



House of Hope

Sierra Leone, West Africa

Food, Clothing, Shelter, Education, Christian Love—A Future—A Smile on Their Faces

www.fwwoc.org/hope.htm

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Update No. 9, May 7, 2010



Highlights

- Salina was able to take the children from Lungi to Freetown to be part of one of the services in the church's fifth anniversary celebration in April.
- In April we were able to send \$100 for school books in addition to the \$750 we typically send to replenish food supplies and for other basic needs.
- Art and Suzanne gave presentations at First Presbyterian Church in Davenport and Trinity Lutheran Church in Moline. Both groups gave contributions to House of Hope. Someone from Trinity Lutheran is collecting children's literature and reference books and has offered to help with shipping costs.
- Two sponsors in the Chicago area are putting together a craft box for the children. What child doesn't love crafts?
- Art and Suzanne have given presentations to the Milan and East Moline/Silvis Rotary Clubs. Both clubs are involved in the Global Grant proposal along with the Moline, Rock Island, Quad Cities, Princeton, and Mount Carroll clubs. The project budget is approximately \$30,000. Surprisingly, several Rotarians have expressed an interest in going to Sierra Leone to be involved in the project.
- Six children took their junior secondary school exams this past week. These exams determine their future educational opportunities.
- Art and Suzanne are considering going to Sierra Leone in November. It is possible that Carolynn may also go. Please pray for the right timing.



An unexpected recent expense was for school uniforms, which are required for school attendance. Special ceremonial uniforms are required for examinations. We didn't know in October that Mariama had not attended school for several weeks because she didn't have a uniform. We were able to get her uniform so that she was back in school at St. Mary's School, which is about a half mile walk from House of Hope.

St. Monica's School



St. Monica's School, which our youngest children attend (Aminata is front left), has a wonderful staff and 257 children, who desperately need a quality education. But few textbooks or other educational resources are available. Providing a set of textbooks for one child for one year costs about \$25, and the books can be re-used in succeeding years. Art and Suzanne hope to launch a project to get textbooks and library books for these students.

School Garden Prayers

We're very close to submitting our Rotary International proposal, which will focus on rehabilitating wells and developing two school gardens using a plan developed by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The school gardens have the potential to improve nutrition, teach important life skills, introduce new technologies, and mobilize the community, but there are numerous things that can go wrong.

House of Hope will be the lead organization, and this will be a huge stretch! We desperately need God's help for this project to be a success. Please pray for:

- Completion of District paperwork on time.
- Wise planning and use of resources once the project begins.
- Access to the expertise needed to make good decisions and resolve problems that arise.
- A spirit of cooperation and initiative without greed.
- Breaking of the spirit and cycle of poverty.
- Transformation of Tardi village into a vibrant, Christ-centered community.

Please tell someone about House of Hope. The story is at www.fwwoc.org/hope.htm. Art and Suzanne are available to speak to churches and organizations.

