



DIAKONIA INTERDENOMINATIONAL SERVICES FOR COUNSELING, EVANGELISM AND TEACHING (DISCET)



1. DISCET TRAINS 25 MEDICAL DOCTORS AND NURSES IN BASIC COUNSELING FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY.

A two day training in Psychosocial Counseling was organized by Child Health and Mortality Prevention Surveillance, (CHAMPS), a Programme of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in Sierra Leone. This programme's aim is to search out the root cause of the high rate of infant mortality in the country compared to other parts of the world. A two days workshop was conducted for these medical practitioners mainly Medical Doctors and Nurses in the conference room of the Wusum Hotel in Makeni from Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th March 2021. The reason for this workshop is to equip CHAMPS Staff in trauma healing counseling for better service delivery.

The workshop was a blessing to the participants as their eyes were opened to basic counseling skills which they said they will use in their families and their communities.

2. DISCET Celebrates 23 Years of Ministry in Sierra Leone

DISCET, the Counseling and Evangelism Institution that started twenty –three years ago celebrated its 23rd Annual Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 14th March 2021.

Even though it was a COVID-19 era, few friends of DISCET bravely attended the service. The service was held at the King Memorial United Methodist Church on Regent Road in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

The Guest Speaker, Rev. Samuel Kamara, a DISCET Board Member spoke on the importance of appreciating God at all times, especially amidst difficult situations for he knows the ending from the beginning. He continued to say, “as we thank and bless God in times of needs, he is put under compulsion to do the extraordinary for us. In his closing remarks, he said, as the world continues to experience its greatest challenge with the COVID –19, it is expedient for us to bless the Lord so that He continue to shower his protection and provision on us.

3. DISCET Counseling Schools continue to run in Freetown and Waterloo

The DISCET Counseling Unit continues to multiply itself through the training of more counselors in the counseling schools in Makeni, Waterloo and Freetown.

Just Like last year, the counseling school the counseling school in Bo has not commence operations yet. This is because the DISCET Contact Person in Bo, the Rev. Willie O. Bickersteth met his demise early this year. We are now charged to look for a more competent person that will be ready to sacrificed his time for DISCET like the way the late man did.

Kindly pray for us that we get a contact person with the right heart.

CONCLUSION

DISCET Partners and Friends, DISCET is currently going through serious financial challenges to the point even to pay salaries is a challenge.

Please pray with us for open doors of financial provision so that we can be enabled to do more for the Lord.

Rev. Steven A. Mahoney
Director, DISCET.

4. DISCET Staff plans the future of the organization in a three days praying and planning retreat

The DISCET fiscal year 2021 like the previous years started on the 4th January 2021 with a planning retreat. This retreat was organized by DISCET Staff Members. It was a three days praying and planning meeting where retrospect of the activities of the previous year was carefully studied.

During the retreat, attention was drawn to the issue of fundraising amidst COVID-19 restrictions. It took the Staff to come up with a particular fundraising method since all DISCET raising activities in the past prior to the advent of the COVID-19, to do with the gathering of people in one place. We were able to come up with the idea of DISCET starting a pure and clean water project that will be out for sale to the public. The issue of customer constituency was discussed and we all agreed that DISCET Friends and supporters can be our constituent customers.

The start-up cost for this project is estimated to be forty thousand dollars (\$ 40,000/00). This amount includes the rental of a two storey building where the basement will be used for the clean water production and upstairs will be used as office space for DISCET, a delivery van to dispatch the needed water to customers on time, the purchase of a two miller tanks and the also the water purifier equipment. If this project succeeds, it has the capacity to take care of 75% of DISCET monthly overheads and bills.

5. DISCET Graduated 16 Professional Counselors in Waterloo

On the 30th of January this year, DISCET graduated 16 Professional Counselors that were trained for a period of eight months due to the COVID-19. Among these graduating Counselors were classroom teachers, heads of Churches, Pastors



and lay readers.

The graduation ceremony was attended by distinguished personalities in the body of Christ in the Western Rural District of Sierra Leone.

The grandaunts were addresses by His Grace the Bishop of the Countess of Huntingdon, the Rt. Rev. Magnus Bendu.

Bishop Bendu spoke of the wounded spirits in Sierra Leoneans which makes counseling services extremely important to the nation. He further urge the grandaunts not to only collect the certificates, go home and do nothing but encourage them to be a source of encouragement to the frustrated.

At the end of the address, the Rev. Can Dr. J. E. Modupe Taylor-Pearce encouraged them to go out there and help somebody in difficult situation . This is how people will know professional you are counselors.



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DIRECTOR'S

Bulletin

January to March 2021

Content

1. DISCET Trains 25 Medical doctors and Nurses in Professional Counseling for Effective Service Delivery
2. DISCET Celebrates 23 Years of Ministry in Sierra Leone
3. DISCET Counseling Schools continue to run in Freetown and Waterloo
4. DISCET Staff plans the future of DISCET in a three days retreat
5. DISCET Graduated 16 Professional Counselors in Waterloo