



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa — Liberia is still in a state of emergency as I leave, August 2014. My heart pains ... as prayers go out to its people for the loss of so many lives to the deadly virus.

It is a close call, as the [population we service](#) in our respite, vocational training programs and Down Syndrome Association of Liberia are families with individuals with developmental and intellectual delays.

These individuals are the most vulnerable in society and it would not be in their best interest and well-being to be placed in situations where families would have to choose care giving and medical alternatives.

Statistics, both locally and abroad talks about children who have been subjected to all kinds of maltreatment as a result of war, conflicts and poverty. Children all over the world are today at risk due to the challenges facing families, communities and government as a whole.

Even more alarming is the segment of children who were born mentally challenged with disabilities ranging from mild to profound. These are children who have difficulties facing them socially, economically and educationally. Due to their peculiar nature, society looks down upon these children and in some cases treat them with impunity.

It is with hopeful spirits and your support that we will be back in Liberia soon to continue our work servicing the most vulnerable in society. We are continuing our [phase one fundraising initiatives](#) to raise 300,000.00 to acquire land with a goal to create a safe campus in Liberia, to give teens and adults with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to train, work and be productive.

My Heart's Appeal joins the international community in wishing for a speedy remedy to combat and contain the deadly Ebola outbreak in Liberia and the rest of the infected countries West Africa.