

Ricks Alumni Association, USA, Inc.

“Project Renovate Ricks”

Background:

Ricks Institute, Virginia, Liberia, our Alma Mater presently lies in ruins. From the assessment of every alumni that visited Ricks last year and this year, the need to renovate our entire campus has been the outcry, the destruction is global. As proud dragons, we take this responsibility personally; we will refuse to sit in an idle state when our *once glorious campus* has degenerated into a “jungle”. Our campus was covered with grass, buildings were dilapidated, class rooms were desolate, sporting facilities and gate broken down, roads unstructured, etc., amongst others. It is because of these reasons that RIAA, USA Inc. is pleased to launch this urgent fundraising campaign named “Project Renovate Ricks”. “This campaign will give all alumni/former students in the Diaspora and in Liberia the opportunity to participate in the saving of our once beautiful campus, making direct financial donation to this project. Fellow dragons, this is our legacy, our calling for why we exist as an organization and that will define us as we attempt to live the true meaning of our motto: “Not for self but for others”. Please sir/madam, please “man/woman”, donate to this worthy cause and save our beloved institution.

Project Objectives:

- To renovate essential facilities at Ricks Institute one at a time
- To engage each alumni and enlighten them through telephone calls, texts, emails, website, face book, blog, meetings, etc how to contribute to this worthy cause
- To target at least 100 alumni/former students to contribute a minimal of \$100 for phase 1 of “ Project Renovate Ricks”
- To undertake a special fund raising at convention 2017
- To undertake fund raising early 2018 to continue renovation efforts at Ricks and begin phase 2 (window project perhaps)
- To mobilize and encourage fellow dragons in Liberia to supervise the renovation at Ricks.

| Work Timeframe | Description of Work | Start and End Dates Of fund raising |
|--|---|--|
| Phase One June to Aug, 2017 | School building painting/minor repairs | April 15 to May 15 |
| Phase Two Jan to March 2018 | Next renovation to be decided Window project?? | Sept 1. To Dec. 31, 2017 |
| Phase Three July 2018 to Sept 2018 | 2018 renovation to be decided | Beginning March 30 2018 to June 2018 |

| Project Budget | Description | Anticipated Costs |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Phase One | Fund raising for School building painting (150 alumni@\$100) | \$ 15,000 |
| Phase Two | Fund raising at 2017 convention for next project to renovate (200 alumni @\$50) | \$10,000 |
| Phase Three | Funding raising for next project to renovate (100 alumni @\$100) | \$10,000 |
| | Contingency (other donations from sponsors) | \$5,000 |
| | Total Anticipated cost | \$40,000 |

How to make contribution:

Each alum can make his/her donation of \$100.00 or more by depositing directly into our account at Wells Fargo Bank (**Ricks Alumni Assoc., USA, Inc.**) or on our website: ***ricksalumni.com***; click on donate and make a notation in the note column: "Project Renovate Ricks". Alumni, who may want to make their donation by check or money order, can make check payable to RIAA, USA, Inc. and mail it to the association address at ***2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 356, Washington, DC 20006***. *We are also open to other suggested payment options.* Your name will

be posted on our website of the amount contributed - a weekly update of all contributors to this project will be done on the website.

Monitoring, Managing and Evaluation:

The project will be monitored and regularly evaluated by fellow alumni in Liberia. We will engage fellow dragons to work with Ricks Maintenance Department in executing each project that will be undertaken. We will encourage direct supervision and managing from alumni on the ground. Funding may go directly to alumni committee in Liberia to buy materials and pay labor cost if need be or deposited directly at a material store in Liberia. No funds will go directly to the administration of Ricks.

Risk:

This project may come with enormous risks. There may be unforeseen circumstances that may cause a short fall in the overall execution of the project. The main risk and most concerning is the lack of immediate response from alumni to contribute in a timely manner to fully fund, especially the first phase of the project. Another risk could be the lack of cooperation and the inability of those charged with the various responsibilities, both at Ricks and our alumni on the ground to effectively execute, manage or supervise the project at every phase.

Conclusion:

“Project Renovate Ricks” will be very vital to the face lift of our beloved Ricks Institute. Our existence as an association depends on how much we help take care of the responsibilities at Ricks. We have done our level best throughout the years with our meager resources, but we are confident that we can do more. The challenge is great, but with determined minds and unity in goal, our heart is bigger than the challenge so we can never doubt ourselves, for we are the famous “Dragons” and we never fear no foe. “Until we win the Golden Fleece, let toiling never cease”

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. A. Paulus
National Chairman, RIAA, USA, Inc.