



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



1. DISCET promotes Happy Marriage in Port Loko District in the North-West Region of Sierra Leone.

A team of four people led by the DISCET Field and Programmes Officer, Rev. Paul Abubakarr Koroma left Freetown for Port Loko on the 27th April 2021 for a five days marriage enrichment conference slated for Wednesday 28th April to 2nd May 2021.

The aim of the conference was to promote happy marriage among the Christian Community in the Port Loko vicinity. The conference was attended by over one hundred and fifty couples together with the Chairman of the Pastoral Council in Port Loko district.

At the end of the five days conference, some participants in the conference testified that the way and manner they have been treating their partners in comparison to what they've learnt in the conference, there is a great need to make amends if their marriages are to succeed. There has been no respect for one another, no concern, care, no time for each other to look at issues together and take unanimous decisions together. This has resulted to our children becoming wayward hence militating against the family.

DISCET Field and Programmes Officer Resigns

It was after the above conference the DISCET Field and Programmes Officer tendered a two months notice of his resignation on the ground that he has received a call from God to start a full time ministry. His resignation took effect on the 1st July 2021.

2. The DISCET Family Hour Continues to Make Impact in the lives of its Audience

The DISCET Family Hour like before continues to make impact in the lives of its audience on the Believers Broadcasting Network BBN FM 92.9. The DISCET Family Hour from April this year was amalgamated with the DISCET Counseling Hour that used to be aired on Sky Radio. This amalgamation has led to an increase in the audience to the programme.

The blending together of the DISCET Family Hour and the Counseling Hour Crews resulted to greater impact in the lives of the programme audience. In the last two months, the crew have been handling "God's purpose for Marriage". This topic excited young people in Freetown and its environs. Text messages and live phone calls reaching us indicate it is a topic of their interest especially those already in relationships and those aspiring to marry.

Here are some of the text messages that reached us during the broadcast:

1. I am a young man and I have been in a relationship for over eight years. My fiancée wants us to marry before she travels abroad. What do you advise?

3. The DISCET Finance and General Purpose Committee meets to strategize for Local Fundraising.

The committee of the Board in charge of Strategizing for local fundraising and implementation of DISCET financial policies in collaboration with the DISCET Director and Secretariat met on Tuesday 20th July 2021 to discuss global financial trend and to strategize effective and sustainable ways of raising funds locally. This was a high profile meeting that was attended by almost all members of the committee. Amongst other fundraising strategies, two stood out clearly:

1. That DISCET must engage in the production of pure drinking water for sales. DISCET will need a start-up capital for this investment. The Director will write a concept paper on this in order to raise the needed capital for the start-up of the business. This will include the cost of equipment and materials for the production of the safe, pure drinking water. How the business will be run and the projected monthly income and expenditure for the investment. T

Please turn overleaf

The DISCET Finance and General Purpose Committee meets to strategies for Local Fundraising cont.

2. The other strategy is to agree on a particular Sunday we call a DISCET Sunday. On this Sunday DISCET Officials will visit a church and ask to serve the Church that day. During this time, DISCET will be advertised and an appeal made to the members to support DISCET programmes monthly. Prior to the above, a meeting would have been held with the head of that church and his approval given so that nothing takes them by surprise.

4. DISCET Professional Counseling Schools

The Professional Counseling Training Schools were seriously affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in Sierra Leone, because of the need for social distancing, and the closure of religious houses, not many people signed up for the July to December phase of the school. The school in Freetown continue to have classes. The number of students in the Freetown School is six (6) in all whilst five students are attending the Waterloo school at the moment, currently, only two schools are in operation for now.

The schools in the provinces (Bo and Makeni) have been indefinitely put on hold because of the closure of religious houses across the country, due to the third (delta) wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. The reason for this is that we have been conducting classes in those churches.

5. The Search for DISCET Land and Property for a Secretariat continues

The search for land and property for a DISCET Secretariat is still in progress. Lately, we were shown two different properties on two different locations. The first is on Truscutt Street, off Circular Rd in the middle of the town. It is an old dilapidated board building that is out for sale at the cost of \$95,000/00 and another in Allen town, a three bedroom and a living room modern convenient building and some portion of unused land at the back of the house. It is a fifteen minutes drive from the city center if not obstructed by traffic and it is out for sale at the cost of \$65,000/00.

DISCET Sierra Leone can raise half the amount of the latter. Kindly pray with us for the raising of the money to purchase any one of the two properties.

6. OBITUARIES

DISCET regrets to announce the sudden death of its Southern Provincial Co-ordinator and Contact person, Pst. Willie Abiona Bickersteth who passed away to eternity on the 25th April 2021 at the age of 51 years. May His Soul Rest In Peace

DISCET also regrets to announce the sudden death of its committed Board Member, Mrs. Gloria Palmer who passed away on the 28th June 2021 at the age of 76 years. May her precious soul rest in peace.

Written by:

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Director, DISCET.*



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DIRECTOR'S

Bulletin

April to June 2021

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