



# FRIENDS of LIBERIA

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## Brief Report for Funds given to FOL Trip to Liberia May 2009

### Reception in Monrovia (Awarded \$750):

The reception was held on May 2, 2009 at the YMCA in Monrovia. With the assistance of Lyn Gray, Y Administrator, Stephanie and Lyn planned a reception for past, present and future partners of FOL.

Lyn had arranged for the dinner to be catered, purchased invitations and decorations along with a variety of beverages. **The total cost was \$967.20.** We used the \$750 awarded by the Board of Trustees at its March meeting. Travelers were assessed to pay for the remaining costs. Additional funds from the assessed fees were used for our Closing Program at the Ganta Y on 5/9/09.

The Reception was well attended by many Liberian friends, GOL ministers and employees, former PC staff, RPCVs working in Liberia, PC Response volunteers and Director and other NGO workers and international workers.

### Education Service Project, Ganta (Awarded \$1,000):

The Board of Trustees awarded \$1,000 for the education service project. The funds were used for shipping costs for extra baggage, the purchase of books, supplies and other educational materials used in the two schools and a culminating teacher training workshop for over 60 teachers and staff. We also provided a mid-day meal for all the participants at the workshop.

During the week in Ganta seven volunteers worked at the Ganta United Methodist Mission School and the Ganta YMCA School. We worked directly in classrooms with students and teachers. We prepared and modeled lessons meeting in the morning and afternoon at the schools. On Friday we planned and held a teacher training workshop for both staffs. We were able to hold

small workshops, meet as a large group and donate many books, school supplies, storage tubs and mats for primary classrooms. The workshops and our classroom visits were greeted warmly and with great interest. **There is a huge need for more of this kind of work in rural Liberia!**

**Funds spent: \$811.77**

**Funds returned: \$188.23**

### Funds for Site Visits to FOL funded and possible projects and networking (Given \$1,000):

I was able to visit nearly all of the small grant programs and/or chat with the recipients of the grants.

#### ~Funded Projects

**African Children's Libraries:** I visited the libraries in Ganta, Nengbeh and Gbarnga.

**YMCA Monrovia and Ganta-** I delivered the some of the books to Ganta Y School

**Ganta Mission-**computers and cabinets in place at the Hospital

**Phebe Lutheran Community School Liberian Education Action Project:** I met with Mrs. Harris, the Principal, who told me about the teacher training activities this year.

**Browne Academy:** (2 grants) I met with Rev. and Mrs. Browne who shared photos and many details of their work to establish a primary school, day care center. Rev. Browne discussed how a few of his teachers have had professional training. He has big ideas to expand and encourage the

**KRTTI Farm Project:** I met with the director and a few workers along with the PC Response volunteer assisting with the building of the farm building. The building on the KRTTI campus will be self sustaining and bring money back to the project once they can sell animals and produce.

#### ~Possible New Projects/Networking

Christina Dagadu met with me to discuss help with funding for a Clinic-Senior Care Center

Priscilla Jaiyah, Principal of Ganta United Mission School discussed ideas for a summer school project.

President Sirleaf: We discussed at a special meeting with her the possibility of volunteers from FOL traveling to Liberia to volunteer for a month or so to work in teacher training, health areas or wherever a volunteers' skills could lead them but with the caveat of the GOL or receiving organization helping with the volunteers' costs (room and board, in country transportation, etc). Many of us as we visited our towns saw many opportunities for future projects!

***Funds spent: \$624.94***

***Funds returned: \$375.06***