

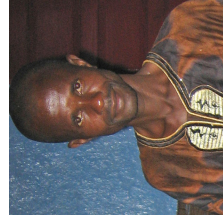


## Building a School

The first Family of Hope funded school opened in Zondo, Grand Bassa County, in October, 2006. With 10 classrooms, office space, a library, and an assembly hall, the school building is the largest structure in its district. In fact, Liberia's education minister declared it a model.

Until 2008, Zondo was accessible only by a five+ mile hike on a narrow jungle path. Supplies purchased with U.S. funds, including 450 bags of cement and 240 metal beams, were carried by community members. In addition, volunteers hand-planned hundreds of boards and pressed thousands of mud bricks.

By the end of the 2006/2007 academic year, over 380 students in grades PreK to ninth attended the school, and Family of Hope funded teachers volunteered to teach evening literacy classes for adults. Over 500 children registered in 2009.



Arthur Cruseo is the principal of the Zondo School. Arthur left two teaching

jobs in Monrovia in order to return to Zondo to administer the school. He believes that children will learn "to do what the Lord requires of us—to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God."



## Strengthening a Community

The school has had an unexpected impact on Zondo's future. In 2005, LAC (Liberian Agricultural Company) claimed that Zondo was not an established community in order to expand their rubber plantation into the area. A U.N. team arrived in Zondo to investigate in October 2006—days after the school opened. The presence of the school and the obvious commitment of parents and village leaders demonstrated that Zondo was, indeed, a well-established community. Today Zondo enjoys a good relationship with LAC, which cleared the road to the village as well as a soccer field.



Bill Dean trained at Fuller Seminary. He was principal of Buchanan High School before serving as Zondo's dean and school counselor.

The rubber tree (top right) is on the LAC plantation.

Zondo has no electricity. Tasks such as pounding cassava (right), laundry, and planting are done by hand. Many chores, such as harvesting nuts from 20-foot palm trees, are dangerous, but there is no clinic in Zondo.



Everyone, from world leaders to former combatants to the youngest child in Zondo, agrees that education is key to Liberia's restoration. Liberian Pres. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf has said that "the education sector will drive the development of the country." Liberia's decades-long civil war prevented an entire generation from going to school. While Liberia rebuilds, funding for education must come from non-government organizations such as Family of Hope.



## Partnership of Hope

The Zondo school was made possible by the combined support of U.S. donors and Liberians who volunteered thousands of hours of labor. With your help, a rural Liberian community can continue to invest in the education of their children—children who will one day guide their country to sustained hope and healing.

*Hope for Liberia Through  
Holistic Education*

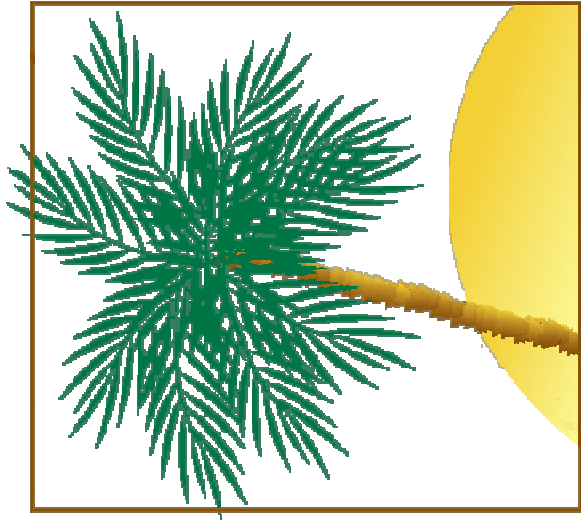
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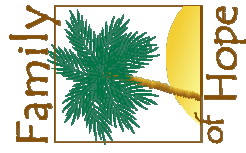
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