



# EMPOWERING LEARNERS, STRENGTHENING THE NATION

liberiacareerpathways.org



# GLOBAL EXPERTISE

Liberia Career Pathways, a certified 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is an innovative public-private education initiative designed to support college and career readiness in targeted Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) clusters. This project parallels the Illinois Pathways initiative launched in 2012.

Liberia Career Pathways was formed as a Liberian nongovernmental organization on May 31, 2013, in partnership with the State of Illinois, to provide Liberian youth with opportunities to develop knowledge and skills in key economic sectors. This is a two-way exchange of ideas and benefits: lessons learned from Illinois Pathways strengthen Liberia's work, while Illinois' engagement with Liberia exposes our educators and students to the global context of areas such as agriculture, while connecting Illinois-based businesses with opportunities in Liberia.

Executive Director Kenety S. Gee is focused on building career pathway systems and workforce solutions through education and employer partnerships. Mr. Gee was the founding President/CEO of Chicago Global Health Alliance, where he developed a global team of doctors, surgeons, nurses, and clinical psychologists to serve underserved communities in Chicago and the developing world. He also served as Executive Director for the Chicago Diabetes Project at the University of Illinois at Chicago's School of Medicine, Division of Cell Transplantation. Mr. Gee holds a Master of Science in Global Health from Northwestern University (Chicago), a Master of Science in Nonprofit Management from Spertus Institute (Chicago), and a Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary (St. Louis).



### WE TACKLE SERIOUS CHALLENGES

Liberian **students have limited exposure to viable career opportunities**, and lack information on how to pursue education and training for careers. Liberian high school and postsecondary programs **systems are not aligned to areas of workforce need**, and do not direct students to pathways for career opportunities.

Liberia **business and civic organizations need to more actively engage** in the education sector for it to contribute to Liberia's economic growth.

## **OUR MISSION**

**Empowering students** to make informed career choices, **addressing gaps** in Liberia's education and workforce systems, and **inspiring learners** to be globally competitive in disciplines critical to Liberia's economic growth.



Liberia's economic growth depends on a trained and skilled workforce.



Education with real-world application improves student persistence and outcomes.



**& PRINCIPLES** 

All Liberian citizens must have equal access to opportunities through LCP.



Character development must be a focus in addition to academic development.

### WE CREATE SOCIAL IMPACT

#### **CAREER CLUBS**

Exposing students to career opportunities and supporting them to pursue a career path

- Utilizes curriculum developed in partnership with U.S. 4-H clubs
- Approximately 50 students per club in 10th 12th grade
- Positive qualitative feedback from club members and coordinators
- Annual National Essay Contest allows Liberian students to reflect on issues affecting families, communities and the nation broadly
- Annual Career Day events (1-2 days each) are offered regionally
  - Highlight career areas needed for Liberia's growth
  - Guide students in making career choices
  - Features professionals in various disciplines

#### **CENTER FOR CAREER DISCOVERY**

Serves as Career Club hub + resource center in Monrovia

- Education Programming:
  - Housing a comprehensive library with partner WE-CARE
  - Providing students with online coursework in areas of career interest
  - Supporting students on national college entrance exams
- Career Awareness & Exploration:
  - Career Talks: Featuring various employers to discuss education pathways and employment opportunities, in-person and virtual
  - Utilizing web-based tools that enable students to identify their strengths and areas of career interests.
- Collaboration & Connections:
  - Providing space for Career Club students for group projects, special events, etc.
  - Connecting Liberian students to U.S. students to gain international perspectives
- College & Career Resources
  - · Centralizing information regarding scholarships, postsecondary, Liberian labor market
  - Training for school counselors on providing career guidance to students
  - Supporting students to develop college and career plans, create resumes, and apply for internships and full-time employment
  - Inviting universities and employers to interview students

#### **EXPANSION PLANS UNDERWAY FOR NEW REGIONAL CENTERS**

- Working with stakeholders to acquire space across Liberia
- Each will support 50–100 students
- Will include a Wi-Fi capable TV, Wi-Fi modem, and solar panel
- In-school coordinators will guide the learning process
- Replicate programming from Monrovia



TEACHERS PER MONTH 200 STUDENTS PER MONTH

#### PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION & DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Working with Public Health students to provide educate primary and secondary students and provide community health screenings

- Hosting ongoing community health education and disease prevention in our communities
- Conducting health screenings to students and community members
- Working with partners such as the Liberia's ministry of Health and the Healthcare Federation of Liberia, LCP does Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) training to healthcare workers and health centers
- Efforts led by LCP staff and volunteers



#### **NEW PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT**

- Identifying occupations critical for Liberia
- Organizing partners/resources to create new pathways
- Engaging in significant planning to support the launch of a new Biomedical Engineering Technician (BMET) training program with partner high schools.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS & POLICY**

- Rotary International
- WE-CARE Foundation
- Booker Washington Institute
- 4-H Liberia
- Methodist Church
- Liberian government, private sector, and international aid organizations







#### CONNECT

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