



MHA

Dolly's Smile

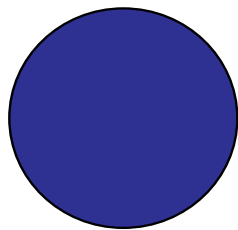
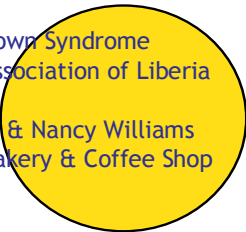
EVERYONE CAN BE **PRODUCTIVE**



January 2014
Biannual Edition, Issue: 14.1

Special Interest Articles:

- A Sibling's Vow Released October 2013.
- Down Syndrome Association of Liberia
- Al & Nancy Williams Bakery & Coffee Shop



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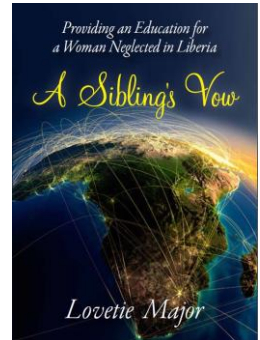
A Sibling's Vow

Titema was considered uneducable by the school system in Liberia. Faced with her sister's limited prospects as an intellectually disabled woman in West Africa, Lovetie Major chose to be the change she wanted and make a way for Titema to receive the education she desired and attain a high level of functionality in society.

Her spark of faith ignited hope that she could provide the life Titema deserved. *A Sibling's Vow* reveals how a little light can brighten a dark situation in this thoughtful description of the lack of educational opportunities for intellectually disabled children in West Africa and Lovetie's struggles to instruct her intellectually disabled sister.

Rejecting Liberia's limitations, Lovetie gave Titema *A Sibling's Vow* and began to provide individualized instruction. Titema's self-image greatly improved, and she demonstrated a desire to learn. This motivation led Lovetie to seek a country where she could learn more about educating intellectually disabled children. Enrolling at Coppin State College in Baltimore, Maryland, she graduated with her master's degree in special education.

A Sibling's Vow reveals the hardships experienced and the triumphs gained as she sought to bring Titema to the USA. Find hope in this encouraging story of faith and persistence. ★



Down Syndrome Association of Liberia (DSAL)

MHA has taken up the challenge and have begun reaching out to parents in communities around Montserrado County and its subdivisions and eventually plans to reach the other counties in Liberia.

Do you have any of these special children in your community? If so, a new day has dawn for them. With around 7 million people with Down syndrome living worldwide, it is the most common and recognized form of learning disability. Your child may be challenged, but we can help show you how they can learn like any other children. Several informational gathering meetings were held in

December. If you missed it, bring your children to either one of the next informational gathering and be a part of this change as they are announced in your community or call our local office for venue locations @ 07774374443 or 0888101049 for the next gathering.

Down Syndrome Association of Liberia, (DSAL) was formed in December 2013 as a vehicle where parents can meet and discuss common needs of their child and family in a supporting environment. In Liberia, people with Down syndrome face very limited life opportunities. My Heart's Appeal can change that with your help. ★



Lovetie Major, M.ED
MHA CEO



*“GSA takes
interest in MHA
undertakings and
mission and pledge
support to help
with its renovation
plans.”*



Omega Brown, Human
Resource Director -GSA &
MHA CEO Lovetie Major

CEO's Reflections...

Connie Thrash McGoodwin Vocational Training Hub (CTM-Hub) opening has been rescheduled for March 2014. The program in its pilot phase will serve about twenty eight clients at the time in clusters of seven. The monthly cost at USD \$120. and weekly \$30. per client.

We continue fundraising for our Land Fund Drive goal of \$300,000. to enable us to have our own location. Collected \$9433.57, still need \$290, 566.43. You can join in and make a difference in the life of an intellectual disable individual. The CTM-Hub will be opened MWF 8am - 3pm and offer developmental classes in wood carving, pastry, tailoring, tie &

dye and enhancement classes in literacy, life skills, computer & handicraft.

We do not have a funding source as yet, but grateful we can provide the service to those in need in our country at this time. It takes one to reach one. Thank you for all you do to help, this will all have not been possible without you! We need a bus (new or used) and items to complete the renovation and basic supplies to function daily.

We also have a respite program that caters to families who have children with disabilities, Bigma's Care Place -

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MHA Benefit Dinner 2014

MHA has planned a second sponsored dinner as a dialogue with partners to discuss the need to help its target population.

Featured at this event will be recognition of 2012-13 partners for outstanding non-financial charitable service to MHA in the Shepherd Award Honorees Category (listings included in this issue) in support of programs and other community enterprises. One of the Shepherd Honoree will win the Prestigious Shepherds Staff Award. There will also be a Silent Auction.

The dinner is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2014 at United Methodist Church of the Servant, 14343 North MacArthur, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73142. Gallery Walk and Silent Auction

is from 6:00-6:30p.m. The dinner and program is from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Dinner will be served at arrival.

Tickets are available at \$30 per person. Get together with friends, name your group and then reserve a table of eight for \$225 and save \$15. Email or call our office to order your tickets. You can also order on our website under Community Map, click Calendar, and then, Pasture for the Sheep - Benefit Dinner

The following Sheep Levels are available for our Pasture of Sheep Fundraiser: \$ 3000 Shepherd Staff Sponsorship, \$ 1500 Shepherd Sponsorship, \$ 500 Ram Sponsorship, \$ 250 Ewe Sponsorship, and \$100 Lamb Sponsorship. ☺

MHA Forms Corporate Partnership in Liberia

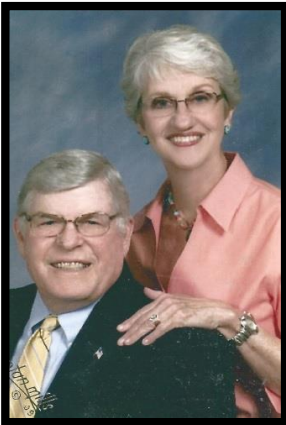
Mr. Omega Brown, Human Resource Director - General Services Agency and team visited and toured the Gaye Town, Sinkor Old Road facilities of MHA in August 2013. The team presented a donation of ten bags of rice to MHA in Celebration of Ten Years of Peace in Liberia 2003-2013.

In his remarks, Mr. Brown complimented the undertakings and mission of the organization and pledged his agency

support to help MHA accomplish its objectives by completing renovation of the Connie Thrash McGoodwin Vocational Training Hub to be opened, March 2014.

He also said he was honored to form Corporate Social Responsibility Partnership with MHA. Mrs. Major thanked the team and welcomed the opportunity. ☺

Al & Nancy Williams Bakery & Coffee Shop



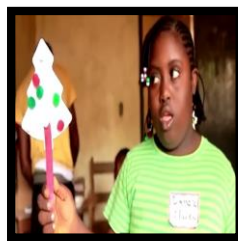
When asked, how did you come into contact with My Heart's Appeal...? They replied, our good memories were enhanced when Arthur Richardson gave a fine presentation regarding My Heart's Appeal, as chair of the Board of Directors. We shared the organizations objectives and determined that their need for assistance was meaningful and sincere.

In my younger life, states Al...my parents exposed me to a strong sense of commitment to my country and to people needing support and care from not just governments, but by individuals helping as they could. My father served in the Army in WWII although it was not required that he do so due to his age and having two children. Whereas his absence during those years was trying for me, I always respected his willingness to take that action. My mom always gave of herself to support and assist with needs of others even when money was limited. It left me with a strong willingness to go the extra mile to support causes deserving such efforts.

Nancy as a little girl spent summers with her grandparents. My grandmother she remembered... baked biscuits every morning for breakfast and often baked bread. I loved the smell of the kitchen when the bread was baking and a buttered slice of that fresh bread was a delightful treat. As an adult the joy of making Christmas memories was a highlight for four generations of girls, a practice that ended several years ago. Recently one of my granddaughters called and said, "Grammy, we need to have a bake day!" What a blessing to have more memories to share!

God has been more than kind in giving us and our family good health, reasonable financial resources, the ability to contribute to community, wherever in the world that might be, and the desire to share His gifts for the betterment of others. He also gave us each other and we share the same ideals and goals. ☺

Christmas 2013 Celebrations at Bigma's Care Place



MHA 2012-13 Shepherd Award Honorees

Africa

Musu Duworko
Cllr. N Oswald Tweh
Hon. Borkai Sirleaf
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Agriculture
General Services Agency
St. Andrew Lutheran Church
Ministry of Youth & Sports
Ancient Free & Accepted
Masons

Europe

Marina Rauh - Germany

MHA Newsworthy...

MHA plans to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day March 21, 2014 in Liberia at the Antoinette Tubman Stadium in central Monrovia. The activities for the day are in two folds: **Morning Event** (7am -12pm) 30 minutes' walk in support of people with Down syndrome, group awareness campaign and informational gathering and a health fair. **Afternoon Event** (12-1pm) MHA Special Exhibition Games: Together We Can Win. This will be the second for Liberia. Last year event was held at the SKD Sports complex in Paynesvilles. ☺

Christmas was celebrated at Bigma's Care Place, December 2013. The day

was filled with fun, crafts, games and gifts distributions. We were honored to have sporting events added to our program and welcomed coaches who came and helped join in the celebrations. ☺

MHA has formed partnership with Special Olympics International in the USA and in the formative stage of getting legal permits to begin the process of forming a local non-governmental organization for Special Olympics in Liberia. ☺

MHA received ten computers and key boards from Oklahoma City University Tech Support Department, USA. ☺

MHA Participates in Local Community Events

MHA have embarked on several fundraising initiative. November 2013, donated items were sold at a local craft fair in Oklahoma City, USA with all proceeds to benefit the renovation of the Connie Thrash McGoodwin Vocational Training Hub (CTM-Hub). ☺

We spent a beautiful day at Dale Rogers Training Center (DRTC) our partner October 2013, as they celebrated their 60th anniversary serving people with disabilities in the state of Oklahoma, USA. Our vocational training center CTM-Hub, was named after Connie Thrash McGoodwin, Executive Director of DRTC. MHA shared a booth during

the event where Mrs. Major signed copies of her book A Sibling's Vow. ☺

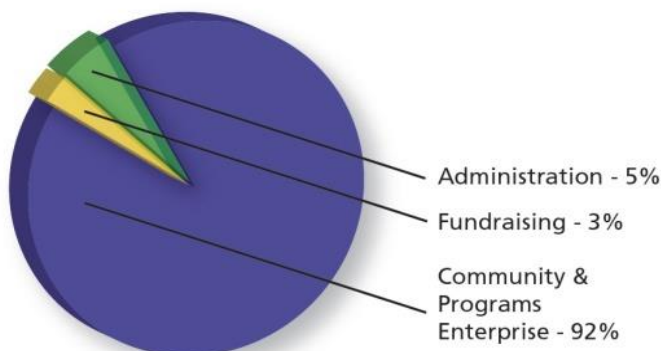
We spent two Sundays in the lobby of Church of the Servant in Oklahoma City, USA handing out information about the Mission Trip to Liberia, Spring Break, March 15- 23. Mark your calendar and **Save the Date**.

The team will spend the week on site at the compound of MHA setting up the center for MHA official launch of the CTM-Hub in Liberia West Africa. They will also participate in the World Down Syndrome Day Event and Bigma's Care Respite Program. ☺



November Local Craft Fair

My Heart's Appeal (MHA) Competence Chart



More than 90 cents of every dollar MHA spend is used to support its mission.

2013 Quarterly Contributions

1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH
8005.35	2979.97	425.98	5709.57

Bigma's Care Place	General Fund	Land Fund Drive
\$ 250.72	\$ 8131.99	\$ 8738.16

Total: \$ 17, 120.87

(100% allotment per the 3 categories)

MHA Pasture for the Sheep Wall of Fame

\$3000.00 + Shepherds Staff Sponsorship Level

Allen & Nancy Williams+ Dr. Arthur & Charlene Richardson + Burke Major+
Cllr. N. Oswald Tweh + Susannah Telewoda +
Missions: United Methodist Church of the Servant +

\$1500.00 + Shepherd Sponsorship Level

Susan Leonard +

\$500.00 + Ram Sponsorship Level

Piper Pfister + James & Cherrie Hampton + Loren & Julie Plotkin
Alfred & Korpo Telewoda + Jim & Connie McGoodwin + John Nester Randall+
Joseph & Gerly Telewoda + Velicia Major Dale Rogers Training Center +
Dr. Gary & Rosaline Rahe + Maccinni Construction Company+
Journey of Faith Sunday School Class, Church of the Servant +

\$250.00 + Ewe Sponsorship Level

Robert & Martha Holloway+ Nancy Morgan+
Dr. Bracha Laster + The Path Class, Church of the Servant + Jill Walker +
Leroy Ball & Patricia McGarrity + Suzette Drake + Cary & Terry Fisher+
Fran Parkhill+ Loren Atwood Tracy & Sharon Freeny+ Diana Clifton +

\$100.00 + Lamb Sponsorship Level

Suzy Wolfe + Kirk Mullen+ Amy Chao + Kysha Williams +
Gina Musae+ Cal Moser+ Miki Farris+ Marcia Brejda
Diane Folks+ Christine Moss Pam Henthron + Daniel Short
Leni Burrow+ Susan Potts+ Dr. Marion Paden Lillian Brejda +
John & Karen Martin + Ellen Hickerson+ William & Barbara Russell +
David & Toni Conrady William Wiggins Dr. Zwannah & Yatta Dukuly
Borkai Sirleaf + Sharlene Hammons Alvina Federwitz + Marina Rauh
Monique Mathelier-Kouwenhoven Stan Barton+ Dr. Robyn Goggs +
Jill McCartney+ Tim & Nikki Reid + Marvin & Shirley Schaus
Jerome & Tonia Mitchell + Arlene Keim + Dewayne McAnally + Dawn Allen +
Julie Whitson+ Catherine Montgomery Ida Brooks-Borkari +
Dr. Roxanne Hughes-Wheatland Dr. Charles & Kathleen Richardson+
Mark & Kay Harsha + Susan Sutter + Davis & Barbara Merry +
Judith Raulston Susie Musae + Larry & Cynthia Stacy +
Phil & Marcia Mitchell + Ronald & Shirley Beckett Nancy Collins+
Classic Sunday School Class, Church of the Servant+ Sharon Peters+
Joe & Shirley Rolston Dale & Phyllis Regier+
Delbert & Linda Simmons +

*MHA fundraising drive -Pasture for the Sheep- is to buy land in Liberia, West Africa
in support of Special Education. Wall of Fame will be posted on an erected wall
when campus is completed. Thank you for your support!*

The listings above include general financial contributions given to MHA.



MHA 2012-13 Shepherd Award Honorees

North America

Dawn Allen
Doris Cline
Gina Musae
Arlene Keim
Kesia Slagell
Susie Musae
Mike Frizzell
Sharon Allen
Kirk Mullen
Burke Major
Suzie Wolfe
Rob Holloway
Bill & Ruth Tyo
Susan Leonard
Kysha Williams
Max Colclasure
Ken & Lisa Jones
LWPB Architecture
Steven & Lisa Buck
Bill & Eileen Humes
OG&E Energy Corps, OKC
Jase & Tassidy Rahill
Walt & Harriot La Grone
Duncan & Dalia Woodliff
David & Sharon Ferguson
Infant Crisis Services, Inc.
Paul Englund-Hefner Grill
Allen & Sharon Bumgardner
Jill McCartney-NW Chamber
Nancy Collins-Hannah's
Promise Ministry
Peoples Community Lutheran
Church, Baltimore, MD
Parakletos Sunday School
Class, COS
Wednesday Evening Bible
Study, COS
Davis & Barbara Merrey -
TeamLogicIT
Rick Joiner - Creative Photo
Video, Inc.
Mark Javidi-Zorba's
Mediterranean Cuisine
Megan Allison-Dale Rogers
Training Center
Dr. Arthur & Charlene
Richardson
Southern Nazarene
University Students
Alicia Rankin -Lilygrass
Flowers & Décor
Oklahoma City University
Tech Support
Sam Eid - Sam's Warehouse
Liquor

CTM-Hub December Renovation Updates



Al & Nancy Williams Bakery & Coffee Shop



Foot Path



CTM-Hub North Entrance to Programs



Agriculture Garden



Recycling Materials Center



Walt & Harriot La Grone Wood Carving Creations



Agriculture Water Well



Proposed Cafeteria Site



Fence Restoration

A Sibling's Vow 2013 Book Signings



MHA Informational Gathering Meetings & Formulation of DSAL December 2013. Down syndrome is not a disease...



MHA Liberia Team Members

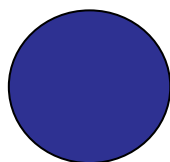
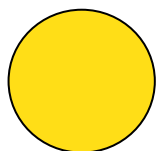


Liberia Office Staff



MY HEART'S APPEAL, INC.
5909 NW EXPRESSWAY, STE 224
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73132-5108

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Okla. City, OK
Permit No. 2005



Return Service Requested



Everyone
Can Be
Productive

We're on the Web!
See us at:



Visit us at www.myheartsappeal.org and check out all of the taps and drop buttons on our site. Our email is info@myheartsappeal.org and numbers 405-603-2799 (Phone), 405-603-2712 (Fax). If you ❤️ us, be sure to like us on Face book.

MHA Online Store



Poster \$15.00
Cultural Dancer
12" x 18"
(full color, w/bleed)



Poster \$15.00
Heart of the Home
12" x 18"
(full color, w/bleed)



Poster \$15.00
Town Meeting
12" x 18"
(full color, w/bleed)



Poster \$15.00
Palava Hut
12" x 18"
(full color, w/bleed)



Poster \$15.00
Drummer Boy
12" x 18"
(full color, w/bleed)



MHA African Greeting Cards & envelopes 8.5" x 5.5" Folded Plain Cards 4.375" x 5.75" A2 Envelopes Price: \$10.00

CEO's Reflections....Continued from pg 2

that service families once a month for six hours 9am -3pm. The monthly cost is \$10.00 USD. We provide breakfast, lunch, snack and transportation service at our programs. The families cannot afford to pay. No one is turned away.

You can sponsor a BMC Place or CTM-Vocational Hub client by contributing online, print and mail our online form, call any of our offices for scheduling visitation or contributions drop off. A team member or I can meet with you to answer questions you may have. Faith is looking at the impossible and knowing that God will not fail you! ✨