



## Dougbe River Presbyterian School of Liberia



Children in the rural Konobo district in Grand Gedeh County, Liberia, West Africa—near the border with the Ivory Coast—have no access to schools. For a family to enable their child to receive a formal education, the child would have to leave the village and move to one of the cities to board with a relative. The Dougbe River School is a boarding school servicing 12 villages—each about a day’s walk from the campus. Our vision is for children to be educated near their own villages

with the anticipation that they will use their skills to further develop the region. The goal is to contribute to building a stronger and more peaceful Liberia.

### **Mission Zone**

Zone 6 - Western Reserve

### **Mission Category**

Education, Evangelism, Women and Children

**Presbytery:** Presbytery of Western Reserve

**Congregation:** Noble Road Presbyterian Church

### **Contact Info**

Dougbe River Presbyterian School of Liberia  
2780 Noble Road  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44121

Phone: 216-382-0660

Fax: 216-382-2881

[drpsl.org](http://drpsl.org)

## **How to Donate:**

To donate any of the following items or to make a monetary donation, contact the Dougbe River Presbyterian School of Liberia directly at the address, phone number, or website shown above.

## Items Needed

**Item:** Vehicles for Transport

**Description:** The school needs one (1) truck that can carry building materials and supplies. Also, we need one (1) car/SUV that can carry passengers. We have the means for getting the vehicles to Liberia, and we will gladly accept used vehicles.

**Quantity:** 2

## Mission Statement:

Our mission is to reach out to rural people with education and Christianity. Our vision is that Liberian young people empowered by education can develop their nation and profoundly reduce poverty. We reach out to Christian and non-Christian people. Our school is open to all children regardless of religion, age, race, gender, or ethnic group. We also stand for peace, unity, reconciliation, honesty, and development. This day—our day, the day that God has made—we can rejoice and be glad.

## Detail Description:

The Dougbe River Presbyterian School of Liberia is a co-ed boarding school in the rural Twarbo region of Grand Gedeh County, Liberia, West Africa. DRPSL is incorporated in Liberia and will serve 12 villages (~1200 children). For most, this will be the first opportunity for education in a region where there are no schools. The cost for admission for families of the region will be a bag of rice per semester. Currently the school is targeting children in grades K-6. As students matriculate into high school, DRPSL will serve children through grade 12, with a focus on vocational skills in grades 10-12.

## Our History:

### A TIME LINE

1980 - 10-year old Isaac Monah leaves rural home village to attend school in Monrovia where he lives with an uncle, aunt, and eight cousins.

1982 - Isaac returns home, as living conditions are poor.

1989 - Civil war erupts in Liberia.

1990 - Isaac and family flee to Ivory Coast.

1992-95 - Isaac works in Tai National Forest and meets American graduate student Scott McGraw.

1997 - Isaac moves to Liberian refugee camp in Ghana. Completes high school.

2002 - Scott McGraw helps Isaac emigrate to the United States.

2005 - Isaac moves to Cleveland Heights, OH and begins attending Noble Road Presbyterian

Church.

July 2007 - Isaac returns to his home region in Liberia. He is reminded of the lack of schools and envisions using resources in the United States and other developed nations to build a boarding school. He shares his idea with Noble Road Church and people close to him.

October 2007 - A seven-member board of directors is formed to begin organizing school project.

2008 - Isaac returns to Liberia to share his idea with village elders. They give permission to continue. School is incorporated in Liberia.

2009 - Two members, from partner churches, join the board. Local elementary school raises money for DRPSL, many individuals and several churches donate as well.

November 2009 - Isaac and Pastor Francis Miller travel to Liberia and secure a deed for 150 acres of land. Trip is covered by the Cleveland Plain Dealer. More institutions and individuals provide financial support.

January-June 2010 - Financial support doubles through a variety of grants and partnerships.

October 2010 - Groundbreaking ceremony occurs.

## Partner Organizations:

### CHURCHES/PRESBYTERY/SYNOD

Bay Presbyterian Church, Bay Village, Ohio

Beachland Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ohio

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ohio

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Brooklyn Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ohio

Church of the Western Reserve, Pepper Pike, Ohio

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Moscow, Idaho

Fairmount Presbyterian Church, Cleveland Heights, Ohio — Women's Guild

Forest Hill Church, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Glenville New Life Community Church, Cleveland, Ohio

Grace Lutheran Church, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Hope Lutheran Church, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Holmes County, Ohio

John Knox Presbyterian Church, North Olmsted, Ohio

JustReach Ministry, Presbytery of the Western Reserve

Lakewood Presbyterian Church, Lakewood, Ohio

Medina Presbyterian Church, Medina, Ohio

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, Akron, Ohio

Parma-South Presbyterian Church, Parma Heights, Ohio

Pioneer Memorial Presbyterian Church, Solon, Ohio

Presbytery of the Western Reserve — Just Reach Ministry

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Olmsted Falls, Ohio

Synod of the Covenant

Valley Presbyterian Church, Bainbridge, Ohio

West Berlin Presbyterian Church, Delaware, Ohio

#### SCHOOLS

Bay Middle School, Bay Village, Ohio

Noble Elementary School, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Roxboro Elementary School, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

#### FOUNDATIONS

Primate Conservation, Inc., Charlestown, Rhode Island