

STATE OF SIERRA LEONE

- 28% of children die before they reach their fifth birthday
- Only 35% of the population is literate
- Civil war caused an est. 50,000 deaths and displaced 1/3 of the population
- 76% of the population is below the poverty line of \$2 per day
- Very high risk of major infectious diseases
- Average life expectancy of 47
- 80% of the population doesn't have a high school education



THE EFFECT OF CIVIL WAR ON THE CHILDREN OF SIERRA LEONE

In 2009, the United Nations Human Development Report once again ranked Sierra Leone, West Africa as one of the least developed nations in the world. Ever since the civil war ended, the people of Sierra Leone still struggle to live. The nation suffers from lack of basic infrastructure, including roads, electricity, and clean drinking water; there is woefully inadequate healthcare, and unemployment tops 70%. The ones who suffer the most in this environment--the most vulnerable--are the children.

"It's hard for us to imagine the tragic past of the children, but together we are working to secure a bright and prosperous future."

Tom Berlin, HCW Board Member

"We have a family here."

Rukiatu Stevens, student at the CRC

HELPING CHILDREN WORLDWIDE MISSION

PROVIDE HOPE TO IMPOVERISHED CHILDREN, THE MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, BY ALLEVIATING THEIR SUFFERING, MEETING THEIR PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS, IMPROVING THEIR LIVING ENVIRONMENT, GENERAL COMMUNITY AND PROVIDING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES TO GROW INTO CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

Helping Children Worldwide is committed to making a difference in the lives of children around the globe through programs in the US and West Africa.

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HELPING CHILDREN
LEARN, GROW AND
BECOME LEADERS



**HELPING
CHILDREN
WORLDWIDE**



CHILD RESCUE CENTRE GOAL

THE CHILD RESCUE CENTRE DEVELOPS AND TRANSFORMS POVERTY-STRICKEN AND WAR-AFFECTED CHILDREN INTO ADULTS WHO BECOME STRONG LEADERS IN THEIR HOMES, THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR COUNTRY OF SIERRA LEONE.



PREPARING THE FUTURE LEADERS OF SIERRA LEONE

The Child Rescue Centre (CRC) which was established in July 2000 during the country's brutal 10-year civil war has become a nationally-recognized model for bringing up at-risk children to become leaders. Today the CRC provides safety and hope to nearly 250 children who have been rescued from desperate situations. The CRC provides children with nutritious meals, clothing, education, healthcare and a safe, nurturing environment. The children at the CRC are allowed to enjoy their childhood – attend school, receive basic healthcare, actively participate in sports and other games, attend worship, and develop leadership skills. The CRC prepares and transforms poverty-stricken and war-affected children into adults by addressing children's intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual needs. CRC children grow up to become strong leaders in their homes, communities and countries.

PROVIDING HOLISTIC PROGRAMS

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Provides a loving home community with other children, full-time adult supervision and care, nutritious meals, healthcare and education to children, between the ages of 6 and 18, rescued from desperate situations.

CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM (CSP)

Supports children who come from families that struggle to find the funds to send them to school. CSP provides families with hope for the future by sending their students to primary and secondary school, covering the cost of tuition, books, backpacks, shoes and uniforms, as well as health care.

FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

Started at the end of 2007, supports previously homeless children who have now been placed into loving homes. The Foster Care Program also provides free health care and education for these children.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM

Supports youth who are pursuing vocational training and youth studying at colleges and universities. These young men and women are studying exciting fields, including engineering, education, tailoring, food services, journalism, art, information technology, nursing and medicine.

TRAUMA & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Full-time, on-site counselor works with CRC children individually and in group sessions providing professional counseling to address emotional, psychological and behavioral challenges resulting from the trauma of their early childhoods. Therapy is guided and overseen by a team of US psychiatrists who provide resources and advice to the on-site counselor.

ETHICS & LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Through our church partners, Christian education is provided to develop integrity, strong ethics and leadership skills in the children. These teachings are fully supported by partner church donations, and no other donations for the CRC are used for this purpose. Christian teaching strengthens efforts against corruption in Sierra Leone.



“IN SIERRA LEONE A LOT OF THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN AFFECTED DURING THE CIVIL WAR. SINCE I GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME TO THE CRC TO BE EDUCATED, TO HAVE THE BASIC NECESSITIES OF LIFE, I THINK I AM REALLY BLESSED.” MOHAMED NABIEU, STUDENT AT THE CRC