



**"Transforming lives, one mind at a time"**

## **Our Vision**

Our vision is to unlock the full potential of our youth - one mind at a time - by championing literacy and equity in education.

## **Our Goal**

To increase the youth literacy rate in Liberia, and ensure that our youth are better prepared to succeed academically, enter the workforce, and become productive citizens.

## **Mission Statement**

Enrich the Mind partners with the Government of Liberia, local communities and schools, and partner organizations to develop sustainable solutions to the challenges faced by Liberia's education sector and improve learning outcomes. To help achieve this goal we focus on bridging the resource gap to improve literacy and the conditions for teaching and learning in schools across the country.

### Programs



Tutoring Service & Reading Programs



Research, Workshop & Training Programs



Computer literacy Programs



# Enrich The Mind Foundation

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## ABOUT US

The Enrich the Mind Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, was established to improve the educational outcomes of students in Liberia. This foundation was born from the belief that education is the best remedy for poverty, and other social ills that plague the country; and our passion to help ensure that the youth of Liberia get the best education possible. Our vision is to unlock the full potential of our youth - one mind at a time - by championing literacy and equity in education.

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# Literacy

# Enrich the Mind Foundation



## Defining Literacy

At ETM, we view literacy as more than just reading and writing. We see literacy as a dynamic skill that serves as a tool for social and economic empowerment and allows citizens to be more effective advocates for themselves, their families and communities. Specifically, literacy involves the ability to read, write, comprehend, communicate, and interpret and think critically about printed and written material; and to use numeracy and technology, at a level that enables people to express and understand ideas and opinions, to raise questions, make decisions and solve problems, to achieve their goals, and to participate fully in their community and in the broader society. Achieving literacy is a lifelong learning process therefore children, youth and adults need to have regular access to reading materials to maintain and expand their literacy skills.

## Why Literacy

Literacy is the gateway to successful learning. Children must first learn to read before they can read to learn. Without this solid foundation, they are unable to take full advantage of educational opportunities and are also more likely to become disengaged from the educational process. Literacy also unlocks opportunities and is critical to breaking the pervasive cycle of educational inequality. Therefore improving literacy will go a long way to ensuring that all students, especially the most disadvantaged, have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

# Literacy Initiatives



To support our goal of increasing the youth literacy rate and building a culture of reading we implement a number of literacy initiatives based on the needs of schools and communities including:

- Building a modern, state-of-the art public library and learning center in Monrovia (see Projects Page).
- Establishing mobile libraries in under-resourced/rural areas
- Establishing community/school libraries and computer labs
- Providing tutoring and literacy programs
- Providing educational resources, supplies and training (e.g. computers, tablets, books).
- Establishing early childhood literacy initiatives



## Types of Literacy

### Traditional/ Basic Literacy

Reading, writing and arithmetic

### Information literacy

The ability to know when there is a need for information and to be able to identify, find, evaluate, and use information effectively (also referred to as digital literacy or media literacy).

### Computer Literacy

The ability to use a computer and its software to accomplish practical tasks.

## Contact us

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# CONDITIONS for TEACHING and LEARNING (CTL)

At ETM, we believe that where and how students learn is just as important as what you learn. Therefore, the most effective schools are those which, among other things, create positive conditions for teaching and learning where:

- Students are physically and emotionally safe,
- Students feel connected to the school and supported by their teachers,
- Students are engaged in their learning,
- The learning environment promotes positive social and emotional development,
- The learning environment is responsive to the needs of all students
- Teachers have the appropriate tools, training and support to teach effectively
- The physical building is safe, clean, and adequately equipped

Education reform efforts are often undermined when these conditions are ignored. Therefore, ETM works with the Ministry of Education, schools and communities to complement existing reforms and create optimal conditions for teaching and learning to promote students' success.

## CTL Initiatives

- Provide engaging learning materials and resources (along with training and implementation support)
- Implement infrastructure improvement projects to improve the physical conditions of schools
- Provide teachers with the proper resource supplies for effective teaching
- Implement family and community engagement events
- Offer enrichment and remedial programs



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# Conditions for Teaching & Learning

## Our Model:

- **Assess the conditions for learning, assets and challenges of partner school and communities**
- **Provide training, tools and resources that are directly aligned with the needs of the school(s) and communities**
- **Measure progress to facilitate data-informed continuous improvement**





## MONROVIA PUBLIC LIBRARY AND LEARNING CENTER



In Liberia, libraries have not been a central part of the developmental agenda. Prior to the war, the country maintained one public library (located in the country's capital) and most of the public schools were built without libraries. With the high illiteracy rates and a severely under-resourced education system, there has been a limited but growing focus on establishing libraries and reading rooms to help build a culture of reading; but for the most part, this is an area that has been forgotten when it comes to development. As our first major project, ETM plans to build the first state of the art public library in Liberia – Monrovia Public Library and Learning Center (MPLLC) – to help increase the literacy rate in Liberia, promote a culture of reading, and support the educational goals of the Ministry of Education. The library will be free to the public and, once completed, will offer an array of literacy resources, materials, programs and learning opportunities for all age groups.





## Monrovia Public Library and Learning Center (MPLLC)

### Vision

Our vision is that MPLLC will be a hub for life-long learning, empowerment, intellectual and community engagement. In addition, MPLLC will create equitable access to information, promote innovation, build citizenship and will play a vital role in transforming the country's educational landscape.

### Literacy Programs

- Tutoring and test prep
- Mentoring program
- Storytime
- Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (STEAM/STEM) Programs
- Young Adult/Adult Literacy classes
- Computer Literacy classes
- Women and girls empowerment program
- Public health campaigns

### Facility

MPLLC will be a three-story, 30,000 sq. ft. facility that will house:

- A wide collection of books and reading materials that are relevant to the needs of the community
- A children's area and interactive early childhood literacy center
- A research area with access to physical and digital reference materials
- Online access to peer-reviewed journals, and databases
- Individual and group study rooms
- A computer lab and computer stations
- A conference room and lecture hall
- Collaborative learning spaces
- Free internet access
- A café

### Sustainable Development

MPLLC will be a key institution in the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (e.g., goals 4.6 - "By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy" and 16.10 - "Ensure public access to information..."), and will play a critical role in bridging the digital divide.



## Board Members

Enrich The Mind Foundation is an organization that is governed by a board of directors. Any qualified person may serve on the board for a period of one term (a year) or more subject to approval.

## Library Programs

The Monrovia Public Library and Learning Center will feature a range of programs that will need volunteers.

- Tutoring and test prep
- Mentoring program
- Storytime
- Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (STEAM) Programs
- Young Adult/Adult Literacy classes
- Computer Literacy classes
- Women and girls empowerment program
- Public health campaigns

## Tangible Donations

Enrich The Mind have multiple programs that benefit the community and is in need of items such as computers, books, school supplies, etc. Contact us regarding any tangible donations.

## Financial Donations

You can securely donate financially to Enrich The Mind Foundation online. Donations are tax deductible in the U.S. Donate via the link below.

[paypal.me/enrichthemind](https://paypal.me/enrichthemind)



# How to *get* Involved



Serve  
on the Board



Volunteer  
Opportunities



Donate  
Items



Financial  
Contributions

## Enrich The Mind Foundation

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