

The Dorothy Foundation



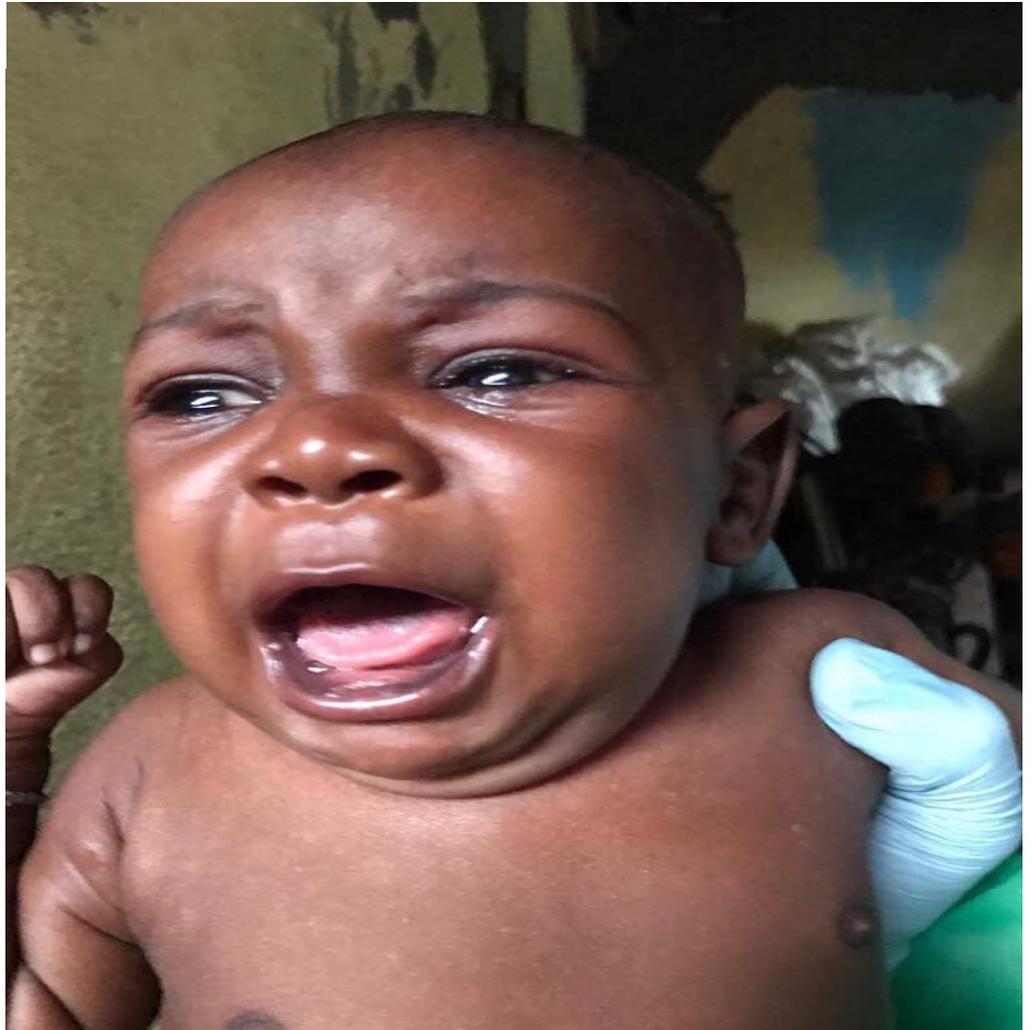
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*Providing hope for the
future*

From Ebola Orphanage to Hope House Orphanage.

Background



In 2014 Sierra Leone experienced the deadly Ebola virus and by 2016 the death toll reduced significantly. However, one of our outreach officers contracted Ebola and despite our best efforts, we lost him to the disease. He was succeeded by his wife (who later also died from Ebola), a son, and a daughter. The remaining family members were ostracized but with support from Keswick Meeting, a three-bedroom house was secured for them. With time, children from John Thorpe who had lost their parents joined and eventually, the resident numbers increased from 1 to 75. The charity then moved the children to the

clinic building, which was big enough to accommodate them and the orphanage was born. It was named Ebola Orphanage by the local people. Ebola carries with it a taboo, and we soon found out how difficult that could be when our children were not allowed back to school because of fear that they may infect others. This necessitated creating a primary school for them. Now, with 6 classes and 175 pupils, it is called Sidcot School and linked with its namesake in the UK - which donated used uniforms with the name of the school on them and a school emblem.



The name of the school was changed from Ebola School to Sidcot School and the orphanage was then renamed Hope House by friends at Keswick. With time, the association with Ebola has disappeared and, with the support of Sidcot UK, the school has developed to become the best in Rokel. Currently and with the circumstances surrounding COVID 19 and its deadly impact, the orphanage has started attracting children once again. The orphanage can now no longer contain the inflow and since we have just recently purchased 8 acres of farmland and are in the process of buying 12 acres more, the decision was made to relocate and to evolve to become a boarding school with a hall of residence for the college, bringing an end to the orphanage in September 2022.

We would like to thank Keswick Quaker Meeting, Painswick Quaker Meeting, Quaker Meetings across the UK, The Edith M Ellis Charity Trust, The Reckitt Charity, and individual donors, supporters, and volunteers across the UK for helping with the orphanage, without which this work would not have been possible.

*In 2022 orphanage
will become part of the
boarding school*

2021 and Beyond



Circle of friendship



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