

WYCF-SL Introductory Note

We Yone Child Foundation-Sierra Leone is a non-profit NGO operating in Sierra Leone. Our mission is to help in the process of Sierra Leonean and West African development through education and female empowerment. We consider these to be the core, grass root pillars of development. Our team draws experience from a variety of academic and professional fields and are completely committed to the sustained success of WYCF-SL.

In the immediate future, our campaign has a three point focus: (i) the sustainable provision of education and care to orphans and street children through the construction of an orphanage complex in Bombali District; (ii) the provision of education, training and empowerment techniques to the surrounding female (and male) community through the use of a resource centre at this complex; (iii) the provision of educational materials and funding to struggling independent schools in the Kroobay and George Brook Districts of Freetown – to which we have already begun donating pens, pencils, books and clothing; as well as conducting research on the situation and history of the children to develop our understanding of poverty in the communities.

On a purely humanitarian scale, the mission represents a soulful passion by the WYCF team to offer a happy, healthy and self-sustainable future to children who otherwise might be forced into criminal activity, child prostitution and death at a [relatively] young age. On a practical level, we will provide every single child with the tools to target higher education and a competitive job market; we will ensure the sustainability of their chosen educational or occupational paths through a WYCF sponsorship fund for the ambitious.

Similarly, we believe in the critical importance of gender equality in the process of development. By accessing resources, training and opportunities previously unavailable to them, we will provide a platform for women to effect political, economic and social progress in their own lives and those of other women in the fight towards gender equality. In this vein, we are in the process of forming a network of partnerships across Sierra Leone and the West Africa region; thus securing a strong collaborative and progressive framework with which to ensure a regionally united female empowerment process.

The secondary and long term effects of the WYCF-SL mission are expected to be manifest in higher rates of literacy across both genders; stronger health records in communities around Bombali District; higher income per capita in the communities affected; and stronger political and economic representation for women. In short, we aim to contribute, in part, to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6* – since education and gender equality are defined as crucial factors in each of these (as well as those specific to education and gender equality).

*MDGs being targeted by WYCF in the short, medium and long term:

- 1- Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
- 2- Achieve Universal Primary Education
- 3- Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
- 4- Reduce Child Mortality
- 5- Improve Maternal Health
- 6- Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases.

Contact – Nick Mason (njrmason@gmail.com); Santigie Bayo Dumbuya (sierraleonemoc@gmail.com)