## **ChildHelp Sierra Leone**

## **Brief History**

ChildHelp Sierra Leone (CHSL) is a registered non-Profit social-humanitarian focused youth and children development organization. It is registered as a Community service based organization to undertake social and economic interventions that reduce vulnerability to poverty, disease, hunger and other difficult situations, and to contribute to creation of social systems that promote peace, human welfare and the sustainability of the environment on which life depends, including promotion and protection of fundamental human rights in its geographical areas of mandate.

Established in October 1994. CHSL currently has CBO/PVO/CSO status in Sierra Leone and registered with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, District Council and City Council, INEE, Global Movement for Children and other Alliances.

It is ChildHelp's desire to continue and expand this work to help the disabled, war-maimed, orphaned, abandoned, and destitute children of Sierra Leone



# **Vision & Mission Statement**

ChildHelp is a registered children and youth social humanitarian focused development organization dedicated to reaching and reflecting love and care to the neediest underprivileged, impoverished and poverty children and youths especially orphans, widows and their families with health, education and livelihood.

#### ChildHelp Sierra Leone mission is to:

To work in a holistic manner towards improvement in the quality of life through interventions that reduce vulnerability to illiteracy, ignorance, poverty, disease, hunger, gross abuse of human rights, so as to improve the quality of life of children and their families.

## Partners

This organization is often completed through partnership with existing ministries, organizations including CPDE, OREINT, and individuals. It is believed that we can often accomplish more by working with other groups.

#### Please call or write for more information:

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# **The Problem Today**

- By the year 2020 half of the global Population will be children, 2 billion of who will live in extreme poverty or be at risk.
- The war in Sierra Leone affected the lives of thousands of children through constant displacement, exposure to abduction and abuse, and loss of family members and continuous violation of their basic human rights.
- Sierra Leone has the highest Maternal Mortality Rate in the world: 1,800 per 100,000 live births. This supposes that 3000 women die in the process of childbirth each year. The five leading causes of maternal death are severe bleeding, sepsis, unsafe abortion, eclampsia, obstructed labour and anaemia.
- The widespread nature of malnutrition in the whole country is a manifestation of prolonged deprivations in access to adequate food, health, safe water and sanitation facilities, and inability of an estimated 80% of households, particularly women, to provide appropriate care to their children.
- The estimation of Sierra Leone population access to safe water is less than 34% and to sanitation less than 12%. Sierra Leone is still beset by infectious diseases including tetanus, typhoid and diarrhoea that lead to child deaths. This inadequate access has posed diseases among vulnerable groups like children and women.
- Sierra Leone today experience a high dropout rate, high illiteracy rate including estimated 80% are women, many childmothers, girls pregnant, high social risks, poor access to basic services for children abandoned, orphans, disables, destitute, etc

# **Our Response**

In light of this overwhelming need, ChildHelp has taken God's Biblical mandate to care for the poor and needy. This mandate includes:

- Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick and those at high social risks. Introducing gardening, food processing and income generation activities in communities for youth and women. Holistic caring for homeless, abandoned, orphaned children and widows through Children Assistance / sponsorship Program.
- To increase access to safe drinking water supply in selected underdeveloped communities, schools and Public Health Units in the rural poor unnoticed and promote positive hygiene practices to enhance healthy lifestyles;
- Promotion of children's rights and strengthening good governance in communities.
- Support and facilitate the programmes of in a hurting community through camping and literacy classes.

*Children Assistance* – Children who are abandoned, orphaned or unable to be cared for adequately by relatives are placed in a ChildHelp Centre Home or foster home whilst given 24-hour care service with complete nutrition, education, medical needs, clothing and all that is necessary for upbringing of children.

Others impoverish children are given school fees, uniforms and textbooks; food for the family; seed to plant; medical assistance; and spiritual care. Youths are given vocational and technical assistance for empowerment and self-reliance.

### Water and Sanitation Health Initiatives

Repairing of damaged wells and hand pumps. Promote positive hygiene practices to enhance healthy lifestyles especially in institutions and poor health underdeveloped villages.

### **Past Activities**

Train young people in participatory Health education, HIV/Aids, Malaria and TB Programmes, Sponsorship and fostering of children, deworming of children and livestocking. Tree planting, Bio-sand filtering for household water system, volunteering service, ICT, good governance, etc

### Future Plans

Continue above activities; establish a Child Helpline for neglected children of high social risks. Establish a ''Village of ChildHelp'' on a 40 acres of land with all educational and social activities.

Good image and Leadership build in the Development region would not be possible without: The financial support and awareness of the board, the effectiveness and expertise of our employees and support of our counterparties and parties.

