BRIGHTLIGHT PROJECTS

BRIGHT LIGHT PROJECTS

2017 ANUAL REPORT

BRIGHTLIGHT PROJECTS

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Message From Dr. Eric Tanifum

Mission, Vision, Methodology

Programs:

1 - Mend the Gap Schooling Program for Vulnerable Ebola orphans and survivors (MDG)

2 – Annual EVD Orphans Social Therapy Program

3 – Scouting and Documenting Ebola orphans

4 – Donations to Freetown Mudslide Victims

Impact Story 1

Impact Story 2

Impact Story 3

Resources & Fiscal Management

Executive Leadership

Looking Forward

Donate & Volunteer

MESSAGE FROM DR. ERIC TANIFUM - BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends of Bright Light Projects,

We are so grateful for your support in the year 2017, this made our 3rd year with a simple vision to promote and support BLP beneficiaries to become self-reliant and contribute positively in the development of their communities.

Through your kind hearts and commitment, we have been able to stay true to our promise enshrined in our mission in implementing practice and sustainable community-based projects through strategic partnerships in Sub-Sahara Africa. In Bright Light Projects is in its 3rd year serving vulnerable children and youths helping in building devastated and broken communities one child at a time.

Our pioneer project in West Africa called "Mend the School Gap Schooling project for vulnerable Ebola orphans" focuses on providing support of learning materials and skills training to EVD orphans and psychosocial counselling to orphans and their caregivers. The long-term impact to the children and youths we serve can be measured in terms of their academic success and skills required to give them a lost opportunity they never dreamed otherwise making them competitive through confidence building with a long-term effect of impacting their communities positively

We were fortunate to be working in four countries in 2017 – the United States, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia.. And in these countries, particularly in Sierra Leone, we served about 250 orphans attending primary, secondary, and vocational schools. Highlight the need for support

In 2017, a bulk of our work was in Sierra Leone where we met with a lot of challenges, as we explore opportunities on our core programs namely; Scouting and documenting of Ebola orphans in the different districts and affected communities, An Annual Social therapy program, a social therapy program with the sole purpose of boosting self-esteem and confidence for orphans in Kuntoloh & Culbert Communities in Freetown, Mend the Gap Schooling Program for vulnerable Ebola orphans which aims at providing educational, psychosocial counselling and skills training to Ebola orphans, and Africa for Ebola orphans Album recording and videos by artists in four countries (Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia) alluding to our motto of using music as a tool for Advocacy and sustainability

Thank you!

Dr Eric Tanifum

MISSION

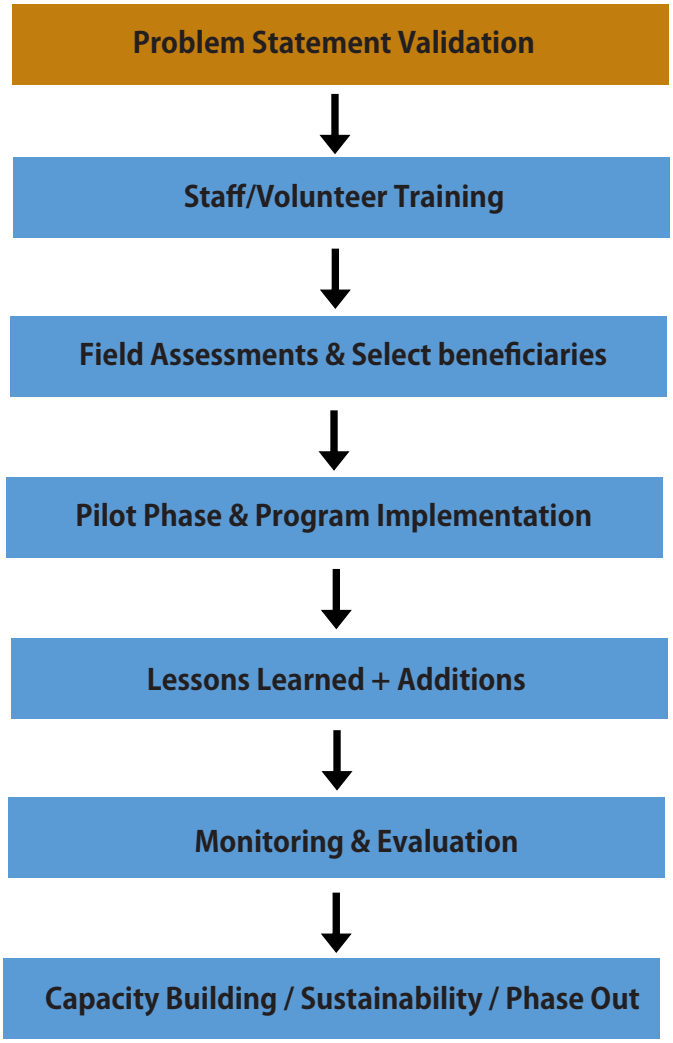
Implementing viable community-based projects through strategic partnerships including the Corporate and Academic sectors to provide cost effective sustainable programs to both urban and rural Communities in Sub –Sahara Africa...

VISION STATEMENT

To promote and support Bright Light Projects beneficiaries to become self-reliant and contribute positively in the development of their communities

BLP METHODOLOGY

BLP Methodology is built on the simple model of direct contact with our beneficiaries, making sure we can monitor, evaluate, and support ensuring sustainability of our programs.



PROGRAMS

Program One

Mend the Gap Schooling program for Vulnerable Ebola Orphans (MDG)
Pilot Phase 1 & 2 Implementation - Western Rural & Bombali Districts Sierra Leone

Project Focus: Support of Learning Materials and skill training to EVD orphans and psychosocial services to orphans and caregivers

Project Objectives:

- To provide school learning materials to EVD orphans and provide them a childhood that they never experienced and help them to become useful members of the society.
- To encourage EVD orphans to kindle their potential by providing creative opportunities and basic literacy and facilities for those who wish to study further
- To support EVD orphans to accomplish physical, intellectual, and personal development
- Monitoring and Evaluation

MDG Main Activities Include:
ACTIVITY ONE: Education Needs vulnerability assessment of orphans
Within the month of November and December 2017, BLP undertook a training for enumerators including staff and volunteers on the key performance indicators for the MDG. Vulnerability assessments were carried out in the Western Rural & Bombali Districts respectively i.e. the two designated districts for the pilot implementation. About 900 assessments were conducted within a two-week window and only 76 beneficiaries were selected based on limited Funding for the Pilot Implementation. BLPSL worked hand in hand with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs data to validate our field data and make corrections where necessary. BLPSL also signed a partnership Memorandum with Sierra Leone Association of Ebola Survivors (SLAES) allowing us to leverage our field operations in terms of Data and logistics in most localities.

(Pic 1) BLPSL staff in Pate Bana Marank (November 2017) Conducting vulnerability Assessments

ACTIVITY TWO: School Learning Materials

Vulnerability field assessments in the Western Rural District lasted for three days (November 25 - 28, 2017) with about 350 assessments conducted. 35 of the most vulnerable kids were selected as beneficiaries for the pilot phase 1 Implementation

December 15, 2017 was distribution of school items to selected beneficiaries. Items included: (Back packs, pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, geometry sets, books, rulers, uniforms, shoes, payment of school fees for primary, secondary and vocational training) Strategic partnership with Sierra Leone Association of Ebola Survivors (SLAES) in helping with identifying some of the orphans during our field assessments and using their office as a meeting point for beneficiaries and their caregivers. The school supplies distribution ceremony was at SLAES regional office at western rural District. Special thanks to the Ministry of Social Welfare Gender & Children Affairs (MSWGCA) for proving BLPSL with valuable data to boost our field work operations in the entire country making sure we are providing help where it is most needed.

(Pic. 2) BLPSL beneficiaries received school supplies on Dec. 15, 2017 in Western Rural District - Waterloo

ACTIVITY THREE: Vocational Skill Training

BLPSL Beneficiaries at Komra Training Center, 25 York Road, Waterloo

Komra Training Center (KTC) Created in August 2007, to cater for vulnerable women especially teenage mothers, school dropouts, widows, commercial sex workers to empower them to become self-reliant in their communities. KTC's historical background was a perfect match for BLPSL field workers during field assessments to scout for institutions of learning and development for our qualified beneficiaries. KTC's programs include: Catering and Hotel Management, Tailoring and fashion Design, Hair Dressing and Cosmetology. The school offers a friendly learning environment and qualified staff.

BLPSL beneficiaries at Komra Training Center in York Town Waterloo on practical's – Tailoring & Fashion Design, Hotel Management and Catering.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Currently Bright Light Projects has about 8 students enrolled in different disciplines with full tuition and learning materials provided by BLPSL with our staff providing bi-weekly visits to center to meet and address challenges as they come due to ensure the students are keeping with the program.

BLPSL also pay bi-weekly visits to the homes of beneficiaries to meet with caregivers to address living challenges as they become due while providing psychological counselling to both beneficiaries and caregivers.

Our office in Freetown receives bi-weekly reports from our social workers and community coordinator in the western Rural District in keeping with BLP's vision to promote and support BLP beneficiaries to become self-reliant and contribute positively in the development of their communities.

Monitoring and Evaluation at home and at school provides success in Waterloo Western Rural District

Monitoring and Evaluation at home and at school provides success in Bombali District

Potential Long-Term Impact

The key expected long-term impact of this project is to improve on the human capital development of Ebola affected communities. This project has the potential to mainstream EVD orphans into the schooling system and will help them get new life through gaining knowledge and vocational skills. It will revitalize their hope and aspirations to become good asset to their communities. It is expected to develop them physically and psychologically to become productive and responsible citizens.

Program Two

Annual EVD Orphans Social Therapy Day Celebration

"Social Therapy Day Celebration is one signature activity of Bright Light Projects-Sierra Leone as an intervention model of minimizing psychological, emotional stress and build the EVD orphans' personal confidence. This recreational activity creates a platform or an opportunity via the provision of safe child friendly zone with games, music and comfortable time to socialize.

This activity took place on Saturday April 22, 2017 at the Brima Attouga Mini Stadium in Freetown. About 250 EVD orphans participated from the following locations, Kuntoloh, Culvert, including caregivers who accompanied children ages 6-10. The following partners were invited to grace and support the program:

-Variety Children and family Services (about 40 children including staff), Sierra Leone Association of Ebola Survivors (SLAES), Global Poverty Reduction Initiative (GPRI), the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA)

The key objectives of this Activity are to:
* To support and offer EVD orphans a safe time to talk about life at home, community, school, and build their confidence.
* Build their emotions and mental through Recreational activities.
* Provide the opportunity to celebrate and connect with other children.

Expected Outcome

* Provide a platform for EVD orphans to come together and play, thereby offering a safe time to talk about concerns and successes in building their emotional and mental confidence,
* To facilitate and promote the social reintegration of EVD orphans into the reality of life challenges and build their capacity to copy and work hard on how to achieve their dreams

Main Activities:

Activity One: Games

Activity Two: Inspirational Movie and Live Story

Program Three

Scouting and Documenting EVD orphans

Identifying and documenting EVD orphans is key in achieving any in designing any support system. Through Bright Light Projects partnership with the Ministry of Social Welfare Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA), BLPSL was able to get the Government list of registered Ebola orphans in some of the Districts in the country. What we realized was that the Government list was not all inclusive as it left out orphans in some areas due to lack of resources.

Between the ,months of March – May 2017, BLPSL toe ok a country wide field operation with the sole objective of identifying documenting EVD orphans in the different Communities.

The objective of this country wide filed operations was to meet with the different chiefs, counselor, and community stakeholders in the different chiefdoms, introduce Bright Project Light projects and seek their consent before scouting for the orphans in the different villages and localities.

The first stop was in Bombali District where the team visited the following villages: Pate Bana

Marank, Rosint Manor, Rosint, Massati, Binkolo, Bombali Bana. Later in the year in November, the team conducted vulnerability field assessments as part of "Mend the Gap Schooling program for vulnerable Ebola orphans"

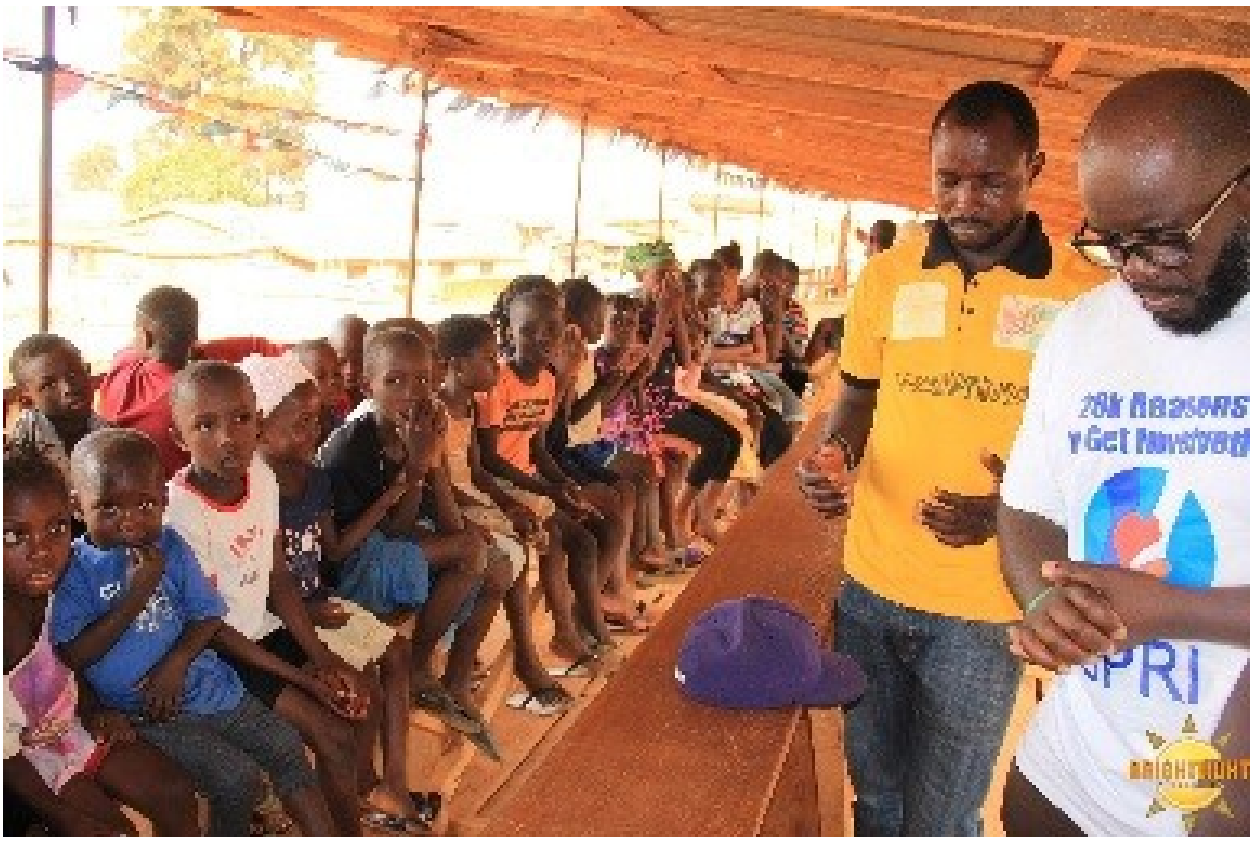
In Port Loko District the team visited Safe Home Orphanage in Rolal 2 Village.

In Bo, the team met with the Mayor Of Bo and the city staff before heading to Kenema

In Kenema, the team conducted interviews in Kombema village and lots of interviews with residents and notables within that locality

In Freetown work was done in Kontorloh, and Culbert Communities

Between November 25 – 29, 2017, In the western Rural District field assessments was conducted as part of "Mend The Gap schooling program for vulnerable Ebola orphans" Assessments were carried out in the following key areas (Small Country, Monkey Bush, Bolima, Benguma, Cole Town, Morabe , based on key performance indicators within the guidelines the Mend the Gap program. About 500 field assessments were conducted in the western Rural District.



BLPSL staff in Rosint Village with the Chief, Ebola Orphans and caregivers (March 2017)

With Ebola orphans and Caregivers in Kuntoloh Community in Freetown (April 2017)

Community Engagement

Donations to Flood Victims at Regent Community Freetown

The unfortunate and tragic mudslide tragedy that occurred in August 14, 2017 in both Regent and Koninga communities was one the worst tragedies in Sierra Leone claiming about 600 lives and about 3000 people homeless.

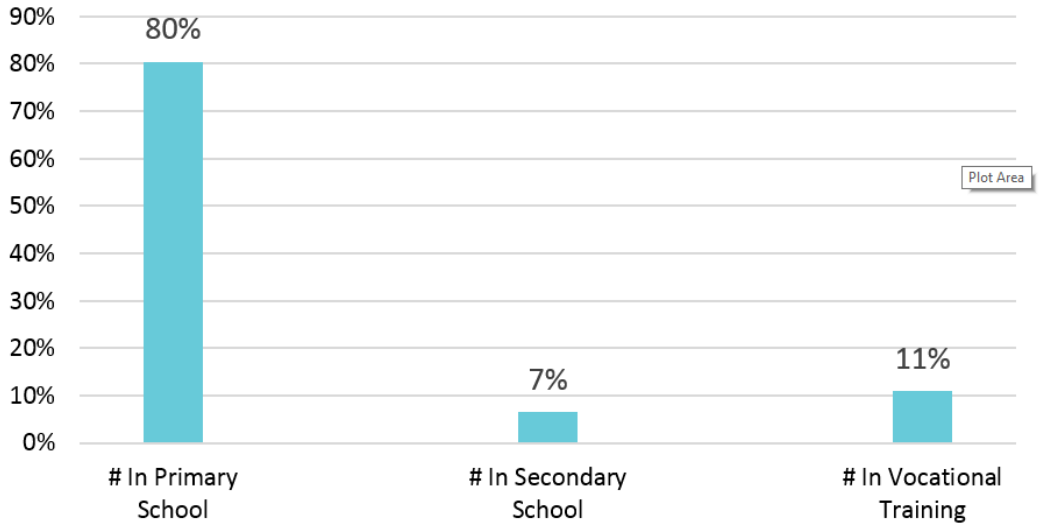
On September 25, 2017, Bright Light Projects Sierra Leone team visited the flood victims at the Regent Community. The objective of this visit was to present Donations to the flood victims especially women and children and to volunteer BLPSL services to the affected communities.

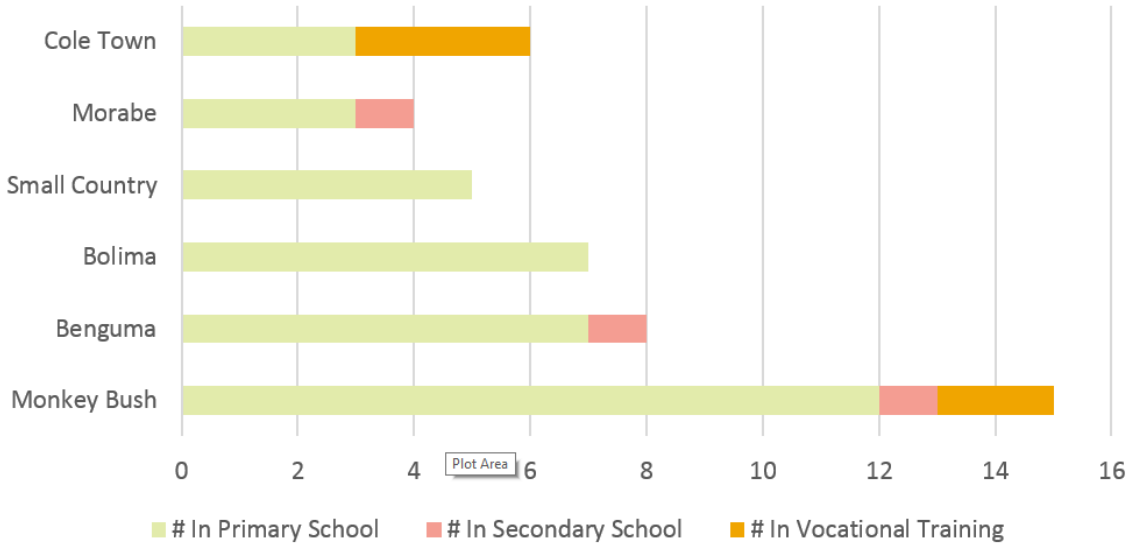
The donated materials were presented to the Chief of the Regent Community at SS Camp. Chief: Haja Fatmata Tarawallie welcomes us with open arms and was very happy for the donation and especially the assorted items. Donated Items included: buckets, toiletries, baby diapers, food items, soap, books, pens and pencils for school children, etc.

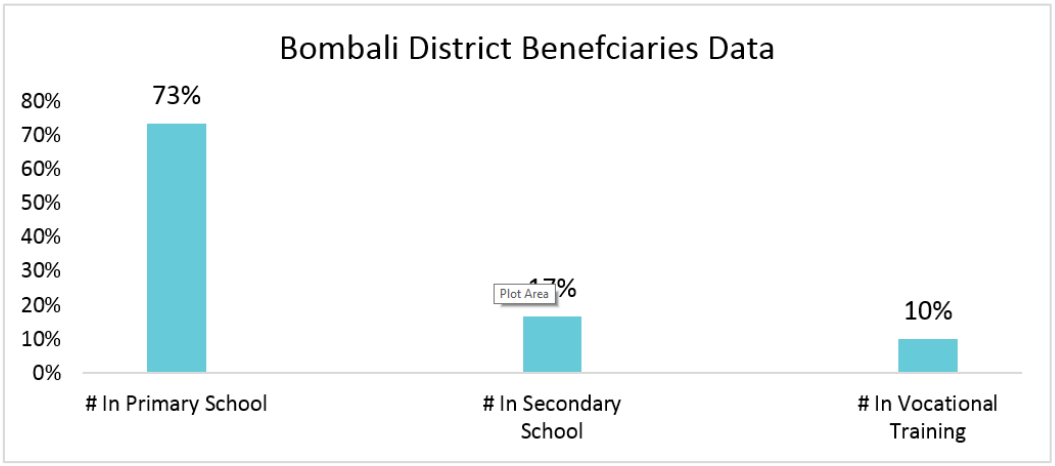
The effects of the mudslide are so prevalent in this community and urgent humanitarian intervention is needed to try and redress the situation. Most of the survivors have no shelter, most people especially children and those that lost loved ones are traumatized and emotionally unstable. Most people have injuries sustained during the struggle to escape and survive the devastation.

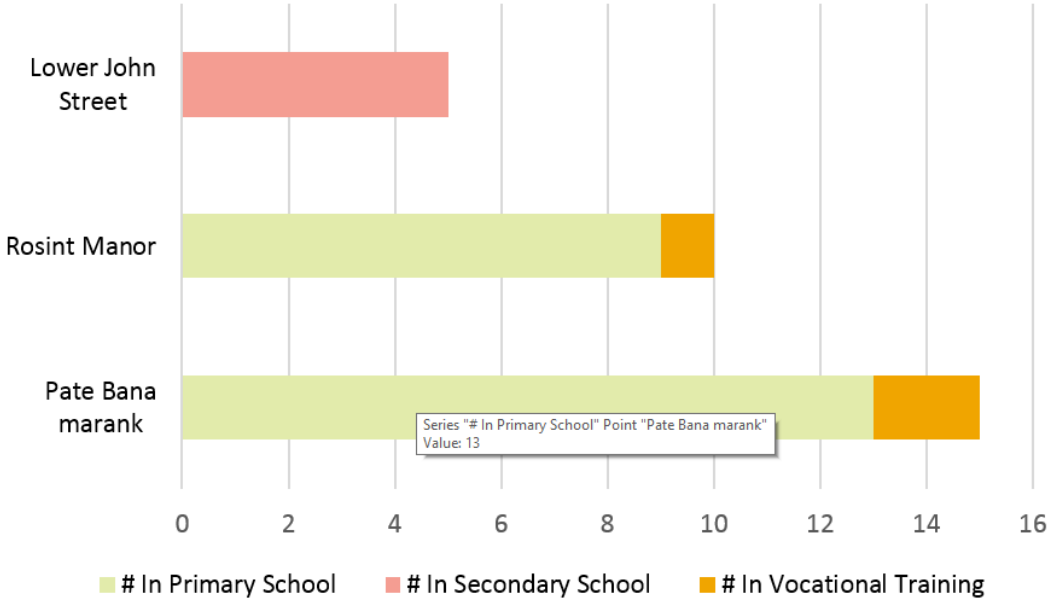
PROGRAM IMPACT – (OUTPUTS VS OUTCOMES)

As part of "Mend the Gap School Program for vulnerable Ebola orphans" BLPSL conducted about 900 vulnerability Assessments for the phase 1 & 2 Implementation in Bombali and Western Rural Districts. Due to limited funding, only 76 beneficiaries were selected for the Pilot implementation.






Bombali District Benefciaries Data
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
73%
10%
In Primary School
In Secondary School
In Vocational Training


Lower John Street
Rosint Manor
Pate Bana marank
Series "# In Primary School" Point "Pate Bana marank"
Value: 13
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
In Primary School
In Secondary School
In Vocational Training

MEND THE GAP SCHOOLING PROGRAM METHODOLOGY

Conduct vulnerability Assessments to qualify beneficiaries

Beneficiaries are selected and their care-givers

School registration, supplies, fees paid, vocatioal training fees paid

Bi-weekly Monitoring & counselling at school and at home with reports ensures sustainability

IMPACT STORY 1

Aminata Sesay

Meet 20 years old Aminata Sesay from Moreabe town in the Western Rural District Sierra Leone. She lost 23 family members to Ebola including father, mother and siblings during the 2014 Ebola outbreak.

Aminata dropped out of school for 2 years due to lack of support, She got pregnant by an adult who will ran after the child was born and left Aminata with much difficulties.

Bright Light Projects Sierra Leone (BLPSL) field work assessments in Waterloo area in November 2017 interviewed and qualified her as a beneficiary as part of our 'Mend the Gap School Program for vulnerable Ebola Orphans'. Pilot Phase 1 Implementation.

Aminata was enrolled at Peninsular Secondary School and doing so well. Since she missed the first term of school due to her late entry, BLPSL staff worked hard with bi-weekly routine visits to her home and at school and thank God she was promoted to JSS III

Thanks to BLPSL intervention. With your help BLP can expand the capacity of this program to other areas of the Country where it is most needed. BLP has a database of about 2000 orphans due to our extensive field work assessments conducted in some affected areas of the country.

Aminata Sesay from Moreabe in the Western Rural District Waterloo got promoted to JSSIII, thanks to BLPSL intervention she was able to go back to school after 3 years

IMPACT STORY 2

Fatmata Kallon

Fatmata is 18 years old from Consetta, Kissy Town, Waterloo in the Western Rural District of Sierra Leone. She lost both of her parents to Ebola during the 2014 Ebola outbreak, dropped out of school since then, with no hope of returning due to no support. She was constantly being stigmatized by family members, neighbors and friends

Bright Light Projects Sierra Leone (BLPSL) field work vulnerability Assessments in Waterloo area in November 2017 interviewed and qualified her as a beneficiary as part of our 'Mend the Gap School Program for vulnerable Ebola Orphans' Pilot Phase 1 Implementation.

Fatmata had expressed her desire to learn a trade to help her take care of her other siblings in the future. Bright Light Projects qualified and enrolled her at Komra Training Center located at 25 York Road, Waterloo where is now undertaking a 2 years training course in Tailoring and Fashion Design.

Her progress reports indicate she is doing so well and looking forward to the future with a lot of hope and optimism. Fatmata and other BLP beneficiaries are undertaking training here at Komra Center.

Thanks to BLPSL intervention. With your help, BLP can expand the capacity of this program to other areas of the Country where it is most needed. BLP has a database of about 2000 orphans due to our extensive field work assessments conducted in some affected areas of the country.

Fatmata Kallon of Kissy Town Waterloo already producing fabrics at Komra Training Center in Waterloo

IMPACT STORY 3

Meet Sento & Sinna Turay of Lower John Street Makeni

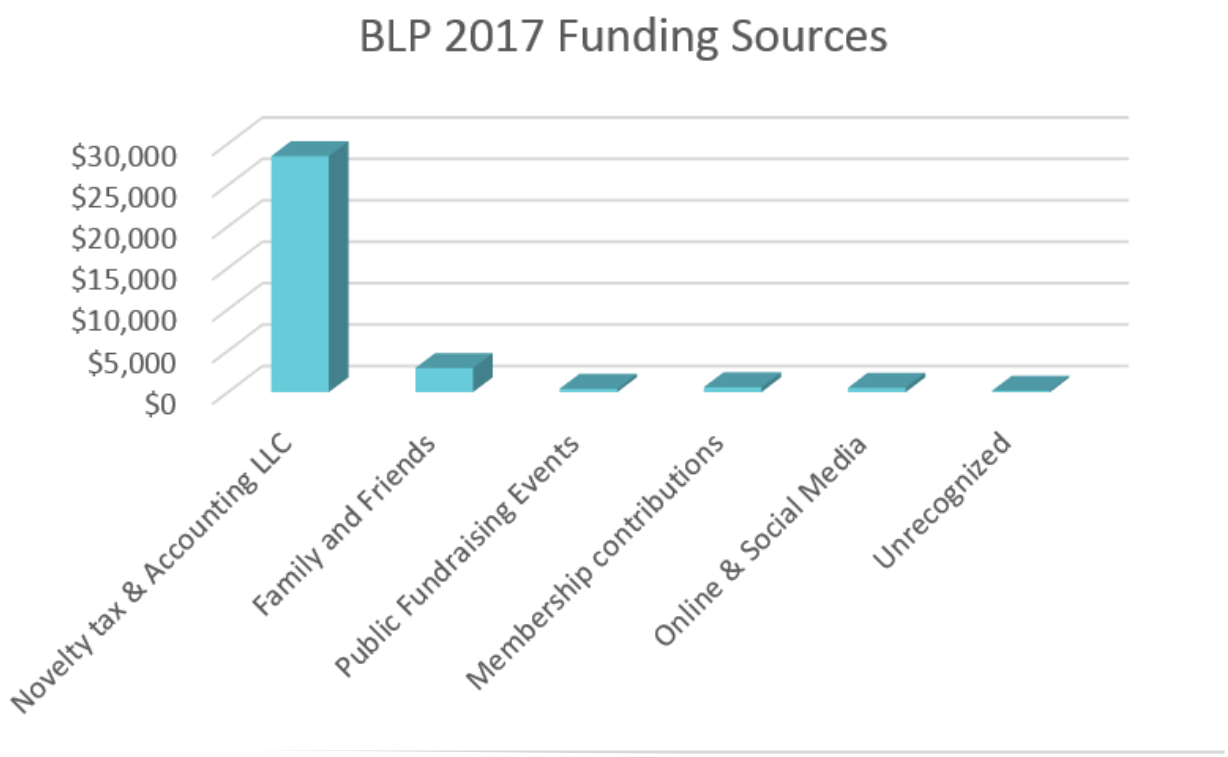
BLPSL program Director met Sento, Kadiatu and may other teenagers at a safe sex workshop organized for commercial sex workers in Makeni. Both girls were referred to BLPSL for possible assessments and integrated into the Mend the Gap Schooling program. Our field coordinator found high levels of vulnerability in five of the girls and immediately enrolled them into the program in January 2017. Both girls lost parents and multiple family members to Ebola and were homebound for about three years and of course, they got manipulated by elderly women who used them for their own selfish gains

BLPSL enrolled all five girls at Birch Memorial Secondary School in Makeni. They did not attend school for the entire first term of last Academic year 2017/2018y Their determination plus consistent intervention from BLPSL staff both at home and at school provided them the support to sail through as they both got promoted to JSSIII. Both girls are looking into the future with hope and determination. With your help, we can support many young girls like Sento & Sinna from the carnage of exploitation.

(Sento Turay, Sinna Turay, Adamsay Koroma, Mabinti Fornah with BLPSL Country Director during initial assessments in Makeni)

RESOURCES & FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Charts & Graphs



BRIGHT LIGHT PROJECTS STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (P & L)

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017
(All Amount in U.S Dollars)

Contributions	
Novelty Tax & Accounting LLC	26,490.00
Family & Friends	2,920.00
Public Fundraising	3,860.00
Membership Dues	600.00
Online & Social Media	540.00
Anonymous Donors	184.00
Total Contributions	**34,594.00**

Expenses	
Program Services	
Africa 4 Ebola Orphans Project	
Scouting for Ebola orphans	1,300.00
MDG Training & Development	600.00
Vocational Training Fees	750.00
Lodging & accommodation	1,270.00
Africa 4 Ebola Orphans Concert -Conakry	800.00
Africa 4 Ebola Orphans Concert Freetown	780.00
BLPSL Staff Award Trophies	840.00
Ebola orphans Album production	3,500.00
Ebola orphans Video production (4)	4,800.00
MDG School supplies	823.00
	15,463.00
Houston Against Violence project	3,800.00
Total Program Services	**19,263.00**
Support for Flood Victims Freetown	
Sanitary supplies + hardware	660.00
BLP 2017 Annual Fundraiser	
Hall rental	2,500.00
Brochures and flyers	225.00
Media services (video + photography)	300.00
	3,025.00
Total Program and Fundraising Expenses	22,948.00

Support Services	
Advertising	390.00
Office Expense	350.00
Program Registration	1,970.00
Salaries	1,420.00
Office supplies	520.00
Internet	600.00
Rent	3,300.00
Travel	4,300.00
Volunteer support	460.00
Polo Shirts & T Shirts	450.00
Advertisement	390.00
Meals	408.00
Bike rentals	480.00
Telephone	520.00
Office Expenses	350.00
Total Support Services	15,908.00
Total Program Services and Support	**38,856.00**
Change in Net Assets	(4,262.00)
Net Asset at the beginning of Year	-
Net Asset at the End of year	(4,262.00)

BRIGHT LIGHT PROJECTS - STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2017
(All amounts in U.S Dollars**)**

ASSETS

Bank	(14.00)
Camera	2,500.00
Office Furniture	990.00
Leasehold Improvement	350.00
Total Assets	3,826.00

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable	8,088.00
Net Asset	(4,262.00)
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	$ 3,826.00

BRIGHT LIGHT PROJECTS STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year Ended December 31, 2017
(All amounts in U. S Dollars)

Decrease in Net Assets	(4,262.00)
Purchase of Equipment	(3,490.00)
Leasehold Improvement	(350.00)
Accounts Payable	8,088.00
Ending Cash Balance	(14.00)

LOOKING FORWARD

We investigate the future with a lot of excitement and enthusiasm. Bright Light Projects is seeking to accomplish the following milestones within the next 3-5 years;

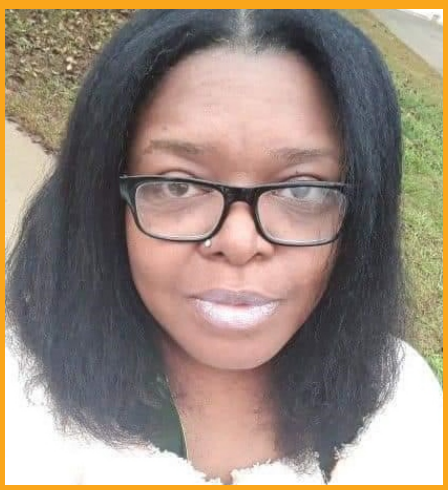
- looking to establish full operations in Liberia by 2021 as we seek to provide support to vulnerable Ebola orphans in some affected communities in Liberia
- Securing funding in expanding our pioneer program “Mend the Gap Schooling Program for vulnerable Ebola orphans and survivors” in Sierra Leone, Guinea & Liberia.
- Bright Light Projects is looking to start Women Micro Finance Initiative in helping the caregivers help the children with this means of subsistence based on lessons learned from the pilot phase 1 & 2 Implementation of MGSP
- Looking to start a computer literacy program for kids 10-18 years old preparing them to be competitive in the job market and with their future learning needs

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Dr Eric Tanifum
(Board Chairman)
Director of Fundraising and Resource Mobilization

Joso Fatimaa Menefee
Chair of PHPA
(Public Health, Policy & Administration)

Dr. Marvin Gobina
Chief Operating Officer



Barbara "Lady B Bless" Walters
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Consultant

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Celestine Mumah
Community Development Chair

Jerry Tamfor aka DJ Skeeper
Director of Musical Operation

Franco Bonghan
Executive Director

Our Contacts

Headquarters:
Bright Light Projects (BLP)
9550 Westpark Dr, Suite 124
Houston, TX, 77063
Tel: 281. 728. 4374 / Fax: 832. 645. 1197
info@brightlightprojects.org
www.brightlightprojects.org

Sierra Leone:
Bright Light Projects Sierra Leone (BLPSL)
Makeni office: 12 Waterworks Road, Makeni
Waterloo office: Fullah Town Junction, Waterloo
Republic of Sierra Leone
info@brightlightprojects.org
www.brightlightprojects.org

Guinea:
Bright Light Projects Guinea (BLPG)
Commune de Matam, Quartier Dabondi, Conakry
Republic de Guinee
info@brightlightprojects.org
www.brightlightprojects.org

theblprojects

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Every Penny Matters

Thank you all for helping BLP in its vision in supporting vulnerable populations by providing sustainable opportunities in becoming Self-reliant. Please visit our landing page:
You can visit our PayPal page at: www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1487678 to donate to BLP.

You can donate by mail: Bright Light Projects.,9950 Westpark Dr Suite 124, Houston, TX, 77063

Volunteer and Help Make a Difference
Our Volunteer program offers quality standards that meet international volunteer regulations. Bright Light Projects uses SMART platform principle in advocating and advancing our core Humanitarian agenda..

☐ Volunteer with the [insert program name here]

☐ Volunteer around the office with phone calls and other tasks

☐ Volunteer in a different way_____

Please visit our website http://www.brightlightprojects.org to learn more or call us at 281.728.4374. Email us at: info@brightlightprojects.org. Send this form by mail to our office at 9950 Westpark Dr, Suite 124, Houston, TX 77063

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you to all our wonderful Donors!