



Dale Rogers Training Center QUARTERLY

Summer Edition

June 2014

of Dog Days Summer



Meet Izzy, a miniature Australian Shepherd that is deaf. She came for her very first visit to DRTC and made quick friends with Luz, Izzy, Whiskey and their trainer, Billy Thomas, visit every month at DRTC.

★ DRTC ON COVER OF SOURCEAMERICA ★ MY HEART'S APPEAL ★ PAPA MURPHY'S ★
CAMP TUMBLEWEED & GOVERNOR'S AWARDS ★ SUGAR FREE ALLSTARS

Connie Thrash McGoodwin, M. Ed.

★ My Heart's Appeal

One of the Dale Rogers Training Center's (DRTC) goals is to educate the public about how productive people with disabilities can be; not just at DRTC, or only in Oklahoma, or even in the United States. Supporting the mission of My Heart's Appeal, Inc., provides a unique opportunity to show what people with disabilities are capable of on the world stage.

Lovetie Major, Founder of My Heart's Appeal, Inc., returned from Monrovia, Liberia in West Africa after an official launch of the CTM Vocational Hub with several board members. Lovetie has a sister, Tatiana, who was born in Liberia and has Down syndrome. There are literally no vocational services for people with disabilities in the entire country. My Heart's Appeal, Inc. opened their new center, temporarily in a residence, while the Board of Directors is raising \$300,000 USD for the

100 acres where they want to build a facility outside of the capitol city. DRTC is proud to provide curriculum and other resources to this international effort.



My Heart's Appeal, Inc., is a 501 (3) (c) charity non-profit organization. If you would like to learn more, please visit: www.myheartsappeal.org.



Children are working in the open bakery area with the teacher.



All classes gather to pull weeds, water and learn about gardening principles.

Eric, only 11 Months Old

Children with disabilities are ostracized by other children and adults in Liberia. It is hard to imagine seeing a handicapped child being pelted with stones in a remote village, much less in a suburban setting. Eric was only 11 months old when he died on March 20 from respiratory complications related to his disability. His mother, Roseline, did not have a support system of any kind, not even another mother of a disabled child.

There she fell sobbing into the arms of a volunteer from Oklahoma who sat holding her hand. Six



Eric's mother being comforted by MHA staff.

Liberian women who were staff members surrounded her and quietly let her grieve. Soon after that incident, My Heart's Appeal, Inc. formed the first Down Syndrome Association in Liberia, a place for parents and siblings as well as the children themselves --- it is a powerful bond.

My Heart's Appeal, Inc.
5909 NW Expressway, Ste. 224,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132
Phone: 405-603-2799
Email: info@myheartsappeal.org