



CHOZEN GENERATION SIERRA LEONE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Address the Kush Pandemic: Disrupt the Chain, Rehabilitate Victims

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In light of the devastating impact of the Kush substance on the youth of Sierra Leone, Chozen Generation Sierra Leone (CGSL) urges immediate action to address the crisis. Recent events, including the burial of 32 young individuals suspected to have succumbed to Kush-related causes, underscore the urgent need for government intervention. With an estimated 2000 victims in psychiatric facilities and countless more on the streets, it is imperative that all stakeholders unite to combat this epidemic.

CGSL acknowledges that the true victims of the Kush pandemic are the youth ensnared by its grip, while the root problem lies with the dealers and profiteers exploiting their vulnerability. Therefore, concerted efforts must be directed towards disrupting the supply chain and providing comprehensive support for rehabilitation.

At this critical juncture, the government must demonstrate proactive leadership by declaring the situation a public health emergency. This declaration should be followed by concrete actions, including the allocation of resources to bolster the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). Collaboration between authorities and communities is essential to gather intelligence, apprehend dealers, and ensure swift prosecution.

Moreover, CGSL calls for enhanced support for psychiatric facilities, including adequate facilities, medical supplies, therapeutic programs, and safety measures. Community engagement is paramount for successful rehabilitation and reintegration efforts.

To those involved in the illicit trade of Kush, CGSL issues a stern condemnation. Your actions are not only reprehensible but also detrimental to the nation's development. The suffering inflicted upon families and communities by this trade is immeasurable, and those complicit will face the consequences of their deeds.

CGSL also appeals to the conscience of citizens, urging an end to stigmatization and the promotion of empathy towards Kush victims. These individuals are in dire need of assistance and compassion as they strive to break free from the grip of addiction.

Chozen Generation Sierra Leone is committed to playing its part in combating this crisis. We have already provided psychosocial support and essential resources to affected individuals, and we call upon other organizations and institutions to join us in this endeavor.

In the coming days, CGSL will expand its outreach efforts to engage with communities heavily impacted by the Kush pandemic, including Kroobay, Congo Town, and Lumley.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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Note to Editors:

Chozen Generation is a community of young leaders who are making a difference in Sierra Leone.

Victims of Kush often express a desire to quit but feel trapped by their circumstances.

The Kush pandemic has far-reaching effects on Sierra Leone's society and economy.

There are reports of children being involved in the Kush trade, although evidence is lacking.