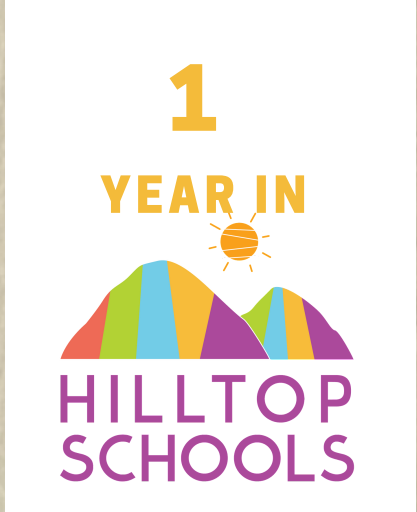


To the World
You may be
ONE PERSON,
BUT TO ONE PERSON
You may BE
the WORLD

Doodle Art Files ©



**2019-2020
ANNUAL
REPORT**



**HILLTOP SCHOOLS EXISTS TO
PROVIDE LIBERIA'S MOST
VULNERABLE CHILDREN ACCESS
TO QUALITY EDUCATION,
HEALTHCARE AND PROTECTION.**



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ABOUT US

Hilltop Schools Inc. is a Liberian NGO that provides education, health, and protection to children in Liberia. We currently manage 19 schools in Liberia -- serving over 3,300 students, who come from vulnerable and low-income backgrounds. Our girls' Academy, located in Central Monrovia, serves girls mostly from West Point, a large, urban slum community. All of the girls who attend the Academy are selected based on vulnerability and need, usually coming from single or no parent households, and who would not be able to attend school otherwise. 260 girls ages 4 to 20 attend our holistic, tuition-free Academy, from kindergarten to 9th grade. We support our alumni on scholarships through high school. We also partner with the Ministry of Education to support 18 public primary schools in Bomi, Gbarpolu, and Monserrado counties. These schools are based in communities and provide free education to all children.

MISSION & VISION

To educate children to become the future leaders of Liberia. Hilltop Schools supports children's rights to education, health, and protection.

OUR VALUES

Accountability: We are responsible to do our best and work our hardest to ensure children are safe, healthy, and learning.

Integrity: We are honest and act according to strong moral principles. We follow our policies and procedures to ensure the dignity, respect, and safety of all.

Teamwork: We work together to run effective, excellent programs for safety, health, and education. We respect each other.

Equality: We treat everyone with fairness. We ensure that all students, staff, and community members are supported with opportunities to thrive.

Gratitude: We show appreciation for each other and for the opportunity that we have to grow and learn every day.

Empathy: We seek to understand how others feel and experience the world. We design our programs to meet the unique circumstances of our students and communities, listening and seeking to understand their needs and desires. We care about our students, our team, and our country. We nurture each other's growth and well-being.



MESSAGE FROM

FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear friends and supporters,

Happy birthday to Hilltop Schools! Certainly, this has been a year not only filled with excitement, accomplishments, growth, but also many challenges on our quest to deliver the best education, healthcare, and protection to over 3,000 students.

One year ago, on July 1, 2019, Hilltop was established by a group of dynamic leaders, uniquely qualified to undertake the critical task of establishing a new organization to ensure the continued and improved support for the children formerly supported by More Than Me Foundation. Starting an organization is formidable in itself; however, doing this with a tarnished past makes the tasks even more arduous and vital.

In light of all of this, one common thread remained the unifying factor: our resolve to provide high quality services in areas of education, health and protection to our students. It is my belief that each team member unofficially practices the profound expression of Mahatma Gandhi: "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Throughout the year, the newly formed Board of Directors provided the necessary leadership role in ensuring good governance structure and providing support to Hilltop's students, teams, and programs. True community support and insights come from the PTA leadership group, of whom 2 members form part of the Board of Directors.

Over the course of this year we have faced challenges to acquiring government accreditation and clearances, attracting donors and securing funding, renegotiating the partnership school program, and sensitizing public perceptions about our newly formed Hilltop Schools. The most recent event of COVID-19 has brought about perhaps the most impactful quagmire affecting the organization's approach to achieving our mission. Yet through this all, we have managed to overcome and remain focused on finding solutions in the best interest of the children that we serve.

For students, Hilltop Schools has brought an increased emphasis on safeguarding, the rights of children, and supporting our students with social work and counseling. Teachers, staff, students, and parents receive child protection training that establish the proper care, reporting, and treatment of children. Students have expanded access to extracurricular activities including press club, dance, soccer, health clubs, and home economics.

The story of Hilltop Schools is likened to the Phoenix, the ancient Greek folklore, which is a long-lived bird that dies, decomposes and is born again. With this regeneration, the Phoenix lives with a vengeance in strength and determination. Hilltop has established itself and is becoming stronger as an organization. We will continue to climb the hill, and as we ascend, the incline becomes easier and less challenging. I have 100 percent surety that we will get there; so, come on Hilltop, let us reach the TOP!

**Margretta Smith General
Executive Director**

A young woman with dark skin and braided hair is smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark blue polo shirt and a light-colored, pleated skirt. She is holding a large, rectangular blue sign in front of her chest with both hands. The sign has the word "EMPATHY" written on it in large, bold, white, sans-serif capital letters. The background consists of a light green wall on the left and a bright green wall on the right, with a window visible in the green area. The floor appears to be dark wood paneling.

EMPATHY

More than Me Academy alumni are on scholarship at Ricks Institute and other top high schools in Liberia.

Lessons Learned from MTM

Hilltop Schools is a phoenix rising from the ashes of More Than Me (MTM). Extensive reports and audits of MTM showed that there were critical issues with governance, reporting, hiring process, and policy that enabled sexual abuse to proliferate. Hilltop Schools has taken the failings into account and designed our organization with this in mind.

MAJOR CHANGES

1 All Liberian Staff & Board of Directors

Our staff is led by strong, Liberian women. Our board is all Liberian, including two parents and community representatives. Read about our Board of Directors & Staff at [our website](#).

2 Robust Safety Policy & Training

Hilltop Schools hired Sylvestine Gbessagee, a licensed Social Worker with 25+ years of experience, to lead our work as the Director of Safeguarding. She has built a team of Social Workers who are responsible for child protection training for teachers, parents, students, and local community leaders, as well as providing counseling to students and managing reports of abuse as it relates to child safety.

3 Support for Survivors

Survivors of sexual assault from MTM are supported. They each have long-term care plans that are both survivor-centered and focused on serving the best interest of these young women. They have ongoing social work and case management support that ensures each young woman is supported in her education, health, emotional well-being, and future plans for success.

4 Safe Space, Counseling & Safety Curriculum

At More Than Me Academy, we have made huge investments in our social work and safety departments to ensure every girl has access to counseling, safety education, life skills and values curriculum, ongoing case management, and a safe space on campus. We have three licensed social workers and a case manager managed by our Director of Safeguarding to provide support to all students at MTMA and their families.

5 Accountability

Our policies are in action across our schools. They are not just merely written documents, but living, breathing policies that are alive in our conversations, interactions, and growth as an organization. We are closely engaged with the Liberian Ministries and independent NGOs to ensure we are steadfast and responsible in our mission to protect children.

MAJOR MILESTONES

- Launched a new **locally-led** organization
- Secured Government **accreditation & clearances**
- Vetted, recruited and trained **35 teachers** back to our schools + **57 qualified employees** to Hilltop Schools
- Provided **education, basic health care, and child protection** services to nearly **3,300 students**
- Led **25 safeguarding and child protection trainings** with staff, parents, teachers, students, community leaders, and government officials
- Raised over **\$662,000** & have received pledges to support our programs next fiscal year
- Secured **52 scholarships** for our alumni!
- Launched **emergency COVID-19 response** support for our students and families

OUR PROGRAMS

More Than Me Academy

More Than Me Academy is an all girls, tuition-free private school established to provide education for girls in West Point and surrounding communities. Hilltop Schools assumed management of the Academy in July 2019. The students are selected based on need, and are often girls who would not have the opportunity to attend school because of the cost and their responsibility to support their families by selling or taking care of siblings. At the Academy students are provided two meals daily, quality education, basic health care, health insurance, access to psycho-social services, a safe space social work office, and many other enrichment and empowerment programs. Our students learn confidence and the skills they need to succeed as leaders in their communities and the country. They have been commended by the Vice President of Liberia as some of the most resilient and courageous young women she has met.

Partnership Schools

Hilltop Schools manages 18 government primary schools through Liberia's Education Advancement Program (LEAP), a collaborative program designed by the Ministry of Education to allow NGO's to support government schools. Hilltop Schools provides supplies, curriculum, teacher training, progress monitoring, and safety and health programs across all of our LEAP schools. Children attend school free of charge and Hilltop Schools engages with PTAs and village chiefs to ensure all children, especially girls, attend school.

Scholarship

Hilltop Schools runs a scholarship program for all graduates of the Academy. During 9th grade, students at The Academy prepare for high school, practice for the WAEC exam, and engage with leaders in business, entrepreneurship, health, and government to envision their own futures. Hilltop Schools supports them as they gain admittance to top high schools where they will continue to pursue their dreams. The first 9th grade class graduated from The Academy this year, with 14 students attending to Ricks Institute and 8 students choosing to attend CWA.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

257

GRADES

Pre-K to 9th Grade

LOCATION

Monrovia, Liberia

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

3028

GRADES

Pre-K to 6th Grade

LOCATION

Montserrado, Bomi & Gparpolu Counties

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

52

GRADES

10th - 12th Grade

LOCATION

Monrovia, Liberia

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

MTMA ENROLLMENT

257

Total number of students enrolled at the More than Me Academy

LEAP ENROLLMENT

3,028

18 rural primary schools, with an enrollment of 1,379 Females and 1,649 Males

Male
50.2%



Female
49.8%

SCHOLARSHIP

52

Total number of students on scholarship at various high schools in Monrovia.



EDUCATION

At Hilltop Schools, we provide high quality curriculum and learning assessments, teachers training, principal mentoring and school supervision to ensure students are learning the skills they need to succeed.

The education sector in Liberia has suffered serious governance and management challenges from the Liberian Civil War, which lasted from 1989 to 2003. The system has not recovered since then, and challenges were compounded by the 2014 Ebola epidemic, and now Coronavirus closures leading to limited access, gaps in learning and poor quality. There are half a million children out of school in Liberia and about 21% percent of children who start school do not complete primary education. There are huge variations in access and quality of education, with the poorest children from the most disadvantaged families bearing the greatest burden of the challenge.

The poor quality of education at the primary level has thousands of children leaving school without reading, writing and numeracy skills. Education remains underfunded due to inadequate national budgetary allocation to education. One third of the country's teachers are not qualified to teach. Schools are often overcrowded, lacking proper materials, understaffed, and operating without oversight and support from local or national authorities. Hilltop Schools was formed in the wake of the closure of More Than Me, accepting the challenge to keep providing quality education to students previously supported by MTM Foundation. For the past year,

we have been independently operating the More Than Me Academy, an all girls tuition-free school in Central Monrovia serving 257 girls. Under the Liberian Education Advancement Program in partnership with the Government of Liberia, we have also been managing 18 Public Primary schools in rural Liberia, namely Montserrado, Bomi and Gbarpolu Counties, providing quality education to 3,028 students. Our support in these public schools means that there are an adequate number of teachers, quality curriculum, teacher trainings, principal support, monitoring, health clubs, and safety trainings.



19

SCHOOLS

Hilltop Schools operates 19 schools including More Than Me Academy, an all girls, tuition free private school and 18 public schools run in partnership with the Ministry of Education through the LEAP program.



3028

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Of students across our network of schools. All of our students have access to free education, quality curriculum, trained teachers, and safeguarding training in their schools and communities



61

LEAP TEACHERS

In collaboration with our PTAs and school authorities, Hilltop Schools recruited, vetted and trained 61 pre-primary and primary teachers to work in our LEAP Schools.

STUDENTS ARE LEARNING MORE THAN EVER

A three year randomized control trial study of Liberia's LEAP program, showed learning gains, school management improvements, and increased attendance at schools overall.

Schools managed by MTM, and now Hilltop, had the highest growth in learning gains over 3 years, the biggest reduction in corporal punishment, and highest attendance rates.



3X

**LEARNING
EVERY YEAR**

Students at our schools are learning 3x more per year than students in regular government schools



86%

**STUDENT
ATTENDANCE**

Student attendance increased from an average of 44% to 86% across our schools.

[READ OUR SUMMARY ANALYSIS HERE](#)

GIRL RISING

JESSICA, GRADE 3

Jessica started the school year with many challenges: fighting with her peers, falling asleep in class, and failing her subjects. Her teacher referred her to the Girl's Circle Club for students at the Academy with behavioral issues.

Initially, Jessica was despondent - never sharing in the circle and continuously falling asleep. Our Director of Safeguarding, Sylvestine Gbessagee, and Jessica had a one-on-one session, which was the beginning of a brighter day.

Jessica opened up to Sylvestine about her world. Jessica lived with her aunt and cousins, and had to bring income to the home. Everyday she sold doughnuts before and after school, and all day on the weekend, as well.

Yet Jessica had dreams. She felt honored to be a student of More Than Me Academy. Jessica was interested in dancing, singing and making beads, but she never had time to do it. Sylvestine asked Jessica to join our extracurricular program, which includes dance and crafts. Jessica looked excited, but said, "I just don't have time for that now."

Sylvestine held a conference with Jessica's aunt, thanking her for allowing Jessica to come to school and giving her a home. They discussed challenges and ways Jessica could improve her grades and attitude. They negotiated selling days, down to only Saturdays so that Jessica would be rested for school and would be able to join the extracurricular program. Now, Jessica is a proud member of the dance team, has made the honor roll twice, and is the first recipient of the Safety team's "Girl Rising" award for her growth!





SHINING SCHOOLS

LOWOMA PUBLIC SCHOOL

The Lowoma Public School was established February 2, 1997 by the loving and peaceful people of Lowoma Town. The town is located some six kilometers from the provincial city of Bopolu in Gbarpolu County, one of the least developed counties in Liberia in terms of road infrastructure, business, education, technology. The Lowoma Public School was initially built by the community leaders using mud bricks and palm straws.

Currently, the school is managed by Hilltop Schools in partnership with the Government of Liberia under the Liberian Education

Advancement Program (LEAP) to implement all education programs activities. The school's current enrollment is 99 students (54 boys and 45 girls). It is a Primary School running from Kindergarten to Grade 6, with 9 teachers, with one serving a dual role as principal. Two of these 9 teachers are females. Since entering into partnership with MTM and now Hilltop Schools, Lowoma has had increased support for materials, training, and has established a health station and school health club.

In 2019, Aaron Gbessay was appointed Principal of Lowoma

Public School by the County Education Officer, following 5 years working as a teacher in the school. Lowoma students came first in the Gbarpolu county Quiz Competition. The community and PTA are proud of their school and are working to build an additional classroom, because Lowoma's good reputation is attracting students from the neighboring villages and thus increasing enrollment.

Lowoma Public School has the BEST learning outcomes in our entire school network this year. Go Lowoma!



HEALTH

We provide onsite health care and health education to ensure students are healthy and able to learn.

In Liberia, many children are unable to reach the top of their full potential because of illness and disease. One in eleven Liberian children dies by age 5. Access to healthcare in rural communities is often impeded by distance, access to medicine, and cost. Children are dying of preventable or treatable illness. Poor access to health care and low levels of health awareness have taken their collective toll. Low health in students can interfere with schooling, cause educational setbacks and overall lower educational attainment.

At Hilltop Schools, our school health stations treated 1309 students in the

past year. By receiving health care at school, students are able to identify illnesses earlier, receive adequate care and continue learning.

We started the School Health Clubs, so that students can learn about communicable, treatable, and preventable illness and are empowered to spread this knowledge to their families and communities. Our students learn about their health, their rights, and how to keep themselves well. In the time of Coronavirus this basic understanding of disease has been helpful and has empowered students with the knowledge to curb the spread of the virus.

For girls, this has an even greater effect. Education about menstrual and reproductive health help girls advocate for themselves, and can impede pregnancy, which drives high dropout rates for girls across Liberia. Access to a trusted healthcare worker allows girls to get access to care for STIs and other issues that can have long-term effects on their health. By educating both girls and boys, we are providing the knowledge and tools, to dispel harmful cultural norms and inaccurate beliefs about health that often disproportionately harm and marginalize girls and women.



12

HEALTH STATIONS

Number of health stations across 18 schools



1309

NUMBER OF CASES TREATED

Students accessed the health stations for illnesses including malaria, diarrheal disease, respiratory infections, and skin rashes that otherwise would have gone untreated.



100%

VISIONS SCREENING

All 257 MTMA students were screened for vision problems.



2980

DEWORMING

So far we have successfully dewormed all students at 17 out of our 19 schools.



4 hours into Liberia's countryside, on red rolling dirt roads, through thick palm forests, the Hilltop Team arrived to school during lunch time. We were greeted by Marcus, President of the Student Health Club. He requested that upon arriving on campus, "Visitors, please wash your hands."

Our industrious health team is running 12 health stations at the highest need school communities, and has school health clubs at all 18 schools. The student clubs, support students to learn about common illness and preventative measures to reduce illness. They share their new knowledge, and educate their families and communities. Our health stations at each school are staffed by Community Health Assistants, who provide basic health care at our schools.

[WATCH A VIDEO INTERVIEW WITH MARCUS HERE](#)



SAFETY

We embed safeguarding and child protection in all aspects of our work and organization. We train teachers, principals, PTA, and community to ensure the rights of a child are understood and protected.

A staggering 63% of all women and girls in Liberia are illiterate, with over 60% of girls out of school. Sexual exploitation and rape is pervasive nationwide. 38% of girls are pregnant by the age of 15, a common cause of drop out - which limits their chances of economic security. Child marriage and FGM are still practiced. National justice and protection systems in the country are failing - even when instances of rape and abuse are reported, perpetrators are rarely punished, and so the cycle continues. Given the legacy of abuse at MTM, Hilltop Schools has differentiated itself and adapted to the challenges

by building a robust Safeguarding and Child Protection program that addresses issues of abuse and neglect at every level. From individual student counseling, to staff, parent, and community training, to reporting pathways, and case management, our team of licensed social workers ensure that child safety is centered in every interaction, program, and person at Hilltop Schools. This year our Safety team made a total 6432 contact hours with students and parents benefiting from direct services and an additional 660 service hours for training. Our training includes a deep dive on

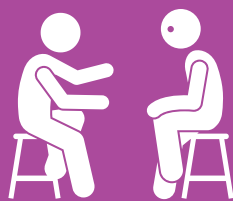
the rights of children, Children's Law of Liberia, Ministry of Education Code of Conduct, what abuse is, how to identify abuse, duty to report, reporting procedures, appropriate interactions with children, and positive behavior interventions. Direct services include individual, and family counseling, parenting courses, specialized student group sessions, home visits, safe space interventions, character and moral education and life skills curriculum for all students. Students also participate in extracurricular activities, organized by the Safety team and field trips.



660

HOURS OF CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

All Staff, students & PTA members received Safeguarding and Child Protection Training this year.



234

SOCIAL WORK INTERVENTIONS

This includes all individual therapeutic support, home visits, counseling,.



12

GROUP INTERVENTIONS

Group counseling and skill-building sessions to help students with similar psychosocial challenges build self-esteem and confidence.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



Hilltop School team arrived in Bombomma to a lively 1st grade teacher, Ms. Yorgbor cold calling her students to fill in vowel sounds on words that she had written on the chalkboard.

Across the classroom was a poster sheet we couldn't help but notice. It was covered in "Green Words." Green words are positive and encouraging words or names we encourage teachers and parents to call their children. When we asked the teacher about it, she ran to find the "Red Word" sheet, tucked away on the shelf, that has the negative, harmful words we discourage them from using. As part of the safety training, all teachers, parents and students are taught about Green Vs. Red words with the intention of developing students self-esteem and safe learning environments.

During our check in at Bombomma, we were informed that the 7th and 8th graders wanted to speak with our Executive Director. Flomah, a 7th grader, approached Margretta, holding the pamphlet from our safeguarding training outlining the Children's Law of Liberia. Her thesis, citing point 3.9 of the Children's Law of Liberia, was that it is a child's right to a good education and the national teacher shortage is impeding their ability to learn at the highest capacity. She asked us to appeal to the government and do more to ensure her school had an adequate number of teachers. This is the power of knowing your rights. This is the power of student voice. This is also a major challenge we face in terms of operating at a reduced budget and trying to build a program that runs at a sustainable cost, in partnership with government that is unable to add more teachers to its payroll. As a group, LEAP providers are trying to address this issue we are facing across our schools.



GROWING LEADERS

JOETTA, Grade 10 at Ricks Institute

Growing up in the slum community of West Point, I never imagined I would one day be going to one of the best boarding high schools in Liberia. I graduated from the More Than Me Academy last year, and received a scholarship through Hilltop Schools and Jewel Starfish Foundation to study at the Ricks Institute. This would not have been possible without the education and support I received at More Than Me Academy. At the More Than Me Academy, I learned to think critically and to pay it forward. I gained values of confidence, resilience and sisterhood.

Transitioning to Ricks was a breath of fresh air after growing up in West Point. I was excited that for the first time, I was out of an environment with so many negative stereotypes and daily challenges.

When I returned home for Christmas break last year, my best friend Sharon had gotten pregnant and dropped out of school. Many teenagers like myself in West Point get pregnant and end up ending their education, if they are lucky enough to even start. Another childhood friend, Abraham who was very smart had started taking drugs.

Seeing what had happened to two of my good friends was disheartening. I said to myself, I will never go back to West Point when school closes for vacation. I did not want to end up the way my friends Sharon and Abraham had. But then again, I remembered that Hilltop Schools is providing me an opportunity to be the change I seek in my community. I am therefore committing myself to pay it forward and be a positive role model whenever I return to my community.



CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

Health Clubs across our 18 schools have prepared students with knowledge and basic understandings of disease to protect themselves & educate their families. We're ramping up the strong foundation with more training, remote learning, and supplies.



HEALTH EDUCATION

All students and their families are educated and sensitized about the Coronavirus symptoms, precautions, and risks.



SANITARY SUPPLIES & FOOD

Each family at MTMA is receiving handwashing materials & monthly food provisions to stay safe and fed during the pandemic.



REMOTE LEARNING

Our education team is preparing bi-weekly learning packets for students and we are working with the MOE to engage in radio learning.



PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT

Our social work team is continuing to case manage serious cases, conducting telephone check-ins for students and are providing coping and parenting advice to families.



My name is Jugbeh Sunday. I want to tell you a story about myself. I am 16 years of age and in the seven grade I am a Kru girl. I was born in Liberia, Monrovia, West Point. I was abandon by my father when I was in my mother womb. My mother struggle hard to take good care of me. My mum never had hard to sent me to school. Because she was a single parent, all she had was to sell banana to buy food for me to eat and have a good health.

"I want to tell you a story about myself. I am 16 years of age in the seventh grade and. I am a Kru girl. I was born in Liberia, Monrovia, West Point. I was abandoned by my father when I was in the womb. My mother struggled hard to take good care of me. She never had enough money to send me to school because she was a single parent. She had to sell bananas all day to buy food for me to eat and have good health. I stayed home all day and did nothing, until I found More Than Me Academy.

My mother always told me what you are born into does not determine what is within you. She told me that as long as there is life, there is hope. The last advice my mom gave me was this, "Every powerful person has experienced a painful beginning, so if your beginning was painful, always remember that you are just on the path to becoming powerful."

Jugbeh, Grade 7 at More Than Me Academy



CHALLENGES

COVID19 & LEARNING

Coronavirus has upended most of how we think about our regular ways of doing things. Students have been out of school for four months, and while we have continued learning through take home packets, we know it is inadequate compared to daily, thoughtful instruction. The government-led radio programs' efficacy is uncertain. We do not know how or when school will reopen, and so we must explore ways to continue learning from afar, in the absence of widespread access to technology for most of our students. Our lead educators are undergoing a training to strengthen their training on remote and distance learning methods.

TEACHER SHORTAGE & PAY

The Government of Liberia is currently facing challenges in paying government teachers. Without consistent pay for teachers, their attendance falters, negatively impacting learning outcomes. Due to the government's inability to pay teachers, school fees are increasing to cover compensation for teachers, making school even more unattainable for the poorest families. Our schools remain free for families, but we have had to adjust our budgets to ensure pay for more honorarium teachers and advocacy and incentives for government teachers to continue to teach.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Our staff was reduced this year due to funding constraints. Team members are working to cover multiple programs sometimes without the staff support or leadership that they need to thrive.

LOGISTICS

A number of our schools are incredibly remote. The cost and challenge to reach these schools for regular monitoring and support is a huge challenge.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Hilltop Schools is a new organization, born from the complicated legacy of MTM. We are working hard to establish new partnerships and build trust with community, funders, and the general public.



POSSIBILITIES

NEW MODELS

While COVID19, is certainly devastating in Liberia and globally, we recognize that it is a current challenge that we must rise to meet. We are involved in learning collectives with other education organizations, and government working groups to explore how we can adapt to ensure student learning continues while schools are closed, and that we have systems in place to prevent the spread of the virus, and ensure students have the support they need to accelerate their learning once schools do reopen. While this is a challenge, we also see it as an opportunity to explore alternative and accelerated learning possibilities.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our students are powerful. This year our first full graduating class is entering 10th grade. We know that their potential is unlimited and that they are hungry for opportunities to explore post-secondary options, and start driving change in their communities. We are investing in an entrepreneurship club at the Academy that will support students' visions for businesses and social impact projects in their communities. We also know that students need inspiration, support, and role models to help them set and achieve their dreams, We are working to create a pathway so that our alumni have ample opportunities for mentorship, internship, and guidance on their journey.

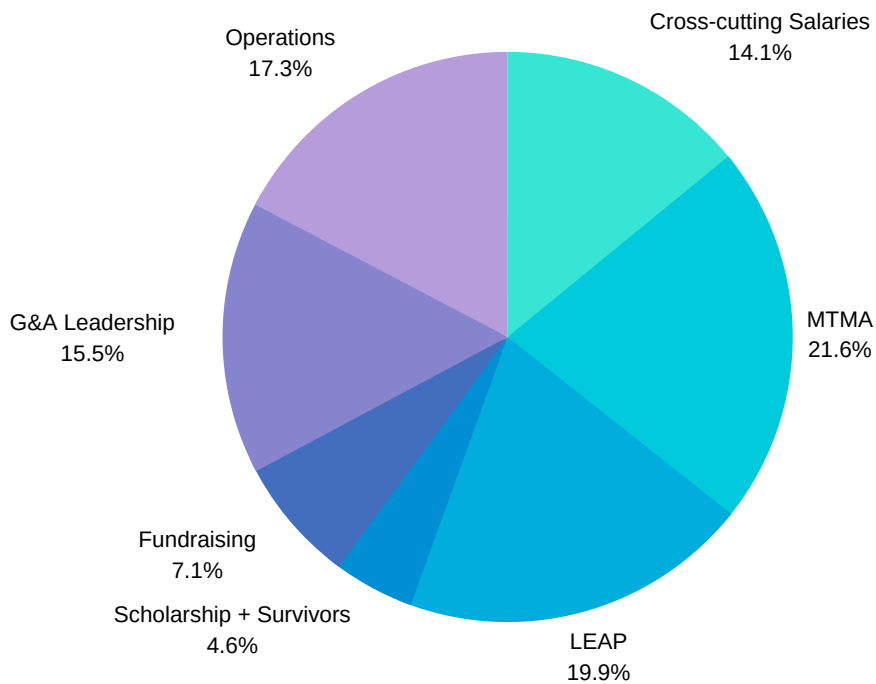
BRIGHT FUTURES

While government support and funding are challenges, we can view these roadblocks as an opportunity to explore different earned revenue models and new possibilities for our students. We are currently conducting an assessment to understand the feasibility of Hilltop Schools launching a private high school to meet the needs of our alumni and serve as a top, high quality private school that admits students outside of MTMA for a fee. We are also looking to best practices to understand how we can support our LEAP schools with more cost effective interventions.

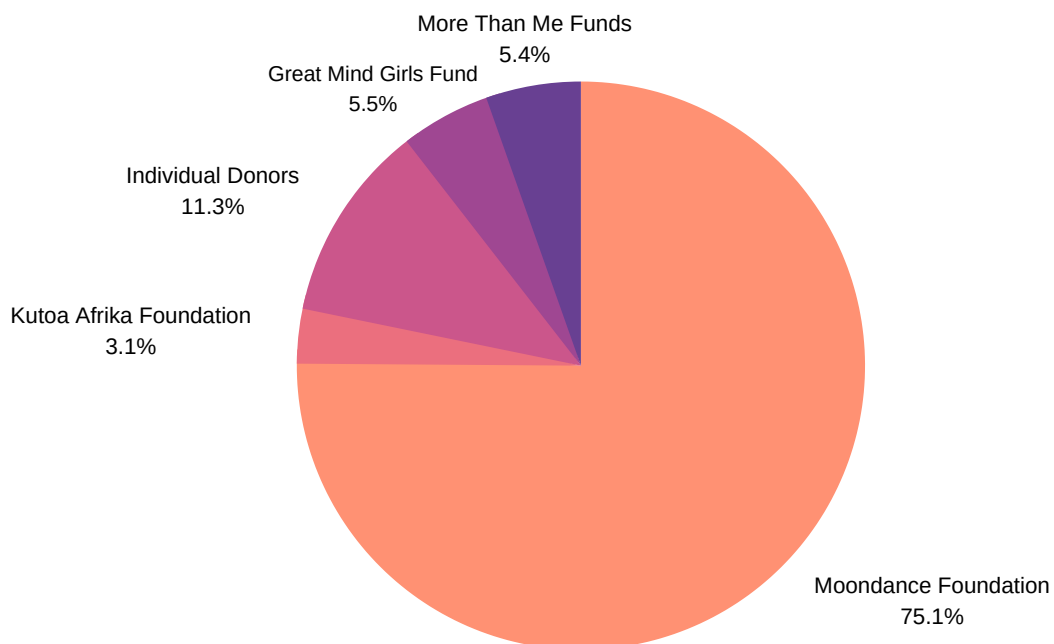
Financials

Hilltop Schools is a financially responsible organization, operating with the goal of having at least six months of cash on hand to ensure the continuous operation of our schools. Our spending aims to drive the most amount of resources to programs and support that most benefit our students. Our finance department and Senior Management Team work closely with the Board Finance Committee to set annual and long term financial goals and plans, and establish mechanisms for monitoring financial performance.

ORGANIZATIONAL SPENDING



FUNDRAISING FOR FY 20



DONORS & PARTNERS



GLOBAL
SCHOOLS
FORUM



JOIN US ON OUR JOURNEY TO THE TOP

We dream of a future where all children in Liberia are safe, healthy, and learning. We envision these children as capable, compassionate, strong leaders for a prosperous Liberia. We know that the investments that we make in our children today, will create the future we dream of. Is this your dream too? Do you believe in the abounding potential and brilliance of our children?

Join us to help them reach the top:

- Join our [mailing list](#) to stay up to date on the progress and success of our students
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (@HilltopSchoolsLiberia) for student stories an inspiration.
- Contribute to a child's future. [Donate today](#) to ensure she has what she needs to develop into a future leader!
- Share this report by sending this link (<https://www.hilltopschoools.org/updates>) to some friends who might be interested in learning about what we do
- Check out our [jobs](#) & if you fit the bill apply to be a part of our team!
- Other ideas? Connect directly with our team at hi@hilltopschoools.org

