

Liberian Ministerial Alliance in North America (LIMANA)

Interim President Report, May 28, 2016-Feb. 24, 2017

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: *for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.*" (Psalms 133:1-3, KJV)

This Psalms is the Biblical inspiration for my motivation and commitment to the formation of the Liberian Ministerial Alliance in North America (LIMANA). Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Our Lord, Savior and King in his farewell discourse to his apostles and disciples prayed for unity amongst believers-past, present and future (John 17:1-26). The Apostle Paul understood the power of unity and wrote extensively about it (1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:10-16). Our May 28, 2016 consultation in Philadelphia, PA was the first courageous step toward creating a forum for Christians ministers, ministries, churches and organizations to meet, build relationships, network, identify shared interest, commitments and seek avenue to work together for the greater good of Liberians in the Diaspora and our homeland.

That May 28, 2016 meeting of seventeen Liberians at Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Lansdowne, Pennsylvania laid the foundation for this historic assembly. That meeting convened after series of conference calls initiated by your humble servant. An interim leadership team of six persons was elected and mandated with specific responsibilities at the end of that Memorial Day weekend meeting. Among other things, we were charged with responsibilities of obtaining a Federal Tax Identification Number (EIN), incorporating LIMANA, opening a bank account, getting a domain name/website and organizing this first national assembly. I am very pleased to report on behalf of our team that we achieved all of the above and looking for to continuing our collective work in moving this organization to the next level set forth in our vision and mission statements.

Liberian Ministerial Alliance in North America (LIMANA)

Interim President Report, May 28, 2016-Feb. 24, 2017

Our seven months of working together as interim leadership reaffirmed for me the African Proverb that: *if you want to go fast, go alone! But if you want to go far, go together!* It is also a reality that we can do more working together to better serve our people, communities across the US than anyone of us or our respective organizations can do alone!

In light of the following, it is our conviction that it will take well respected team of leaders (officers and board) to move LIMANA into the future dreamed at its formation nine months ago. To this end, we recommend that the current leadership team be endorsed by this assembly to continue for another six month/year. Additionally, we recommend that an interim Board of Directors made of 5-7 persons (one from each registered organization represented here) to work with the interim executives in developing needed bylaws, policies/procedures and to organize the next assembly which will elect the officers and Board of Directors to serve LIMANA for the next 2-4 years.

I am reminded of these words spoken by a presenter at grant writing workshop I attended in Philadelphia years ago; *that it takes the best of us working with the blessed of us for the rest of us* to accomplish lasting success. Beloved in Christ, as Liberians and friends of Liberia let me remind us of these familiar words: *United We Stand and Divided We Fall* and that *In Union, Success is Sure*. Many of you reminded me of the sad reality of previous organizations like LIMANA that were birthed and had to die because of leadership struggles and missed placed priorities. I assured you that by the grace of Almighty God LIMANA will not be one of such organizations. I am confident that God who began this work with us will lead, direct and blessed us with all that we need to succeed, Jesus's Name. Let's remember that we owed it to generations before us, our own and those who will come after us to make LIMANA work. Shalom! **Rev. Dr. Moses Suah-Dennis, Interim President.**