



**Love In Action**  
International  
A Hands on Ministry to the Lord of Doing, Going, and Giving.

*A Christian organization working to fulfill the Great Commission and meet the vocational training needs of our brothers and sisters in Africa.*

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# “Love Notes”

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## Update on LIAI Developments

*Written by Tom Staller*



Love in Action’s activity in Chad this year has included visits by Larry DeArme y, David DeArme y,

their crops to send missionaries and to further His Kingdom.

David DeArme y was in Chad in April along with his friend Jared and was able to make several new contacts for collaboration concerning our projects. He was told of the possibility of the donation of machinery for our metal fabrication shop to accelerate the fabrication of stoves to burn the new charcoal substitute. Concerning that project, a partner organization is moving ahead with the micro-economic development of the production aspect of the substitute.

and Frank Puhl. Frank is the Regional Director in Africa for GBIM so LIAI is only one of his many interests in Africa. However, we are really grateful for his continued encouragement and help as a member of the LIAI Advisory Board. I spent time with Frank when he was in the U.S. in April and July and we had profitable talks about the future of LIAI and its relationship with GBIM. Frank was in Africa for nearly one month in April and May and was able to spend some significant time in the Chad.

We have started the process of becoming an independent Non Governmental Organization (NGO) in the country of Chad as well as in Europe. This will put us in a better position to carry out our projects in relation to the government of Chad.

Larry DeArme y was there in January to teach and train sixteen evangelists and church-planters. He was accompanied by Dr. Keith Shearer. They were able to check on the LIAI projects while they were there. Keith was encouraged to see this as a fulfillment of the Great Commandment that compliments those missions fulfilling the Great Commission. They were both encouraged by the generous hearts of our Chadian brothers and sisters who are giving from the money they receive from

In August, Larry and I met with David in Madrid to talk about the future direction of LIAI. I was accompanied by Bill Sheets who is strongly considering working with LIAI full-time along with his wife. He is a successful engineer who is taking an early retirement. Right now he is completing an MA in Intercultural Studies at Grace Seminary. We met friends of David who are interested in LIAI as well and checked on the legal process for the NGO status of LIAI in Europe. This status would allow us to receive donations from interested people, organizations and corporations in Europe.

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## LIAI Update Continued . . .

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We are still interested in beginning auto mechanics and wood working in the near future as training for apprentices. With someone in place to translate we could use a lot of American short-term help in these areas. I am hoping our newly interested couple will have a role in organizing this.

The future is wide open for LIAI and we are excited to see how God will provide workers and resources as well as new opportunities for helping the poor to help themselves in the country of Chad.



## Metal Fab Shop & Sewing Center Graduates Six

The Metal Shop & Sewing Center held a graduation ceremony for six students on July 12, 2009. The graduation ceremony each year is a very important aspect of the culture, not only because of the accomplishments of the young apprentices but ceremonies of any kind in this culture (a “shame-based culture”), are an opportunity to honor an individual or organization.

When asked how lives have been changed by training in the Metal Shop or Sewing Center programs, Melina Ezel reports that they “have been told again and again, that the young men who have been through this training are *different*. They have a spiritual maturity and integrity that is hard to find otherwise. They are honest and hard-working, producing a much higher quality product than what is normally available here because they have learned to do things carefully and well, ‘as unto the Lord and not unto men.’ Practically speaking, those who have graduated also have much better chances of finding work. Several have continued on to work for other organizations or have even been able to open up their own shops.”



Matthias Ezel (left) with the four graduates from the Metal Fabrication Shop

businesses or find work of a skilled nature. The following is some additional information on these four graduates:

**Taba**—has returned to his home in Roro to find work. This part of the country is deeply rooted in the evil practice of initiation, a tradition steeped in satanic practices and secrecy. All young men are expected to take part when they reach a certain age and Taba was no exception. Nevertheless, God continued to work in his heart, bringing him to total



The six graduates with their diplomas

repentance and giving him the desire to serve Him. At first, Taba was hesitant to admit this to the others but now he is no longer afraid to share his story but rather, happy to let God use his testimony to encourage others to take a stand against initiation. He has even taken a very public role in an anti-initiation project being produced by the Chadian church. He knows that he does so at risk of his own life but he has chosen to trust God with that.

**Dalao**—has finally successfully paid the dowry for a wife and will soon be married.

**Amond**— is from the village of Maku, 5 miles outside of Moundou. He made the trip to and from Moundou every day *on foot* in order to attend classes.

**Ramaji**—is from the southern village of Gore. He has returned home and hopes to find work with one of the organizations there who train Central African refugees in practical skills.

The two Sewing Center Graduates are also equipped to find employment in the communities of their choosing. The Sewing Center graduates are:

**Patrick**—a deaf orphan who has already completed schooling at the school for the deaf. He hopes to be able to set up his own sewing shop

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## The Situation We Are Trying to Help

Written by Tom Stalter

God's care and love for His children is beyond what we can humanly imagine. In addition to this He has a special concern for the poor expressed throughout the Bible (Matthew 25:34-40; James 1:27; Deuteronomy 14:29; Proverbs 14:31; 19:17; 22:9; 31:20). Many mentions of the poor are in the book of Proverbs where we see the heart of



God in a unique way. In the rapidly vanishing moments of human lives, we see God has a purpose for everyone whether rich or poor and we have only a little time to fulfill it. One of His purposes for the "rich,"—yes, that is you and me though some more so—is to help the poor and to care for the widows and orphans in this world. What will we do? How will we do it?

Our intention is that Love in Action International will provide a way of giving the kind of help most needed; the kind that will restore the people's dignity and will last beyond our presence and resources in the country. It appears that it is up to us to both spread the Gospel (Matthew 28:18-20) and help the poor (Proverbs 21:13). These can be done together through a holistic approach to mission. Indeed,

according to the Bible, if you are not doing both, you may not be doing either (1 John 3:18; James 2:26; 1:22; 1 John 2:9). Love in Action International is holistic in its approach. This is sometimes spoken of as "redemption and lift." The goals are winning people to Christ and then enabling them to live in a self-sustaining way so they can do the same. When we leave them in their poverty, especially while enjoying our riches, they cannot reach their full potential for the Lord, and we cannot be blessed of God in what we do (Proverbs 11:26; 14:21; 21:13; 22:9).

Life is short and the blessing of God comes through the efforts of His people to obey His will for their lives: to be godly people, to share the Gospel, and to help the poor and needy.

## Metal Fab Shop & Sewing Center Graduates Six cont.

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but this will be a big challenge. Because of him, this is the first graduation service translated into sign language. Another special contribution to the graduation ceremony was a performance of the deaf choir.

Medar—plans to return to his home village of Andoum to set up a sewing shop there.

Please pray with us for these graduates, that they will be able to find employment or set-up their own business to provide an income for their families. Please also pray that they will be salt and light to their communities.



The two Sewing Center graduates during the ceremony



## The Vision of LIAI

The necessary elements of vocational training for the African church are not optional if the endeavor is to be indigenous and is to survive to help churches become self-sustaining in Central Africa.

Enterprise for Vocational Development can help produce vibrant, self-sustaining churches in Africa. Love in Action International exists to use enterprise toward this goal.



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| <input type="checkbox"/> Apprentice Fund               | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing Center Development Fund     |
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**\*\* Please include your email address for quarterly updates. \*\***

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If you have any questions regarding newsletter articles or general questions regarding LIAI's ministry in Chad, please contact Valerie Crumbley at (574) 269-4513 or by email at [vcrumbley@loveinactioninternational.org](mailto:vcrumbley@loveinactioninternational.org).