

# Hands of Hope Foundation



**HANDS OF HOPE**  
FOUNDATION  
**Offering Hope**  
**in Christ**  
1 Peter 3:15

**Hands of Hope Foundation**

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**troy@hohfoundation.org**

Dear Hands of Hope Friends,

We are so glad to present to you a snapshot of the mission and work of the Hands of Hope Foundation in "Offering Hope in Christ" around the world.

Since our very beginning in 2005, we have developed a plethora of friends and partners along the way. So many individuals, organizations, businesses and churches have shared resources, financial support and gifts of time in supporting our mission and building our team today.

Who would have imagined that a one-day response event for the victims of Hurricane Katrina-Rita would have ignited a passion and vision that has today become the Hands of Hope Foundation. When life throws you lemons, who says you can't enjoy some lemonade!

On behalf of the Hands of Hope Foundation, our Board of Directors, Staff and Partners in the USA, Liberia, Bulgaria, Thailand and around the globe, we thank you for taking a look at our ministry and invite you to partner with us. If you have any questions, our team would be glad to connect with you.

*In the Grip of the Carpenter- Mark 6:3*

*Offering Hope in Christ*



**Rev. Dr. Troy D. Benitone**

*Executive Director*

*&*

*Founder*



## OVERVIEW

1. **2005 Hands of Hope: Katrina-Rita Relief Aid Event**, Oct 9, 2005
2. **2008 Hands of Hope: Sangamon River Dist. Initiative for Weala District Center/Parsonage**: May 17, 2008
3. **2009 Hands of Hope: Weala District Center Dedication Trip**, Rev. Dr. Troy Benitone & Rev. Dr. Roger Ross 2009 in the Village of Weala, Liberia, West Africa.
4. **2010 Hands of Hope First Crusade & New Church Start trip**: Church starts in Totota, Salala & Village #7 in Liberia, West Africa.
5. **2010 John Wesley School Building and High School Edition Project in Weala, Liberia, West Africa**: Funded by Springfield First UMC
6. **2011 Hands of Hope's Crusade & New Church Start trip to Liberia including both Medical & Educational Outreach components**: March 2011
7. **2012 Hands of Hope Foundation Crusade-Medical-Surgical-Educational Trip, March 2012**
8. **Hands of Hope Foundation- Bulgaria Project Initiated**: In April 2012 Hands of Hope entered into a partnership with Hope for the Little Ones, Petko Slaveykov Private School and the Bulgarian Church of God with Rev. Ventsislav Stoykov, General Overseer of the Bulgarian Church of God and Senior Pastor of Crossroads Church in Bulgaria. Our Hands of Hope Bulgarian Project Director and inspiration has been led by Nina Shull.
9. **2013 Hands of Hope Foundation Peru Outreach**, In May 2012 Hands of Hope helped sponsor RN, Edward Heath and the Amazon Promise Outreach team on a back packing medical mission to his native Peru. It was a powerful and life-touching mission.

10. **2013 Hands of Hope Foundation Bulgaria Outreach Trip**, We traveled there in June 2013. We have completed a project with Petko Slaveykov and have participated in the funding of the second "Little House" with Hope for the Little Ones Foundation. We look forward to partnering on more projects in the future with our partners from the Bulgarian Church of God in the Gypsy and Refugee camp areas.
11. **2013 Hands of Hope Foundation Thailand Outreach**, HOH Medical Director, Dr. Jeffrey & Sherrie Parks visit and create begin our relationship with Tamar Center and Hand to Hand Foundation in Pattaya, Thailand.
12. **Hands of Hope Foundation Med-Surgical-Education Outreaches: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016 & 2018.**
  - a. **Weala Medical Clinic Building-** Was built by the Norwegian UMC and left unfurnished, empty and unequipped in 2010. This would inspire the 2010 HOH Team to come back with a Medical Mission focus in 2011.
  - b. **Weala Medical Clinic Launched during the HOH 2011 Trip.** We have continued Medical-Surgical mission outreaches in 2012, 2013, 2014 & 2016. The 2015 trip was cancelled due to the Ebola Crisis.
  - c. **Weala Medical-Surgical Center broke ground in 2012.** During the 2012 trip a vision was cast to add a surgical center to the Weala Clinic and with a generous gift from Springfield First UMC, the Weala Mission Station project was launched and with a second generous donation, along with several other generous gifts the \$70,000 plus project was funded. The Weala Medical Center was formally dedicated on March 15, 2014.
  - d. **Medical Supplies and Clinic Support:** From 2011-2016 and thanks to the gifts of generous donors and friends, we have provided operating funds, sufficient medicines and supplies to support day-to-day operations at the Weala Medical Center.
  - e. **Medical-Supply Containers:** From 2010-2016, we have sent 10-40 foot ocean medical and educational supply container to Liberia to supply our operations. During the Ebola Crisis, we stepped up our efforts with our **Operation Hope: Liberia Ebola Response Campaign**. During this effort and through some great partnerships, and with the funds raised from **Hopefest 2014** and our **Tour of Duty 2014 Concert Series**, we sent 5 relief containers in one year. *Each of these containers has held hundreds of thousands of dollars of relief supplies for the Liberia work, and cost approximately \$8000 to send by Ocean!*
13. **Hope Scholar Program:** For the last 7 years Hands of Hope has had over a 100 students in our John Wesley PreK-12th Scholarship program and another nearly 50 students in our Hope Scholar Vocational, Collegiate & University program. In 2016-17 year, we unified our program to one Hope Scholar Program Elementary through University. In 2017-18, we celebrated several graduations this year, and have approved 56 students for our K-12th Grade section and 15 in our College & University level program. We are expecting to celebrate several more graduations over the next year. In 2017, Valerie Fry, HOH Education Director, created the Hope Scholars Directors Fund to help those graduates transition to the next phase of their life as they move into their career tracks and begin shaping Liberia for decades to come.
14. **Crusade & Church planting work in 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014** Village #7 (2011), Weala (2012-14), Village of Kpakoloyah (2012) and Jennet Town (2013 & 2014).
15. **Hands of Hope Foundation Liberia NGO (non-governmental organization):** Was formed in 2013.
16. **Community House Launched:** In 2012, we launched Community House, on the campus of Community of Faith Church. Community House is run today by our Executive Director and his wife, Rev. Dr. Troy & Beth Benitone. They serve as hosts to many of Hands of Hope's interns, partners and friends from around the globe, by providing respite and housing support for special ministry needs identified the Hands of Hope's team.
17. **Rebuilt Churches:** We have partnered in rebuilding numerous war-torn and ravaged churches in the Weala District at Freeman Reserve, Grimes Farms, C.D. Sherman, St. Thomas, Bong Mines and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kieyea-located in the adjacent Gbanga District.
18. **Weala Mission Station Power Plant:** In 2013 we sent a refurbished Detroit 160 KW Power Plant and power grid designed to power the School, Church, Medical-Surgical Center and District Center all at once. The generation was Christened at our March 15, 2014 Weala Medical Center dedication service thanks to generous donors and the great work of our March 2012-2014 HOH Engineer, Daniel Cook and his team.
19. **Safe Drinking Water Wells:** We have worked to add Safe Drinking Water Wells at St. Thomas, Salala, Totota, Village #7 and multiple wells at the Weala Mission Station- District Center, School and Medical Center.
20. **Pastors' Motorcycles:** In 2012 & 2014, we provided 3 Motorcycles for the pastors of two of the upstart churches at Salala and Village #7, along with the dead of students at John Wesley School. We hope to provide more in the near future to our other new churches.

21. **Computers:** Thanks to many generous donors and especially to John A. Logan we have taken numerous computer systems for our churches, John Wesley School, Weala Medical Center and Hope Scholars from 2012 to 2016.
22. **Operation Hope: Thailand 2014-2017:** In July 2014, we took a small advance team to lay the grounds for a new partnership with 2 Thailand based ministries: Hand to Hand Foundation and The Tamar Center . In June-July 2015, we launched 4 new Community of Faith Churches in Thailand utilizing a new group of pastors we trained & equipped at 3rd Road, Soi 6, Tepparsit #7 and Gohpai #1. We have continued with outreaches in 2016 & 2017. Our Thailand churches are working under the support and covering of Community of Faith Church in Marion, IL in partnership with Hand to Hand Foundation and Tamar Center in Pattaya, Thailand.
23. **For His Glory becomes a new division of Hands of Hope Foundation:** In 2014, FHG, joined the ranks of the Hands of Hope Foundation family. *For His Glory*, is a Christian Worship Ministry team led by Hands of Hope Foundation, National Director & FHG Director Joshua Benitone. FHG teams have served as our worship team for our Operation Hope Outreaches in Thailand and in leading our Tour of Duty and Tour of Hope Events in the USA.
24. **Hopefest 2014, Operation Hope-Tour of Duty 2015 & Tour of Hope 2016:** September 27, 2014 Hands of Hope launched a full-day relief concert event on the grounds of Community of Faith Church to provide support for the Ebola Crisis. Hands of Hope was back to its founding relief-event roots. In November, 2015, we held a 5 city-stop concert-relief event across the state of Illinois, called Tour of Duty. The tour was a part of our Operation Hope initiative with a goal of raising support to ship 5-6 containers of Ebola Relief supplies to Liberia. In 2016, *For His Glory* led a series of National-USA based concert events with other guest and nationally renowned Christian Artist to bring awareness and support to our Human Trafficking efforts with our partners in Thailand. Hands of Hope Foundation, National Director & FHG Director Joshua Benitone will be working to lead future outreaches and Tour of Hope events in 2017.
25. **Thailand Pastors & Church Leaders School:** In June 2017, we launched a 4 semester pastors & church leaders training program designed to equip a new group of nearly 26 pastors, using our indigenous Thai pastors with Dr. Benitone serving as the dean and organizer of the school. This class of pastors will complete their training in additional sessions. Session #2 & 3 was held in January 2018 & July 2018. With the final Session #4 being planned for January 2019. The goal is to plant and support new church plants over the next few years in Thailand through indigenously trained and equipped leaders.
26. **Maria-Irma-Harvey Relief Aid Campaign:** From September 10 to 25, led a campaign to support hurricane victims in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico with 7 incredible partners across the Southern Illinois region.
27. **Williamson County Excellence in Long Term Care Recognition Program:** Began 2015, 2016, 2017 & 2018.
28. **Hands of Hope Foundation Winter Gala:** On December 1, 2012, Hands of Hope Foundation held its first Winter Gala offering a celebration of its ministry year and looking forward to the next year. The gala is always held the 1st Saturday in December. This year on December 1, 2018, we celebrate our 8th Winter Gala.
29. **Project Hope:** After a couple of years of dreaming & planning we launched our Project Hope— Hands of Hope Foundation's Sustainable Agricultural Plan during our Vision of Hope ask during our 2017 Winter Gala, we are working to raise funds for Phase I currently.

**THE WRAP ON THE FOUNDATION'S WORK:** This is just a major initiative time-line. There are so many other things Hands of Hope Foundation has been doing around the world with students, pastors, education projects, agricultural projects, pastor's wives counseling and support. To all that has been said and unsaid, we give God the Glory for great things He has done!

*Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.*  
1 Peter 3:15

## Hands of Hope Foundation: EXECUTIVE BOARD & STAFF:

### **Rev. Dr. Troy D. Benitone**

*President & Executive Director (HOH Founder)*

Email: [troy@hohfoundation.org](mailto:troy@hohfoundation.org)

Troy is the Executive Director (Founder) of Hands of Hope Foundation and the Directing Pastor of Community of Faith Church. He and his family returned to Southern Illinois, in April, 2010, after serving the Lord as a pastor and church planter in several cities over the previous 28 years. He has led numerous mission trips and crusades to plant churches in Honduras and Africa. Troy shares, "My heart's desire is to be involved in leading the church in the area of new church development and in expanding the reach of the church through growing new faith communities and launching new church starts. My life credo is to- Dream dreams and plan plans so grand that if God is not in them, they are doomed to fail." Troy and his wife, Beth, have four beautiful children: Heather (husband Tad Rogers), Joshua (wife Sarah), Caleb and Megan. They also have a granddaughter, Addison Rogers. Troy is the third Pastor in the over 35 year history of Community of Faith.



### **Josh Benitone**

*Vice-President & Executive Director, For His Glory*

Email: [josh@hohfoundation.org](mailto:josh@hohfoundation.org)

Josh became the Director of Operations for Hands of Hope in 2015. He also serves as the Executive Director of For His Glory, a divisional ministry of the Hands of Hope Foundation that he started. Josh joined the Hands of Hope Foundation team in 2014 as our Hopefest and National Events Director. Josh, also serves as the Executive Pastor for Community of Faith Church in Marion. He has served at two other large churches prior to coming to Community of Faith. For over 10 years, Josh has traveled inside and outside the United States with his worship ministry, impacting people of all ages. He has also spent years working with musicians as an engineer, producer, and writer. Josh has spent time in many missions settings in the U.S. as well as Honduras, Mexico, Japan, Thailand and Guatemala. This has led him to start For His Glory, a nonprofit that works to support missionaries and ministries globally by connecting them with individuals and resources that can maximize their impact. In July of 2011, Josh married his high school sweetheart, Sarah. Josh graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from McKendree University where he studied Theology, Philosophy, and World Religions.



### **Mrs. Tracy Lake**

*Secretary-Treasurer*

Email: [tracy@hohfoundation.org](mailto:tracy@hohfoundation.org)

Tracy Lake joined Community of Faith five years ago. She has embraced her love of the Lord and assists leading a small group, helping in Super Kid Academy and with the BBQ Heroes team. She is a leader for the Boy Scouts of America, both on a local and district level, and advises youth as part of Future Business Leaders of America- Phi Beta Lambda. She works as an accountant at Southern Illinois University and got involved with the Hands of Hope Foundation to be able to use her skills as an accountant to benefit the people of Liberia and around the world.



### **Ms. Sadye Moore**

*Executive Assistant*

Email: [sadye@hohfoundation.org](mailto:sadye@hohfoundation.org)

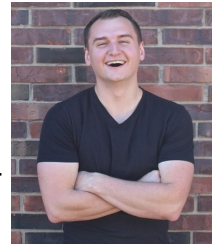
Sadye joined Hands of Hope in May of 2015. She has a passion for helping youth and young girls find their purpose in Christ. Sadye is also the executive assistant at Community of Faith Church. Sadye Moore came on board as the Executive Assistant, working with our Executive Director and Director of Operation in 2015. She is from Springfield, IL. She currently resides at Community House.



**Mr. Lucas Winkler***Creative Arts Director*

Email: lucas.winkler@hohfoundation.org

Lucas just recently became the Creative Arts Director in August, 2015. He has worked with multiple mega churches in the United States, as well as several small churches. Lucas also serves as the Creative Arts Director for Community Of Faith Church.

**Mrs. Valerie Fry***Education Director*

Email: valerie.fry@hohfoundation.org

Valerie Fry and her husband have been members of Community of Faith since 1981. She has served over the years in many ministries involving children, youth and adult teaching, including serving as a youth leader for nine years. She has been on the teaching staff of Trinity School, in Carbondale, Illinois since 1990. Valerie earned degrees in teaching and fine art (she is also a working artist) from Southern Illinois University. She made her first international mission trip to Liberia in 2011, as an educational team leader and now serves as HANDS OF HOPE Educational Director. She says "Not only has my life's work been to teach children how to be strong academically but to find their identity in Christ. Valerie and Steve have two married children Dave (wife, Natalie) and Rachel (husband, Charles) and three wonderful grandchildren, Eli, Ethan, and Annalise.

**Mrs. Donna Kraniewski***Logistics & Supply Coordinator*

Email: donna.kraniewski@hohfoundation.org

Donna Kraniewski has served in church ministry for years in many capacities and has ten years of medical information experience. After leaving the medical field, she has worked as an administrative assistant for over 10 years. This "on the job training" has prepared her to handle the medical supplies and inventory systems for HOH. Donna has truly enjoyed working to get the medical supplies ready for transport. A ministry like HOH brings into focus how we can be the "hands and feet" of Jesus in this world. Donna and her husband, Rick, have two daughters- Kate and Lindsey.

**BOARD MEMBERS & MEDICAL TEAM LEADERS****Dr. Jeffrey D. Parks— HOH Medical Director & Board Member**

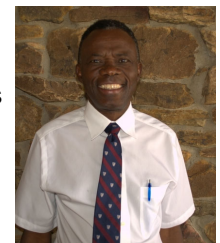
Email: jeff.parks@hohfoundation.org

Dr. Jeff Parks is a member and Elder of Community of Faith Church and has served, along with his wife Sherrie, as a teacher of adults and children. He has also served in the Nursery, and as a volunteer at The Refuge Home. Jeff is a Physician/Board Member at Logan Primary Care Clinic. He enjoys being a physician because it allows him to interact with so many people. Jeff likes COF because he feels welcomed and valued here and COF feels like family. He has two children - Scott and Elizabeth.

**Dr. Ukeme I. E. Umana— HOH Chief of Surgery & Board Member**

Email: ukeme.umana@hohfoundation.org

Dr. Ukeme Umana is a member and Elder of Community of Faith Church and has served in many areas of ministry. Ukeme has been on five medical mission trips to Nigeria. These trips have brought him the most professional satisfaction. He is an Ophthalmologist at Marion Eye Centers specializing in cataract, refractive, and cornea surgery. He and his wife Christina are the proud parents of three TALL sons - Iboro, Edikan, and Ifreke.

**Mr. Jerry W. Johnson- Board Member**

Jerry Johnson serves as an elder at Community of Faith Church. He was a member of the board for Braswell Ministries from 2007 to 2010 and had the honor of representing the ministry in Honduras. He currently serves on the board of No Greater Love Ministries. Jerry is employed by Southeast Missouri Hospital as the supervisor of Cat Scan in the Radiology department. He and his wife Kim live in Anna, IL and have six children, Jessica and her husband Jason, Benjamin, Jacob, Zebulun, Caleb, Katherine and one beautiful granddaughter, Reagan Faith.



## Hands of Hope Foundation: LIBERIA

**Rev. Paye Cooper Mondolo**- *Hands of Hope Foundation Liberia NGO, National Director*

Email: [paye@hohfoundation.org](mailto:paye@hohfoundation.org)

**Rev. Paye Cooper Mondolo** is the National Director of Hands of Hope Foundation Liberia and President of the College of West Africa, in Monrovia, Liberia. He has previously served as the District Superintendent of the Weala District Conference, Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. He and his family took assignment in Weala Margibi, Liberia, in March 2007, after serving the Lord as a pastor and church planter in several cities over the previous 20 years. He has led numerous mission trips and crusades to plant churches in other parts of Liberia. Paye shares, "My heart's desire is to be involved in leading the church in the area of new church development and creating hope and building lives for the community, also expanding the reach of the church through growing new faith communities through new church starts. My life credo is to- Dream dreams and plan plans so grand that if God is not in them, they are doomed to fail because with God all things are possible." Paye and his wife, Deborah, have four beautiful daughters: Priscilla, Catherine, Christiana, Praise and Abigail.



## Hands of Hope Foundation: BULGARIA

**Nina Shull**- *Hands of Hope Foundation Project Bulgaria Director*

Email: [nina@hohfoundation.org](mailto:nina@hohfoundation.org)

**Nina Shull** is the Project Bulgaria Director for Hands of Hope Foundation. Nina Shull is a native of Bulgaria and is married to Brent Shull from O'Fallon, IL, a former missionary to Bulgaria. They have one son, Bobby, who is a High School Senior. Becoming a Christian in 1989, after the fall of Communism in Bulgaria, Nina has surrendered to the Lord's service her passionate personality and her musical talents as a classically trained vocalist. From leading worship, small groups and women's ministries, now to leading the fund-raising efforts on behalf of the Abandoned Children of Bulgaria, Nina's mission is to leave a legacy of faith and service. Nina believes God placed a call on her life in the beginning of 2012, after visiting Bulgaria and being deeply and profoundly touched by the tremendous suffering of Bulgaria's orphans. She is convinced that God doesn't always call the equipped, but He surely equips those He calls and she is an example of how one person can make a difference, when obedient to the Lord and unafraid to act!



## PARTNERSHIP

**HOH Partners & Friends-** Along the way we have been blessed with so many Partners and Friends. Not to mention every person that has given their time and resources to make such a list like this a reality. We have also had some very special anonymous donors that have done so much to help us in *"Offering Hope in Christ."* Here is a list of some of our working partnerships over the years:

**Community of Faith Church, Marion, IL.** Community of Faith Church provides a high level of outreach ministry support, and also houses the headquarters of the Hands of Hope Foundation. In addition to this support, our **"Community House"** facility is located on the COF campus. [www.cofchurch.org](http://www.cofchurch.org)

**Pro Health International (PHI)** and our good friend Dr. Iko Ibanga, Executive Director (Founder) and his incredible team of gifted medical missionaries.

**Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH)** has been such a great friend through their incredible health care professionals that have traveled with us and for the gift of precious items for the Weala Medical Center through the years that has impacted so many lives.

**Surgical Eye Expedition Int. (SEE):** We are so grateful to Surgical Eye Expedition International, Inc., [www.seeintl.org](http://www.seeintl.org) for providing so many of Dr. Ukeme Umana's, HOH Chief of Surgery's, eye team surgical supplies.

**Surgical Direct Inc.** Our good friends, Kevin & Dana Davis, at SDI have been such a blessing in providing our Eye Surgical team with high quality ophthalmic equipment, supplies, and technical assistance for our medical outreaches. <http://www.surgicaldirectinc.com/>

**Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach of Springfield, IL. (HSMO):** We could do none of our medical work without the incredible servants of the HSMO who have made so many amazing medical supplies and equipment available for *"Offering Hope in Christ"* at the Weala Medical-Surgical Clinic.

**Crosslink Memphis, Inc.,** and their Executive Director Dr. David Lewis. Crosslink has a vision of *"linking medical supplies with medical missions"* and they have certainly blessed Hands of Hope with so many important medical supplies and medicines over the last 4 years.

**Hope for the Children and the Bulgarian Church of God.** We are working with the abandoned children of Bulgaria.

**Hand to Hand Foundation:** Our Thailand based partner working with the poor, neglected and abused in Thailand. [www.handtohandpattaya.com](http://www.handtohandpattaya.com)

**Tamar Center and Pattaya House of Prayer:** Our partnership with the Thailand based ministry that is offering Hope to the girls leaving the human trafficking world.

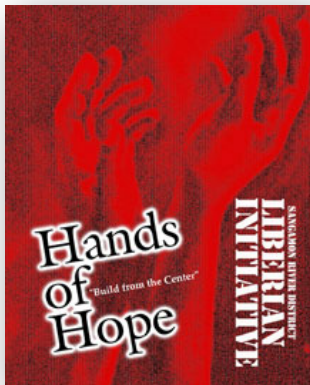
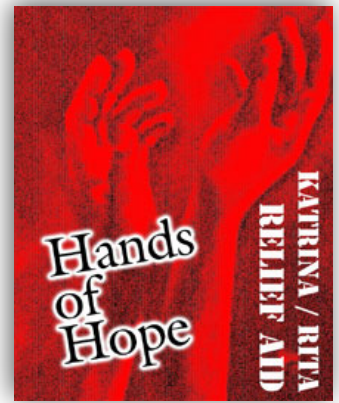
**Healthy Women Healthy Liberia & Dr. Chris Hena:** Our good friendship with the Kakata-based outreach clinic that our good friend Dr. Hena leads. She joins us for our Liberia medical outreaches & our medical centers have a shared supportive relationship in the efforts to serve Liberia. In 2018 she now serves as our Liberian Chief

**No Greater Love Ministries & Network,** we are partnered with No Greater Love Ministries in providing logistics support to their efforts of *"Offering Hope in Christ"* in the USA.

**For His Glory, a division of Hands of Hope,** Partnering with missionaries and ministries around the world to maximize their impact for Christ. <http://www.fhgglobal.org>

## HISTORY

Hands of Hope began as the vision of a single-event, gathering together a cluster of local churches in the Springfield area of Illinois in an effort, to raise resources to assist in the Hurricane Katrina-Rita recovery in August 2005. The Rev. Dr. Troy D. Benitone, then pastoring in Pawnee, Il., was one of the co-coordinators of the event, and was inspired by God in developing the image and persona for the event which was "The Church living out its mandate to be God's Hands, Hands of Hope, to the victims of the disaster." Pastor Troy worked with an artist to develop the logo for that event called **Hands of Hope: Hurricane Katrina/Rita Relief Aid**. On October 9, 2005, the family-day concert event raised over \$35,000 worth of cash and relief items. The items were sent to the relief efforts of the Hurricane Victims through the United Methodist Commission on Relief via the Midwest Distribution Center and Hands of Hope was complete.



In 2008, Rev. Benitone was asked by his superintendent for the Sangamon River District of the UM Church to lead a district-wide effort to fund the building of a District Center and Parsonage for a war-torn sister church in the Weala District of the Liberian Conference of the UMC of West Africa. Liberia had gone through a devastating 14 year civil war. Our district was partnered with Rev. Paye Cooper Mondolo, the Wealah district superintendent, and his people to help in restoring hope to the people of Liberia. When asked to take on the goal of raising \$51,000 for the building of a District Center and Parsonage, Pastor Troy having met Rev. Mondolo and working with Rev. Sylvester Weatherall and Springfield 1st UMC, Pastor Dr. Roger Ross, all church planters, struck an agreement with our District Superintendent Rev. Jerry King, that every dollar raised beyond the \$51,000 needed would go to crusade to establish new churches in the war torn district. We had a dream to do three! It was then that Rev. Benitone said it

was time for Hands of Hope to ride again. The logo was revised **Hands of Hope "Build from the Center", Sangamon River District Liberian Initiative**. This time an entire district of churches came together to celebrate their fund-raising efforts through another even larger and more powerful family day. This event surpassed the \$51,000 goal for the district center and exceeded \$135,000. Not only was the center built, but we rebuilt or upgraded 4 war ravaged churches and planted the three new churches. Rev. Benitone and Rev. Ross made trips to Liberia in 2009 and took a team of 13 in January 2010 to use the resources raised to fulfill the dream of holding the crusades and planting three new churches with Rev. Mondolo in the regions of Salala, Totota and Village #7 in Liberia. Those churches are thriving today.

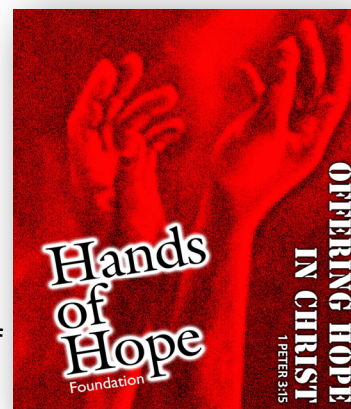
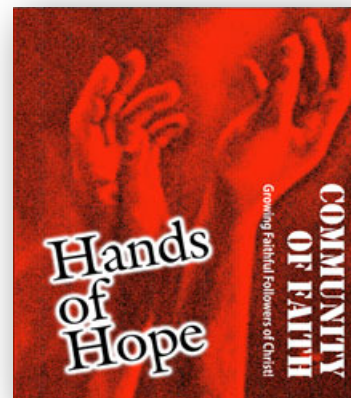
Just months after returning from the 2010 crusades, Rev. Benitone became the Directing Pastor of Community of Faith Church, a non-denominational church located in Southern Illinois. During the transition Rev. Benitone shared his heart to continue this work with, Bishop, Gregory Palmer. With his blessing and with the invitation of the Liberian Bishop, John G. Innis, Rev. Benitone and the Elders of Community of Faith Church entered into an independent partnership with the Liberian church to continuing the work that God was doing in Liberia through Hands of Hope. By early 2010, the work in Liberia had grown to include not only new church crusades, but doors were opening to enhance the churches work through Christian education, providing safe-drinking water wells, and helping to re-establishing medical services to strengthen the life of the Church. It was clear Hands of Hope had moved way beyond a couple of events and now was a full-blown ministry drawing others to be God's Hands of Hope.

Back up in time! In 1996, when the Community of Faith Church established a Refuge Home to provide housing and living accommodations for up to six mothers and their infant children in order to help them become self-sufficient. The Refuge Home provided these services to any mother with one infant child without regard to race, creed or ethnic background in a Christ-centered environment that promoted life-affirming values. After years filled with many incredible success stories of changing lives, things changed. When the home began, there were very



few options to help a young girl facing the birth of Child, but by 2010 increased governmental welfare programs and services with little expectations made the Christ-centered alternative unattractive. In 2010, the Refuge Home Foundation shut down its operation.

During this time, the vision of **Hands of Hope** was flourishing in its new home at Community of Faith Church. In February 2011, Rev. Benitone took another education, crusade, new church building and medical mission team called **Hands of Hope: Community of Faith**, composed of 15 from several area churches. During that trip the Weala Medical Clinic was launched and we developed our John Wesley K-12 Sponsors program for over 50 children and our Hope Scholars program were birthed. During this trip a vision plan was developed for Hands of Hope to go to the next level in planting and building new churches, expanding the Christian School, supporting the Weala Medical clinic and so much more. It was on this trip that we decided to rename and purpose the former, Refuge Home Foundation, to give Hands of Hope a non-governmental (NGO) faith-based 501©3 organization to build on. After seeking God's heart for wisdom, the Elders of Community of Faith Church, also acting as the Board of the former Refuge Home, renamed and purposed the ministry into one ready for the next level. What started as the inspiration for one event through the incredible blessings of God has become an epic in the making, with a bright future ahead, all for the glory of God. Today, **Hands of Hope Foundation** with a vision of **Offering Hope in Christ** in the spirit of 1 Peter 3:15 is the result. Today we have a whole new global look and you can see that new look below as we head into the next season.



### VISION:

The Hands of Hope Foundation has a simple vision of **Offering Hope in Christ** in the spirit of 1 Peter 3:15.

*"Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life.*

*And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it."*

### MISSION:

*"The Hands of Hope Foundation is an organization designed to operate and develop faith based communities that will function on a local, national, and international level to provide financial and/or direct assistance to individuals, families, and other organizations in meeting a wide variety of needs to include: short-term housing, medical care, education assistance, drinkable water, food, and clothing; as well as a place of respite for Ministers and their families."*



The Hands of Hope Foundation is registered in the United States as a non-for-profit 501©3 tax-exempt organization in the State of Illinois.

The Hands of Hope Foundation Liberia is registered as a NGO "Non-Governmental Organization" in the Republic of Liberia.

**Hands of Hope Foundation · 5208 Meadowland Parkway · Marion, Illinois 62958**  
**(618) 997-2940 · [www.hohfoundation.org](http://www.hohfoundation.org) · [troy@hohfoundation.org](mailto:troy@hohfoundation.org)**