

African Self Determination Foundation – ASDF

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*Providing educational opportunities for less fortunate students in grades K - College
in Togo, Africa and surrounding countries in Western Africa.*

Greetings,

The African Self Determination Foundation, an outgrowth of St. James Catholic Church Social Justice Committee, is addressing poverty and illiteracy in Togo, Africa. In the summer of 2018, after much research, a particular village in Togo, Africa was selected because a large number of students were not attending school on a regular basis. A parishioner of St. James, whose family was originally from Togo, approached the Social Justice Committee asking if our parish might be able to help the students in her home country get an education. The government is not able to provide enough public schools for the students wishing to receive an education. Consequently, students might attend school only one year out of every three years since parents lack the funds to pay tuition to a private or parochial school. Without a high school diploma and College/Trade/Apprenticeship programs these students might be destined to continue the cycle of poverty.

When students receive a High School diploma, a College degree, or a Trade/Apprenticeship certificate, they are more likely to stay in Togo and use their expertise to raise the standard of living in their country. Frequently students with little or no skills leave the country to find jobs. By staying in Togo they are more likely to be proficient in their field and can pass their skills on to others.

We are currently serving 87 students in Togo, 22 of those students are in College, Trade, or Apprenticeship programs. The costs per year for these students are: Elementary - \$120, Middle School - \$180, High School - \$310, College - \$425, and Trade/Apprenticeship - \$500. These students need help with tuition, school clothes and shoes, book supplies, and transportation. We would like to increase the number of students we are serving for the 2022-2023 school year, but need your help. Please consider sponsoring a student for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year or donating any amount of money to aid in their education.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by email, phone, or snail mail. If you are so inclined to help us with a monetary donation, please make out the check to African Self Determination Foundation or (ASDF) and mail to Connie Anderson at the address above. Your generosity to this worthy cause will help in ending this cycle of poverty.

Blessings and Peace,

Connie Anderson

on behalf of the African Self Determination Foundation (ASDF)
Albertine Kangni-Soukpe – President
Marcus Liddell – Vice-President
Connie Anderson - Treasurer

The African Self Determination Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

Your donation is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

No goods or services were provided to you in exchange for this donation.

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Interesting Facts About Togo, Africa

The official name is Togolese Republic. It is located in West Africa bordered by Ghana & Benin. The capital is Lome'.

Togo is one of the smallest countries in Africa – about the size of West Virginia with a population of approximately 7.9 million.

Religion – Indigenous beliefs = 51%, Christian = 29%, Muslim = 20%.

Languages – French is the official language of Togo with many African languages also spoken.

The economy is heavily dependent on agriculture. Crops grown include cocoa, coffee & cotton, with cotton as the most important cash crop.

Togo is a poor country with 62% of the population living below the poverty line. Wage earners make \$1.00 - \$2.80 per day.

The life expectancy in Togo is 65. There is high infant mortality, 1 out of 10 children die before they reach age 5, due mainly to poor medical facilities, poor water, & lack of education and nutrition of parents.

Togo has a low percentage of educated adults; only 63% of the population are literate. The Togo government lacks the funds to build enough public schools.

Togo is ranked as one of the 50 mostly underdeveloped countries in the world.

Human trafficking is widespread in Togo. Children, especially girls, are sold into a form of slavery.