ORTHOPAEDIC REHABILITATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES

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Empowering the Disabled Published February 19, 2025

On February 15, 2025, ORMS-SL https://www.orms-sl.org/, in partnership with Africa Surgery Inc., https://www.africasurgery.org/ embarked on a heartwarming journey to distribute 11 PET chairs,

10 pairs of axillary crutches and one electric wheelchair to people with disabilities in Lunji, Portoko District. This important initiative was made possible through the coordination of the Sierra Leone Union on Disability Issues (SLUDI). It's just one of many efforts in our mission to bring greater mobility, independence, and dignity to Sierra Leone's disabled community.

One of the recipients of the electric wheelchair was the head boy of St. Augustine Secondary School in Lunji Orlaimeu Medinga Rahman. This wheelchair will significantly improve his access to education and mobility. But our work doesn't stop there - we are committed to bringing more chairs across Sierra Leone, especially to underserved regions like Pujehun, which has long lacked proper access to mobility aids.



However, in order to continue these efforts, we urgently need a transport vehicle to help distribute these much-needed aids to other parts of the country. We are reaching out to our supporters, asking for assistance in hiring a vehicle or even donating a used one, to help us continue making a difference.

DONATE ONLINE



In addition to mobility aids, we understand that education is key to empowering individuals with disabilities. That's why we are also seeking sponsors to help educate our disabled community. One inspiring individual who needs our support is Alpha Tarawallie.

Alpha was not born disabled but tragically became a one after being struck by a vehicle. Despite this life-changing incident, Alpha's determination to pursue his dreams of studying Public Sector Management at the Institute of Public Administration and Management, University of Sierra Leone, remains unshaken. Tragically, Alpha lost his father on May 12, 2024, further complicating his already difficult situation. He reached out to us for help in securing the Sierra Leone Granting Aid (SLG) so he wouldn't lose the opportunity to study. Due to time constraints, we paid for his first-year tuition and began the application for the SLG.

But Alpha needs more than just tuition – he requires textbooks, pens, and other study materials to help him accomplish his dream of becoming a university graduate. We call on the generosity of our community to contribute to Alpha's education and help him overcome the barriers in his way.

Additionally, we want to share a recent challenge we faced. During the transport



of mobility aids, our team was delayed by over 30 minutes due to the management of M.V. MUAZUK demanding an additional payment of 200 Leones, despite having already paid for the vehicle. Despite explaining that the items being transported were mobility aids for free distribution, the head of ticket inspection arrogantly rejected our reasoning. We believe this behaviour contradicts PART VII, Section 33 (1) of the Sierra Leone Disability Act of 2011, which aims to protect the rights of people with disabilities.

Despite this setback, we remain committed to our mission of bringing mobility and educational opportunities to Sierra Leone's disabled community. We invite

you to join us in making a difference by helping us transport these mobility aids, sponsoring Alpha's education, or offering other forms of support.

Together, we can make a lasting impact. Let's work together to empower those who need it most.



A generous man in red trying to advocate on our behalf.