Cameroon gained its independence from France in 1960. It sits in the heart of Africa, just north of the equator. Cameroon is often called “Africa in miniature,” due to its abundance of ethnic tribes and the presence of every terrain found in Africa, from desert to tropic to rain forest. It is home to the world’s largest frog and 1,000 species of butterfly.

Cameroon is a major exporter of oil, as well as cocoa beans, coffee, cotton, and lumber. However, poverty is on the rise. Rural areas lack clean water and sanitation, which leads to high risk of infectious disease. Because of corruption, natural disasters, and government mismanagement, availability of food is unpredictable. In recent years, political instability, including a secessionist movement in the Anglophone regions and terrorist activity in the far north, have further disrupted Cameroonian lives.

With a population of 25 million people, its official languages are English and French, with hundreds of indigenous languages also existing. Although 69% consider themselves Christian, many have paired it with traditional indigenous beliefs. The prevalence of AIDS and HIV have resulted in excessive mortality rates. As a result, Cameroon is a young country, where nearly two-thirds are under the age of 25.

Lutheran Hour Ministries conducts outreach in Cameroon through mass media, technology, and interpersonal channels.

**Ministry Response**

There is tremendous opportunity to share God’s love and reach out with the Gospel in Cameroon. Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM–Cameroon) responds to the spiritual hunger across this African country through a variety of strategies:

**RADIO.** Our weekly radio spots air to a wide audience in English, French, and Fulfulde, the language of the people in northern Cameroon. These broadcasts offer a Christian perspective on current issues, and we even invite local church leaders to participate in these devotional moments. The spots also provide a way to invite listeners to contact our ministry center, where they also have the opportunity to enroll in our Bible Correspondence Courses (BCCs).
BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES. LHM–Cameroon offers Bible Correspondence Courses (BCCs) to introduce the Gospel to people who don't know Jesus and reinforce a biblical understanding for people who do. Our BCC lessons are available in English, French, and Fulfulde. When someone responds to an LHM outreach activity, LHM–Cameroon will typically invite the respondent to begin a BCC as the next step of his or her spiritual journey.

HOLISTIC OUTREACH. Meeting people's practical needs is a powerful way to demonstrate Christ’s love and open the door to conversations about the Gospel. We provide classes for teenage mothers to teach them to read and write, which helps position them and their children for the future. Also, our Divine Sewing School offers vocational training to help women escape the cycle of poverty and provide for their families. Finally, we train volunteers to bring Bible studies to individuals in prison.

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS. LHM–Cameroon recruits volunteers and provides Equipping the Saints workshops that train volunteers to reach out to people with the Word of God in effective ways. We partner with local congregations to offer sessions on evangelism and stewardship. After attending the sessions, believers feel more confident sharing the Gospel with their neighbors and inviting them to local congregations.

LIVE EVENTS. Live events draw a crowd and offer unique, multimedia experiences for communities. Film showings are an especially effective way to proclaim the Gospel to people who cannot read or write. We also bring small-group events to campuses.

YOUTH MINISTRY. For older youth, we host Bible studies and debates on social issues to help them incorporate their faith into their daily walk.

Impact

A FRESH START:
How God Used Lutheran Hour Ministries to Help a Vulnerable Teenage Mother

Tariana lives in Cameroon, where she was forced into marriage at an early age. She suffered mistreatment along the way. Eventually, she received her freedom and the chance to regain her dignity.

Tariana carries difficult memories with her today. Tariana is only 15 years old. Her freedom brings new challenges. She needs to support herself ... as well as her young son, to whom she gave birth while married.

One day, while listening to the radio, she heard a message from Lutheran Hour Ministries. Aimed at teenage mothers like her, the spot mentioned a unique opportunity to enroll in the ministry’s Divine Sewing School. It’s an intensive program that trains and equips young women in a necessary vocation, which helps protect them from future vulnerability.

The Lord began working on Tariana’s heart. In addition to classes, she started attending morning devotions. She wants to know more about Jesus. Meanwhile, she is learning a skill that will enable her to provide for her son’s needs.

Tariana’s family comes from a different religion. Although she fears her family’s response if she becomes a Christian, the desire to know the Lord continues to burn within her. She believes she is on the verge of transformation—and looks forward to it with joy.

Please keep Tariana and young women like her in prayer as the Holy Spirit brings them to faith.

LHM.ORG/GLOBAL