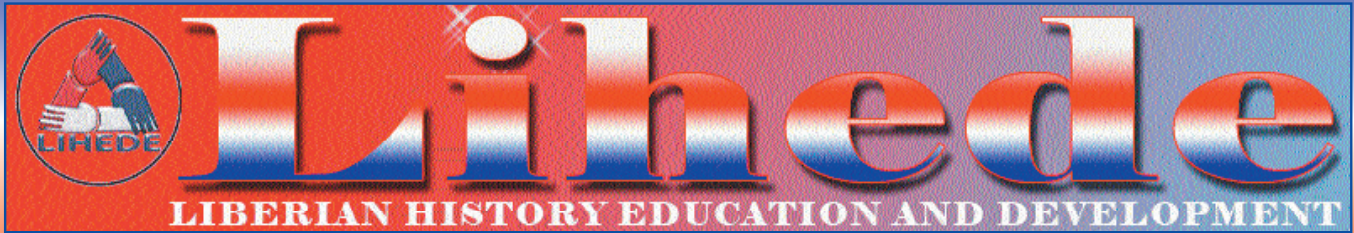


Culture-Driven Malaria Goes to Bong County



“Culture-Driven Malaria Program”



December 15-16, 2007
Gbarnga, Bong County, Liberia

Theme:

“Using Sporting Events and Cultural Activities for Malaria Awareness”

Conference jointly sponsored by North Carolina A&T State University & the Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc. (LIHEDE) in collaboration with Bong County, Liberian Ministries of Health & Social Welfare, Ministry of Youth & Sports, Firestone Natural Rubber Company, USAID, Liberia Agricultural Company (LAC), Liberia Environmental Watch (LEW), Malaria Foundation International, Cuttington University of Liberia, Dakar Etoiles Travel & Tours, African Alliance of RI, and United Bong County Association in the Americas.

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Greensboro, NC: 11/15/2007: The second “Culture-Driven Malaria Program” awareness program organized by LIHEDE in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and other partners is expected to be held on December 15-16, 2007 in Gbarnga, Bong County, Liberia.

The first official “Culture-Driven Malaria Program” was held in the port of city of Buchanan, Grand Bassa County on August 11, 2007 characterized with radio panel discussion, town hall meetings and climaxed with a soccer match between Grand Bassa County Team (Bassa Defenders) and LIHEDE sponsored US and Liberia based malaria soccer team (Club Bassa). Legislative and local officials of Grand Bassa County graced the events with their presence and expressed their support for the LIHEDE “Culture –Driven Malaria Program”.

Other collaborators of this cultural-based initiative to combat malaria in Liberia are Ministry of Youth & Sports, Firestone Natural Rubber Company, Liberia Environmental Watch (LEW), Malaria International Foundation, Cuttington University of Liberia, African Alliance of RI, and Dakar Etoiles Travel & Tours.

As the initiative gains momentum it continues to attract prominent individuals, community leaders and organizations. The Liberia Agricultural Company (LAC) has joined the list of recent institutions interested in partnering with LIHEDE in the fight against the deadly, but curable disease, malaria. Dr. Samuel Bennett, Plant Manager-LAC has offered to host the next LIHEDE’s Conference on malaria, the environment, and occupational & health.

It can be recalled that on December 14-19, 2006 LIHEDE hosted the first post-war National Malaria Conference on the main campus of the University of Liberia in Monrovia in collaboration with governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the Liberian Ministries of Health and Social Welfare, Youth and Sports, Information, and Cultural Affairs and Tourism; BNetTV.com of Canada; US-based Congress of Racial Equality; United Nations General Assembly (President); United Nations Millennium Project; US-based Kill Malaria Mosquitoes Now Coalition; West Coastal Aerial Applicators, Inc.; Tr-Ac-Net consulting group; and AME University, Cuttington University in Liberia, and University of Liberia.

Those expected to grace the event in Bong County are prominent Liberians and friends of Liberia, including Hon. Ranney Jackson Superintendent, Bong County; Madame Jewel Howard, Sr. Senator, Bong County; Madame Esther Warbey, Mayor of Gbarnga City; Dr. Henrique Tokpa, President, Cuttington University; Minister Varbah Gayflor, Minister for Gender & Development; and Rev. Dr. Lawrence Bropleh, Minister of Information, Culture & Tourism, Bishop Dr. John G. Innis, United Methodist Church, RL.

Other officials of government in Liberia, national, county and civic organizations in the United States invited to attend the occasion are Hon. Kofi Woods, Minister of Labor; Dr. Edward McClain, Minister of State for Presidential Affairs; Hon. Ambulai Johnson, Minister of Internal Affairs; Hon David S. Menyongar, Chairman, National Election Committee; Dr. C. William Allen, Director, Civil Servant Agency;

Culture-Driven Malaria Goes to Bong County

Mr. James Tanu, Health Educator-USAID; Dr. Walter Gwenigale, Minister of Health & Social Welfares; Mr. Rufus, Karmoh, Director, Public Relations of Firestone; Mr. Andy Kear, Director, Public Relations, Liberia Agricultural Company; Miss. Patrice Juah, Miss Liberia; Hon. Brownie Samukai, Minister of Defense, Mr. John Flomo, President, United Bong County Association in the Americas (UBCAA) , and Mr. Emmanuel Weettee, National President of the Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas (ULAA) .

In a related development, Dr. Emmett Dennis, LIHEDE's Director of Health and Welfare, who is currently in Liberia, is meeting with Hon. Ranney Jackson, Superintendent of Bong County, Dr. Walter Gwenigale, the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Henrique Tokpa, President, Cuttington University and other prominent Liberians to consolidate more participation.

In the Meantime, the LIHEDE is extending invitation and appealing to members and well wishers of LIHEDE, sons and daughters of Bong County and friends of Bong County to financially support the upcoming conference or attend to make it a grand success.

Dr. Syrulwa Somah-LIHEDE Executive Director, who will be leading a delegation of LIHEDEANS and Friends of LIHEDE, will depart the United States very soon for Liberia for the Conference.

Sporting Events-Gbarnga Football Field:

- A. LAC Football Team vs. Bong County Football Team
- B. Winner of A vs. Club Bassa Football, Defending Champions

Lodging and Airline Information:

Special arrangement with [LIHEDE](#), Gbarnga Motel will provide lodging at a special rate of \$20. For reservation and further information please call LIHEDE at [336-456-8075](tel:336-456-8075).

Please make your reservations ASAP. The hotel is in the same city where the program will be held. Special arrangement with LIHEDE, Dakar Etoiles Travel & Tours at [212 684 8100](tel:212-684-8100); [866 343 2527](tel:866-343-2527); dakaretoiles@verizon.net) will serve as the official travel agency for the conference. All those flying to Liberia to attend the conference should contact Dakar Etoiles Travel & Tours.

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Conference Supporters:



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"The Voice of the Local African Community"



Firestone
NATURAL RUBBER COMPANY

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