



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

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## **DISCET NEWSLETTER, JANUARY– MARCH 2026**

*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.*

### **1. DISCET ADMINISTRATION HOLDS A THREE DAYS STAFF RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT RETREAT.**

DISCET hosted a three days Staff retreat from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026. The retreat focused mainly on DISCET activities in 2025; the successes and challenges. Many ideas came up from Staff to correct areas where successes were deterred in 2025. Some of the areas that were discussed were the recruitment of new friends of DISCET. The Friends and supporters that were recruited by the Late Founder and Director Emeritus, Rev. Can. Dr. Modupe J.E. Taylor-Pearce, many are now dead whilst the remaining are retired from jobs. This has militated against the ministry's local fundraising drive. Some clear example is their lack of attendance of the Ministry's Annual Thanksgiving Service, fundraising dinners, breakfast and lunch. In the last four years, attendance to the above mentioned functions have been very poor resulting in low incomes.



With regards to the above, the Meeting discussed the deliberate recruitment of people interested in DISCET activities to beef up the remaining active friends.

Visitation to these Friends was also discussed as a way of showing care and concern for them. The retreat also discussed some fundraising activities that will help with the building of the new DISCET Secretariat. The retreat ended in prayers for both national and international Friends and Supporters of DISCET.

## **2. DISCET GRADUATED THIRTEEN COUNSELORS FROM THE COUNSELING SCHOOL ON THE 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025 AND ORIENTATES ELEVEN STUDENTS FOR THE JANUARY TO JUNE SESSION.**

The Counseling School in Freetown on Friday, January 30, 2025 graduated thirteen trained counselors from the School at the Open House Global Missions Church in Freetown.

The guest speaker was Rev Precious Patient-Davies. She spoke on the importance of counseling in daily life especially in Sierra Leone where the moral and economic situations of the country continue to be a challenge. She told the graduating team not be complacent because the task at hand in Sierra Leone is enormous and urgent. She cited examples of hundreds of Sierra Leonean youths losing their lives to the cold hands of death through the intake of a harmful drug called KUSH. She called on graduands to be responsible Counselors by reporting their counseling activities to DISCET for supervision. She said, “no Counselor stands alone and succeed because it is a career that involves team work”.



The Chairman of the DISCET SL board, Rev. Ishmael Beresford-Cole charged the graduands and awarded the certificates.

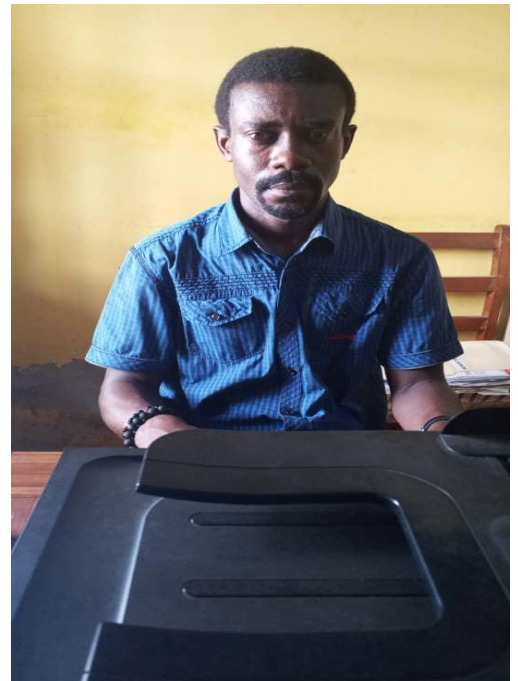


In another development, the Counseling school recruited and orientated eleven Students for the January to June Session. These Students are coming from all walks of life ranging from School Teachers, Nurses, Pastors and Lecturers across the city. As the Counseling school gradually builds momentum, more people are now showing interest to be part of the Counseling School.

### **3. DISCET RECRUITES TWO OFFICERS: THE COUNSELING AND FINANCE OFFICERS.**

DISCET on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 recruited two candidates; a Counseling Officer and a Finance Officer. Vacancy adverts were sent out for three positions at the end of 2025. The vacant positions were a Finance Officer, Counseling Officer and a Field and Programmes Officer. Nine candidates applied, three for each position. The interview date was scheduled and sent to the shortlisted applicants. On the interview date, only four candidates showed up for the interview, two for counseling officer and two for finance officer.. No body showed up for the Field and Programmes position. Those who came were interviewed and Mr. Justin Tao and Mr. Tommy Kamara were selected by the interview panel for finance and Counseling offices respectively.

Mr. Justin Tao is a graduate from the Institute of Public Management and Administration (IPAM), University of Sierra Leone with a bachelor degree in Applied Accounting. He has served several organizations as accountant and finance officer. Mr. Tao worked for DISCET as finance consultant on contract for almost one year after the former Finance officer, Mr. Valentine Benjamin resigned. His track record of working as an accountant gave reason for his selection to serve DISCET as Finance Officer. Similarly, Mr. Tommy Kamara is also graduate from the Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone with a bachelor degree in International Relations. He is also a graduate of the DISCET Counseling School. He has served DISCET as a volunteer in the counseling unit for the past two years. His wealth of experience in counseling matters led the interview panel to select him for the office of the counseling officer.



### **4. SAVE USA VISITS DISCET ORUGU LAND SITE; DONATES FIVE REFURBISHED LAPTOP COMPUTERS TO DISCET.**

DISCET received a high powered delegation of SAVE USA Executives from America on the 16<sup>th</sup> March this year. Among the delegation was the Chairman of the Save USA Board,



Brother Brian Bowen, the Pioneer of the SAVE organization, Rev. Dr. David Musa and Bro Larry Moran. The brief visit was to familiarize themselves with DISCET progresses and Challenges since the demise of its founder, the Rev. Can Dr. Modupe Taylor-Pearce six months ago. On the agenda for discussion was the visit to the DISCET Orugu land that is in preparation for the building of the DISCET Administrative headquarters and Secretariat.

The delegation visited the land site the following day and encouraged the DISCET Administration to continue the good work they are doing. The delegation left the landsite for their lodge.

Prior to SAVE USA visit, a consignment of five refurbished laptop computers were sent to DISCET by SAVE USA through the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone (EFSL). These computers came at the right time as the need for computers to enhance work at the Secretariat and among field Staff was a serious challenge.

On behalf of DISCET I hereby tender our deepest appreciations for this donation and pledge that it will be used for the furtherance of the work of God at DISCET.

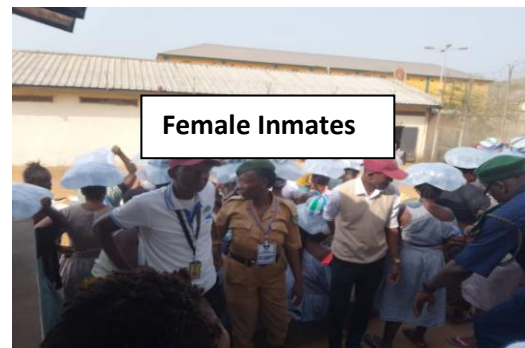
## **5. DISCET SCHOOL COUNSELING CONTINUE IN DIFFERENT SCHOOLS IN THE WESTERN AREA.**

The DISCET school counseling continues in the western area of Sierra Leone. This move by DISCET is more appreciated now than ever before as Kush intake by youths is on the rampage. Kush is a deadly drug that has claimed the lives of thousands of youths in Sierra Leone. The intake of this deadly drug has so spread that even school going pupils are affected thereby leaving a serious threat on the next generation. The intake of this drug has been widespread to the point the government of Sierra Leone declared a state of emergency on it use and other harmful drugs.

The school counseling drive has greatly helped in the fight against Kush in schools. This preventive counseling drive in schools has helped reduce the intake of Kush within the school domain especially those schools engaged by DISCET.

## **6. DISCET DONATES ESSENTIAL UTILITY ITEMS TO TWO CORRECTIONAL CENTERS IN FREETOWN**

DISCET on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 paid a courtesy Call at the Male and Female Correctional Centres in Freetown and donated to them essential daily items like toiletries, pure drinking water, batteries for their P.A. System and a lectern from where they will be preaching in their chapel. One Hundred and twenty (126) inmates, ten (10) babies and eleven (11) correctional officers from the male and female correctional centres in Freetown benefited from this donation. The donation was to the tune of Fifty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred and Fifty Leones ( SLL 56,950.00) which is equivalent to Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$ 2,500.00 USD). This money was raised at the Fairhaven United Methodist Church in the United States of America by Mrs. Becky Davies-Venn, a member of the SAVE USA group.



## **7. DISCET CELEBRATES 28 YEARS OF EFFECTIVE MINISTRY IN SIERRA LEONE**

DISCET celebrates twenty-Eight years of ministry to the people of Sierra Leone and abroad. The thanksgiving service took place at the King Memorial United Methodist Church, Regent Road in Freetown. The theme for this year's celebration is, "Come Over and Help Us" taken from the book of Acts 16:9.

The attendance to this year's Thanksgiving Service was very encouraging, compared to the past few years. Many Friends of DISCET attended the service.

The preacher was the Rev. Paul Sadrie Turay who preached on the Macedonian call. He made a solemn call to all in attendance to rise up and help DISCET have their own administrative building where every other programme will be launched

from in the future. He ended his sermon with a Macedonian call to all in attendance to pledge towards the building of the DISCET Secretariat. Some people received the call and pledged towards the building project.

### **CHALLENGES TO PRAY ALONG SIDE WITH US (DISCET)**

A midst all we are doing, much would have been done if the challenges below were not the deterring factors. We are kindly asking you to pray alongside us for a solution to these factors;

#### **1. FUNDING TO CONTINUE THE DISCET DISTRICT CO-ORDINATORS TRAINING IN MAKENI**

The dream for DISCET to reproduce itself in the provinces is set to be accomplished through the training of residents in those districts. Having boots on the ground to help address the emotional needs of the people in those districts will yield great results. This training started last year and we have finished one of the two years courses that is to equip them for the job. We have ran short of funding for the remaining one year which will run in July and December this year. We need a total of \$ 3,700.00 USD to complete the course with 24 counselors in training from seven districts in the North-East Region of Sierra Leone. Kindly pray along with us for open doors of financial provision

#### **2. DISCET NEEDS A VEHICLE FOR ITS FIELD ACTIVITES**

Mobility to carryout DISCET activities in the provinces is also of a great need to DISCET. The current vehicle DISCET is currently using was bought in 2009 as a second hand vehicle. This vehicle have served its lifespan and is now frequently taken to garage for repairs. Our last trip to Makeni with was challenging. A one hundred and fifteen miles journey lasted us twelve hours on the road. The car was frequently breaking down. Kindly pray for us for a replacement of this car.

#### **3. DISCET NEEDS TO MOVE OUT OF RENTED PREMISES**

As the rent for its Secretariat continue to increase year after year, it is expedient that DISCET do all it can to move out of rented premises now that God has blessed them with their own property.

The building of the DISCET Secretariat will be done in phases. The first phase is from foundation to the first floor. This phase costs \$ 70,000/00 USD. Kindly pray with us for open doors of provision.

Faithfully Compiled by:

Rev. Steven A. Mahoney  
Director, DISCET SL

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