



'Building up Women of virtue'

SEPTEMBER 2011 EDITION

IVORY COAST UPDATE

We are grateful to God for sparing the lives of our ladies during the recent war in Ivory Coast. During those tough days all we could do was just hope that it will be over. Banks, shops, Western Unions and other institutions were all closed down. Few of these ladies travelled to safer zones with the help of their embassies and government officials. Our director was attacked and robbed of her cell phone.

A Total of 12 ladies were sponsored by Development Africa in February 2011, nine (9) of these ladies went through our vocational training program (which had barely ended when the rebels attacked the city), five received funding to set up their businesses i.e. food, used clothing and local soap making. Five (5) banks accounts were opened at a local Corporative Bank. It was rather unfortunate that their businesses were affected when the rebels entered the city. It was impossible to receive supplies of goods from wholesalers due to imposed embargo and road blocks from the agricultural provinces where rebels were in charge. There was constant threat against certain foreign nationals and citizens which made it unsafe in their market places. Some of our ladies were constantly harassed whilst selling their goods. Most of their debtors flee

the country without settling their bills. Since the end of the crisis, three of these ladies are struggling to get their businesses back on its feet because of the emigration of people from our area. Others are faced with limited finance and goods to pick up from where they left off. We still house three of these ladies who were supposed to have left the centre to establish themselves in their own apartments.

The outreach team has made two visits to our recruitment sites to check on the welfare of our ladies and start the selection process for potential participants in our upcoming vocational training project this September. Eighteen of these ladies are still in the area and they are living under difficult conditions. We have assessed the situation and 12 of these ladies are willing to participate in our September education program whilst others long to travel out of Ivory Coast in search of greener pasture.

Financially the project has been undergoing difficulty and we lost 3 of our staff because we have not been able to sustain them with a salary. We are presently faced with financial constraints and we are obliged to look out for a smaller centre. We are desperately in need of sponsors to support our vocational programs. You can sponsor a lady at the cost of \$30 a

month for the period of 4months or make a one-time donation of any amount.

We are however thankful to all our sponsors who have in one way or the other supported our Project. We are so grateful.

We covet your prayers and financial support.

MERCI!

SALE!!!

New Life Project offers 30% off on all items such as customized batik outfits for men and women, key holders, African decorations, Batik frames, etc. These are items which are made by our ladies as part of their practical class session. Contact Brenda Williams for more details: info@newlifeprojectinc.org

Tel: 301-328-9808 / 819-770-8309



Customized lace dress: \$ 80

And many more...



Batik frame: \$ 70



Customized frame painting: \$ 100



Customized batik shirt for men: \$ 50



Customized batik tablecloth: \$40