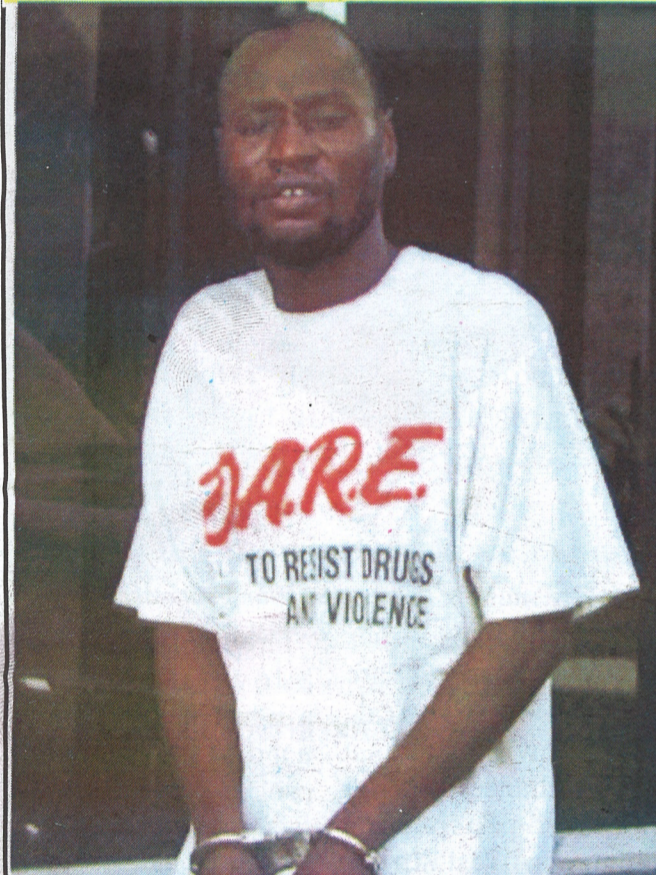




Four Men Arrested In Connection To UN Ambush



Flashback: Alleged Liberia's Mercenary

Four men have been arrested in connection with the ambush killings in Ivory Coast of seven U.N. peacekeepers on its border with Liberia, Ivory Coast President

Alassane Ouattara said on Friday, according to the Reuters news agency. An adviser to Ouattara said the four had been arrested in Liberia and would be

extradited to Ivory Coast to stand trial. The seven United Nations peacekeepers, all from Niger, were killed on June 8 when their patrol came under fire near the

town of Tai, close to the porous border, in what Ivorian authorities said was a cross-border raid. "We have just arrested four

"My Dream Is To Help My People" -Says Lovetie Major

Humanitarianism, for some is a matter of must; while others think it is useless to cater to those who are not their immediate relatives, but for Madam Lovetie Major, a US based Liberian, and founder of My Heart's Appeal, an international NGO has vowed to making the difference by coming to the rescue of those who are victims of circumstances. Speaking to this paper over the weekend in Monrovia, Madam Major outlined the plans of her organization, noting, "It is my desire to helping my people by

ably facilitating the establishment of quality training and employment for teenage and adult persons with disabilities in my dear Country, Liberia. My organization, My Hearts Appeal objective is to create a safe campus in Liberia, to give teens and adults in West Africa with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to train, work and be productive," she told our staff. She further disclosed that her NGO, My Hearts Appeal, Inc. (NHA) which



Madam Lovetie Major

Four LNP Officers Suspended



The Liberia National Police has suspended for time indefinite four officers for failure to register a rape case thus attempting to compromise the matter. An LNP release named the officers as Joe Karnkeh, Lawrence Padmore, Dolinji

Kollie and Jonathan Tengbeh assigned at the Zone 4 Police Station in Gardnersville. They have been disrobed and currently detained at the LNP headquarters as they face investigation at the Professional Standard Division.

The release stated that the officers also stand accuse of disrespecting the complainant of the alleged rape case in which the complainant was harshly threw out of the police station late Monday evening without her case

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"My Dream Is To Help My People" -Says Lovetie Major



was founded in Maryland and Oklahoma, the United States in 1996, as a nonprofit organization to meet the special education and training needs for people with disabilities who live in Liberia, her home Country.

She said the organization which was inaugurated in 2001 and has defined its target population as the mild, moderate or severe intellectually disabled is now in Liberia to provide similar opportunities to disabled Liberians.

"We will educate the public about the many skills and capabilities of people with intellectual disabilities; will further assist in funding the purchase of special equipment, materials and transportation for deserving applicants.

Madam Major, who obtained a Masters Degree in Education from the United States, also spoke highly of the need for her NGO to assist in the cost of furthering the education of the mild, moderate or severe intellectually disabled teens and adults.

As head of the MHA, Madam Major is professionally grinded with worth of personal experience as an advocate for the intellectual disabled individuals. As a regular and special educator for over 25 years in Liberia and the USA, she has received several service and recognition awards.

She is a memberships of several organizations, including the Council for Exceptional Children (Division of International Special Education and Services) and Rotary Club International (District 5750, Oklahoma City North) is just to name a couple.

She authored the book "A Sibling's Vow," in which she tells the story of leaving civil war torn Monrovia, Liberia, 1993 and chronicles her determined effort to assist her sister who has Down syndrome, and an intellectual disability that has been deprived of achieving her educational limits.

She holds an advance Degree in Education from the College of Notre Dame Maryland (now Notre Dame of Maryland University), (2004); a M.Ed. in Special Education from Coppin State College (now Coppin State University), Baltimore, Maryland, (1994) and a B.Sc. in Elementary Education from Cuttington University College (now Cuttington University), (1987).

She told this paper that her quest for the establishment of this NGO came as a result of how physically challenged individuals' plight were being downplayed by institutions and individuals who were clothed with the opportunities to assist them.

"As a result of this situation, a feasibility study for the establishment of an NGO to humanitarially look into the plight of our future leaders who have all being victimized due to these unfortunate situations was conducted and completed in August of last year, 2011.

She said following the feasibility study, the need to establish this NGO was finalized thus given birth to 'My Heart's Appeal' which is now providing quality training and employment of teens and adults with disabilities.

Given reason why her NGO was established, Madam Major with a glaring smile, and said, "It is the belief of my NGO that all individuals deserve the inherent and socio-political rights to all the privileges enjoyed by what we call "normal people." If education is the gateway to all human and social development, then no society should preclude any of its citizenry from being educated, but make provision for proper education, training and integration of such individual in the larger society."

She expressed thanks and appreciation to her darling husband, Mr. Burke Major for the support given her throughout, noting, "It is my husband who stood by me to reach this far. I am grateful to him, God first, and then my husband," Madam Major speaking to our staff said.

Vocational Training

A variety of different experiences are offered, including volunteer or paid work activity (either at our facilities or in the community), work adjustment training, community integration and social activities, and job readiness, placement, and retention groups. The program focuses mainly on work activities, with the emphasis on preparing most individuals for eventual community employment. Individuals may have a plan which combines both supported employment and vocational services.

Providing vocational services and supported employment for students aging out of the school system. In addition, we have the capability of working with students well before graduation, including those in 10 - 12 grades, providing career assessment, work adjustment training, and employment services.

Mobile Workforce

Individuals in the program train in the Vocational Services Program and volunteer sites and as part of an enclave at the work site, as well as eat lunch within the community. This training enables the individuals to gain experience and knowledge of all aspects of employment.

Supported Employment

Supported Employment offers individuals competitive employment in the community with a high level of support. Individuals are placed into a wide variety of jobs based on their preferences, provided job coaching to ensure a successful transition, then provided with ongoing follow-up and support for the duration of their employment.

The Special Needs Program is designed specifically for individuals, both children and adults with more significant disabilities, or those who are approaching retirement age. Individuals participate in a variety of relevant and interesting activities throughout the day. The program focuses on maximizing independence. Limited personal care may be available for those who qualify. Activities include paid vocational training/subcontract work, job skills, exercise, leisure activities and community field trips.

Transportation will be offered for clients to go to different sites within the city for supported employment. Clients and volunteers that come into our facilities for programs would have access to transportation and will be pick up and drop off from a central location around the city.

This program allows parents who have children with special needs a Saturday to themselves while their children - including siblings - are treated to six hours of one-to-one care and attention. The day for children includes crafts, indoor and outdoor play, and a general gathering meeting. Volunteers are carefully selected, screened and equipped.

This program caters to children, adolescents and adults who have learning difficulties, lagging behind their peers in reading and writing, not motivated to read for enjoyment and information or who never had the opportunity to learn to read and write. Also for people who want teaching of the complex process of reading, using all of the cueing systems (phonics, sentence structure, word meaning, etc.) with an emphasis on making sense of what they read. Volunteers are carefully selected, screened and equipped.

1. Generating funds to support the mission of My Heart's Appeal, Incorporation.

The Corporation is non-profit and receives most of its proceeds from fund raising activities, grants and donations. MHA plans to engage in entrepreneurship ventures to help generate funding for its objectives.

2. Creating a safe campus in Liberia, to give teens and adults in West Africa with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to train, work and be productive.

The campus landscape will address vocational, occupational and residential needs of its occupants. The programs will provide technical, career skilled training to high school students through adulthood and an opportunity for employment and also offer community services to children with disabilities.

3. Providing training programs for teachers and assistants to work effectively with people with disabilities.

Partnerships will be established through universities to provide support for the teacher training programs to meet the need of our target population.

4. Educating the public about the many skills and capabilities of people with intellectual disabilities.

MHA will attempt to dispel the myth that individuals with intellectual disabilities can not be productive citizens in society.

5. Assist in funding the purchase of special equipment, materials and transportation for the deserving applicants.

The Corporation will be responsible for purchasing or through donation, special equipments such as computers, mobile devices for learning to deserving applicants.

6. Assisting in the cost of furthering the education of the mild, moderate, or severe intellectually disabled teens and adults.

The Corporation will be responsible to offer, scholarships from other organization, through grants and letters of appeal to deserving applicant

When further asked about how the whole idea started, the MHA Founder and Chief Executive Officer, said it all started when her baby sister, Titema who felt into similar situation plight could not be addressed properly, she said gave room for the establishment of the MHA in order to fill the gap that left unattended.

She said founded MHA 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. It has always been her dream that every mild, moderate or severe intellectually disabled individual be given a chance to learn. MHA though its mission and objectives will make these dreams a reality by creating an environment where everyone can be productive.

She feels strongly that there is a need for special education services in Liberia, West Africa. Most importantly as there is no individualized instruction for the mild, moderate or severe intellectual disabled individuals as they are placed in the normal classroom setting, without assistance, thus frustrating their efforts, and are often turned away. There is a dire need for qualified personnel to set up educational and vocational programs in that country. MHA plans to begin a pilot program in Liberia.

Concluding, Madam said, "It is my prayer that every intellectual disabled individual be given a chance to learn and be productive this is my heart appeal."

The Liberia office of MHA is located in Gaye Town, Sinkor, Old Road, Monrovia At The St. Andrew Lutheran Church.