



NEWSLETTER 1 – MARCH 2013.

Haven of Hope started its activities as of 1st March 2013.

Running to that date, I have been settling back in my country of origin, Cameroon; by finalizing the renovation works in the house, and getting the office ready for business.

During the first two weeks of March, I contacted various government ministries through their regional and divisional delegations in the city of Bamenda, to inform them of the existence of the Foundation, which was now disposed to collaborate with them to assist teenage mothers and expectant teenage girls. I presented the vision of Haven of Hope and the objectives that would enable the team realize the vision.

Phase 1 of our activities will focus on counselling and assessing the needs of teenage mothers. This phase is planned to last until end of August 2013, when we shall then make a breakdown per category of their needs, and then determined how these will then be implemented in Phase 2, which should begin from October 2013.

When we talk of needs, we mean the orientation that the teenager intends to follow in order to rehabilitate her into active life. We foresee that, depending on each individual, after counselling sessions, one should be able to determine whether she would like to reintegrate normal school programme, learn a trade of short duration (less than a year), pick up a more professional course by integrating into a vocational institution (2 to 3 years), or improve on acquired skills which are already being exploited.

Counselling of teenage mothers will start from 1 April 2013. During this first phase, we shall be working closely with the Regional Delegations of the Ministries of Women's Empowerment and the Family, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Civic Education (Department of Empowerment of Youths) and the Ministry of Social Affairs. While we are working closely with these ministries, we shall at the same time, build up networks with the various religious bodies, educational institutions and local NGOs in view of establishing bases on which we can better serve the interest of vulnerable groups through interactions and combined actions. Haven of Hope shall begin with teenage cases in the city of Bamenda and nearby villages and towns.

As we take this daring step into this venture, we hope that our actions will have a positive impact on the lives of those we are called to assist.

Gladys Ntang, Chairperson, HOH.
24th March 2013.