



## Articles

### Vice President Boakai Extols the Foundation for Women

The Foundation for Women is excited to share a recent Press Release from the office of the Vice President of Liberia, Joseph Boakai:

"Monrovia, Monday, June 15, 2008 - Liberia's Vice President Joseph N. Boakai has commended the California based Foundation for Women (FFW) for partnering with the Liberian Government to empower Liberian women. He observed that by extending micro-loans to market women, the FFW was contributing in small measure to the Unity Party-led Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy, otherwise known as 'Lift Liberia'.

Vice President Boakai made the commendation at the weekend when an intern from the headquarters of the Foundation for Women, Mr. Andrew Hapke, who is in Liberia as guest of the Foundation for Women, accompanied by the Foundation's Country Director, Madam Emily Peal, paid a courtesy call on him at his Capitol Building Office.

Vice President Boakai paid homage to the Founder of FFW, Madam Deborah Lindholm whom he described as a true humanitarian. He said her foundation has transformed the lives of many women who had lost hope after losing everything, including their husbands during the conflict.

Earlier, Madam Peal disclosed plans by the Foundation to increase the Foundation's capacity to empower more Liberian women. She said the Foundation which has empowered over 500 women with micro-loans in Bong, Nimba, Bomi, Grand Bassa, Montserrado and Margibi Counties will, this month extend its micro-credit loan program to Lofa County.

Madam Peal said apart from extending micro-loans to small marketers, the Foundation has offered over 100 scholarships to students from kindergarten to college, and is also offering adult literacy classes for marketers. She said about 58 women have graduated from the Foundation's literacy program from Bong, Grand Bassa and Nimba Counties.

Also briefing the Vice President, Mr. Hapke, a candidate for the MBA in Micro Credit, said he was in the country on a two-month tour of duty. He said while in the country, he will help make the Foundation more effective to enable it reach more women.

Mr. Hapke said he will structure the Foundation's financial systems and internal processes as well as work on grant proposals. - Terrence Sesay, Press Secretary".

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