

PROJECT NO: 101347

TAX | NON-TAX

Liberia



Mother Tongue Literacy



Overview

This literacy project seeks to increase the reading population of the Goia, Mann, Dan and Grebo speaking people in Liberia. As well as improving the quality of the people's lives and their contribution to society, their newfound literacy skills will mean the Bible is available to them ahead of the publication of Scriptures currently being translated into these heart languages.

The Need

Although there has been significant improvement in the literacy rate in Liberia since the reintroduction of a government literacy program in 2005, literacy among the adult population remains a challenge. Unemployment, poor health, and access to educational facilities are factors affecting the growth and development of the country. Seventy percent of the population live on less than US\$2 per day. The 48% of the population who are literate are mostly adults in urban communities with school facilities and enrolment opportunities. Due to illiteracy, the Gola, Mann, Dan, and Grebo-speaking people are unable to access the word of God. There is a need for a basic literacy program among this population, which would enable them to read the Scriptures as well as allow them to read other materials that would improve their health, participation and standing in society.

4.88m

people live in Liberia.

52.4%

of the population are non-literate.

>557k

people speak the four target languages of this project, 85% of whom are Christians.

<h1>Goals</h1>	
<p>This program seeks to reach adults who missed the opportunity for a formal education during their childhood. The intent is to spread the truth of Scripture with love through a mother tongue literacy program which will positively impact Christian adults in churches and communities.</p> <p>The goal is to make Scripture available and affordable to everyone, with the belief that literacy arouses hope in society and among individuals who strive for a better life.</p>	<p>The goal is to train 450 adults from four language groups (Gola, Mann, Dahn and Grebo) through this project. Students will also be encouraged to share Bible lessons with their families and contacts, to increase their interest in God’s word, which will in turn promote participation in Church activities.</p> <p>The project will produce instructional materials, train facilitators, and recruit students. The goal is to have between 15-20 students per class and establish ten literacy classes each in five different</p>
	<p>locations within each of the four language communities.</p> <p>Students will be taught how to identify, pronounce, read, and write in their language. Students are given homework at the end of every week and instructors will administer regular testing to track individual progress. Classes will run three days a week for 2 hours daily.</p>
<h2>Impact</h2>	<h2>Testimonies</h2>
<p>The total number of people this project aims to impact is 1,350 over the years of the project.</p> <p>Through this project, underprivileged Gola, Mann, Dan, and Grebo will have the opportunity to learn how to read and write in their local languages. With reading skills, they will be able to understand the Gospel as well as broader life circumstances. It will also increase their participation in church activities and help them grow in Christ.</p> <p>People who have been neglected by society because they are non-literate, will be able to see themselves as part of the national development process as they contribute to the social, political, religious, and economic development of their country.</p>	<p>“I came to know Christ when I was much younger, somewhere in my teens, because we had a church in our village. Blessedly, a foreign missionary woman visited our church and provided some basic things like clothes and food items for us and our parents as she was teaching the good news to us. She always did her teaching alongside an interpreter who, if absent, the teaching would not be held. Because of this, I have always wished to read the Bible myself. The opening of a literacy class in our community has helped me achieve my wish. Now that I can read with understanding and read for others to understand as well, my faith as a Christian had grown. As a traditional midwife, along with some of the doctors and health workers who are literate in the Dan language, I am going to be among the best at the Clinic I am working at. With the help of the literacy program, all my personal records are now kept in the Dan script.”</p> <p><i>Elizabeth, 2021</i></p>
<h2>Prayer Needs</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank God for people like Elizabeth, who have achieved their desire to read the Bible for themselves because of this literacy project. • Please pray for Bible Society, that the right staff would be found for the implementation of this project. • Pray for the project partners, teachers and students, that this project would succeed in reaching people with new literacy skills. 	

