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Serving Humanity: A report on the progress of the “*Save a life Project*”.

Through its “Save a life Project”, the non-governmental organization has been able to reach out to more than 500 needy persons and critical cases in four detention facilities across Cameroon since 2018.

On the wake of the current socio-political crisis rocking the North-West and South-West regions of the Cameroon, so many persons were arrested and carted away to prisons out of their regions of origin and out of contact with family members.

While in these prisons, most of the detainees have seen their health conditions deteriorate and are faced with a persistent challenge of inadequate food and basic needs to nourish and carter for their bodies, a situation which has been made worse by the distance separating them from their loved ones.

During one of its routine visits to persons in detention at the Yaoundé Central Prison, Unity Foundation Cameroon-UFC, learned of the deplorable living conditions of the detainees, and decided to launch the “*Save a life project*” in order to salvage the situation.

Since the project was launched on September 14, 2018, over 500 detainees in detention facilities in Yaoundé, Douala, Bamenda and Buea have benefitted from its magnanimity through the supply of foodstuffs, medication and other basic necessities.

The Foundation has had to deal with five critical cases in Yaoundé. If some of the detainees in Yaounde are still alive today, it is by a stroke of luck. The first amongst these cases is Awah Thomas Junior, a journalist by profession, who was rushed to the Yaoundé Central Hospital in 2018 in a critical state. After intensive care and strict follow up, he recovered and was taken back to prison, though he has been placed under constant medication, followed up by the Foundation.

Unity Foundation Cameroon also extended its goodwill gesture to critical cases such as Dzekushu Protus, who was partially paralyzed; Ajabe Felix; Ndengue John Marinus; and Bezeng Malvine hospitalized since November 25, 2019 and was discharged in February 2020 after spending close to four months at the Yaoundé Central Hospital. Just like him, the others were

admitted to different health facilities in Yaounde for proper follow up, and they had fully recovered by the time they were discharged.

The cases mentioned above are just those that needed intensive and urgent medical attention by the time the Foundation was contacted. These do not include the routine purchase and supply of basic necessities to the prisoners in general, and drugs to sick and convalescing detainees in particular.

In line with the end-of-year festivities, Unity Foundation Cameroon in partnership with its partners donated foodstuffs to inmates of the Yaounde Central Prison, Bamenda and Douala on December 7, 2019 and later extended the gesture to the Buea Central Prison.

This project has, most of the times, been successfully executed thanks to the commitment of the members and volunteers of the Foundation. Nonetheless, UFC today benefits from the assistance of partners and donors such as the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Makongo Family and Charity (MAFAC), Cameroon Community in Berlin, Friends of Liberty in the United Kingdom, Society of Southern Cameroonians in Hampshire, Mezam Community in the US, and the Manyu Health and Humanitarian Services.

“Save a life Project” is just one of many initiatives of Unity Foundation Cameroon aimed at reaching out to the needy and serving humanity.

UFC is a non-profit organization founded in 2013, it envisions a transformed society through Peace building, humanitarian action, education, agriculture, culture, and sports. Their head quarter is in Fonfuka-Bum, Boyo Division of the North West Region of Cameroon.