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“Do Not Neglect Children with Down-Syndrome”

-Madam Major

By Robin Dopoe Jr.

The founder and chief executive officer of ‘My Heart’s Appeal’ (MHA), Lovetie Major, has called on Liberians and other nationals residing in the country to stop neglecting children with ‘Down Syndrome.’

Madam Major noted that people should understand that children with Down Syndrome are not associated with any disease as they may think, but rather they suffer from a ‘genetic disorder’ that resulted from having an extra chromosome.

“Looking at their condition, these children desire everyone’s love and care. It was not their wish to be born like that,” Madam Major added.

Down Syndrome according



Madam Major addresses reporters at her Gaye Town Old Road office

to medical sources, is a congenital disorder arising from a chromosome defect, causing intellectual impairment and physical abnormalities including short stature and a broad facial profile. It arises from a

defect involving chromosome 21, usually an extra copy (trisomy-21).

She said she cannot hold anyone responsible for not embracing children with Down Syndrome and assured the public that when they are cared for and taught basic skills they can be useful to the society like any other person.

“I feel sad when people call them crazy, funny and all sorts of names. For me, I cannot blame government for not taking care of these children. As a citizen of this country, I feel that it is part of my responsibility to correct the wrongs in society and I’m urging others to join me in the fight.

“Since our society is not willing to accept them we will do all we can to create the best awareness to make sure that they are accepted just the way they are,” she added.

Madam Major disclosed that MHA will be celebrating

the ‘World Down Syndrome Day’ on March 15, and the public is invited at the Antoinette Tubman Stadium.

This year’s program will be celebrated under the theme. “My Friends, My Community—the Benefits of Inclusive Environment for Today’s Children and Tomorrow’s Adults.”

“We will be making public appeals because these kids need to be accepted in the communities. We now have about 15 children that we are currently working with. The number of children with down syndrome continues to grow because of the awareness we continue to carry out regularly,” she noted.

Activities at the event will include DSAL African jewels, community buddy walk, special exhibition games, and fun fest, among others.

MHA was established in 1996 to assist with the needs of training teens and adults with intellectual disability and to create awareness of the difficulties facing them socially, economically and educationally.