



all as
one

Building futures in Sierra Leone



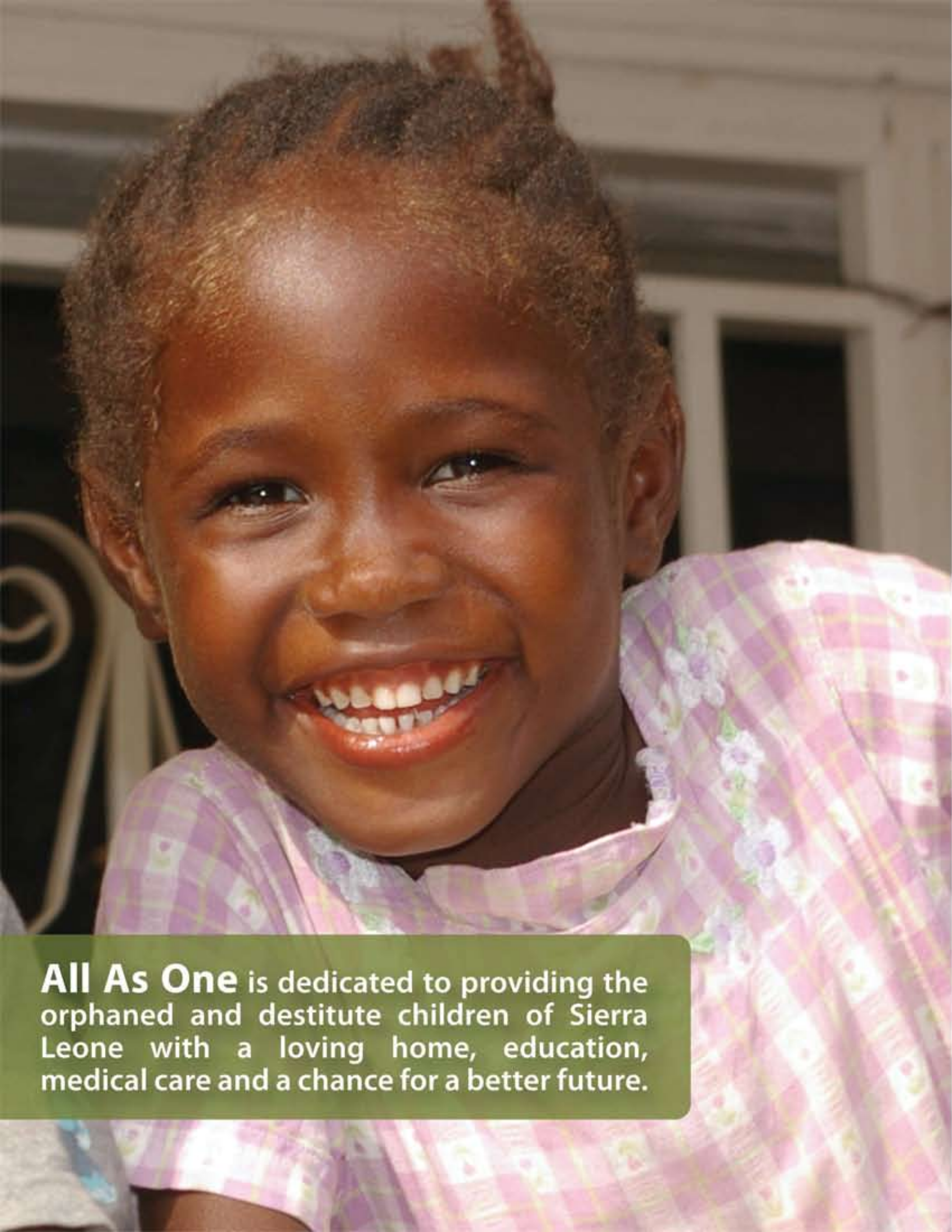
Sierra Leone has the world's highest infant mortality rate.



Sierra Leone has the world's highest maternal mortality rate.



Sierra Leone is ranked by the United Nations as the least developed country in the world.



All As One is dedicated to providing the orphaned and destitute children of Sierra Leone with a loving home, education, medical care and a chance for a better future.

The mission of All As One is to respond to the critical dilemma of children and young adults in Sierra Leone, who are orphaned, abandoned, abused, disabled, or destitute, and who have an urgent need for food, housing, education, and medical support.

Sierra Leone, a country in West Africa, recently emerged from civil war (1991-2002). Hundreds of thousands of civilians were killed, and innocent children lost their homes and families. Rebels chopped off the hands and feet of adults, teens, children and even infants, making this a symbol of their brutality. The United Nations did not seriously intervene until 1999. By that time, Sierra Leone was devastated. **Over 1/3 of the population was displaced. Over 50,000 were killed, and several thousand were left as amputees.**

All As One operates the All As One Children's Center, medical clinic and school in Freetown, Sierra Leone. At any given time we have fifty to seventy-five children in our direct care, with some eventually going into foster care or adoptive placements, and new arrivals coming in.

- The **All As One Children's Center** is an orphanage providing complete care to Sierra Leone's most vulnerable youth. Immediate intervention is needed to meet the urgent needs of the children, who face incredible odds for survival. They receive specific and appropriate help -- nutritionally, educationally, and medically. Caregivers are within arm's reach, and offer individual attention. For many children, this is the first real home they have ever had.
- The **All As One School** enrolls children living at the Center, providing pre-school, kindergarten, primary and junior secondary classes. Children are instructed in the subjects of English, Math, Literature, Social Studies, Science, Arts, and Physical Education. The school employs Sierra Leonean teachers, who bring cultural relevance to the lessons.
- The **All As One Medical Clinic** helps to keep Sierra Leonean children and families healthy, by providing preventative intervention and medical treatment. Our professionally staffed clinic gives much-needed medical assistance and treatment to all of the children in our care. We have registered nurses on staff, and doctors who help with the most serious cases. In addition, the on-grounds clinic is open to our staff and others from the community, who need assistance.

We employ approximately forty Sierra Leoneans, who work at the Children's Center, clinic and school. These paid staff positions include our Sierra Leone Country Director, nurses, teachers, administrators, after-school tutoring and support staff, child care workers, security staff, cooks, launderers, and janitors, who depend on All As One in order to earn a living to support their families. Outside of Sierra Leone, almost all of our staff is made up of volunteers, committed to making a difference to the children in our care.

All As One works to leave a positive and lasting legacy for future generations, by operating within the culture and community of Sierra Leone, to effect meaningful change.

All As One is a safe haven

All As One is the last chance for many children in Sierra Leone. We partner with Sierra Leone's Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, taking in children who have no parents, or whose parents are no longer able to provide for them. *There are no government-funded orphanages, which means that without All As One, these children could easily end up on the streets.*

One morning, a little boy was literally dropped into our care.

Everyone was busy with a project inside the orphanage, and even the gateman came in to help. When we heard loud crying from outside, we went to investigate. What we found was a beautiful toddler boy, who had been dropped over the concrete wall of our compound.

Steven Amara, All As One's Country Director in Sierra Leone, immediately tried to comfort the child, and spent time talking with him at the fence where he was dropped. There was no note attached to him, and the child could not tell us his name. He could not speak much at all, but was able to tell us that he was hungry. Within minutes, Steven was feeding him his first meal at the Center.

The little boy is now thriving at the Children's Center, happily learning and playing with his new brothers and sisters. *His unusual arrival was one more reminder of why the All As One Children's Center exists...*

We are here to care for the children of Sierra Leone, when no one else can or will.



Transforming babies' futures

All As One has a great impact in saving children's lives, through our rescuing of at-risk newborns, infants and toddlers. These babies arrive severely malnourished and need intensive care in order to survive. We have saved many by providing round-the-clock, quality care and medical attention that helps the babies to recover and become healthy, thriving children.



All As One cared for three-day-old premature twins, whose mother died shortly after their birth. The twins, a girl (pictured at left) and a boy, were dehydrated and malnourished upon arrival at the Children's Center.

Within just a few short weeks, the twins began to dramatically improve and gain weight. Pictured at right are the twins after being in All As One's care for 6 months.

Transforming the future of Sierra Leone

- Sierra Leone has the world's highest infant mortality rate. **1 in 4 children die before they reach the age of 5.** More than half of these children will die of preventable causes, such as diarrhea, malnutrition or dehydration.
- Sierra Leone also has the world's highest maternal mortality rate. **1 in 8 women are likely to die during childbirth,** compared to 1 in 2800 in developed countries.
- Sierra Leone is **ranked as the least developed out of 177 countries,** by the United Nations, based on factors such as life expectancy at birth, adult literacy rates, access to medical care, education, and a decent standard of living.

All As One is committed to changing these "last place" statistics for Sierra Leone. The following page will tell you how.



The future of All As One

All As One has purchased over six acres of land in Grafton, Sierra Leone, on the outskirts of the capital city of Freetown. This area has a large population of displaced and war-wounded children and families. In this ideal location, we have plans to build the new All As One:

- **Women and Children's Hospital** (with doctor training facility) – to target children, especially under the age of 5, and women of child-bearing years, in an effort to **improve the infant and maternal mortality statistics in Sierra Leone.**
- **School** – to provide primary, junior and senior secondary education, adult literacy classes, and vocational training, in an effort to change the fact that **Sierra Leone has one of the world's lowest adult literacy rates, at only 30%.**
- **Children's Center** – to provide homes for up to triple the number of children we are currently serving, in an effort to **rescue some of the estimated 340,000 orphans in Sierra Leone.**

We believe that by saving lives and empowering Sierra Leone's citizens to become self-sufficient, they will become catalysts for positive change within their country, so that the current "last place" statistics will greatly improve.

All As One operates entirely by individual and corporate donations. Without support, we would be unable to continue our work.

The children need your help

There are many ways in which you or your business can support the work of All As One, and provide hope for the future to the children of Sierra Leone. *Here are just a few:*

Sponsor the kids – For less than the price of a cup of coffee per day, you can change the life of a child. As a sponsor, you will receive a photo and information on a child whose life you have helped to save.

Build a future – Be a part of our expanded vision for All As One, and help us build a better home, school and medical center for the orphans of Sierra Leone on our new land. **This is an excellent way to exercise Corporate Social Responsibility, increasing the presence of your business in efforts to help a developing nation in need.**

Volunteer – We are always looking for people with passion and dedication. Whether it's hosting special fundraising events, getting your classroom involved, handing out flyers, or just talking to your friends about All As One – it will benefit the kids!

Special giving – Give a one-time gift or an annual sponsorship in honor of an occasion, or in memory of a loved one. This is a unique way to raise awareness, while helping the children.

For information about the above, or to learn about more ways to help, please visit our web site, or e-mail us at the addresses listed on the back cover of this booklet.

You can make a difference in the lives of these children.

Please join us.



We are seeking partners
to join with us in helping
the children of Sierra
Leone, West Africa.

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