

March, 2021

Dear Sponsor,

Please consider support for the Teacher Institute 2021

Greetings. We hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Cantius Society through Teach for Development Sierra Leone INC, (TfDSL) provides professional development to teachers in **core subject content and pedagogical knowledge and skills in order to raise teaching standards and improve upon student academic attainment in the primary and secondary schools of Sierra Leone**. Since 2016, TfDSL has retrained 870 teachers from 70 primary and secondary schools in Freetown and the provinces. Due to the civil war of the 1990s and the struggling economy, there are a significant number of untrained and unqualified teachers in schools across the country. The Teacher Institute is therefore an attempt to address this problem, in a system rife with challenges across many levels.

The weeklong professional development workshop, covers: critical thinking, problem solving, and differentiation, and in the core subjects, English, Science, and Mathematics. Also, we partner with UNICEF SL, to offer a session on *gender violence against girls and women*, and contract a medical expert to train the teachers in Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Based on the data gathered since 2016, the workshops are reported to have improved teaching and learning, as it provides new strategies for engaging students across ability levels. At this year's Teacher Institute, we particularly aim to increase the representation of female teachers from the community schools. These teachers work in some of the poorest neighborhoods. While many are untrained and unqualified, they, however, represent the best hope for these underserved communities.

To enable continuity of our work, we kindly ask for your financial support for the 2021 Teacher Institute. Your tax deductible donation will pay for 200 teachers, covering the: meals, resources, wages for the cooks and staff, teacher stipend, rent for the premises, and the provision of technology.

We believe that the most valuable resource of Sierra Leone, the children, shall be the engine of social, political, and economic transformation. Crucially, when teachers are knowledgeable, skilled and motivated, there is a direct impact on student attainment.

We hope you will consider making a tax deductible donation to the **Teacher Institute 2021**. The program is attached with this letter.

Sincerely,
Archie K. Deen, Ph.D.
President

Joy Taylor Roberts, D.Ed.
Vice President

Please, kindly make check payable to: **Teach for Development SL, INC (TfDSL)**
6252 Mountain Ridge Circle, Sugar Hill, Georgia 30518

*Cantius Society, HSP
Teach-Empower-Transform
Teacher Professional Development
Program June-July, 2021*



Teacher Institute 2018- *Teacher-mix of primary and secondary- working through the topic education and national development.*

Teacher Institute, Freetown, Sierra Leone The teachers of Sierra Leone (primary and secondary) are deep in the trenches of the economic, social, and political challenges of the country. This is evidently expressed in the conditions under which they serve and the inadequate salaries paid. The teachers of Sierra Leone therefore confront the social and economic realities of poverty in their communities and schools. These men and women should be considered as victims of the political and economic system of post civil war Sierra Leone. They are responsible for **teaching, empowering,** and **transforming** the lives of students, and by extension, make critical contributions to the development of the nation of Sierra Leone. Economic and social development can be slow, sometimes even regressive, but it invariably hinges, critically, on the quality of the schools. Most importantly, the quality of the skills, knowledge, and experiences of the men and women who serve as teachers in the classrooms of the schools.

Teacher Institutes(IT) Organized and funded by Cantius Society, are held annually in Freetown and the provinces of Sierra Leone. To ensure that the program serves the needs of the teachers of Sierra Leone, school visits are conducted two weeks prior to the start of the TI. Dr. Deen and Dr. Taylor-Roberts pay visits to primary and secondary schools (state funded, private, and community), from

where teacher participants for the Teacher Institute are selected. These visits to the different schools provide corroborated data, gathered through self-report and classroom observations. We seek to understand the classroom settings, nature of the teacher work areas and teaching implements available to teachers. This data provides deeper insights into the working conditions and environment of the teachers. We seek to also understand their daily routines, resources availability, and the scope and nature of the interactions with students, parents, and colleagues, and the wider school community.

Teacher Institute There is a broad agreement amongst researchers, policy makers, administrators and practitioners, that students’ academic attainment depends heavily on the quality and performance of the teachers and the resources available to them to teach and educate students. Cantius Society is oriented toward the service of teachers, because we believe that an effective teacher is perhaps the most potent factor in producing consistently high levels of student achievement (Hanushek, et al., (2001). We are therefore grounded in teachers continual learning and advancement.

Objective The workshops seek to extend the knowledge, skills, and capacity of teachers (primary and secondary) in a five-day Teacher Institute. The ultimate goal is to extend the knowledge base of and re-skill teachers to empower them to teach more effectively, despite the challenges they face in their respective schools.



Teacher Institute, 2017, Freetown, Sierra Leone- *Teachers collaborating through group work on the topic of Education and National Development*

Program

Schedule	Topic	Instructor
Day 1: Monday 8 AM-4PM Lunch 12-1PM	Session 1 Introduction <i>Teach for Development SL, INC</i> PDW objectives Session 2 Education and National Development	Dr. Deen & Dr. T-Roberts Dr. Deen
Day 2: Tuesday 8AM-4PM Lunch 12-1PM	Session 1 Critical Thinking Approaches and Limitations Session 2 Student Centered Approaches to Learning and Limitations and Didactic Approaches and Limitations	Dr. Deen Dr. Roberts

	Primary and Secondary Teacher Group/Team Problem Solving	DN & TR
Day 3: Wednesday 8AM-4PM Lunch 12-1PM	Session 1 Differentiated Learning Session 2 Subject Knowledge Refresher Mathematics, English, and Sciences Primary and Secondary Teacher Group/Team Problem Solving	Dr. T-Roberts Paid Subject Area Specialists from University of Sierra Leone -Hire by- [April, 2021] SAS
Day 4: Thursday 8AM-4PM Lunch 12-1PM	Session 1 Teacher and Student Resources- Identification, Application and Limitations Session 2 Assessments Primary and Secondary Teacher Group/Team Problem Solving	Dr. Deen & Dr. T-Roberts DN & TR
Day 5: Friday 8AM-4PM Lunch 12-1PM	Session 1 <i>CPR Training</i> Program Evaluation and Data Gathering Primary and Secondary Teacher Group/Team Problem Solving Session 2 Awards and Dinner	Healthcare Specialist Paid specialists from University of Sierra Leone -TBD- Invitation to minister of Education, Principals of schools, media, and community leaders

20 minutes break (recess)- is built into the AM and PM sessions

Budget

Item	Cost (\$)	Total
1. Plane tickets Atlanta-Freetown, Board, Lodge, Transportation, and Meals -Deen and T-Roberts will pay any additional costs, thereafter	2 Professors from the USA [Dr. Deen And Dr. Taylor-Roberts] 2400.00X2	4, 800. 00
2. Rent 4 Classrooms, Gymnasium, and Cafeteria	1000.00	5, 800. 00
3. Employment of Mathematics, English, and Science Professors	1600. 00	7, 400. 00
4. Teacher Stipends- Transportation to TI	5000. 00	12, 400. 00

5.	Resources: books, paper, pens, pencils and Internet Rental, etc.	500.00	12, 900. 00
6.	Breakfast and Lunch	1500. 00	14, 400. 00
7.	Cleaners (1) Security (1) Assistants (2) (Wages)	1500. 00	15, 900. 00
8.	Health and CPR Specialist	250.00	16, 150.00
9.	Transportation	500.00	16, 650.00
10.	Rentals- Electricity Generator, TV Monitor, Computers- Technology	250.00	16, 900.00

Presenters

Archie Kwame Deen, Ph.D. (Founder and President TfDSL- Holy Spirit College and Preparatory School, Atlanta, Georgia) *Programme Director, Development and Education, Pedagogy*

Joy Taylor Roberts, Ed.D. (Vice President TfDL-Gwinnett County School), *Pedagogy*

Philip Yamba Foday Thulla, Ph.D (Njala University College, USL) Assistant Director (Bo Programme), *Pedagogy and English*

Samuel Senesi, Ph.D. (Njala University, USL) *Pedagogy and English*

Mohamed Abdulia Koroma, Ph.D. (Fourah bay College, USL) *Mathematics and Statistics*

Anthony Karim, MPhil (Fourah Bay College, USL) *Science*

Alusine Jalloh, Ph.D. (University of Texas, Arlington) *Pedagogy and History*

Brima Gegbe, MSc. (Njala University College, USL) *Mathematics and Statistics*

Matthew Sahr James, MSc. (Njala University College, USL) *Science Education*

Abubakarr Lamin, Ph.D. (Fouray Bay College, USL) *Pedagogy*

Administrator

David Njawa BA, DipEd (Snr. Teacher, Annie Walsh Memorial School)

Administrative Assistants

Erica Deen

Mary Deen

Ndanema Juana

Alimamy Dumbuya

Driver

Bilal Kamara (Labanga Transport Services)

Catering Staff

Kadiatu Fofana, Agnes Amara, Regina Conteh and Hawa Aforo



Teacher Institute, 2019- *Teacher Institute for primary school teachers held at the Sierra Leone Grammar School, Freetown, Sierra Leone*