

## HELPING ALL WE CAN...ONE AT A TIME.

### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

**Deanna Wallace**  
*AAO Executive Director*

In Sierra Leone, there is nationwide testing for all students wishing to enter university after high school. It's extremely difficult and very rigorous testing. In fact, this year the FAILURE rate is 95% for all students in Sierra Leone who took the tests. Ninety-five percent failure rate! That tells you everything you need to know about the difficulty!

But, here's the amazing part — **all FIVE of our AAO students PASSED and will be able to go to university.** Huge congratulations to **Ahmed, Monjama, Melvina, Isata and Amadu!** The photo included here is of Melvina, but I wish I had a photo of all five to share. Maybe next newsletter...

These are the first AAO kids to become adults and go on to university. We are so proud of their amazing achievements! And of course, I have to stop for a moment (as a proud parent would) and say, "Yay! We really did something right!"

→ Our AAO K-6 school is also getting ready to open for the school year, and we have expanded our student body to take in more children from the community. We're extremely pleased to be able to do this — and it all comes down to your support. **Our funding is once again becoming very thin, and we need your immediate help to allow the kids to continue to be successful.** YOU make their achievements possible! Thank you so much!



### Thanks to those who gave over \$500 in August 2019:

Chap-Aid - Daiglen School - Imane Mastfi - Sharon Beecham

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Logan Kirwin Jones

**And thank you to our regular monthly supporters, who make our work possible!**