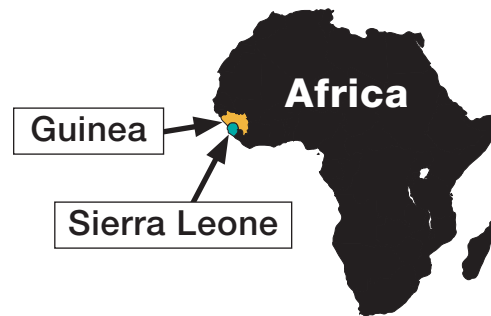




Family makes new home in Alberta



Memunatu is from Sierra Leone. She lives in Alberta now.



In the 1990s, there was a war in Sierra Leone. Memunatu's village was burned down. Her husband and many other people were killed. Her oldest son was missing.

Became refugees

Memunatu escaped with four of her children. They went to Guinea. They lived in refugee camps for five years.

Memunatu became a leader in the camps. She worked hard to help people in the camps.



a refugee camp in Guinea

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Came to Canada

In 2001, Memunatu and four of her children came to Edmonton. Then Memunatu found out her oldest son was alive. He came to Edmonton in 2003.

Wanted to help

Memunatu wanted to help people back in her village. She sent some money to Sierra Leone right away.



Went to school

Memunatu worked hard. She took English as a second language (ESL) classes. She took adult basic education classes too.



Memunatu became a health care aide.

Was a single parent

Memunatu was a single parent. She raised her children by herself.

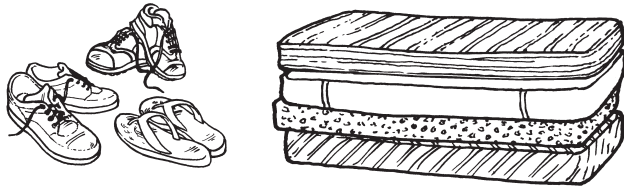
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Helps people in her village

Sent things to Africa

Memunatu saw that many people in Canada threw things away. For example: used shoes and mattresses.

Memunatu began to collect used things. She sent them to her village in Sierra Leone.



Started to raise money

In 2002, Memunatu held an event to raise money. People ate, sang, danced and told stories. She raised about \$1,600.

After that, she raised more money. The money helped her village build a school and pay the teachers.



Organization helps her village

Later, Memunatu and other people started an organization. They raised money for another school, a clinic and a church. The village got a new well too.

Next, the organization wants to raise money for a hospital.



Many people in Alberta are helping the organization. For example: teachers and students at a college and a high school.

Visited her village

In 2008, Memunatu visited her village for three months. She helped with many projects. Everyone loves her there!

Thank you, Canada!

Memunatu is thankful to be in Canada. She helps other immigrants and refugees in Alberta. She helps them adjust to their new lives here.

Photos—Memunatu (page 1): Michael Lewcio; Memunatu at work: supplied; refugee camp: USAID; school & well: Tamaraneh • Art: Nola Johnston
Article adapted from the Edmonton Journal & www.tamaraneh.org