mary's meals

a simple solution to world hunger

SPONSOR A SCHOOL

NAME OF SCHOOL, Fefeh Town Public School, Bomi County, Liberia

SPONSORED BY **THE-ICE Accreditation**

♂ NUMBER OF BOYS: 73

♀ NUMBER OF GIRLS: 74

TOTAL ENROLMENT: 147

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A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER

Ever since we started working with two small communities in Malawi to serve the first Mary's Meals more than two decades ago, we have known that daily meals served in a place of education can make a profound difference to children living in poverty and the opportunities they have available to them. Today, children are experiencing food insecurity and extreme hunger at even higher levels than before, and our daily meals are a lifeline to millions of children and their families.

Thank you for making such a meaningful commitment to this vital work by sponsoring a school – your support is truly changing lives.

Whether this is a personal gift or a group fundraising project for you, I understand that it is no small decision to dedicate yourself to the task of funding meals for every child in a school, and I want to assure you – on behalf of every child who receives these daily school meals and every person in their wider community who benefits from this work – we appreciate all that you do.

I want you to know that you are not only helping to address classroom hunger and giving children the gift of consistent, nutritious school meals, you are contributing to an improvement in their happiness and wellbeing, as well as their readiness to learn and chances of progressing through education.

Recent research collected as we introduced our programme to new schools in Zimbabwe found that: before we began serving meals, 44% of children felt worried about hunger in school, but this dropped to just 3% after the meals began. Isn't it wonderful that this work we all play a part in is not just giving children vital sustenance and the chance to learn, but it's also relieving anxieties and giving children the chance to be children!

Please never underestimate the incredible impact your dedication and generosity are having. These meals you have pledged to help us provide are supporting children to attend school and helping to transform the whole community. Thank you for all that you do.

MAGNUS MACFARLANE-BARROW
Founder and CEO
Mary's Meals International

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ABOUT THE SCHOOL

At Mary's Meals, we believe in the power of a meal. Our 20 years of experience has shown us that a daily school meal has hugely positive immediate and long-term improvements to a child's life. We are helping break the cycle of poverty by ensuring the children gain an education, setting them up for a brighter future with better employment prospects.

- We serve those suffering most acutely the effects of hunger, those who are most likely to miss school because of hunger, and those who are marginalised and neglected
- Our programmes are owned and run by local communities and thousands of volunteers who share our vision
- Mary's Meals is conscious of the need to minimise the environmental impact of our activities. We strive to prevent, reduce and control the risk of environmental harm in all of our programmes
- We keep our running costs low to allow us to reach as many children as possible. We are committed to minimizing our environmental impact and promoting sustainability in our programmes
- We make a long-term commitment to the communities we support because we recognise that the benefits of education can take a long time to materialise

Fefeh Town Public School kitchen

FACT FILE

LIBERIA

We are currently serving over 100,000 children in Liberia.
A typical school meal consists of rice, peas, vegetable oil and salt.

We have been providing Mary's Meals in Liberia since **2006**. However, our presence here goes as far back as 1992 when we provided aid, such as health clinics, during the first civil war.

Mary's Meals is the sole provider of school feeding in Bong county. We also deliver our programme in Bomi, Grand Cape Mount, Gbarpolu, and Montserrado counties. The schools we support are mainly in remote and often inaccessible areas.

Delivering food to schools deep in the jungle via off-road routes is particularly challenging during the rainy season (May-October) when monsoons are coming.

We strive to source as much of our food locally as possible. However, it is sometimes necessary to order from further afield – as much as five months in advance – to ensure we can keep our promise to feed the hungry children we serve.

The country remains overshadowed by the 2014/15 Ebola outbreak which forced schools to close, crippled the local economy and wiped-out livelihoods.

- **Over 50% of all students do not complete primary school.** *
- **1.9 million have insufficient food intake.** †

Left
A volunteer serves a nutritious school meal.

Some of the areas we serve.

* Basic education | UNICEF Liberia
† HungerMap LIVE (wfp.org)

"I am cooking because of the love for the children; the food gives the kids energy throughout the school hours. When the children have not eaten their meal, they can't feel fine and they can have less interest in their lesson; but when they have eaten their meal, they can be happy. I didn't go to school as a child and there was no school feeding in my community; today is a better day because our children are eating a hot school meal every school day."

Yassa, volunteer cook at Fefeh Town Public School, Liberia

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TESTIMONIAL

“I like math; it makes me count well. I would like to be a teacher to impact knowledge. I live in Gbarmah- Bomah Town; I walk 15 minutes to school. When I’ve not eaten, I can feel sad, but when I have eaten, I can feel happy. The food gives me stimulus. The best thing to come to school is to be educated. My friends describe me as easy going. In the next 5 to 10 years, I want to graduate from high school. I wish to be a teacher, to have money and make an impact. I like to play kickball with my friends. At home, I help my mother with the cooking and wash dishes.”

Kraneh
student

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TESTIMONIAL

"I like English; it teaches me to speak well; I would like to be a medical doctor to help treat sick people. **I live here in Fefeh Town; I take 2 minutes to walk to school. When I have not eaten, I can feel bad, but when I've eaten the meal, I feel good. The meal makes me healthy and strong. The best thing about coming to school is to learn and make the difference. My friends describe me as friendly. In the next 5 to 10 years, I want to graduate from high school and attend university. I like to play football with my friends. I wish to be a medical doctor, to travel out of Liberia to get greener pasture, and be a Minister in the Government. I live with my mother who is the head volunteer cook at this school, at home, I wash dishes and help my mother to cook."**

Amandu
student

(1) We work and
that you Find.

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TESTIMONIAL

“Three incredible things Mary’s Meals is making in our school are, it encourages the kids to come to school, it makes learning desirable and increases enrolment in school. The community also provides firewood. When the children have eaten their meal, they can be active and have energy to play and learn. My long-term hope is that these children will give back to the community. I want to say thanks to our donors for sponsoring school feeding and I pray that they will continue to supply us with school meal”.

Principal
Momo Quoi

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
With special thanks to
THE-ICE Accreditation, United Kingdom
For sponsoring feeding at
Fefeh Town Public School
Mary's Meals is a global movement of people from all walks of life, united by the belief that no child should endure a day without a meal. We set up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities, where poverty and hunger would otherwise prevent children from gaining an education.
THANK YOU – YOU ARE AMAZING!
Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow
Founder and CEO
Mary's Meals International
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mary's meals

FEFEH TOWN
PUBLIC SCHOOL
KLAY DISTRICT
BOMI COUNTY, LIBERIA
COUGAR
CHEERLEADING

THANK YOU!

marysmeals.org

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Registered charity: SC045223. Limited company: SC488380.