well informed to take responsibility for the contribution towards building a healthy Aghem community and adopt a healthy behavior.

We have been existing for two years three months and the organization was officially approved on the 29th of October 2015 and lunched in December 2015 to kick off with its activities of Humanitarian Assistance.

Our vision is to create a platform for Holistic and Sustainable Rural Transformation by promoting human Dignity, providing assistance, hope and peace to those in crisis. We strive to build bridges of love.

Our outstanding achievement as an organization has been to mobilize and sensitize the population on the need to build human dignity, peace and justice which are two wonderful values that men can build a sustainable life.

We used nature and culture to establish the dignity of the human person which are the two garment of human life.

* Through these activities, we have Eighty volunteers who are currently undergoing training with us.
* We have assisted prisoners with food, bail, drugs and football tournament to relieve them from stress and rekindle their hope
* Currently assisting 10 teenage mothers by paying their tuition and providing training skills like tailoring, hair dressing, how to care for the baby.
* Assisted the babies of some mentally deranged women with clothes and food and baby needs
* Gave assistance to some disabled women
* We have facilitated the release of those detained unjustly and mediated between the detainees and the judiciary
* We have assisted victims of fire disasters with basic home utensils
* We carry out campaign to educate the population on harmful cultural practices
* Interview on the radio on the needs to build bridges for sustainable human development
* Successfully created a good working relationship with the chief, administration and the population
* We have an office with headquarter in Wum situated at the former Shakina Opposite Club 64 on the Road after the Hospital.
* The association assisted the military with food and Bible after the destruction caused by the angry population January 24th 2016
* Gave assistance to the family of the victim stabbed to death by the soldier on Januay 24th 2016
* Currently training members on Human Right, Peace building and how to become an effective Humanitarian actor in the community to empower volunteers in the field
* Joint the youths on 11th February to show our Patriotism and the need to building security for an emerging Cameroon. We march pass with the following messages ‘’Non Violence and peace in our Society’’ ‘’Extreme Poverty is a threat to security everywhere’’, ‘’We do not need guns and bombs to build peace and compassion’’ and ‘’Humanitarian at the heart of humanity to heal and build a wounded world’’
* Assisted mentally deranged women raped and having children alongside disabled women during 8th march 2016 with baby food, rice and soap.
* Gave an Educational talk to youths on the topic, *CIVIC RESPONSIBILTY AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGED FOR A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY* AT the Delegation of Youth Affairs on 9THMarh 2016.

**Problem statement and description of the project.**

As a very young association, we are faced with so many problems. The most pressing problem is the issue of teenage mothers. It is very common to fine a girl of fifteen years with a baby or two. Most often these young mothers are helpless and cannot take care of their babies and themselves. This situation is very rampant as we have identified over 150 teenage mothers in the areas of Kesu, Naikom, and Zonghokwo in Wum, Menchum Div.North West Region. This project will assist just 50 who are the most desperate and vulnerable victims The disturbing issue is that most of them are HIV positive alongside the children. They are impoverished, malnourished and looking very cranky. They do not have a square meal a day and most often, they die at very young age due to hard living condition leaving the children at very tender ages. Also the children suffer malnutrition because of lack of food and poor feeding habit.

In order to survive, most of them fall back in the same situation giving birth to more children without proper parenting, care or upbringing. Some of them even die while putting to birth due to hardship and acute hunger.

To make the problem worse, we discover that out of the 10 homes in a locality9 have teenage mother making a percentage of 95**%.**This number is fast increasing every year and it earmarked that if nothing is done to remedy the situation, the number is likelyto increase. As the number increases, more economic hardship, rural exodus, school dropout, high rate of HIV/Aids, high mortality rate and infant mortality is very high and death among this mothers is very rampant and common.

**Impact on the Community**

This leads to slowdown in economic activities and suffering is rampant amongst many families as almost everybody is affected. This has a very negative impact on the community. Low income rate, growth rate is very unstable, youths are most affected and being the strength of every society, this society is almost collapsing because majority of them are fleeing the community for greener pastures in other towns and cities which often lead to more disastrous consequences.

BHAPH projectfor Teenage Mothers provides access to education for teen mothers. Most teen mothers in WUM do not receive the opportunity to return to school following child birth. By providing access to education for teen mothers, BHAPH addresses the social and emotional learning needs of these young female students; including identifying their strengths and goals, discussing the importance of completing their secondary school education, and identifying a career path that will maximize their ability to function independently as a young parent.

A lack of access to education for teen mothers is seen as a major factor that contributes both to their immediate academic challenges as well as their long-term earning potential. This project provides avenues to improve opportunities for teen mothers by facilitating their return to the formal school system, be that primary school or secondary school, or vocational training. The project identifies teen mothers in informal settlements who are then vetted and placed in public secondary schools within close proximity of their homes. For those interested in pursuing skills training, the organization enrolls them into their vocational training school that provides courses in tailoring and adult learning.

Having most of these students going through the formal system or vocational training, the project will explore alternative schooling methods such as accelerated learning that cater for those that are not able to attend structured classes. This involves creating a learning environment and schedule suitable to the teens that balance the demands of their personal lives with their education.

Other opportunities provided for these students include engaging with positive role models and mentors. BHAPH includes not only academic and resource/support teachers but also counselors and social workers to remedy the situation.

**OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT**

**General objective**

**-This project seeks to identify, rehabilitate, and empower 50 teenage mothers who are the most vulnerable teenage mothers in Wum. It aims to enable these teenage mothers’ access economic and educational opportunities through formal education, vocational training, and skills building.**

-This project addresses underage pregnancy, hunger, HIV/AIDS, poverty, and illiteracy in Menchum Division and Wum Central sub Division.It offers teenage mums economic empowerment, self-esteem, education and life skills training. We also give them opportunity to go back to school and earned their certificate which will help in transforming life changing skills to teenage mothers.

**Specific objective**

-Among the 50 teenage mothers 25 will benefit from secondary Education. Education is the solution to poverty and ignorance. After education they will have the opportunity to be reintegrated into the society because as the saying goes KNOWLEDGE IS STRENGTH.

25 of the teenage mothers will be enrolled in capacity building and life skill training. The plan of action for those to go back to school and the number of years and what the individual will do after school obtaining her certificate.

-Those to learn trade like hair dressing, tailoring and computer and after training we intern to assist them settle them down to open their own workshops to be self-reliant. This funds will enable them acquire the life skills facilities in their chosen domain.

-We will also engage in income generating activities like petty businesses, farming, and computer training to continue with the program after the funding ends.

**Activities**

**Mobilization** of teenage mothers in kezu,Zonghokwo and Naikom

-Sentisation and mobilization

Registration of the young children into day care centers

-Training and counselling on their different capacities

-Putting in place a plan of action for their engagement in different domain

-Registration and payment of Tuition fees

-Sewing of uniforms, buying, books and other school needs.

-Enrolling them in the different fields of specialization to those in capacity building and life skills facilities.

-empowering teenage mothers through basic skills training, Accelerated Learning,

-Peer Education,

-Hairdressing, tailoring, Cookery, computer literacy and Microfinance training psychosocial needs.

-Monitoring and evaluating the level of progress of projects in the various aspects.

**RESULT AND IMPACT**

Our assessment has found that these community programs have an immediate impact. In addition this has the immediate result of rehabilitation, reinsertion and stabilisation. They are able to speak out and break the chain of resilience. It’s rare to find them falling back to them the same situation

**About 50 teenage mothers will be given formal and informal education. T**his will greatly eradicate idleness,laziness and the near temptation of falling prey to the same condition.

The results for this project will be enormous to the teenage mothers, their babies and the community. They will have a sense of self-worth and dignity.

Knowing that people care for them by helping them will create a sense of belonging, feel loved and this will push them to abandon careless lifestyle and immoral act. The training, education and formation will help them busy, focused and empowered. It will give meaning to their lives for sustainability. Through education many of them will acquire knowledge and certificate which they could not acquire before, of course knowledge is power.

The project will help empower teenage mothers economically and eradicate poverty in their lives. This will provide for their incomes and provide for their children and the community as a whole. The teenage mothers will become more useful to their families and society. Infant mortality rate will reduce. It will also reduce rural exodus and build strong and sustainable community. It will boost the income generating activity which will reduce misery, suffering and vulnerability. School dropout will be drastically reduced.

Those engage in learning a trade will grow and be self-reliant. Their independence will make them responsible and contribute to nation building. It will greatly reduce poverty,promiscuity and moral decadence and empower the teenage mothers. It will give life, hope and new spirit to them. It will greatly reduce the rural exodus, high mortality, HIV/AIDS, Hunger, Starvation and backwardness. It will strengthen community growth, enhance development and social behavior changed. Also the cycle of training will continue because upon owning a workshop, they train more young girls.

The children of these teenage mothers will go back to school and proper medical attention given to them. Part of the funds will catered for the health, education, feeding and wellbeing of these children who are greatly affected by the trauma, and frustrations of their mothers. These will ensure healthy lifestyles for both the children and the mothers.

About six hundred persons will benefit from these project. The family and care givers of these teenage mothers. They will feel great empowerment and upliftment in the socialand economic aspect. Financially they will have means to take care of basic needs. They will benefit from the knowledge these teenage mothers will acquire indirectly. Schools, day care centers, hospitals and even those involve in business will also benefit from the project.

**Duration of Project** :1 YEAR

Target population: Vulnerable and desperate teenage mothers of kezu, Zonghokwo, Waindo and Naikom

Estimated Budget, $4025