



---

## **NEWSLETTER 02 - JULY 2013**

Since our last newsletter of March 2013, we have been fully engaged in acquainting ourselves with the identified target group as well as the realities of having to address a segment of the community to which no particular attention was paid to before.

These past three months have been quite exciting for the team. We have almost been overwhelmed with what needs to be done on the field. Consequently we have had to readjust our strategic planning.

Haven of Hope continues to work closely with the Regional Delegation of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family; regular debriefing meetings are scheduled biweekly.

We are also expanding our partnership with other NGOs and government departments that are involved in humanitarian and social businesses within the city, with the aim of sharing experiences, avoiding duplication of our services, and simply encouraging each other.

Since the month of April, we have received several teenage mothers and young single mothers up to 30 years old. Through counselling sessions screening is made to determine if one falls within the set criteria to benefit of the assistance we are offering or not. We have so far retained 27 teenage mothers and young single mothers up to 25 years old. The number of assisted cases will be limited to 30 for this year and will be used as a pilot group to prepare us for greater numbers in the future. Notwithstanding, we give sporadic counselling to those who are not retained, and direct them to other NGOs and government institutions that are better equipped to address their problems.

In May, we attempted the first outreach sessions outside the city of Bamenda (the capital of the North -West Region), in the Bafut sub-district of Mezam Division, about 30 kilometres from Bamenda. We had a turnout of ten teenage mothers and a pregnant teenager. Considering that this outreach had been done without any publicity, it was a clear indication that the problems of teenage mothers would be more prevalent outside the regional capital. This is why we were prompted to reassess our implementation process and readjust our strategic plan, as had been stipulated in our Newsletter of March 2013.

Presently, out of the 27 mothers that are being assisted, fourteen of them have decided to go beyond counselling, and to take advantage of the opportunity being offered to them to improve their livelihood. Two will resume studies in secondary school, two are resuming studies in the polytechnic sector (i.e. baby-care and electrical engineering), one starts training in nursing aid shortly, four have chosen to learn a trade as apprentices (1 tailoring, 1 decoration and tailoring and 2 hairdressing and aesthetics), one has been offered a loan to upgrade her business in vegetables, while four others have opted for small loans to combine small scale business in grocery with evening classes to improve their standard in literacy. This latest group has been scheduled to take up a 2-days business training course

---

P.O. Box 701, BAMENDA, N.W. Region, Cameroon  
E-Mail: havenofhopecmr@gmail.com  
Tel: +23733764113. +23799780393. +23771869539. +33689803662

Bank Details: UNION BANK OF CAMEROON, SWIFT: UCMACMCX, BENEFICIARY: AZIRE COOPERATIVE CREDIT UNION LTD (MEI), ACCT NO: 100230001000111000002-33, IN FAVOUR OF: HAVEN OF HOPE, ACCT NO: 5-1688



---

at the end of July with a partner NGO specialized in micro-financing and business counselling, to prepare them to manage their businesses professionally.

The financial requirement for the 14 mothers has been estimated at 1.3million francs CFA (about 2,000 Euros) until 30th June 2014. This covers tuition and school requirements, loan for small businesses and fees, tools and materials for vocational training.

Haven of Hope will be grateful for any financial support that can be given to enhance our efforts to stimulate the resilient spirit in this vulnerable group and also enable us to prepare for 2014.

Our bank details are at the bottom of this page. We accept donations through Western Union as well.

Our website is still under construction. We do hope this will be completed soon.

Haven of Hope wishes you a very enjoyable summer vacation.

(Gladys A. Ndong,  
Chief Executive Director)

---



HOH Team with Teenage mothers in Mfoya, Bafut Sub-Division.