



INTRODUCTION:

Friends and Supporters of Liberian Basketball Inc., is a non profit, basketball organization that comprises primarily of former basketball players and supporters in the Diaspora who have come together to promote and support the evolution and sustainable development of basketball in Liberia – both nationally and internationally. We are committed to reviving and re-developing the game of Basketball in Liberia.

HISTORY & GOALS:

The organization was formed in 2006 and the 1st of our annual conventions was held in the Washington, DC area in 2007. A mission statement was defined with the goal of establishing a collaborative relationship with Liberian Basketball Federation (LBF); to assist in the enrichment of Liberian student-athletes, by providing pivotal life skills development programs and support in the creation of a structured environment designed to develop and teach young athletes fundamental basketball skills and provide opportunities through the game of basketball to build character and foster educational advancement.

Several of the milestones set during our inception have been met; thanks to the hard working members of the steering committee, Board of Directors, members and supporters like yourselves, as well as other organizations and supporters involved. Some of the milestones are listed as follows:

- Creation of the organization's Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation
- Filing of the 501c3 paperwork to obtain non-profit status for the organization
- Creation of a website to more efficiently communicate, inform and relate to all people of interest in the Diaspora.
- Creation and structuring of the organization for transparency and accountability by consistently making all financial records, meeting records and all other activities public accessible through our website regularly.
- Establishment of a database for membership and easy access for communication.
- Establishment of various projects designed to meet the **short, mid and long term goals of FSLB.**
 - Short term goals include providing immediate, well-needed equipment to assist with operational aspects of the basketball programs. Those equipment include;
 1. **Basketballs\Nets**
 2. **Scoreboard**
 3. **Uniforms**
 4. **Whistles**
 5. **Training manuals and materials**
 - Mid-term goals address the more sustainable developmental initiatives of the young athletes. Those include;
 1. **The organization of training workshops for athletes, coaches and referees in various locations around the country.**

2. **Identifying athletes that exhibit excellent character traits and a very high basketball aptitude for sponsorship to basketball camps in the US and other countries for exposure to college coaches and professional teams (This could result in a number of athletes obtaining basketball scholarships to attend colleges in the US or being recruited to professional leagues in Europe).**
- Long-term goals address the most cost intensive of all of the projects on FLSB's list of accomplishments. Those include;
1. **Fundraising efforts for the renovation of the current facilities as well as the construction of additional facilities throughout Liberia.**
 2. **Development of a sustainable, comprehensive basketball program that will allow for the continued improvement of young athletes throughout the country, thereby allowing us to cultivate a stream of talent that fosters local competition and allows us to compete internationally.**
- Establishment of a working relationship with the National Basketball Association (NBA) to help meet FSLB's short, mid and long-term goals. The minutes from our February 2008 meeting the NBA International group, where commitments were made by the NBA to begin to provide some of the above items, are available on the website.

EVENT GOALS:

Ladies and Gentlemen: The goal of this event is to;

1. Officially introduce FSLB to those of you who are unaware of the organization
2. Raise awareness to the organization's initiatives and mission
3. Increase membership
4. Discover additional leadership potential
5. And most importantly solicit the assistance of all Liberians everywhere to become a part of a movement that is utilizing the game of basketball to change the lives of young people and provide opportunities for those who ordinarily may not have an opportunity to dream.

SOLICITATION STATEMENT:

Please people, take this opportunity to give a little of yourselves to a cause that extends way beyond us. Your membership to FSLB gives you the opportunity to affect the lives of so many; through your involvement you would be able to affect and enact policies, introduce new ideas as well as take on leadership roles.

THANK YOU STATEMENT:

On behalf of FSLB, we would like to thank all of the individuals who worked tirelessly to put this event together; We would also like to thank all of you who have come out to support this extraordinary endeavor.

Last but not least, please make every effort to attend the 2nd annual convention to be held in the greater Washington, DC area in July 12, 2008. Details of the convention and all other information can be found on our website at www.folbf.org