September 2021 Featured Project

Inspiring powerful voices and community development in Sierra Leone
Introducing OneVillage Partners

Nurturing Opportunities for Women (NOW)

• Catalyzes transformation in rural Sierra Leone
• Creates change at the community level
• Equips women with life skills and community development tools
About Sierra Leone

• Population 6.8 million
• Most employed in agriculture
• Source and destination for refugees
• 60% of population under 25
• Only 21% use contraception
• High infant, child, and maternal mortality
• Shortage of schools and teachers
Life Challenges

For women in the Kailahun district

• 61% lack formal education, 29% are literate
• Less than half decide how to use their earnings
• Marginalized, the result of traditional culture and colonialism
• Have little control over income
• Excluded from household and community decision-making
The Project

Addresses persistent challenges to women’s financial literacy and empowerment

Phase One – NOW: Strengthening Household Finances
• participants learn to plan and manage finances to reach goals and inform decision making

Phase Two – NOW: Business Skills
• focuses on developing and expanding a business

IMPACT 240 DIRECT BENEFICIARIES (WOMEN) & 5,000 INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES (HALF THE POPULATION OF THE ISOLATED COMMUNITIES SERVED)
The Project

• Entirely picture-based curriculum teaches basic financial principles

• Involves husbands and families in problem solving

• Community-based project

• Values social cohesion, inclusive leadership, gender equality, and resilience
## Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel – Salaries</td>
<td>Salaries for trained staff</td>
<td>$13,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel – Benefits</td>
<td>Payroll taxes, health insurance and benefits, retirement, housing/rental allowance, staff travel allowance benefit, rural living allowance, annual leave allowance, end of year bonuses, paid leave</td>
<td>$8,191</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel and transportation</td>
<td>Local travel expenses between OVP offices and partner communities</td>
<td>$2,336</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies, Expenses, Contract Services</td>
<td>Office and program supplies, meetings, telephone and communications, printing and copying</td>
<td>$2,414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities and equipment</td>
<td>Sierra Leone-based office rental, utilities, maintenance and repair, equipment</td>
<td>$1,220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>Miscellaneous expenses</td>
<td>$2,681</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$30,000</td>
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</table>
About OneVillage Partners

• Began work in 2006 to help displaced refugees return home

• Encourages inclusive leadership, social cohesion, gender equity, resilience, and improved well-being for all

• Builds capacity of rural communities to lead their own development through three interconnected programs
  
  o **Nurturing Opportunities for Women (NOW)**
  
  o **Community Action Program**: trains volunteer leaders to identify and address community problems
  
  o **The Lead Program**: allows rural leaders to enhance leadership skills, connect and execute collaborative development projects
Share your thoughts

• Explain the changes that might occur in families whose fathers come to disagree with the statement: “If a woman has power in the household, it means she is taking power away from her husband.”

• How might the ripple effect of the NOW program present itself in families, the broader community, schools, and beyond?

• In what other subjects could a picture-based education benefit women and girls?
September 2021 Sustained Grantee

Community Cloud Forest Conservation

Q’eqchi’ women: leaders in education and agroecology

- In remote area of Guatemala
- Aims to improve educational access for women and girls
- Addresses key challenges women and children face
Community Cloud Forest Conservation

Direct Impact: 9,840 women and girls

Indirect Impact: 22,200 family members

Three project components:

• Additional coordinators expand breadth and impact

• Female family members of participants invited to participate in condensed workshops to learn agroecology leadership

• Community Health, Nutrition and Agroecology workshops open to all interested women