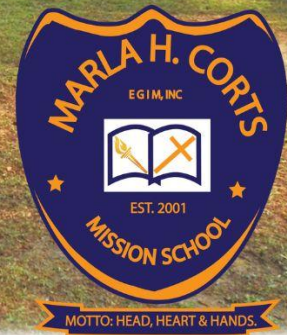


Marla H. Corts Mission School

CITY IN THE JUNGLE



Twenty-Four Years on the Mission Field

Marla H. Corts Mission School: The Ongoing Story of the City in the Jungle

Marla H. Corts Mission School (MHCMS) continues to be a beacon of light. Through a special grace of God, MHCMS was established in the obscure village of Dordeneewein, hidden deep under the canopy of the jungle in the Republic of Liberia, West Africa. The power of God has turned this physical space into a marvel, thereby making it known to by passers that God can transform the heart and lives of people who may feel forgotten.



The school got its start in 2001 in a village where most of the parents were illiterate. Due to the high rate of poverty, some parents could not afford to allow their children to attend school. This reality was coupled with the mindset that children are a workforce on the farm and necessary to sustain the family. However, a handful of those villagers who had seen the transformative force of an educated community sent their children, especially boys, to places like Monrovia to live with total strangers serving as wards in exchange for an opportunity to be educated. Unfortunately, many never succeeded. Most girls stayed home for domestic responsibilities, including early marriage. Nearly twenty-four years after the establishment of the Marla H. Corts Mission School, this mindset gradually began to change.

From the very beginning, community leaders welcomed the idea of a school and often provided their advice and attended PTA and community meetings in that regard. They also helped with major construction work on the school campus. After the first successful year of operation, the results of MHCMS had produced several benefits for the community that were consistent with unifying a vision for both evangelism and social transformation. The school:

Provided evangelism and discipleship – All the villagers had the opportunity to hear the message of salvation and were exposed to biblical training and backyard bible study, gradually turning their minds from traditional beliefs (animism, spiritism, and witchcraft) to a life of faith in Christ.

Provided economic empowerment – The existence of the school created a micro enterprise of programs for small scale entrepreneurs by establishing agriculturally based economic communities. The school provides a formal agriculture foundation that aims at job creation for a more self-sufficient, sustainable community and to produce surplus for the market. Marla H. Corts Mission School is a major employer in the community.

Provided stability for residents – The school became a point of attraction and a symbol of hope. Residents have become stakeholders and have taken pride in the development of their community. This has produced a desire to have their younger children stay home and attend school. Many who had left in previous years, are now returning because of the hope a Christian education brings.

Produced indigenous leadership development – By working together, providing sweat equity in assisting the school, the villagers have embraced the concept of community development and stretched the budget dollars. Through their participation they have provided essential manpower for cleaning dense forest land for expansion and capacity building. EGIM-Foundation has guided the community leaders in managing the Village's continuing growth and change through proactive public planning.

Grassroot Leadership Development:

The Marla H. Corts Mission School continues to raise up men and women who serve with integrity and distinction in various sectors of society.



began.

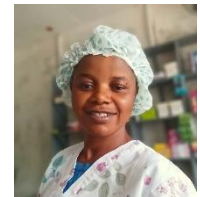
Mr. Alvin W. Gbarleh, a native son of the community where the school is located, was among its early students, attending from 2003 to 2009. A graduate with a BSc in Accounting, he now serves with the Eddie Gibson Interior Ministries (EGIM) Foundation, the organization that founded the school—as its Financial Officer and Payroll Manager. His role ensures smooth and accountable management of the school’s financial operations, reflecting both his professional expertise and his dedication to the place where his educational journey

Inspector Eddie G. Gibson Sumo likewise exemplifies the leadership values nurtured at Marla H. Corts Mission School. He attended from 2005 to 2007, drawing inspiration from a family deeply committed to the school. His father served as principal and his mother managed the school’s farm and convenience store. Today, Inspector Sumo holds a BSc in Law Enforcement and serves as Special Assistant (SA) to the Office of the Commander of the Special Support Unit (SPU) of the Liberia National Police. His accomplishments highlight both his personal discipline and the school’s role in shaping leaders prepared to impact their communities and nation.



Mr. Obadiah S. Tappeh II, a Registered Nurse and Midwife, is the Officer in Charge of the Tiah Town Clinic, Gbi-Doru Administrative District, Nimba County, Liberia. This health facility provides essential medical services for people across the region, demonstrating the school’s contribution to health care development. Obadiah is a 2005-2007 alum. He holds an Associate Degree in Nursing and Midwifery, and he is a BSc candidate in Nursing with Nimba University.

Ms. Lydia Kelleh attended Marla H. Corts Mission School from 2007 to 2021. She holds a Diploma in community Health Services. As a Nurse’s Aide, she is making a difference by faithfully serving her community, supporting medical teams and extending compassionate care to patients in need. Lydia’s dream is to return to her alma mater and strengthen its ability to empower the community it serves.



Mr. George Watson Zammie holds a certificate in Auto Mechanics. He is making his mark as a professional painter with the EGIM Foundation, contributing his skills to the foundation’s mission projects. His most recent job was the painting of the Ed & Jean Mathews Hospitality Center in Marshall City, Liberia. Mr. Zammie is a family man and the father of two. His years at the Marla H. Corts Mission School ran from 2005 to 2006.



Mr. Eric Lincoln Martor, 2011-2012 alumni of Marla H. Corts Mission School, holds an Advance Diploma in Journalism. Through his work, the Marla H. Corts Mission School is making inroads in the field of communication and public relations in Liberia. Eric’s work covers the vast region where his alma mater resides.

Together, these stories and many more affirm the mission of the Marla H. Corts Mission School in producing graduates who embody character, service, and leadership, impacting their families, communities, and the nation at large.

Marla H. Corts Mission School Academic Report – 2024/2025

For the 2024/2025 academic year, the Marla H. Corts Mission School commenced classes on September 9, 2024, and Closed on July 23, 2025. For the period under review MHCMS graduated Forty (40) students. The main campus and annexes (4) combined.

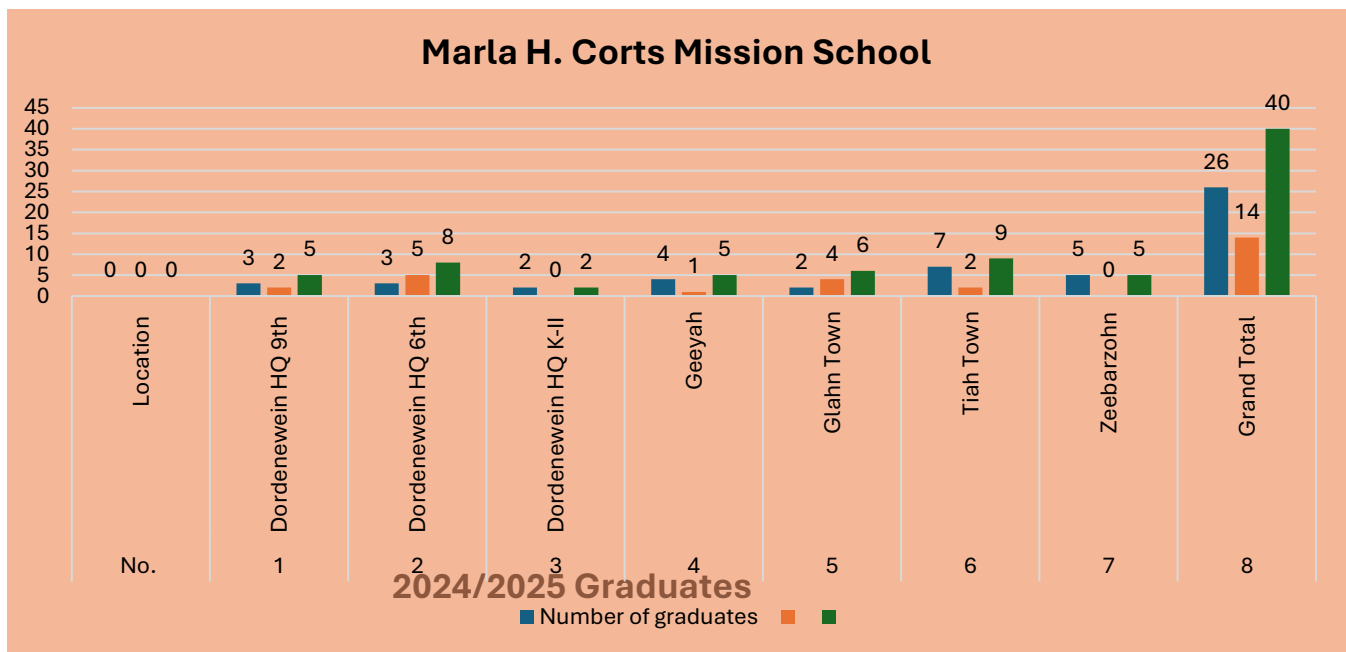
2024/2025 Graduation Statistics:

No.	Location	Number of graduates		Total
		Boys	Girls	
1	Dordenewein 9th	3	2	5
2	Dordenewein 6th	3	5	8
3	Dordenewein K-II	2	0	2
4	Geeyah - Annex	4	1	5
5	Glahn Town - Annex	2	4	6
6	Tiah Town - Annex	7	2	9
7	Zeebarzohn - Annex	5	0	5
	Grand Total	26	14	40

Marla H. Corts Mission School Closing Schedule

To ensure school leadership oversight and participation in closing activities MHCMS's end of year closing programs were scheduled as follows: Geeyah annex (July 12th), Dordeenewein (July 13th), Glahn Town annex (July 19th), Tiah Town annex (July 20th), and Zeebarzohn annex (July 23rd),

Schools and Graduates



Geeyah Annex



Dordeneewein – Main Campus



Most children in this region are kept in school, striving toward a better future for themselves and their community. The administration is working with parents and community leaders to keep some of these children from spending most of their youthful energy in the gold mining camps (a modern-day economic concentration camp). This effort has paid dividend in terms of human resource development for the community.



Family Empowerment: James Dennis Quikpeyee



Because of Rev. Eddie G. Gibson's love for his native country and the impact of his work, **J. Dennis Quikpeyee's family** is one of many success stories. I share this story as a firsthand witness to Rev. Gibson's work.

My name is Shirley Rhand. I have travelled to Liberia with Reverend Eddie G. Gibson on mission trips at least five times. It was on one of these trips, in 2003, that I had the pleasure of

meeting Mr. J. Dennis Quikpeyee, then a 44-year-old Indigenous citizen of Liberia. In 2000, he had been hired as one of the first teachers at the Marla H. Corts Mission School and was witnessing, first-hand, the benefits education brought to his community.

I was quickly impressed with this tall, dark-skinned, stately, yet soft-spoken man. His eyes sparkled as he spoke with me about his children, telling me each of their names and the hopes he had for them, one desire being that they all be educated. Mr. Quikpeyee was intimately acquainted with the benefits of education,

having been extensively educated himself. His had been a long and sometimes arduous journey. This is his story.

Mr. J. Dennis Quikpeyee was born in Dorgbor Town in 1959 (same year as Rev. Gibson). He started his primary Education at the Dorgbor Public School (DPS) in 1968 and got his promotion to the 3rd Grade. He later moved to Buchanan in 1971 where he enrolled at the Buchanan Elementary Demonstration school located on Thomas Street, Grand Bassa County and was promoted to the 7th grade. These moves to various places that were made by Dennis during this time were singular. His parents were not with him as he went from one place to the next. Because of his desire to be educated, at a very young age, Dennis was forced to be responsible for himself, living with others but earning his keep. Life in Liberia is one of community. You travel knowing someone will offer a place on their floor to lay your head. You in turn become a household servant, helping with gathering firewood for cooking, collecting water from the nearby stream, casting a net in the water to catch fish, etc.....

In 1972, he moved to Yekepa and enrolled at the Area B school until his promotion to the 11th Grade in 1977. In 1982, he graduated from the Tappeh Memorial High school in Tappita Nimba County. In 1983, after his graduation, he moved to Monrovia and started learning carpentry at the Monrovia Vocational Training Center (MVTC) where he spent two years. Upon his graduation from the MVTC, he decided to go back home to be with his parents before heading back to Monrovia to continue his education at the university level. It was November of 1985.

On November 26th, while on his way home, Dennis met up with a young lady from his village named Catherine who was on her way back home as well. She was on vacation from Buchanan where she had been staying with her oldest sister, Theresa Zlanwhea, doing business. Dennis and Catherine were riding in the same truck.

While this meeting with Catherine was not intentional, one could say it had been ordained by God Himself. The reason being that when Catherine was the tender age of 10, James T. Quikpeyee, Dennis' father, and Catherine's parents had agreed that their children would be married once Dennis graduated from high school. Upon seeing Catherine, Dennis decided that it was time to begin their courtship. On January 7, 1986, they were married. To this union was born 8 children: 7 boys and 1 girl.

It was extremely important to the Quikpeyees that their children receive an education. Both parents worked diligently in various occupations (farmers, hunters, carpentry, and petty traders) with the hope of acquiring the monies necessary to fund their children's education. On November 7, 2000, God opened the door by blessing him with the opportunity to become employed with the Eddie Gibson International Ministries (EGIM) located in Dordeenewein Gbi-Doru Administrative District. He was one of its first teachers and would spend a little over two decades pouring into his students. He was able to use his salary to send all his children to Marla H. Corts Mission School, then on to high school and beyond.

Mr. Quikpeyee's desire to see that his children were educated has become a reality. Because of the existence of MHCMS, he found gainful employment that allowed him to educate children and pay for his own children's education. He was later transferred from the main campus of Marla H. Corts Mission School as Vice Principal to the Marla H. Corts Geeyah satellite school as its Head Principal. He has been employed with EGIM Foundation for 23 years.

Truly, as the school's song says, ***"Marla Corts is a family! If you come to Marla Corts, you will learn so many things. If you want to see it for yourself, come and join the family."***

Staff Development:

Eddie Gibson Interior Ministries Foundation is taking initiative steps to enhance their teachers' skills by sending them back to school. It is very exciting to witness how the Lord takes the fruit of your labor and uses it to bear more fruit. Several alumni of Marla H Corts Mission School went on to attend The Liberian Cooperative Standard Education School System (LICOSESS), which was established by a group of Liberian Professional Teachers and Administrators. The institution was formed with the main purpose of buttressing the effort of the Ministry of Education to support the school system with qualified and well-prepared teachers and administrator to teach at both the primary and secondary school levels in Liberia.



J. Dallas Roberts II taught at Marla H Corts from 2018 to 2021. In 2021 he enrolled at LICOSESS to further his training as a teacher. He graduated in 2023 and return to Marla H Corts to serve as Vice Principal for administration.

As a young boy, **Jefferson Jones** dreamed of attending Marla H. Corts Mission School. He fulfilled his dream and graduated in 2017. He then went on to complete high school in 2020 from Dellano West O'Brien School in Johnsonville. Jefferson served for a while at MHCMS in Dordeneewein, the place of his birth. Because of his commitment to Christ, he gave back to the school that inspired and gave him an opportunity to read and write. He, along with Dallas Roberts, attended LICOSESS and graduated in 2024.



These gentlemen are exemplary models of commitment to excellence. Both educators have earned an Associate of Arts (AA) certificate in Teacher Education, demonstrating their dedication to professional development and improving educational outcomes for their students. By pursuing further education, Jones and Roberts are not only advancing their own careers but also contributing to the growth and development of Liberia's education system. Their efforts reflect the importance of continuous learning and the positive impact it can have on teaching practices and student success.

This concludes our report. Again, we want to thank you for your ongoing support of our school and pray you have enjoyed reading about our students' success. This would not be possible if it weren't for your prayers and financial contributions. We ask that you continue to pray for our school, its students, faculty, surrounding communities and EGIM Ministries; and prayerfully consider making a financial contribution through our partner, Brewster Road Community Church, via the methods listed at the bottom of this page. God bless and keep you!



Ways To Give

[Brccbham.org/give](https://brccbham.org/give)

- choose foreign mission fund
- place Marla Corts in memo

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