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Deus Meus et Omnia
(“My God and My All”)

Summer 2014

Beloved Co-Missionaries,

I was planning to write a letter to all of you for this newsletter. However, we recently received the note below from my children in Liberia. I feel it expresses things much better than anything I could write.

In His name,

Sister Sponsa Beltran, OSF

Sister M. Sponsa Beltran OSF



Many thanks and appreciation to each of you for all that you continue to do for us and other Liberians.

We know that at times it is not so easy and things are not always favorable but whenever we cry, you always come to our aid.

It is our prayer that God will bless each of you and all those that enable you to be able to do so much for people who are in need.

Please pray for us because we do not know what to believe, whether it is Ebola that kills the people or that people are making rituals with the bodies of the dead.

Yesterday, the Health Ministry was set on fire by a frustrated family member who demanded his relative's body to view it and the people refused him. The new notion is that some people are performing rituals on the bodies of their loved ones. This is making things difficult. Their behavior is only infecting the rest of their families and neighbors and the disease, with NO CURE is only spreading rapidly.

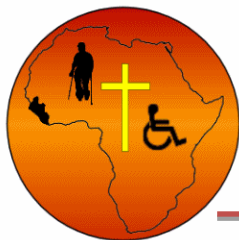
At the same time, nurses are running away from the sick people. We do not know what to do, other than to pray. Even the crime rate is increasing and the government is not even concerned.

However, we know that God never fails!!!

We hope that everyone is okay as we are doing our best on this side. Please pray for our country that one day God will give us leaders who care for the masses and will direct the resources properly. We always consider ourselves well off because we have each of you and we were raised knowing that God is watching over us. Unfortunately, our neighbors have so much less and many don't know God and His Beloved Mother and their unending love and mercy for all of us.

God bless each of you and thank you for continuing to care and share. We love you!

*In Christ,
Rehab Family*



Jerry Cebulski
African Disability Foundation Inc.
"Disability does not mean inability"



Summer 2014

Dear Co-Missionaries of Liberia's disabled,

It is our fervent wish that all of you are enjoying the summer and getting some relief from that winter chill. We always continue to keep you and your families in our prayers.



We write this letter to you with heavy hearts. Ebola hemorrhagic fever, which has a mortality rate of nine out of ten patients, is rapidly spreading across Liberia and four other West African countries. As of the writing of this letter it has reached Nigeria. It is transmitted through bodily secretions and there is no cure and no vaccine. Unfortunately, many of the symptoms are very similar to a combination of malaria and typhoid, both of which we have been dealing with for

many months now. Most of the hospitals in Liberia have shut down because numerous doctors have died of Ebola along with many of their staff. In Liberia, if someone becomes ill in any way, the main caretaker of the family steps in to take care of the patient. If the patient dies, the body is cleaned and often times, because of poverty, the body is left to be buried by the family. Most people cannot afford a casket or a proper funeral. Thus, the risk of infection from handling the body increases and the number of cases of Ebola continues to rise. Our staff continues to try to educate the members of the Rehab family and those in the surrounding villages about how this disease is spread and how to prevent it. Ebola continues to be a very real threat in their community. We are now forced to send anyone who is ill to clinics which are not too safe. Please keep them all in your prayers.

It is almost August and time for another food distribution to the villages and the Rehab. During the past few months, our staff has begun to assemble food and care packages for the village children but they must now wear gloves and do not linger with the children and their families as they ordinarily would, because of the Ebola outbreak. Our Liberian staff members have distributed their contact information in the villages so that if any of the community children or

family members become suddenly ill, they can arrange through Doctors Without Borders, World Health Organization or other health agencies to take over the care of the patient.

August is also the time for registrations and tuitions to be paid for all of those attending school. Kevin is in the process of collecting fee schedules from the schools and once completed, we will know exactly how much we need to cover the costs. The Minister of Education is keeping the schools open and the borders to Guinea and Sierra Leone, which have been hit hard by the Ebola outbreak, remain open as well. To us, keeping everything open does not make sense since we believe more should be done to contain and control the disease. Liberia's government is begging other countries to send in additional isolation equipment. We only hope that they quickly receive the needed assistance.

As you can see from our web site, we are still collecting necessary items to send on a sea container. We have one storage unit completely full with a second one just beginning to fill and our dining room is overflowing once again with the most recently packed donated items. We will not send this container until we know we can fill it completely and not waste any space. If you are interested in donating, the



necessary items we are collecting are listed on our website. (www.africandisabilityfoundation.org) Make sure you scroll down the home page!! I hesitate to mention this to our donors outside of Pennsylvania since the cost of mailing has increased so much. However, monetary donations are always appreciated and this has enabled us to purchase many needed items. We will eventually purchase our food items to be shipped right before we send the container. If anyone does not have computer access and wants a list, please drop us a note or call and we will be glad to talk with you. As with our own country, Liberia is also experiencing severe weather changes. This is their rainy season and it becomes surprisingly cold. Each year when this occurs, they are in need of ponchos, sweatshirts (men, women and children—all sizes). We also are in great need of mosquito nets. We are adding to our wish list lightweight blankets and quilts. Never in a million years did we expect to be asking for these items for a country in Africa, but because of these climate changes, they are now a necessity. We also have recently secured a wonderful donation of school desks and chairs for the Rehab school which we will soon have transported to our storage unit.

We are reminding everyone that you may be a partial sponsor for a child for \$365 per year or you may be a full sponsor for \$1,460 per year. We have three students graduating from college this

year and we have a growing list of young people who want so much to go to college. It is \$15 per credit but it is the transportation everyday to and from school that is a huge expense in Liberia.

A number of people have asked us what it costs to feed the Rehab and community children per month. At this time, we deliver \$2,000 worth of food to the Rehab and \$2,000 worth of food to the community children each month. Unfortunately, it is never enough because most families have more than one child and it is a constant struggle for parents and guardians to provide their families with even one meal on a daily basis. Your donations are so important and the people of Liberia are so appreciative of your assistance. Please check out our new video on our website at www.africandisabilityfoundation.org to hear words of gratitude from some of those you are helping to support.



We also have some wonderful news! Victoria Harmon, a young woman who Sister Sponsa raised and who is one of our staff members, is engaged to be married. She and Thomas, her fiancé, hope to be married on November 29, 2014 in the Divine Mercy Chapel on the Rehab land. With your help, we were able to put Vicky through college and when she graduated, she completed an internship with JCADF. She was such a fantastic worker that we hired her permanently as a valued member of our Liberian staff. She is truly a special woman. Some of you might remember when she visited the United States with Sister Sponsa about 15 years ago. Please keep Vicky and her fiancé in your

prayers as they prepare for this wonderful occasion!

Enclosed are raffle tickets for those who would like to participate. All those who enter will be eligible to win one of three prizes: a \$250 gift card to Omaha Steaks, a \$200 gift card to Barnes and Noble, or a \$200 gift card to Best Buy. We are asking for a donation of \$10 a ticket. We are sending you multiple tickets in the hopes that you share them with family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated. If anyone needs extra tickets, please call Eileen at (570) 675-3397 and we will make arrangements for extra entries into the drawing. The drawing will be held on September 1, 2014 and the winner will be notified by phone so please, remember to include your phone number on the ticket. Without your continued support all these years, we would not have been able to accomplish so much. Please help us to continue our work in Liberia. You are so loved and appreciated!

The following is a Salesian Prayer:

Oh God, when I have food, allow me to remember the hungry. When I have clean water, help me to remember those who are thirsty. When I have clothes in my closet, Lord help me to remember those who don't even have a closet. When I have a warm home or air conditioning, help me Lord to remember the homeless. When I am without pain and have good health, Lord, help me to remember those who suffer terribly from pain and who are missing limbs and are paralyzed. By remembering the poor, Lord, please destroy my complacency and restore my compassion. Make me concerned enough to help through word and deed those who cry out especially for all those things we take for granted. Amen.

God Bless You All,



Angie Cebulski



Eileen Rockensies



Kevin J. Rockensies

Jerry Cebulski African Disability Foundation (JCADF)

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All contributions should be made out to:

JCADF

and sent to:

***Jerry Cebulski African Disability
Foundation***

47 Harford Avenue

Shavertown, PA 18708

Donations are tax deductible

P.S. Please keep the handicapped in our care and their families in your prayers as the Ebola outbreak continues to worsen. We are currently trying to stockpile them with food and medicine. With the loss of so many donors and a decrease in donations, we are having an extremely difficult time trying to find appropriate funding.