

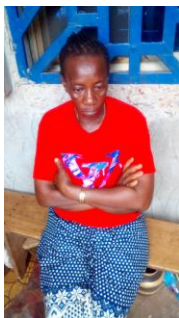
## REPORT ON THE COUNSELING OF FUEL TANKER VICTIMS DONE IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2022

We thank God for His indescribable grace and wisdom He gave us to go through the counselling of some of the victims of the tanker inferno in Wellington last year.

Four Counsellors (Mrs. Esther Tucker, Mrs. Isha Shoyoola, Rev. Alfred Tom Bassey, Simeon. O.S. Camara) and One Supervisor were sent to the field at Wellington in January and February this year. Thirty-five survivors of the inferno were approached and counselled within a period of two months (January and February).

Many of those we counselled were encouraged as they showed signs of respite on the outside. Their hope in God was restored during the counselling process as some confessed, "it was God that gave us, if all suffer loss overnight, we have no choice but to turn back to God the giver". Those words encouraged and motivated us a great deal. It showed we made progress in our work with them.

As hope was restored to many, they continued believing God for His intervention in their lives as the source of living for many were stolen and others burnt down completely during the inferno. Many lost their main source of living as their motorcycles and tricycles were stolen during the inferno whilst some were burnt down completely.



Talking therapy has helped us greatly, it has helped to restore our dependence on God but physical intervention will also go along way. "Please pray with us for God's provision". Mrs. Kadiatu Jalloh who lost her two sons in the disaster that are bread winners for the family lamented.

It was during the counselling sessions with the victims of the tanker disaster that we got to know the magnitude of the inferno. As you can see in the pictures attached below, many were victims of the accident. We thank God because many are now recovering for the menace.

### Let us now listen to the testimony of the victims:



Jacob Kamara was trapped in the fire on his motor-bike, tried to escape but was badly burnt and not receiving much help from the government. He desires help. He is single and recovering gradually.

Mr. Kamara got the fire from the back as you can see in the picture. During the event he had his motor bike stolen. He is finding it difficult to make ends meet.

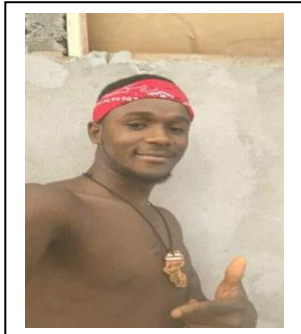


Also, Musa Sesay 19 years old student of New Islamic Secondary school had burns on his hands and feet though recovering, he said, he needs financial assistance in order to continue his schooling.





Yalie Sesay, a 20 years old single businesswoman has burns on her face, hands and neck. She said, she was in a bus when they saw the fire and she jumped from the window to save her life, only to find herself into a fuel area where she was caught up with the fire and her bag and business money was lost. She says, she needs money to start again.



Below is the picture of the late William Caulker a tricycle rider. He was the bread winner of the family. He was survived by his father, mother and step mother and his son. He was an immediate victim of the inferno where he and his tricycle were

burnt down. Because the late Caulker sustained more than 75% burn injury, he was unable to survive the pains of the fire. His mother now could hardly earn their living from hand – outs from sympathizers and humanitarian organisations and sometimes where there is nothing to eat, the two mothers will go down the wharf in search of crabs which they will later sell for inorder to feed themselves. ‘We need help,’ she added.

**From our analysis, the number of affected people reached was like a drop in the ocean compared to the number of people affected by the tanker inferno. More people could have been reached to restore their hope in God but due to logistical problems we couldn’t. We wished more people can be reach in the near future.**

Thanks and faithfully submitted, by Rev.Simeon.O.S.Camara, Counselling Unit Lead

Compiled by the DISCET Director, Rev. Steven A. Mahoney.