



NEWS RELEASE
February 5, 2015

For Immediate Release
Contact: Lovetie Major
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From Oklahoma to Liberia... Local nonprofit supports vocational program

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK - February 5, 2015 - Dale Rogers Training Center, Inc., an Oklahoma nonprofit since 1953, still remembers how tough it is to ignite a vision. "It's very different for My Heart's Appeal, a validated nonprofit, to try to start a vocational program in Monrovia, Liberia" says Connie Thrash McGoodwin, Executive Director of Dale Rogers Training Center (DRTC).

"New Ebola outbreaks are finally settling down" says Lovetie Major, My Heart's Appeal's founder, "for my sister's sake I will continue this mission." Ms. Major refers to her sister Tatima with Down syndrome, about whom she wrote the book, *A Sibling's Vow*.



Lovetie Major & Students at the Liberia MHA Center



MHA African prints

Liberia, West Africa and Oklahoma City are closer than you think. Those interested in a fun and educational evening, are invited to come to an event Thursday evening, February 12th 2015 to learn more and to experience My Heart's Appeal's vision. Attendees will see workers from Dale Rogers Training Center framing African prints, making awards and selling items from Robin's Corner Gift Shop that they helped create. They will also be serving pizza and salads from their Papa Murphy's Pizza franchise (located at Northwest 23rd and Pennsylvania Avenue).

"We are the same in so many ways" says McGoodwin about the two agencies. "Our folks with disabilities all desire respect, they want to learn and to earn their way both in Oklahoma and in West Africa. DRTC is joining hands with My Heart's Appeal to inform, embrace and impact this

program modeled after Dale Rogers Training Center, which is one of the most innovative programs in the Southwest.

Lovetie Major says "It will be a colorful evening of food, friends, information and book-signing, demonstrating immediate and long-term ways to support this cause." This includes a gallery walk, silent auction, interactive cultural exchanges and memorable door prizes.

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This event, the third Shepherd's Guiding Hand Annual Event will be held at the Church of the Servant in Northwest Oklahoma City. Your \$20 ticket includes fresh, hot pizza and salad buffet with homemade desserts.

"Part of our mission is to educate the public about disabilities and abilities" says McGoodwin, "Dale Rogers Training Center is honored to support this organization and mentor its programs. We hope to see many new faces on February 12th.

Sign up at www.myheart appeal.org, or call Lovetie Major at 443-474-8031.



Celebrating Disability Day in Liberia

Date: Thursday, February 12th, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location:

United Methodist Church of the Servant
Community Hall
14343 North MacArthur
Oklahoma City, OK 73142

For more information or media times, contact Michael T. Jones at 405-946-4489 ext. 1431 or dalero gers@drtc.org.

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