

# TRUE HOPE FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL



TRUE HOPE  
FOUNDATION

# NEWSLETTER



TRUE HOPE  
FOUNDATION

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## MEET OUR FREETOWN TEAM



## TOP INTERVENTIONS

### SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

On September 2nd, 2024, the organization returned two of our survivors to school at their request. The back-to-school package included their full tuition fee, learning materials, bags, shoes, and extra classes which cost over Nine thousand Leones (SLE9000). **Count. page 8**

### DONATIONS

At True Hope Foundation we believe in the power of collaboration and partnership to maximize our collective impact to serve humanity. Through our support of partner organizations, we aim to strengthen the capacity, effectiveness, and sustainability of our collaborative efforts to create positive change in our communities. **Count. page 6**



# CEO'S FORWARD



Dear Funders, Supporters, and Well-Wishers, As the Founder and CEO of True Hope Foundation International, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude and deepest appreciation for your unwavering support, trust, and encouragement during this pivotal first year of our journey. Your belief in our mission has been invaluable, and I am deeply humbled by your commitment to stand with us.

This year has been an incredible and challenging inception period, and we give all glory to God Almighty for granting us the strength, courage, resilience, grace, provision, protection, and favor to preserve and make an indelible impact.

It may surprise you to learn that the True Hope Foundation was officially registered and founded in March 2024. Even I am in awe as I reflect on how far we have come in such a short time. The milestones we've achieved feel nothing short of miraculous, and we remain forever grateful for God's guidance and blessings.

Currently registered in Sierra Leone and the United States, True Hope Foundation is laying the groundwork to expand to other countries in the near future. What began as a small group of individuals from diverse continents, cultures, and backgrounds united by the love and compassion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has grown into a family dedicated to serving others. Together, we've embarked on a faith-filled, fulfilling, and profoundly rewarding journey.

When we first came together, our vision was simple: to pull our resources to give back to communities, uplift the vulnerable, and create a better world particularly for children and those in less privileged communities. Yet, it quickly became evident that God had even greater plans for us. Through our poverty alleviation programs, we have been able to bring true hope to the hopeless, especially human trafficking survivors and vulnerable populations.

Guided by the Scripture, "And the King shall say unto you, 'Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren, that you have done unto me'" (Matthew 25:40), we view our work as a divine calling to serve humanity and offer a living sacrifice to God.

As a family and a team, we are humbled by the lives that have been touched and changed through our efforts, and we eagerly look forward to what lies ahead with great anticipation.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has been part of this journey those still with us and those who have moved on. Your contributions, efforts, and belief in our mission mean the world to us, and we hold you in the highest esteem. Whether you've supported us since our founding in March 2024, grew up alongside us, or have recently learned about our cause, you are an integral part of our story.



# CEO'S FORWARD

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, we have accomplished incredible milestones, including securing a conviction for justice, enrolling two survivors back in school, relocating to a larger space, renting homes for survivors, providing job opportunities and vocational skills training, offering comprehensive medical support, and empowering survivors' parents through economic programs and psychosocial counseling.

But as much as we have achieved, there is still so much work to be done and new territories to conquer. We cannot do this alone. With your continued support, we are confident that together we can achieve even greater things in the months and years to come.

To our funders: your contributions have made life-changing projects possible. Survivors now glimpse hope and a brighter future, and we feel immense joy knowing that their lives are being transformed. Every dollar you donate is not only an investment in these lives but also a sacred offering to God, and we are committed to using your resources with the utmost transparency and efficiency to deliver meaningful impact.

To the general public: we invite you to join us in combating human trafficking in our communities. Whether through donations, volunteering, or spreading the word, your involvement is invaluable in driving change. Together, we can create a future where human trafficking is eradicated, and every individual has the opportunity to thrive.

We are excited about what lies ahead and confident that, with your help, we can make a real difference. Thank you for believing in us, for standing by us, and for joining us in this life-changing mission.

With heartfelt thanks,  
Patrick Adeyemi-Buckle  
Founder and CEO  
True Hope Foundation International



## SUCCESS STORY: A JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW BEGINNINGS

This survivor's journey is one of endurance, courage, and the transformative impact of compassion. Born and raised in Sierra Leone, his life took a difficult turn when he was trafficked across several countries Mali, Tunisia, Libya, and Algeria on a perilous journey filled with exploitation, hardship, and despair. With each country he passed through, he endured forced labor, mistreatment, and profound loss, all while yearning for a chance to return home.

In a remarkable twist of fate, while making his way back to Sierra Leone, the survivor crossed paths with Mr. Patrick Adeyemi Buckle, the CEO and founder of True Hope Foundation International. This meeting marked a pivotal moment for him. Mr. Buckle listened to his story, learning of the struggles he had faced and the courage it had taken him to make it as far as he had. Their conversation became the spark for a new journey not only for the survivor healing and recovery but also for the formation of True Hope Foundation International, an organization dedicated to helping survivors of trafficking rebuild their lives.

True Hope Foundation International quickly stepped in to support his recovery process. Recognizing the toll that his journey had taken on his health, the foundation provided him with essential medical support, addressing both his physical and mental health needs. A secure place to live offered his stability and a sense of safety he had not felt in years. To help him process and heal from the trauma he had endured, he was offered psychosocial counseling, which allowed him to rebuild his sense of identity and hope. A secure place to live offered his stability and a sense of safety he had not felt in years. To help him process and heal from the trauma he had endured, he was offered psychosocial counseling, which allowed him to rebuild his sense of identity and hope.

Beyond immediate support, True Hope Foundation recognized the importance of empowering the survivor to rebuild his life for the long term. They worked diligently to secure him a job, enabling him to support himself and his family. This opportunity was more than just a means of survival; it was a path out of poverty for him and his loved ones, giving him a renewed sense of purpose and a way to contribute positively to his community. He is currently building a house with the help of the foundation were he intends to move in after the end of his rent at his current housing location.

Today, the survivor story is one of triumph over adversity. His resilience, combined with the support and dedication of True Hope Foundation International, has allowed him to reclaim his life, find healing, and provide for his family. His journey also served as the inspiration behind True Hope Foundation International, which now helps countless others in need. His story stands as a powerful reminder that even the darkest journeys can lead to new beginnings and lasting change.



This is a house built by one of the survivors

## SUCCESS STORY: A TRIUMPH OVER ADVERSITY

Two minor survivor's journey is one of incredible resilience, courage, and the transformative power of hope. These two young teenage girls both from Sierra Leone, were lured from their homes by the false promise of better opportunities. Instead, they were trafficked to Burkina Faso, where they were subjected to sexual abuse and forced labor. In the face of unimaginable hardship, their dreams and futures seemed lost. But their story did not end there. True Hope Foundation International, an organization dedicated to supporting survivors of human trafficking, learned of their plight and quickly intervened.

Back in Sierra Leone, True Hope Foundation International provided them with essential services that were instrumental to their recovery. Medical support was arranged to address the physical toll that months of abuse and forced labor had taken on their health. To help them process and overcome the trauma they had endured, they were also offered psychosocial counseling. This emotional support helped them regain a sense of peace, purpose, and resilience.

Recognizing the young teenagers aspirations, True Hope Foundation went a step further by supporting their request to return to school. Both survivor's has dreamed of furthering their education and building a brighter future. With the foundation's help, they are now back in school, empowered to learn, grow, and work toward a future they can shape on their own terms.

True Hope Foundation also recognized that economic vulnerability had played a role in the family's susceptibility to trafficking. As part of their economic empowerment package, the foundation provided microfinance support to the survivor's families. The trafficker who subjected these young women to abuse is now in police custody, awaiting legal proceedings.

This progress represents a significant step toward justice for these young women and a stern warning to others who would exploit vulnerable individuals.

Today, the survivors are thriving in their new lives. Through education, they are building futures that were once stolen from them, and their families now have the economic resources to support and protect them. True Hope Foundation International's comprehensive support has given these young women a fresh start and a renewed sense of hope. The survivors resilience stands as a testament to the power of community, justice, and unwavering belief in a better tomorrow.

This financial boost enabled their parents to continue their small businesses (cookery and fishmonger trading respectively), helping to lift the families out of poverty and reduce the risk of future exploitation.

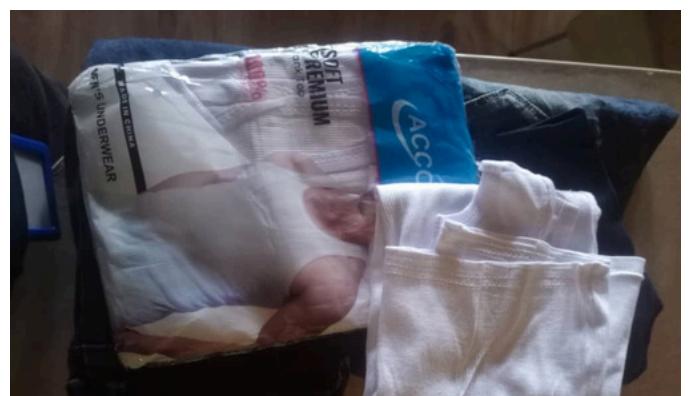
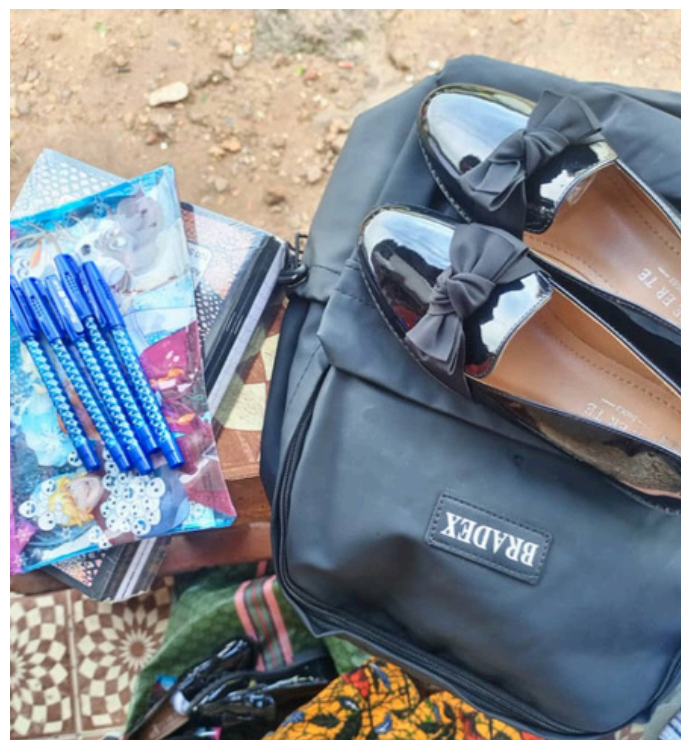




# DONATIONS

To achieve this, on the 20th of June, 2024, the organization provided food and non-food items to World Hope International (WHI) as a means to support survivors. Over Twenty Thousand Leones (SLE20,000) worth of items were purchased to help boost their operation of serving humanity. Since there are many vulnerable children in Sierra Leone, most of them have been affected by poverty subjecting them to various trafficking situations. As a humanitarian organization that is poised to curtail child trafficking support the survivors of human trafficking and alleviate poverty, the organization also provided food and no food items to the tune of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000) to Street Child Sierra Leone as our commitment to supporting children in a challenging situation. On the 18th of August 2024, our humanitarian service continued by extending love to the children of JOCORD Orphanage with food and no food items amounted to over

This gesture is the core value of our foundations. In the wisdom of the founder and CEO, he believes that the best way to serve God is by serving humanity, especially those who are found in a difficult situation. Through all this support to our partners, we believe that the vision of our foundation in ensuring the lives of survivors are sustained and stabilized, we have seen tangible outcomes on our shared goals. As we reflect on our partnership initiatives and the impact we have generated, we remain committed to fostering strong, inclusive, and impactful partnerships with organizations that share our vision and values of serving humanity. By continuing to support and collaborate with our partners in this humanitarianism, we are confident that with enough resources, together we can bring about meaningful and sustainable change in the lives of survivors and help navigate the change of human trafficking.



Twenty Thousand



## SUCCESS STORY: A JOURNEY OF STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE

This survivor's life journey is one of resilience, hope, and the power of compassion. Born and raised in Sierra Leone, her early life was marred by unimaginable trauma. The survivor was trafficked from her homeland to Ghana and several other African countries by Prince Bangura, a known trafficker who preyed on vulnerable individuals. For years, she endured sexual abuse and exploitation at his hands, stripped of her freedom and safety. Tragically, during this time, she became pregnant and later gave birth to a baby boy under distressing circumstances.

Despite the hardships, her will to survive never wavered. In her darkest moments, a glimmer of hope arrived through True Hope Foundation International, a humanitarian organization dedicated to supporting survivors of human trafficking. The foundation, upon learning of the survivor's plight, acted swiftly and arranged for her safe repatriation back to Sierra Leone, where her journey toward healing could finally begin.

Back home, True Hope Foundation International provided the survivor with comprehensive care and support to rebuild her life. She received secure housing, which offered her and her child a safe environment, free from the trauma of her past. The foundation's medical support ensured that she and her child received necessary healthcare, attending to both their immediate and ongoing needs. In addition, the survivor was offered psychosocial counseling, allowing her to process the emotional scars from years of exploitation and regain her sense of self-worth.

The foundation's support extended beyond her immediate needs; they recognized the importance of equipping the survivor with skills for her future. Through vocational training, she developed practical skills that would enable her to become financially independent and provide for her child. True Hope Foundation also provided her with legal support, empowering her to pursue justice.

The survivor's bravery in seeking justice was rewarded. With the foundation's help, a case was filed against Prince Bangura, leading to his conviction on six counts of trafficking-related charges. He received a sentence of 165 years, ensuring he could no longer harm others. This victory was a landmark moment not only for the survivor but also for other survivors, demonstrating that justice is possible.

Today, she stands as a symbol of resilience. She has reclaimed her life, found purpose in her journey, and continues to heal alongside her toddler child. True Hope Foundation International's unwavering support has given her the tools to rebuild her life and pursue a future free from fear.



A portrait of Justice Momoh Jah-Stevens who gave the ruling on the Human Trafficking Case



# SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

On the 4th of November 2024, the foundation supported the empowerment of another set of survivors with skill training to be able to navigate their lives by equipping them with knowledge, skills, and resources to build a better future for themselves. Providing educational support services to trafficking survivors is not only essential for their personal growth and development but also for breaking the cycle of exploitation and building a brighter future. Educational support is one of our core programs as a foundation because we believe that offering survivors access to quality education, skills training, and learning resources, can help them rebuild their confidence, expand their horizons, and create pathways to a better life. The educational support and skill training provided by the foundation can help survivors regain a sense of control over their lives, boost their self-esteem, and enhance their confidence to pursue their goals and aspirations.

It will also create the pathway to economic independence and stability for the survivors. Acquiring education and training, can enhance their job prospects, secure higher-paying employment, and improve their financial well-being. Education can also help survivors break the cycle of poverty and vulnerability that often perpetuates trafficking. The foundation is committed to providing comprehensive educational support services to our survivors, to help them overcome their past experiences and build a successful future. Through our tailored programs, dedicated staff, and compassionate approach, we aim to create supportive and inclusive learning and capacity building where survivors can thrive and realize their academic and personal goals. We hope to return many more to school to enhance their self-reliance and skills acquisition for national and personal development as and when we get support from our well-wishers and donor partners





# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT SCHEME

1. Through our economic empowerment scheme, on the 25th of September, 2024, the foundation provided over ten thousand Leones (sle10,000) as a microfinance opportunity to families of our survivors to increase their business capital so that they could be able to take care of their children since the organization will not be there all of the time. Most of these parents are fish sellers and some sell food in the street with very limited resources, and the revenue they get from their business usually does not cater to their family's needs. With this economic empowerment from the foundation, they can now save more which will be used to attend to the family's immediate needs and also be able to take care of their children when the organization is not around. However, the said money will be collected from them in instalments that are spread over the year, and the money will be given to other families to help them boost their businesses. The economic empowerment package also includes training them on basic financial management skills like budgeting and savings strategies, business planning and management, marketing and sales strategies, facilitating networking opportunities with other entrepreneurs and industry professionals, and building a supportive community for mutual learning and growth. These skills will help them to generate income become a financially self-sufficient family and be able to take care of their children (the minor survivors). The foundation also provides employment opportunities for our survivors that are eligible for employment. We do this through partnering with other organizations and local job placement agencies. The first survivor of the foundation is a beneficiary of this program and is been employed and working in one of Sierra Leone's renowned companies.

His life and his family are now economically independent and are on the path to stability.

The economic empowerment scheme for the families of our survivors is a powerful tool for promoting economic empowerment, and sustainable livelihoods. By investing in the financial independence and entrepreneurial potential of these families, we are helping them rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience, making a meaningful impact in the fight against human trafficking and supporting the survivors on their path to recovery and success.



One of our beneficiaries receiving financial support

# SUPPORTING SURVIVORS WITH HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Trafficking survivors often suffer from a range of physical and mental health issues as a result of their exploitation, including but not limited to physical injuries, malnutrition, sexually transmitted infections, mental health disorders such as depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and chronic health conditions. Access to timely and appropriate healthcare is critical to addressing these complex health needs and helping survivors reclaim their health and rebuild their lives. Over the past months, the foundation has supported individual survivors with comprehensive medical including advanced medical examinations, treatment for physical injuries, sexual health services, vaccinations, and gynecological care to address their immediate health needs and promote healing.

The package also includes mental health support which includes therapy, counseling, and other psychiatric care. A total of over Thirty Thousand Leones (SLE30,000) at a private medical facility in Sierra Leone. On the 4th of October 2024, one of our survivors received full-time medical treatment at Saint H.B. Hospital. The foundation has also specifically provided and facilitated the ongoing typhoid vaccination for our survivors and staff members. At True Hope Foundation, we are dedicated to providing trafficking survivors with access to quality healthcare services, tailored to their unique needs and experiences. Through our trauma-informed approach, multidisciplinary care team, and commitment to survivor-centered care, we strive to create a healing environment where survivors can thrive, heal, and reclaim their health and well-being.



One of our beneficiaries receiving medical treatment



# HOUSING FACILITIES

The foundation does not have a safe shelter at the moment but can support our survivors with housing facilities by securing private housing for those survivors who are in dire need. Most of the people who have found themselves in a trafficking situation in Sierra Leone were deceived by their traffickers to provide them with luxuries, some even are house owners who sold their houses, and on their return, they do not have even a shelter to house them. The foundation saw their challenges; the foundation has therefore sheltered them by renting private housing. his rentals worth over Three Thousand Dollars (\$3000) each year.

The purpose of this housing is to Provide safe and secure housing for our survivors in a supportive and trauma-informed environment, promote the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of survivors through access to stable housing, offer a range of support services and resources to help survivors address their immediate housing needs and long-term stability. Providing housing facilities for trafficking survivors is a critical step in supporting their Security, recovery, healing, and empowerment. By offering survivors a safe and supportive place to call home, the foundation believes that it can help them rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience.



This is a rented house for the survivor by True Hope Foundation International

# FROM THE PROGRAMS MANAGER 'S DESK

As Program Manager of True Hope Foundation International - Sierra Leone Branch, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support, trust, and encouragement during our first year. Since our official registration in March 2024, we have witnessed incredible progress and impact, and we give all glory to God for His strength, grace, and provision.

In a short time, True Hope Foundation has grown from a small, faith-driven group into a dedicated team committed to uplifting vulnerable communities, particularly human trafficking survivors and at-risk children.

This year, we successfully implemented several impactful programs:

- **Economic Empowerment:** Provided microfinance support to parents of survivors, enabling them to sustain businesses and meet their children's needs.
- **Education/Schooling:** Re-enrolled two minor survivors in school, covering tuition, extra afterschool classes, school materials, and logistics to support their education.
- **Medical Support:** Delivered comprehensive healthcare services to survivors, addressing physical and emotional well-being.
- **Counseling:** Offered psychosocial support, mental health counseling to survivors and their families, supporting their recovery and reintegration.
- **Housing:** Secured safe and stable housing for survivors by renting homes from the private sector.
- **Job Placement & Vocational Training:** Empowered survivors with skills training and employment opportunities to help rebuild their lives.
- **Legal Support:** Advocated for survivors' rights by securing justice and convictions for perpetrators.



- **Repatriation of Survivors:** Assisted in reuniting survivors with their families and ensuring safe reintegration into their communities.

Human trafficking remains a pervasive challenge, and we cannot tackle it alone. With your continued support, we are confident that we can achieve even greater things in the months and years ahead. These achievements are a testament to what is possible when we work together. However, much as we have achieved, there is still so much work to be done and new territories to conquer.

To our funders: your contributions are not only transforming lives but also laying the foundation for a brighter future. Every dollar is an investment in these lives and a sacred offering to God. We remain committed to using your resources transparently and effectively.

To the general public: we invite you to join us in the fight against human trafficking. Whether through donations, volunteering, or spreading awareness, your involvement is essential to creating lasting change.

We are excited about the future and look forward to deepening our impact. Thank you for believing in us, standing by us, and being part of this life-changing mission.

With gratitude,

Alusine Sheriff  
 Program Manager  
 True Hope Foundation International – Sierra Leone Branch