



LIBERIA ANIMAL WELFARE AND CONSERVATION SOCIETY INC.

(LAWCS)

VOINJAMA CITY, LOFA COUNTY, LIBERIA

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August 9, 2019.

Hugh Tebault
The Latham Foundation

Ref: Grant Implementation Report

Dear Hugh,

We want to thank you and the entire management at the Latham Foundation for your substantial grant support towards our humane education work in Liberia for animals, people and the environment.

Together with you, we made tremendous improvements for animals and people and continue to create happier and healthier lives for animals and people here in Liberia.

Thanks for your support and shared passion for animals, people and the environment. I hope you will share the pride and excitement over the accomplishments that you have made possible.

Thank you for sharing our belief that compassion has no borders and that all animals and people deserve a chance to live happier and healthier lives in a safe environment.

This grant report is our opportunity to paint a picture of the achievements made possible with your grant support and we hope that you will enjoy reading the work you supported.

We look forward to your continued support and kindness to the animals and people we serve in Liberia.

Best Regards,

Morris Darbo
Executive Director
Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society

Motto: Working Together for a Better Future for Animals and Humans

Name of organization: **Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society (LAWCS)**

Grant Amount: **USD 5,000.00**

Project Title: **The Promotion of Humane Education among Schoolchildren in Liberian Schools**

Project Goal: **The aim of the project is to equip school children with knowledge about animal welfare and promote positive attitudes, build empathy, foster responsible behaviors and inspire them (future leaders) to make a difference for animals and people.**

Project Beneficiaries: **3,000 Schoolchildren and 20 teachers in 10 Schools in Voinjama City, Lofa County, Liberia**

Implementation Date: **January to July, 2019**

Project Completion Date: **August, 2019.**

Overview of the project

The incidences of animal neglect and cruelty are increasing daily in various communities in Liberia where LAWCS` program has not reached, often at the hands of children who mimic the cruelty practiced in front of them by their elders. As animal lovers, we have met children who think that animals feel no pain, children who for example hate cats or certain other species - to the point that they actually think it's ok to hurt them.

Sadly a lot of adults in Liberia seem to get great pleasure out of harming and even killing animals; their children see this and think that this is acceptable. The children start to imitate those unacceptable and inhumane behaviors not only to animals but also to one another and other people because the only thing they have been exposed to is aggression. The country's animal cruelty is a generational problem.

In order to curtail this transgression from one generation to the next generation, the Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society strongly believes that all change for the better begins with education. If we are to truly make a real difference for animals, people and the environment, we must begin by equipping the younger generation with knowledge about kindness, respect, empathy and compassion for animals, who will go on to influence generations to come. LAWCS also believes that childhood is a time when one`s character is being formed, therefore by explaining what it means to be human by examining our relationships to other creatures, we can help stop animal cruelty before it starts.

With this in mind and the substantial financial support from the Latham Foundation, we ran an animal welfare education program in 10 schools in Voinjama District, Lofa County, Liberia with over 3,000 children and 20 teachers. We recruited 20 classroom teachers and head masters,

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trained and empowered them with various humane education materials and worked along with them in conducting daily humane education programs in their schools and communities. The programs educated the children about animals and their needs and explained that animals are just like us- they need food, shelter, medical care and love. We did this through a variety of interactive activities including drama and role play, discussions and debate, video shows, humane lessons, stories, games, drawing, animal welfare clubs, exhibition - all of which were done to encourage the children to form their own positive opinions and attitudes to the animals and other people in their lives. These activities and programs were done to enable the children to gain a richer understanding of animals in our world and a sense of how they can treat them as fellow beings, with empathy, compassion, innate love and respect. The trained classroom teachers were also empowered so that they can continue to educate their students about the importance of kindness to animals and people. Animal Welfare Club was established in each of the 10 schools with 30 members each. When children start to show love, kindness, empathy and compassion for animals, they learn how to also show love, kindness, empathy and compassion to one another and other people. Therefore, kindness to animals can lead to kindness to one another, kindness to other people, kindness to one's country and kindness to the rest of the world.

The project implementation started in January, 2019 with meeting the Education office and the authorities from the 10 selected schools. This was followed by selection of one teacher and the head master from each of the 10 schools. The teachers were trained for two days and provided with various educational materials at the end of the training.

Outcomes of the project implementation

- ✓ Held an informative meeting with the district education office and authorities of the 10 selected schools in Voinjama District
- ✓ Provided a two day intensive training for 20 selected classroom teachers from the 10 schools as Humane Educators in their respective schools and communities
- ✓ Assigned two LAWCS` volunteers in the district to work with the teachers and conduct a daily learning program with the students
- ✓ Reached and inspired 3,704 children with the animal welfare education program
- ✓ Established a functional Animal Kindness Club in each school with 30 committed members each. A total of 600 children were involved in the club work.
- ✓ Financially supported the 10 clubs` projects
- ✓ Conducted a drawing competition among the children and the winners were given educational materials
- ✓ Held a monthly meeting with each club educating them on animal welfare issues and how they can work together as team to improve conditions for animals in their communities.
- ✓ Conducted one round of Children-Compassion-In-Action program reaching to their family animals, learning about animals, interacting with their family animals and educating their parents on animal welfare
- ✓ Organized and hosted an Exhibition program - each school demonstrating what they learned about animal protection and educating the larger society about the importance of improving the welfare of animals
- ✓ Certificated the 10 schools for participating in our animal welfare education program

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These are some of the quotations from the children:

- "I am responsible to educate my family about our animal welfare."
- "I will always help animals that are suffering."
- "I will always respond to animals in need."
- "Kindness to animals has helped me learned about kindness to other people"
- "Kindness to animals has helped me learned about love, respect, empathy and compassion for all life"
- "The program has changed my attitude towards animals and other people."
- "I was always stoning animals but from now on I have changed."
- "I promised to always protect and care for animals."
- "I am now responsible for the feeding of our family animals after learning about them."
- "It is my hope to become animal doctor in the future to help animals."
- "Our family dog is so dearer to me after learning about animal feelings."

Schools selected for the implementation of the project and the number of children reached

| NO | Name of school | Boys | Girls | Total |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1 | Japan Daycare Mission School | 298 | 208 | 506 |
| 2 | Kids Connection Daycare School | 122 | 201 | 323 |
| 3 | Child Welfare Development School | 129 | 143 | 272 |
| 4 | Voinjama Public School | 133 | 156 | 289 |
| 5 | Barkedu Public School | 130 | 140 | 270 |
| 6 | Kormah Shaperdhood Mission School | 219 | 160 | 379 |
| 7 | Samordu Public School | 175 | 132 | 307 |
| 8 | Tennebu Public School | 396 | 277 | 673 |
| 9 | Lawalazu Public Shool | 195 | 161 | 356 |
| 10 | Vezela Public School | 130 | 199 | 329 |
| | Grand Total | 1927 | 1777 | 3,704 |

Some activity photos



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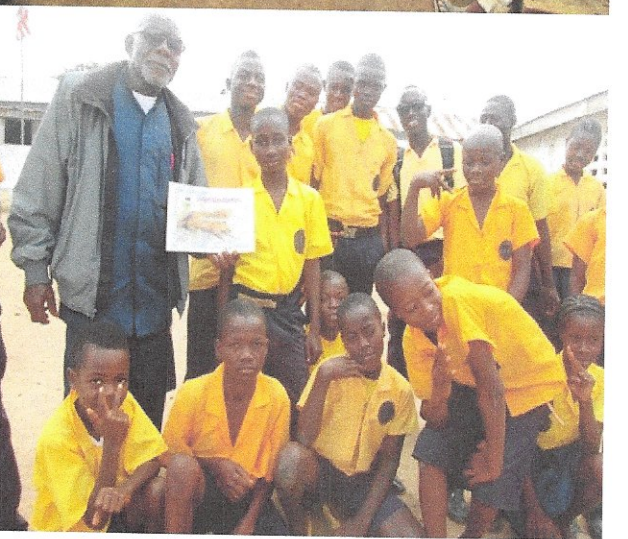
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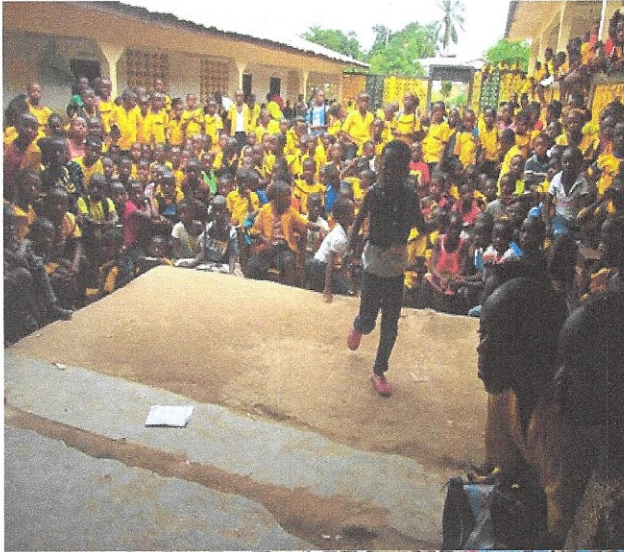
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