



# CAMP FOR PEACE LIBERIA

BAAR'S COMPOUND, PARKER PAINT JUNCTION  
PAYNESVILLE, LIBERIA



## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



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## ACRONYM

CFP-Liberia	Camp for Peace Liberia
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
SHF	Steel Workers Humanity of Canada
USW	United Steel Workers
MNYS	New York Metropolitan Synod
CSS	Center for Sacred Studies
UNAOC	United Nations Alliance of Civilization
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
FAWUL	Firestone Agricultural Workers Union of Liberia
WAY	War Affected Youth
SED	Small Enterprise Development
YSF	Youth Solidarity Fund
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
MPA	Master in Public Administration
IRC	International Recuse Committee
CRS	Catholic Relief Service
LCL-THRP	Lutheran Church in Liberia Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Program
WANEP	West Africa Network for Peacebuilding
LTI	Lutheran Training Institute
MOE	Ministry of Education
EWER	Early Warning and Early Response
PHACT	Peace Hut Alliance for Conflict Transformation
QUNO	Quaker United Nations Office
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs



# Forward

## **The future of Liberia is in the hands of the Youth of Liberia (B. Abel Learwellie)**



**B. Abel Learwellie, Executive Director,  
Camp for Peace Liberia**

On behalf of Camp for Peace Liberia, let me extend our best wishes to all our many sympathizers, friends, sponsors, donors for the support rendered to our program in 2017. Had it not been for your assistance, we wouldn't have reached this far.

As you all may be aware, the year 2017 was very busy for Liberia. We witnessed a smooth transfer of power from one democratically elected government to another for the first time in more than 73 years.

No one would ever believe that Liberia could have reached this far. There was scepticism and fear across different spectra of our society that in the absence of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), the country would revert back to conflict, especially in the throes of the electoral process. But as we witnessed an outcome that came in a most positive manner, we showed to the world that Liberia is on the right trajectory towards peace, national reconciliation and development.

As an organization, we were very excited, privileged, challenged, supported and ultimately empowered by the finances and ideas you contributed to this landmark process in our nation's history.

It was astonishing to see the youth of Liberia exercising tolerance and respect for one another before, during and after the electoral process. They all shared a common desire to make Liberia a better place by conducting themselves with insight and conviction while holding themselves to the standard of excellence and integrity. I believe we can work together to strengthen and sharpen our peace, democracy and development in the coming years. Where there is peace, there will always be development.

As we enter 2018, it is my fervent hope and desire that we will continue to display those good and positive attributes that we exhibited during our electoral process. We hope to step up our efforts to provide opportunities for youth in Liberia. We will continue to provide vulnerable youths with education and psychosocial support in a safe, secure setting. We will also work to protect young people from engaging in violence and help them regain confidence, self-esteem, life skills and a positive outlook on the future. Our focus on the well-being and development of the young people of Liberia contributes to a more peaceful and harmonious future for them and their communities. We also continue to work in promoting meaningful participation of the youths of Liberia in the decision-making processes that affect them.

We will continue to work with established peace clubs, strengthen our existing youth structures in various communities, enrol more youths in diversified training programs in carpentry, masonry, electricity, plumbing, conduct psychosocial counselling, etc. We will work with our two mini cooperative groups in Lofa to enhance agriculture and the guest house construction projects. We will continue to work with various schools where we established e-libraries to train and enhance the academic resources of students and alleviate some of the challenges teachers face in finding reference materials. We will work to strengthen our internal network with other civil society organizations across the country. With the help of our partners we hope to expand our effort in other communities where we have not yet had a presence. If peace is to obtain we all must create the space for our youths to tap their potential. We must remain consistent and engaged in helping one another and developing our country. It is only Liberians that can develop Liberia and our friends will only trust us when we take the first and second step in making our country to what it should be. We hope to go beyond where we reached in 2017. We affirm the conviction that when peace is maintained, empowerment and development will follow.

We want to congratulate all of you for your meaningful contributions in 2017. Especially to our students and community members who opened their door to allow us work. It is because of you we are doing what we are doing and you remain a very integral part of our program. We also want to acknowledge the gracious contribution and support of the following partners, sponsors and friends whose gifts made us realize these milestones. The Steel Workers Humanity of Canada, New York Metropolitan Synod (MNYS), Center for Sacred Studies (CSS), the United Nations Alliance of Civilization (UNAOC), the Rumie Initiative, Global Giving, Healing Exchange Project with Lois Kunkel and Agnes Strik, Ann Beckett and Marilyn Satterfield and the many others whose names cannot be mentioned in this forward note.

May God bless all of you.

Sincerely yours,



B. Abel Learwellie  
Executive Director

# **CAMP FOR PEACE LIBERIA’S VISION AND MISSION**

## **OUR VISION**

Transformed, Empowered and Sustained Youth of Liberia

## **OUR MISSION**

To contribute to the transformation, education, empowerment and sustainment of Liberian youth solving Liberia’s problems

## **OUR CORE VALUE**

We believe in:

- Hard work & commitment
- Transparency and accountability
- Protection and promotion of human rights
- Gender sensitivity
- Partnership and collaboration

## **OUR STRATEGY OBJECTIVES**

- To reduce or eliminate violence in communities through an array of peace building and educational activities;
- To instill a sense of self-reliance among Liberian youth
- To help vulnerable youth to attain knowledge and specialized skills that leads to jobs.
- To create employment opportunities for Liberian youths
- To curb illiteracy and promote education among Liberian youths as a means of alleviating poverty;
- To help women and girls in the community, especially the underprivileged meet social and economic needs.

## INTRODUCTION/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As Liberia transitions from one political administration to the next it is essential that young Liberians have the skills, tools, and knowledge needed to leverage change and build the Liberia that they envision for themselves. While the country has made great strides over the past twelve (12) years, the situation of youth in Liberia remains a serious challenge to peace and stability. High levels of unemployment have caused young Liberians to feel discouraged and powerless, which makes them susceptible to engaging in violent behaviour. Youth empowerment is needed now more than ever to ensure sustained peace and security in Liberia.

**In Liberia, the term “youth” is defined as a person between the ages of 15 and 35 years old, with an intellectual capacity and who is willing to take responsibility to contribute positively towards national growth and development.**

During the year under review, Camp for Peace Liberia had a full roster of activities: providing vocational education, civic, peace and nonviolence education, psychosocial awareness, peace ambassadors training, reconciliation conferences and meetings and radio programs. Other activities such as psycho-social counseling services, reconciliatory forums/dialogues, networking, collaboration, support to peace clubs, assessments and monitoring and other peace building initiatives were also undertaken.

The primary beneficiaries of these activities included vulnerable youths, students, out of school youths, political party youth groups and young women and girls. Others were teachers, community and traditional leaders, law enforcement officers and local government officials.

These activities were intended to reduce or eliminate violent extremism, and promote mutual respect, tolerance, co-existence and healing, harmony and social cohesion, in part by instilling a sense of self-reliance among Liberian youth, curbing illiteracy and promoting education as a means of alleviating poverty; transmit knowledge and specialized skills that leads to jobs, create employment opportunities for disadvantaged youths, help young women and girls in the community, especially the underprivileged to meet social needs and participate in community and national leadership. These activities also aimed at promoting peace, reconciliation and unity among various communities and enhancing post-war reconstruction, reintegration and development in in Liberia.

During the period under review, Camp for Peace Liberia also hosted two international students from Columbia University for two months. The purpose of the internship was to help Camp for Peace develop a five year strategic road map and identify internal and external resources (both human and material) that are relevant for post conflict development and sustainability. The interns also helped establish connections with relevant international partners (individuals, foundations, International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO), etc.) who share CfP's vision and goal and could support capacity building training, project proposal writing and development of training manuals for peace education program.

With the support of our partners, sponsors and friends, Camp for Peace Liberia (CfP) achieved the following specific objectives in 2017:



- Enrolled and trained 28 vulnerable youths in vocational skills such as carpentry, masonry, electricity, plumbing, and agriculture; and provided start-up kits.
- Trained 86 youths in activities that enhance rehabilitation and reintegration processes.
- Trained 200 youths as “behavioural change Ambassadors” in facilitating the message of tolerance, peaceful co-existence, forgiveness and mindfulness during and after the electoral period;
- Reached 50,000 people with behavioural change awareness messages in preventing and managing election related violence/conflict in their respective communities and schools.
- Established 20 Peace Clubs to sensitize and increase the capacity of youth in peace education in Liberia during and after the electoral period.
- 32 e-libraries with modern Rumie educational tablets which serve a population of 16,000 students in 32 schools were established to provide educational resources in all major subjects ranging from pre-school to universities.

The role leading to the accomplishment of these objectives was a formidable task, but we are happy to report that we completed all of them as specified in the detailed framework of this report. Hence, a total of 21, 692 people benefited from Camp for Peace activities during the year under review. Of this number 10, 289 were females while 11, 403 were males.

## **ACTIVITIES OF 2017**

Below are details of activities and achievements of 2017

### **WAR AFFECTED YOUTH PROGRAM**

Camp for Peace Liberia (CfP) in partnership with the Firestone Agricultural Workers Union of Liberia (FAWUL) with support from the Steel Workers Humanity Funds of Canada has been working in various communities with different youth groups who have been adversely affected by the civil war. The purpose of the War Affected Youth (WAY) Rehabilitation Program is to reintegrate former child soldiers, ex-combatants and other young disadvantaged Liberian youths whose lives have been detrimentally affected by the war. These individuals suffer from exclusion and marginalization in their communities. The WAY program has two phases. They include the A) Vocational and Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program and B) post training activities.

#### **A. VOCATIONAL SCHOOL AND PSYCHOSOCIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM**



**Students posed for picture after graduation**

During the period under review, Camp for Peace Liberia enrolled and trained 28 vulnerable youths in vocational skills related to general construction and agriculture. The training activities covered theoretical and practical as well as on-the-job skills. Small Enterprise Development (SED) training was taught at a very minimal level for all trainees in order to expose them to business establishment, management and record keeping.

Fifteen (15) students completed studies in general construction which include masonry, carpentry and plumbing while 13 completed training in Agriculture. Of the total number of students, 11 were females and 19 males in the following age range: 9 students (19 – 24 years), 13 students (25 – 30) years and 8 students (31 – 36 years). The number of females was less than male participants due to the long distances students have to commute in getting from their communities to the training centre. Another reason to acknowledge was the cultural norms that affect female participation in most programs in rural communities including education and training.

The overall impact of the training has been very positive in creating change towards confidence and trust among participants and their families as well as the community members. Participants have acquired basic skills in agriculture and general building construction. These career areas remain very essential for economic growth and reconstruction in Liberia. You will note that Lofa County where the training is being conducted had a very good history of high productivity in producing rice which is Liberia's staple food and other agricultural products. However, this history was interrupted as a result of the civil war. With the help of the training, participants stand a better chance of exploring opportunity in food production and initiating self-help projects for self-sustainability and employment.

## **B. POST TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

In order to retain and engage graduates after the vocational training, a series of activities were designed as follows:

### **I. Cooperative Activities**



**WAY Graduates engaged in community development**

As part of Camp for Peace's dream of transforming the lives of graduates and in furtherance of promoting togetherness and sustaining the program, two cooperative groups were initiated. These cooperatives include the building and agriculture cooperatives. During the period under review, the building cooperative embarked on the construction of a five room guest house in Zorzor, Lofa County. The guest house, when completed, will serve as a sustainable hub for the program.

Also during the period, the agriculture cooperative cultivated six (6) acres of land with cassava, while the building cooperative is involved in the reconstruction of damaged homes, and the construction of road and bridges.

### **II. Micro Loan Scheme**

During the period under review, a micro loan scheme was also established to help participants set personal businesses and support the cooperatives. An initial amount of amount of \$350,000.00 Liberian Dollars was invested into the loan scheme to be used as a revolving fund to help graduates after vocational training. During the period, a total of L\$29,900 was earned on the loan. Also during the period, twelve (12) small businesses were established through the support of the micro loan and several income generating projects such as personal agriculture gardens, farms and the construction of houses were carried out as a result of the micro loan.

### III. Business Entrepreneur Training



Participants posed for picture after Small business enterprise training in Zorzor,

Also during the period under review 30 graduates of the rehabilitation program received training in small-scale enterprise. The purpose of the training was to enhance the capacity and willingness of graduates to develop, organize, and manage their skills through business. The venture also encourages the concept of cooperative and self-employment among them in developing their communities.

### IV. Psychosocial Workshop



Participants performing self-assessment exercise during psychosocial training in Zorzor

As part of the ongoing healing process, during the period under review, Lois Kunkel and Agnes Struik conducted a one day trauma awareness workshop for graduates of the WAY program in Zorzor. The aims of the psychosocial training workshop was to help graduates to create an environment where they can work through the traumas they have suffered during decades of war, and begin the processes of reconciliation and healing which are necessary to create a culture of peaceful coexistence in Liberia.

The workshop was also intended to examine the root causes of trauma and its effects on the participants and through exercises such as drawing, participants are helped to deal with their traumas so that they can recover from their situation and be uplifted.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



WAY Graduates engaged in community development

Result of this project shows an increased cooperation among participants and change of attitude and perception towards them by community members. Training graduates are now being hired by local authorities to implement district and county development projects and other individual projects in the region. One clear example is the construction of the bridge between Zorzor and Fessibu that was exclusively supervised and implemented by training graduates.

The participation of graduates in community meetings and other events clearly signifies a paradigm shift in the way they were being perceived. Community members have begun seeing them as agents of positive change with a transformed mind in contributing to the development of their communities.

Several changes can be visibly seen in the behaviours, attitudes and skills of participants. In term of behaviour and attitudes, participants are now applying their counselling skills to manage and resolve conflicts among themselves and other members of their communities using non-violent means such as dialogue, effective communication and mediation. Evidence is the peaceful conduct of the just-ended Presidential and General Elections in Liberia.



**Participants singing messages for peaceful elections in Liberia**

Participants of the training were also engaged in awareness-raising about nonviolence and peaceful co-existence among rivalrous youths affiliated with various political parties in the region. These interventions resonated very well during the election period. Participants have also exhibited a high sense of belonging, self-esteem and maturity. This is also evidenced by the reduction of violence and criminal activities in communities.

Amidst the current economic hardship in the country, participants of the training have the confidence and trust that they are prepared and able to make a better life by applying their acquired skills and knowledge.

Several lessons can be learnt from carrying out this project. Among them are:

- Communities that have a strong vocational workforce are in a better position to avoid rising youth unemployment;
- In order for vocational skills training to be successful, it requires the active participation and supports of all stakeholders including community leaders, business entrepreneurs, trade unions, government authorities and policymakers
- We learned that young people can easily be changed through the influence of their friends, especially when they see productive examples as in the cases of Sumo Jackson, Ofantee Geninyan, Joshua Quoquo and others
- One of the best ways of reducing poverty among vulnerable youths is to acquire vocational skills that are locally relevant;
- We also learned that young people can be respected if they have skills that are meaningful to the community.
- We have learned that young people who are considered as threats and burdens to society can become assets if given the opportunity and support to acquire skills that would enable them contribute to the development of their society;
- Building the capacities of vulnerable youths through vocational education is an effective approach of reducing community tension and improving dispute and reconciliation among community members in post conflict society;



- Inclusive participation of youths in various development projects is key to ensuring the sustainability of peace and development in the country

## **NON VIOLENCE AND PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Liberia remains sharply divided by ethnic, religious, cultural, political and economic differences following the end of the civil war. Elections in the country have been called into question in the past, sometimes triggering unwanted violence.



**Participants posed for picture after the launch of Behavioral Change Campaign towards peaceful election in Liberia**

Young people are often considered to be perpetrators due to their vulnerability. They are seen to be easily targeted, separated, recruited or trained to engage in carrying out election-related violence. At this end, with financial support from the United Nations Alliance of Civilization (UNAOC) through its Youth Solidarity Fund (YSF), (6) Public community forums, (18) inter-students dialogue, (2) peace tournaments, (1) debate and (2) peace retreat were held during the period under review.

These interventions were mainly intended to assemble, orientate and build youth capacity for tolerance, respect, peace, mindfulness, good leadership and non-violence, emphasizing on the need for them to be fully involved in the entire electoral process of actualizing peaceful elections in Liberia. Participants of these activities were engaged in constructive and sustained initiatives that minimized violent conflict, both during and after the 2017 election.



**Participants attending non-violence workshop in Monrovia**

These activities also highlighted the positive role youth play in maintaining and managing election related violence and conflict in their respective communities and schools before, during and after the elections. These activities were also geared towards training youths as behavioral change ambassadors to reach out to other youth during and after the electoral period. As a result of these interventions, participants received information about the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 and also became motivated to get involved in peace building and other civic engagement and development programs.

They also pledged support to implement to push the agenda of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250. These interventions also motivated massive participation of youths in the 2017 general and presidential elections in which there were no reports of violence. Participants also gained knowledge in conflict management and non-violence to resist manipulation and the use of violence to resolve conflicts.

As a result of these interventions, there was no report of any major violence and conflict that needed serious attention during the entire electoral process. Electoral violence was completely minimized; and negative perception towards each other was completely reduced during the



period under review. The intervention provided a space for dialogue and the promotion of political tolerance and coexistence among the different political party youth groups. These interventions also created space for beneficiaries to vent out their pains, concerns and improve relationships and encourage dialogue for peaceful coexistence and harmony during and after the electoral process.

***“The training taught me not to always speculate, but to be tolerant with anyone regardless of status, race, creed, etc, we all have a place on the earth (Jocab Moore)***

***“Through this program, I have discovered the most important thing, which is peace that is within me. -I discovered the most important thing, which is peace that resides within me”. (Blssing B. Zoata.***

***“Before coming to Camp for Peace Program, I had no idea about how others feel. But with this training, I will begin going to other people’s reality to be content.” (Wilson B.***

These interventions were crucial in helping youth participants to analyze and explore problems and find alternatives to violence through dialogue, non-violent communication and mediation during the electoral period. The knowledge and skills acquired from the training have empowered young people to facilitate community forums and dialogue sessions for the rebuilding of inter-ethnic relationships and the promotion of tolerance and coexistence. The training also strengthened youths’ conflict management capacities to manage and resolve conflicts in their schools and communities using non-violent means such as dialogue, non-violent communication and mediation.

A total of 5,614 persons directly benefited from these interventions during the period under review. Of this number, 2,256 were females and 3,358 were males.

## **LESSONS LEARNT**

Several lessons can be learnt from implementing these activities:

- Lesson learnt 1: Building capacities of youth in peace and conflict resolution mechanisms is an effective approach of reducing community tensions and disputes and promoting reconciliation among them.
- Lesson learnt 2: When youth are trained in peace and conflict resolution, society tends to be stable. This was demonstrated during Liberia’s electoral process when young people got engaged in educating their peers and cautioned politicians not to use their vulnerability to cause violence in the society.
- Lessons learned 3: Inclusive participation of all stakeholders (women, youth, persons with disabilities, etc.) is key to ensuring the sustainability of peace and development in the county. This project took into consideration the inclusion of marginalized youth who are often left behind. This was realized when we conducted awareness sessions for the people with disabilities and it was shocking to note that our project was one of the only projects in Liberia that has ever engaged them in electoral non-violence education. There were frustrations expressed at the start of the training, but eventually it became recognition and appreciation. They learned the importance of behavioral change and its

impact on the building of a sustainable society. Camp for Peace Liberia also committed to integrate this lesson by including marginalized groups into the planning, monitoring and evaluation processes of all of its work.

- **Lessons learned 4:** Capacity building projects that target youth shows evidence of success, especially when combined with issues that are of broad concern to the society like the issue of an election. Liberia's transition through democratic elections like the just ended 2017 general and presidential elections was a clear demonstration of this lesson learned. The orderly manner in which Liberia youth conducted themselves demonstrates this evidence of success. We believe, had it not been for the level of training and the direct engagement and involvement of youth in disseminating peace messages in their various communities and institutions, the situation would have been far worse.

### **TRAINING OF TRAINERS' WORKSHOP**



**Participants preparing for presentation at Training of Trainers Workshop**

During the period under review, three (3) Training of Trainers workshops were conducted to train “Behavioural Change Ambassadors” to carry messages of tolerance, peaceful co-existence, forgiveness and mindfulness. The training focused mainly on conflict resolution, peer mediation, non-violence education, intercultural and inter-ethnic dialogue, etc. During the training participants discussed the underlying causes of violence and non-tolerance among youths and shared information with their fellow participants.

Participants were equipped with strategies and knowledge to help them deal with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The Training also established platforms and mechanisms for young people to foster greater collaboration towards constructive dialogue, increased understanding of local conflict dynamics and issues of key importance to youth, thereby fostering increased moderation and tolerance across different communities in Liberia. A total of 150 young people directly benefited from Training of Trainers’ training.

### **RUMIE DIGITAL LIBRARY PROGRAM**

During the period under review, Camp for Peace Liberia, with support from the Rumie Initiative in Toronto, distributed 600 tablet computers and set up 32 e-libraries at 32 schools in Montserrado, Margibi, Bong and Lofa Counties. Schools that benefited during from the Rumie distribution include the Paynesville Central Academy, Nathan E. Gibion, Paynesville Community High Special Project, St. Matthew Lutheran, Bowker Washington Training Institute, Kakata Demonstration, St. Paul Lutheran, St. Mark Lutheran, Zorzor Central High and Zorzor Islamic schools. The Rumie tablets are preloaded with the major subjects used for all grade levels including university. The Liberian government, through the Ministry of Education, granted duty-free privileges and full storage waivers to Camp for Peace Liberia.



**Paynesville Community High School  
Receiving Rumie**

The tablets have created great relief for students and teachers in providing academic materials that cannot be easily found in Liberia. As a result of the establishment of these libraries, many teachers were able to find materials that can aid them in making lesson plans and preparing classroom content. The Rumie, with its attractive contents and preloaded games, makes every child in Liberia want to have a copy. Through our distribution many students who felt discouraged about school due to the lack of text books were returned to school.



**Students excited about the Rumie**

Teachers got motivated to teach as a result of the Rumie tablets. They are able to read and present contemporary academic materials to their students. Rumie have provided a refuge for hundreds of kids who have never used modern technology. They spend their time practicing arithmetic, algebra, video games, and reading other great resources on the tablet.

“Words are inadequate to express how grateful I am today to have these modern technologies. It is like a dream come true that today my school can benefit from these devices that will help build the academic skills of my students and enhance my teachers in preparing their lesson plans. It is our hope that Camp for Peace and the Rumie Initiative will bring in many tablets to supply other schools (Principal of Gboveh High School).

“We are grateful to the Rumie Initiative for this great contribution. The Rumie has provided appropriate educational opportunities for our students and teachers to research and do assignment. Many students and teachers see the Rumie as ideal for learning” (Principal of the Zorzor Central High School).

## **RESEARCH**

During the period under review, two separate researches were done by Camp for Peace Liberia. With funding from the United Steel Workers of Canada, Camp for Peace Liberia carried out an study with the aim to have an informed judgement on the existing and potential of post-training activities that would utilize the skills of WAY graduates and other young people in Zorzor and Salayea districts. The research was also meant to report relevant findings and recommendations in order to inform a new direction for the Camp for Peace Youth Rehabilitation Program. Findings from the research showed that youth with skills are effectively utilizing the skills they have acquired through Camp for Peace Rehabilitation program and they are meaningfully contributing towards the development of their communities. The finding further revealed that livelihood skills offered by Camp for Peace Liberia are integral to assisting the young people to successfully reintegrate into their communities; build alliances with other local youths and

national actors to enhance governance, socio-economic participation, peace consolidation and development.

Also during the period under review, the Early Warning Directorate funded by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) engaged the services of CFP to conduct a study on eradicating the phenomenon of Street Children in Liberia. The objective of the research was to find a holistic approach to support local actors in eradicating the phenomenon in the ECOWAS countries and creates a protective environment for vulnerable children in the next two years. The research finding revealed several issues such as the lack of safe homes to properly shelter and care for children, poor implementation of policies by national government, poor networking between different implementing agencies, lack of proper monitoring and supervision mechanisms, and competitive interests among various actors. The finding further revealed the lack of equity and unfair distribution of natural resources; corruption in both private and public sectors; culture of impunity and an unfair justice system.

According to most of the respondents that participated in this study the creation of national typologies and explicit synergies for empowering and involving local community structures and professional sectors is called for, to ensure that the activities of all actors, both state and non-state, should be carried out within the framework of the national policy to ensure eradication of the phenomena.

## **INTERN PROGRAM**



**Anika, Abel and Sebastian at Farewell program in honor of Anika and Sebastian**

During the period under review, two International students from Columbia University in New York arrived in Liberia to serve as intern students with Camp for Peace Liberia. Miss Anika J. Michael, 25, is a student of International Affairs, Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy with a specialization in International Conflict Resolution, Technology, Media, and Communication, while Mr. Sabastian Osorio, 31, is pursuing a Master in Public Administration (MPA) degree, with a focus on Economic and Political Development.

While in Liberia, Anika and Sabastian developed a Peace Education Manual, a Resource Mobilization Template and Strategy Role Map for Camp for Peace Liberia. Their presence with CFP brought great value to the growth and development of Camp for Peace Liberia. Meanwhile, another international intern student from Columbia University in New York in person of Ms. Ai Nakashio is expected to arrive in Liberia during the summer of 2018 to work with Camp for Peace Liberia.

## **NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION**

Networking and collaboration is creating useful linkages, both within and among organizations, and government institutions, in order to mobilize resources and achieve various goals. During the period under review, a series of coordination and network meetings were held at various intervals with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Lutheran Church in Liberia Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Program (LCL-THRP), West

Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Lutheran Training Institute (LTI), Ministry of Education (MOE), Liberia Peacebuilding Office through its Early Warning and Early Response Working Group (EWER), Peace Hut Alliance for Conflict Transformation (PHACT), Chemonics International, Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) and the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). The purpose of these networking was to share experiences, exchange ideas and explore opportunities for cooperation and partnership.

## **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

During the period under review, several monitoring activities were carried out using various techniques including routine office meetings and the preparation of quarterly and semi-annual reports. Regular monitoring visits on the progress, limitations and achievements of various projects were carried in line with the program's plan of action. These activities were intended to assess the status and performance of different programs and activities in collaboration with project beneficiaries and stakeholders. In addition, various cooperative groups set up a control system by checking the attendance as well as reviewing performance and the behavioral pattern of beneficiaries. Also during the period under review, the overall financial transaction was controlled and managed with standard procedure.

## **FOREIGN TRAVELS**



**Abel Leawellie making presentation at  
Columbia University in New York**

During the period under review, B. Abel Learwellie, the Executive Director, visited the United States of America and Canada, and held bilateral discussions with partners of Camp for Peace Liberia. While in the Americas, he participated and made speeches at several forums, symposiums and conferences including the “Rebuilding Liberia Talk” at Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs.



**Abel serving as guest presenter at  
the Jai Coffee in Toronto, Canada**

He also met and had discussions with the Healing Exchange and friends of Liberia, the Steel Workers Humanity Fund, the Rumie Initiative of Canada, staff of United Nations Quaker office in New York, Center for Sacred Studies in California and Atlanta, Georgia.





**Abel serving as panel at an event organized by the United Nations**

Also in December of 2017, at the invitation of the President of the 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly, B. Abel Learwellie traveled to New York to serve as a panelist during a sustaining peace event through a country-led approach. The event was intended to raise awareness about the promotion of peace in the global agenda and to explore ways different actors can support countries in the realization of peace.

- During the period under review, Philip S. Quoiqui, attended a ten-day Alternative to Violence training program in Kathmandu, the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. AVP is a multi-cultural volunteers' organization that is dedicated to reducing interpersonal violence in societies.



**Melchi-Zedek making presentation at the workshop in Istanbul**

Melchi-Zedek P.S. Dologbay, Camp for Peace Liberia Youth Desk Officer, participated in a week-long Capacity Building Workshop organized by the United Nation Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) under the framework of the Youth Solidarity Fund. The event took place from December 10-16, 2017 in Istanbul, Turkey. UNAOC is an initiative of the United Nations Secretary General that aims to improve understanding and cooperative relation amongst nations and people across cultures and religions.

## **STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING**

During the period under review, Peddlers Craig attended a week-long workshop on water and sanitation in Monrovia, sponsored by Friendly Water of the World in partnership with the Center for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology. The purpose of the training was to build the capacities of Liberian youth so that they can transmit related knowledge and skills to others in their communities.

## **CHALLENGES**

During the period under review, Camp for Peace Liberia encountered many challenges, included but not limited to the following:

- The abrupt closure of the Lutheran Vocational School where our students attend. This abrupt closure compelled us to bear the full responsibilities of running the school, thus imposing a serious financial burden;
- No donor/sponsor to pay volunteers transportation or salary also affected the normal operation of work of Camp for Peace Liberia during the period under review; as such three of our volunteers resigned in search of salaried job to support their families;

- High customs taxes and bureaucracy in clearing the Rumie educational tablets from the port delayed the distribution of the Rumie;
- Bad road conditions enroute to project communities especially during the rainy season caused lots of constraints.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Camp for Peace Liberia wishes to take this opportunity to express its deepest appreciation to the following organizations and individuals for their moral and financial support during the period under review: The Steel Workers Humanity Fund of Canada, Healing Exchange Liberia Project led by Lois Kunkel and Agnes Struik, United National Alliance of Civilization through its Youth Solidarity Funds, Center for Sacred Studies, Ann and Sam Beckett, Global Giving, Rumie Initiative in Toronto and the New York Metropolitan Synod. Others are the Quaker United Nations Office, Paul Connor, Linda Grier Pulliam, John Backe, Marilyn and Timothy Satterfield, Jeanne and Bob, Owens of the Clinton Foundation, Anika J. Michael and Mr. Sabastian Osoria, Firestone Agricultural Workers Union and the Ministry of Education. It is worth mentioning the tremendous efforts of the staff of CfP Liberia in making this annual report a success. Special thanks also go to our many peace ambassadors and volunteers across the country. The support and mentorship from these organizations and individuals helped CfP-Liberia to continue their service to the Liberian people.

## **CONCLUSION**

Moving forward into 2018, we want to recognize our students for their determination and passionate effort in surpassing their challenges and remaining focused throughout the year. We also want to recognize the community dwellers for their hospitality in allowing us to deliver that which we are passionate about. We are glad that Liberia is gradually getting on the right trajectory, preserving and maintaining the peace. We know that with peace and transformed minds, our country will move forward in catching up with the rest of the world. No one else can do it, but Liberians. So I say bravo to all of you for being part of this noble cause during the year under review. Do not hesitate to suggest to us the best way we can deliver. Shalom peace.

It is important to note that we cannot fulfill our mission without a secure, sustainable funding to provide the financial resources we need to do our work. We have made great efforts over the past 12 months to access alternative sources of funding, and intend to launch new fundraising initiatives to secure long-term support for the work we do.

Compiled by



Clarence G. Zowah  
Program Officer/CfP Liberia

Approved:



B. Abel Learwellie  
Executive Director

## Appendices

### A. LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS

NO	NAMES	POSITIONS
1	Mr. William Saah	Chairman
2	Ms. Wenwu Gray	Co-chair
3	B. Abel Learwellie	Secretary
4.	Korlu Johnson	Member
5.	Abel F. Ngigie	Member

### LIST OF STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

NO	NAMES	POSITION
1	B. Abel Learwellie	Executive Director
2	Clarence Zowah	Program Officer
3	Philip Quoqui	Youth Desk Coordinator
4	Pedelers Craig	Agriculture Technician
5	Ms. Hellen Flomo	Office Assistant
6	Melchizedek Dologbay	Peace Ambassador
7	Sumo I. Jackson	Field Coordinator
8	Ms, Grace Mulbah	Peace Ambassador
9	Ofantee Genniyan	Construction Coordinator
10	Milton Zarwu	Agriculture Coordiantor



## CFP 2018 PHOTO GALLERY



**B. Abel Learwellie, Executive Director**



**Students posed for picture after graduation**



**Students posed for picture after**



**B. Abel Learwellie making remark at graduation program**



**B. Abel Learwellie presenting gift to graduates**



**WAY Graduates engaged in community development**



**WAY Graduates engaged in community development**



**WAY Graduates embarked on cassava production**



**WAY Graduates engaged in community development**



**Conducting Small business enterprise training in Zorzor, Lofa County**



**Participants posed for picture after Small business enterprise training in Zorzor, Lofa Co.**



**Conducting Small business enterprise training in Zorzor, Lofa County**





**Agnes explaining more about the self-assessment exercise**



**Participants performing self-assessment exercise during psychosocial training in Zorzor**



**Participants performing self-assessment exercise during psychosocial training in Zorzor**



**Lois and Agnes at the psychosocial training in Zorzor, Lofa County**



**Participants at the psychosocial training in Zorzor, Lofa**



**Participants performing self-assessment exercise during psychosocial training in Zorzor**



**Abel explaining more about the self-assessment exercises**



**Participants performing self-assessment exercise during psychosocial training in Zorzor**



**Lois explaining more about the self-assessment exercises**



**Participants posed for picture after the launch of Behavioral Change Campaign towards peaceful election in Liberia**

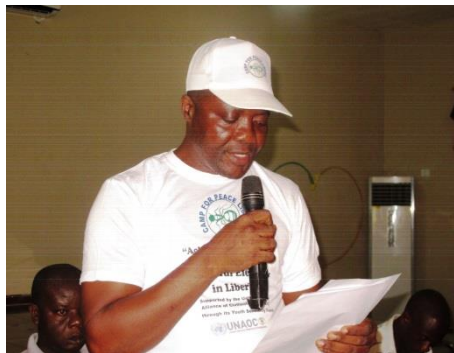


**Cross section of participants after the launch of Behavioral Change Campaign towards peaceful election in Liberia**



**Hon. Kula V. Fofana serving as guest speaker during the launch of Behavioral Change Campaign towards peaceful election in**





**B. Abel Learwellie making remark at the launch of Behavioral Change project**



**Participants attending the launch of Behavioral Change Project**



**Participants attending Behavioral Change Training**



**Participants posed for picture at a Training of Trainers' Workshop in Monrovia**



**Participants attending non-violence workshop in Monrovia**



**Participants attending non-violence workshop in Monrovia**



**Students brainstorming on Reconciliation strategy at Training of Trainers' workshop**



**Participants preparing for presentation at Training of Trainers' Workshop Trainers'**



**Participants doing role play at Training of Trainers' workshop in Kakata**



**Paynesville Central Academy High School Receiving Rumie**



**Paynesville Community High School Receiving Rumie**



**Students of the Doloken Gboveh High School in Contact with the Rumieumie**





**Paynesville Community High School  
Receiving Rumie**



**St. Paul Lutheran High School Receiving  
Rumie**



**Lango Lapay High School in Kakata  
Receiving Rumie**



**Nathan E. Gibson High School receiving  
Rumie Tablet**



**Students excited about the Rumie**



**Abel Leawellie making presentation at  
Columbia University in New York**



**Anika and Sebastian Visiting WAY  
Agriculture farm in Zorzor**



**Anika, Abel and Sebastian at Farewell  
program in honor of Anika and Sebastian**



**Anika making presentation at launch  
program in Monrovia**



**Abel meets Dmitri Pasricha of the Rumie  
Initiative in Toronto, Canada**



**Abel meets the Executive Director, Matthew &  
Ms. Vanessa Suen Project Management Specialist  
at the UNAOC headquarters in New York**



**Abel meets Hon. Julie Dabrusin, Member of  
Parliament in Danforth Toronto, Canada**



**Abel serving as guest presenter at the Jai Coffee in Toronto, Canada**



**Abel meets Megan Schmidt, UN Representative**



**Abel, Pamela and Lois Kunkel in Niagara Falls**



**Abel receives gift from the women of the Good Shepherd in Niagara Falls**



**Megan, Abel and Richael at the Quaker House in New York**



**Lois, Marilyn, Abel and Agnes in Williamsport, Pennsylvania**