

4TH GLOBAL HAND WASHING DAY REPORT

Saturday Oct 17, 2011

Introduction:

In commemoration of Global Hand Washing Day (GHWD), the 4th annual Global Hand Washing Day was celebrated on Saturday, October 15, 2011 in Gbarnga City, Bong County organized by Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF) International in partnership with Population Services International (PSI) as an activity under the USAID-funded IWASH project. The occasion was attended by a cross section of key stakeholders from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Public Works, the Bong County Health Team and other WASH Partners including MDM, ASCO, LNRCs, students, teachers from the IWASH sponsored schools and other ordinary Liberian citizens.

The celebration was characterized by a Grand-parade through the principal streets of Gbarnga City under the close guardianship of the Gbarnga City Marching Band, to the Bong County Administrative Hall where the indoor program was held. (See photos on parade)

Outdoor Program Photos



Participants parading the principle streets of Gbarnga



Instructors from the participating Schools during the parade

The indoor Program was itemized by:

- Prayer
- Welcome Statement
- Overview of the IWASH Program
- Competition among participating schools on dramas, songs, and drawing
- Introduction of the keynote Speaker
- Remarks
- Vote of Thanks
- Announcement
- Closing Prayer
- Refreshment

Photos of the indoor activities



Student from participating school, Dorothy Cooper displaying drawings during the competition



Students from the Kpai Community Public School, performing drama during the competition



Students from the Dorothy Cooper School doing their song during the competition

Keynote Speaker

The keynote speaker was Mr. Wilmot C.S. Gbelai an Instructor at the Phebe School of Nursing. Mr. Gbelai spoke on the theme: **“Thorough Hand Washing”**. Mr. Gbelai emphasized that thorough hand washing entails using soap, clean water and or ash and allowing the hands to air dry. Mr. Gbelai illustrated the three proper hands washing methods and urged participants to follow these procedures as the first gateway to a healthy life. He admonished the students to serve as catalyst in disseminating messages on hands washing.



Mr. Wilmot C.S. Gbelai keynote Speaker delivering his message at the Global Hands Washing Day Celebration in Gbarnga City, Bong County on Saturday October 15, 2011



Participants at key attention during the keynote Speaker’s address

Remarks:

In a brief remark, the Acting Superintendent of Bong County Hon. J. Kemu M. Domia thanked the organizers for hosting such a unique program. He emphasized that such events will go a long in educating not only the children but the entire citizenry on the doorway to good health. He promised to ensure that the Superintendent's office collaborates with the WASH Partners in celebrating next year's Global hands washing day.



The Acting Superintendent; L-MEP representative and Mediciens du Monde representative making remarks

Demonstrating Hand Washing Before Eating



MDM representative washes hands



Caretakers serving refreshment



Platform Guests having refreshment

Competition:

For the competitions, the winners were:

1. Drama ----- 1st Winner----- Dorothy Cooper
2nd Winner ----- Kpai Public School
3rd Winner ----- Dolo-Bai Public School
2. Songs----- 1st Winner----- Kpai Public School
2nd Winner ----- Dorothy Cooper
3rd Winner ----- Dolo-Bai Public School
3. Drawing----- 1st Winner ----- Dorothy Cooper School
2nd Winner ----- Dolo-Bai Public School
3rd Winner ----- Kpai Public School

Radio Talk Show:

The entire program was covered by the media. Journalist, Philip Massaquoi from Radio Gbarnga was at the program and covered key events and conducted interviews.

There was also a pop quizzing where questions on hygiene were posed to callers and winners were awarded one T-Shirt for best answers.



IWASH staff Jonathan Brown Jr. and Joseph K. Darwolo during Radio Talk Show at Radio Gbarnga

Announcement:

Upon the selection of winners in the three categories of the competition, the judges announced that the prizes will be awarded later to the authorities of the participating schools at the various schools.

Attendance:

The program was attended by seventy five (75) students including six (6) Instructors from various schools and approximately eighty (80) persons from various line ministries, INGOs, and Communities in and around Gbarnga totaling one hundred and sixty one (161) participants.

IWASH conducted similar activities in Lofa and Nimba Counties simultaneously with the one in Gbarnga, Bong County. The activities are still ongoing with jingles, radio talk-shows, and follow-up awareness raising campaigns at schools, cook shops, restaurants, and other public places.

Report

USAID/CHF/PSI

4th Annual Global Hands
Washing Day Celebration
Gbarnga City, Bong County
October 15, 2011

Submitted By:
Bong IWASH Team