





August 2023

Isaiah 1:17

## www.surgesoccer.org

Dear Friends,

edited and revised from Roberta Reed's email

"A coach will impact more people in one year than the average person will in an entire lifetime."

-Billy Graham

"We use the use the power of soccer to connect with people around the world; assess their needs and form partnerships to meet those needs."
-Surge Soccer

Please go to our website for updates, interviews and needs as we minister in Liberia.

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"My head is swimming with Liberia stories that I want to share with you.

In the midst of poverty, filth, and lack of running water, God is blessing this fatherless nation (George Blamoh's book, <u>The Silent Cry of a Fatherless Generation</u>).

Over 55% of the Liberian people are under the age of 16. Education is a key to changing the trajectory of the country. Good teachers and schools are hard to come by. The Minister of Education told us on our last visit that 2000 teachers are unqualified to teach (many teachers teaching reading cannot read themselves). Ollie White has stepped into this gap, and in addition to being Proprietress of Beautiful Beginnings School 1 in Harbel and launching Beautiful Beginnings School 2 in Monrovia (next school year), she is CEO of ELITE (Elevating Leadership Interventions Through Education) Teacher Education. The participants in the conference I [Roberta] helped lead at ELITE are committed to professional growth in order to better meet the needs of their students and schools.

In a country that lost a generation of fathers to civil war, the trauma runs deep. Many of this generation's young men were child soldiers. The conference Roy [Roberta's husband] was invited to speak at: Resilience, Leadership and Trauma-Healing Skills Development Training; aimed at providing lay people with tools to help friends, family, and colleagues begin to heal from deep wounds. In a society where people don't talk about their feelings or hurts, healing conversations began." Thank you Roberta!

During this time our Surge Soccer Liberia leaders, hosted a second Sammy Surge Soccer Tournament that ties in with our leadership training, coach's training, Biblical teaching and in preparation for launching Sammy Surge's principles: Study Hard, Play Fair, Help Others in up to fifty schools in the Fall, with a reading and essay competition. Both Al Lotz and I participated in many of the activities and we both taught at the annual Liberian Sports Ministry Training School (*Ready, Set, Go*). We also met and spent time with five new Surge Soccer Liberia team members, all volunteers so far.

Your prayers and support help us make the difference! Dave





A small group of us working together can make a difference in Jesus' name!











Teaching the Bible, training leaders, trauma healing, training teachers, sports ministry in action. AND I am pleased to announce my new book – SPORTS MINISTRY – a university textbook is now available. Now exciting to be able to impact students at Christian universities across the USA.

No matter what stage of life you're in, you need big dreams to draw you forward. You need vision bright enough to light up the future."

- Dr. David Jeremiah

Please Pray for as we continue to dream Big!