

The Millennium Group (TMGF) Foundation Press Release

TMGF commits to support Akum Deaf School for 3 years

21st May 2008, Basingstoke, United Kingdom

TMG Foundation announces its commitment to support the Morning Star Deaf and Hard of Hearing Catholic Primary School in Akum, North West Province, Cameroon – for a period of 3 years.

- Funding will go for books and other essential Teaching Aids
- Funding will help create awareness in the villages on childhood deafness and help tech sign language for parents in the villages.
- TMGF will endeavour to "buddy up" this school up to UK equivalents, help lobby for Government funding and help them apply for external European grants as we have with CDEO based in Kumba Cameroon.

TMG Foundation has today announced it has committed to support the ONLY deaf school in a province of 3 million people in Cameroon – with no funding from the government – and for a period of 3 years commencing 2008. This move is strategically important to TMGF: helping in its own small way to address the marginalisation of the disabled in Cameroon. The school needs so much: infrastructure, books; dormitories, etc. – but TMGF is focusing its limited resources on books and awareness creation in the villages for signs of deafness, as well as teaching parents of deaf kids to be able to use sign language. TMGF will also "buddy up" this school with UK ones as well as help on grant applications.

Sister Charity Mbarah, Assistant Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Catholic Primary School Akum, noted that the first year's monies will go to "the purchase of books" and teaching aids and welcomed the commitment from TMGF.

Prof Sama Nwana of TMG Foundation noted: "The TMGF trustees truly take their mission of addressing the marginalisation of the disenfranchised in Cameroon seriously. For a whole province not to have a deaf school says it all about the lack of prioritisation given to such a needy part of society. We will do our utmost to raise this with the authorities"

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¹ www.tmg-foundation.org