# Unleashing Potential

## Hawa Kaba's Inspiring Takeover as Country Director of ActionAid Liberia

On October 10, 2024, the world witnessed an immense event that emphasized the boundless potential of young girls. Hawa Kaba, a energetic 19-year-old from Duala New Kru Town, stepped into the role of Country Director at ActionAid Liberia for a day. This remarkable opportunity was part of the #GirlsTakeOver initiative, championed by Plan International Liberia, which aims to empower girls by placing them in leadership positions. Hawa's journey is not just inspiring; it's a testimony to the power of giving girls a platform to shine.

International Day of the Girl is more than a celebration; it's a call to recognize the challenges girls face and, more importantly, to celebrate their strengths and aspirations. The #GirlsTakeOver initiative allows girls worldwide to take on leadership positions, from presidents to CEOs, for one day. The impact of such an experience, however, extends far beyond those 24 hours. It empowers girls like Hawa to see themselves in roles they might have believed were out of reach.



#### Meet Hawa Kaba

Hawa Kaba represents the spirit of the #GirlsTakeOver initiative. As a graduate of the Shah Taj Ahmadiyya Muslim School, Hawa has been a dedicated advocate for youth rights through her involvement with the Gender and Advocacy Program (GAP) and the Girl Shine Network of Liberia. Her commitment to her community is evident in her role as a quizzing coach and her work at the Ahmadiyya Muslim clinic. Hawa is not just participating in her community; she is leading and making a tangible difference.

#### **Breaking Barriers and Challenging Norms**

Hawa's day as Country Director was more than a symbolic gesture; it was a powerful statement about the importance of giving girls the platform to express their voices and ideas. By stepping into this role, Hawa challenged societal norms and broke down barriers that often limit what girls can aspire to be. This takeover showcased her capabilities, ignited her ambitions, and encouraged her to dream bigger.



### A Day in the Life of a Leader

The day began with an office tour and a meeting where Hawa introduced herself to the ActionAid Liberia staff, sharing her journey, her passions, and her vision for the future. She then met with the current Country Director, Elizabeth D. Gbah, to discuss important advocacy initiatives and learn about the responsibilities of leadership. This mentorship was crucial, highlighting the importance of supporting and uplifting the next generation of female leaders.

## The Ripple Effect

Hawa Kaba's takeover serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of giving girls the platform to express their voices and ideas. By assuming a position of power, Hawa showcased the capabilities, ambitions, and potential of girls. Her story is a testament to the incredible potential that resides within every girl.

By providing opportunities and showcasing their capabilities, initiatives like #GirlsTakeOver help bridge the dream gap and inspire a new generation of leaders. Hawa's journey encourages girls everywhere to dream bigger and strive for leadership roles.

#### **Call to Action**



As we commemorate this International Day of the Girl throughout October 2024, we urge everyone to stand together and reject outdated notions of what girls can achieve. Let's support initiatives like #GirlsTakeOver that empower girls to break free from societal constraints and assume their rightful place as leaders in their communities.

#### Take Action:

Support initiatives like #GirlsTakeOver, volunteer, mentor, and donate to organizations that empower girls. Together, let's build a world where every girl can reach her full potential.

#### Conclusion

Hawa Kaba's historic takeover as Country Director of ActionAid Liberia has set a powerful precedent. Her journey inspires countless girls worldwide to recognize their potential and strive for leadership roles. By empowering, supporting, and uplifting each other, we can create a future where every girl has the opportunity to lead, inspire, and effect change. When girls thrive, we all thrive.

Join us in celebrating Hawa's journey and the journeys of countless girls worldwide. Together, we can unleash the power of girls and create a future where every girl knows she has the potential to lead, inspire, and effect change. Let's empower, support, and uplift each other—because when girls succeed, we all succeed.