



Other Youth Crime Watch Liberia Programs.

YCWL takes a holistic approach to empowerment as a means to provide youth with the platform to have their voices heard, skills and training to improve themselves and their country, and means to bring about positive change.

- Be the Change Academy – Women’s business management training, microloan, and mentorship.
- Girls in Charge – Female empowerment and social activism
- iCare
- Youth Media Project
- Street Library
- Experience Liberia
- Sports for Change
- Solarize Liberia
- Education 4 All
- Crime Reporting and Prevention

Who We Are

About Us

Youth Crime Watch of Liberia is an accredited youth organization established in 2004, to help address the need for grassroots participation in nation building, following the age-long civil conflict which nearly discriminated the population. We are dedicated to fighting illiteracy and promoting reconciliation, reconstruction, peace, development and better and healthier lifestyles in Liberia through crime prevention, youth empowerment and employment.

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Be the Change Academy

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Be the Change
Academy

*Young Women’s Enterprise &
Job Creation Project*

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Objectives

To provide youth facing limitations with employment that is meaningful, environmentally sustainable, and economically stimulating. The BTCA does so by giving young people the opportunity to discover their entrepreneurial spirit and to develop the skills necessary to exploit their entrepreneurial ability. We accomplish these through:

- Business training - with an emphasis on sustainability, especially environmental sustainability
- Brainstorming- ideas for potential businesses
- Providing non-collateralized micro-loans for the best ideas - maximize chances of success
- Providing differential mentorship throughout the start-up period for those receiving a loan

Program Overview

The **Be the Change Academy** is a *Youth-Led Job and Enterprise Creation program*, run by **Youth Crime Watch of Liberia (YCWL)** in partnership with **Peace Child International (PCI)**, with funding from the **Norwegian Government**

““They tell me: „Start a company, make your own job!“ But nothing in my schooling taught me how to do this. I don’t know where to start....”

Mission

To assist every young jobless women with the beginnings of a plan to start or grow an income-generating enterprise, to remedy:

- Skills deficiencies in management and/or accounting, marketing or other business skills;
- No means to verify the viability of a business idea;
- The lack of access to start-up capital
- The fact of living in low income areas

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Results

	1 st Cohort	2 nd Cohort
Trained	110	114
Graduated	73	95
Business Plans Presented	40	54
Received Loans	20	18

3rd Cohort has been placed on pause due to the Ebola crisis. **9 classes** were being held in local churches, mosques, and community centers with **168 students being trained**.

We provide weekly business trainings to disadvantaged young Women, aged between 15 – 35 - to help them make a business plan and to start-up or expand their own independent businesses. The most promising business ideas will receive a micro loan selected by an independent panel, with local professionals and experts.

This approach is unique since it combines both an extensive training and micro finance in one program with the addition of continued