



Diakonia Interdenominational Services for Counseling, Evangelism and Teaching (DISCET)

51 Berwick Street, Off Walker Lane, Freetown, Sierra Leone
Telephone: +232 77 494949/ +232 78 801213 Email: discetstl@gmail.com, estmahoney@yahoo.co.uk

DISCET NEWSLETTER, OCT-DEC 2023

DISCET helps to meet the emotional and spiritual needs of post war Sierra Leone society. It trains Counselors to help individuals deal with relationships, and trains church leaders to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the unsaved.

SAVE VISITED THE DISCET SECRETARIAT AND HAD BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS WITH DISCET STAFF.

On the 17th of November 2023, a high-profile team of the Sierra Leone Agape Enterprise (SAVE) based in the USA visited the DISCET Secretariat in Freetown. The visit aimed to discuss the challenges faced by DISCET in its operations in the face of the heightened economic inflation in the country. The DISCET Director explained to the delegation the economic difficulties they are facing not only with the implementation of DISCET operations but also with their homes as well.



The SAVE team encouraged DISCET Staff to continue pressing on with the Kingdom of God's work knowing that their labor of love will never go in vain, but they will receive a reward one day. The delegation was led by the founder of SAVE, Rev. David Musa. He came in the company of the Chairman of the SAVE board, Bro. Brian Bowen, Bro. Larry Moran the Treasurer, Sis. Chris Follman, and two others.

THE DISCET BOARD MET TO DISCUSS STAFF WELFARE IN THE WAKE OF HEIGHTENED INFLATION IN SIERRA LEONE.

On the 5th of October 2023, the DISCET board met to discuss the DISCET Staff welfare as inflation in the country hits 60%. In the meeting, the Director reported the recommendation of Bro. Steve Cheng-Whitehead, a DISCET UK Board member said that junior and intermediate Staff of DISCET should be given a 10% rise in their salaries to cushion the rise in cost of essential commodities and transportation in the country. The recommendation was noted for action at the meeting.

The assignment was handed over to the Chairman of the Finance and General Purpose Committee which also doubles as the organization's treasurer to work on the said proposal for immediate action.

The books were later reviewed for all Staff by the Finance and General Purpose Committee. They came up with a suggestion that rather than adding 10% to some staff member's salaries, it would be good that the Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) be added and adjusted to cushion the inflation crises in the country. Every Staff's COLA was added, hence reflecting on their salaries.

DISCET FAMILY HOUR RADIO PROGRAMME REVIVED IN BO & KONO

The DISCET Family Hour radio program which was dormant for over two years in Bo in the southern region and Koidu in the eastern regions has been revived again. This revival was a result of a project proposal that was written to friends and partners encouraging them to help with the payment of the airtimes.

The DISCET Family Hour Program was a blessing to the people of Bo and Koidu and its environs. Preventive counseling topics like the dangers of anger, anxiety, and depression and how to handle them, how to raise and care for stepchildren, how to make your marriage exciting and attractive, how to make your partner feel loved and many more were taught every week on those radio Stations. The audience for these programs was enormous according to text messages reaching us each time we were on air.

Many people called and thanked DISCET for the restart of these radio programs and prayed that God would continue to open doors to DISCET for its sustainability.

DISCET BUILDS THE CAPACITY OF TRAINED COUNSELORS IN THEOPHOSTIC AND NOUTHETIC COUNSELING SKILLS

A two-day capacity building for DISCET trained Counselors was held at the hall of the Council of Churches, Sierra Leone, at King Harman Road, Freetown on the 14th and 16th of December 2023. About sixty (60) Counselors attended the two-day training. The training was to equip Counselors with other counseling skills. The lead facilitator for the conference was the Director Emeritus of DISCET, Rev. Can. Dr. J. E. Modupe Taylor-Pearce. He and other facilitators conducted the two-day training.



The training was aimed at capacitating Counselors in two distinct skills for effective service delivery to their clients. The two skills were, the Theophostic counseling skills by Dr. Edward Williams and the Nouthetic Counseling skills by Jay E. Adams. These two skills, especially the Theophostic skill have had a wide range of success stories by Counselors who have been opportuned to use it in their counseling work. Participants were promised to be given certificates at the successful completion of the course. The course is tailored for two sessions of three days each. The first session of two days has been done remaining the second session of four days completing six days for the entire training.

Last year, we used \$ 1,500.00 to run the course for two days, this year, we need USD 2,000.00 to run the remaining course of four days. This will enable them to qualify for a Theophostic Counseling Certificate. Kindly pray with us for the actualization of this dream.



I'm hereby pleading that you pray along with me for the raising of this \$2,000.00 to complete the course with those who have already started. I know the Lord will speak to you.

OBITUARY

DISCET regrets to announce the death of former board member and ex-finance Committee Chairman, Mr. Christian K. Johnson. The sad event took place on Thursday 15th November 2023 at the 34 Military Hospitals at Wilberforce. He was laid to rest in the Johnson family tomb at Bathurst Village in Freetown.

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