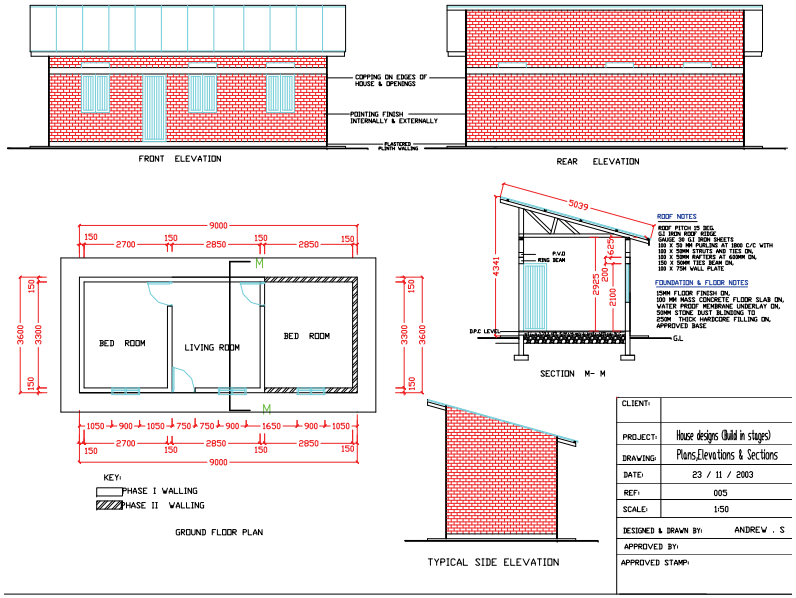

1. Please forward email correspondence to: Isa Johnston - Country Director (Designate)
Email: - isabeljohnston@yahoo.com

2. Please visit the website:
www.fullercenter.org
for a global overview of the mission.

THE FULLER CENTER FOR HOUSING SIERRA LEONE
Building on Higher Ground

WELCOME TO THE
FULLER CENTER FOR HOUSING
in Sierra Leone

"Except the LORD builds the House,
the builders labour in vain" Psalm M 127:1a

Fuller Centre for Housing Sierra Leone, 74, Pademba Road, Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa
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Frequently asked questions

1. What is Fuller Center for Housing? (FCH)

The Fuller Center for Housing, and Partners, are an international coalition of like minded organizations and individuals dedicated to the elimination of poverty housing. It is faith driven and Christ centered, and promotes collaborative and innovative partnerships with individuals and organizations to provide low cost housing for all people in need.

The Mission was founded in 2005, by Millard and Linda Fuller, the Founders of Habitat for Humanity, to continue their vision of eliminating poverty housing using the foundational methods and principles that resulted in Habitat's phenomenal success. Millard Fuller died in February 2009, but the mission and vision remain alive, and covenant partners continue to build and renovate houses for families who, due to their economic circumstances, have no other access to owning a **simple, decent and affordable home.**

2. When did FCH come to Sierra Leone?

The country chapter was registered in Sierra Leone September 2008 immediately after which it entered a Covenant Partnership with the Fuller Center for Housing Inc. The Partnership Agreement is a mutual commitment by both parties to join hands in the struggle to eliminate poverty housing in Sierra Leone, with the International Partner providing reasonable percentage of funds needed to construct homes. The local partners must raise funds for its start up costs as well as to build the first house(s).

3. Why a Housing Mission in Sierra Leone?

The aftermath of the 11 year war in the country caused displacement and the migration of a large rural population into the capital city. Many houses, schools and other buildings were ruthlessly and inhumanely burnt down by the rebels, bringing pain, devastation and hopelessness to poor and disadvantaged families. Rebel war victims lived in refugee camps to begin with and later began constructing basic shelters made of tin sheets (known as pan-body). Others built shacks for themselves, their own families, and members of their extended families in already heavily populated city slums.

Most rural families and many of the displaced live in substandard structures made of temporary materials with termite infested mud walls or corrugated iron sheets, thatched roofs and dirt floors.

Such houses are generally built in shantytowns and are extremely overcrowded, characterized by poor health amenities - lacking basic essentials such as latrines and clean water supply. Children from these homes of all ages, ranging from 3-18 years, virtually live on the streets, forming the bulk of the so called "street kids" occupying the streets and sidewalks from dawn to dusk and disappearing to sleep in these pan-bodies and shacks at night. Undoubtedly, these types of dwellings make children and young adults, particularly the girls, extremely vulnerable, exposing them to sexual abuse and the risk of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS.

While a connection with the Fuller Center is of great help to local organizations in terms of name recognition and sharing, the real work takes place at the local level.

4 Who will be the beneficiaries?

- ANYONE who meets the criteria and signs an agreement to the operating legal rules, regulations and obligations of the programme:

The neediest cases. THE GREATEST IN NEED who meet the selection criteria will be served first.

5. How will FCHSL Operate?

- FCHSL will build simple houses of modest design, using bricks, cement blocks, cement floors, corrugated iron roofs, hinged windows and shuttered doors, with improved latrines, bathrooms and kitchens located adjacent to each house.

Beneficiary families will help build or renovate their houses and pay for them with no-interest, no-profit loans on terms they can afford. Estimated cost of each house is Le:20,000,000, which is approximately ($5,000)

6. WHERE will these houses be located?

In any part of the country where FCHSL has established an affiliate partnership. Houses will be built on i) a beneficiary's own land, or ii) on FCHSL acquired land