

# NEWSLETTER NEXT GENZ FEMINISM



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# About Next Gen Feminism

The Next Gen Feminism is a six-week program, each week includes activities that engage young people in discussions, workshops, and actions related to intergenerational feminism and social justice.

The program creates intentional spaces for dialogue between generations, enabling the sharing of experiences, strategies, and visions for change. Young people will be encouraged to connect theory with lived realities, design and implement small-scale collective actions, and reflect on their personal and collective roles in advancing equity. By the end of the six weeks, participants will have strengthened their understanding of intergenerational feminist principles, deepened their commitment to social justice, and developed concrete plans for continued activism

This six-week program engages young people in an immersive journey into intergenerational feminism and social justice. Through a combination of interactive discussions, participatory workshops, and community-driven actions, participants will explore the historical and contemporary dimensions of feminism, learn how social justice movements intersect with gender equality, and build practical advocacy skills. The program creates intentional spaces for dialogue

between generations, enabling the sharing of experiences, strategies, and visions for change.





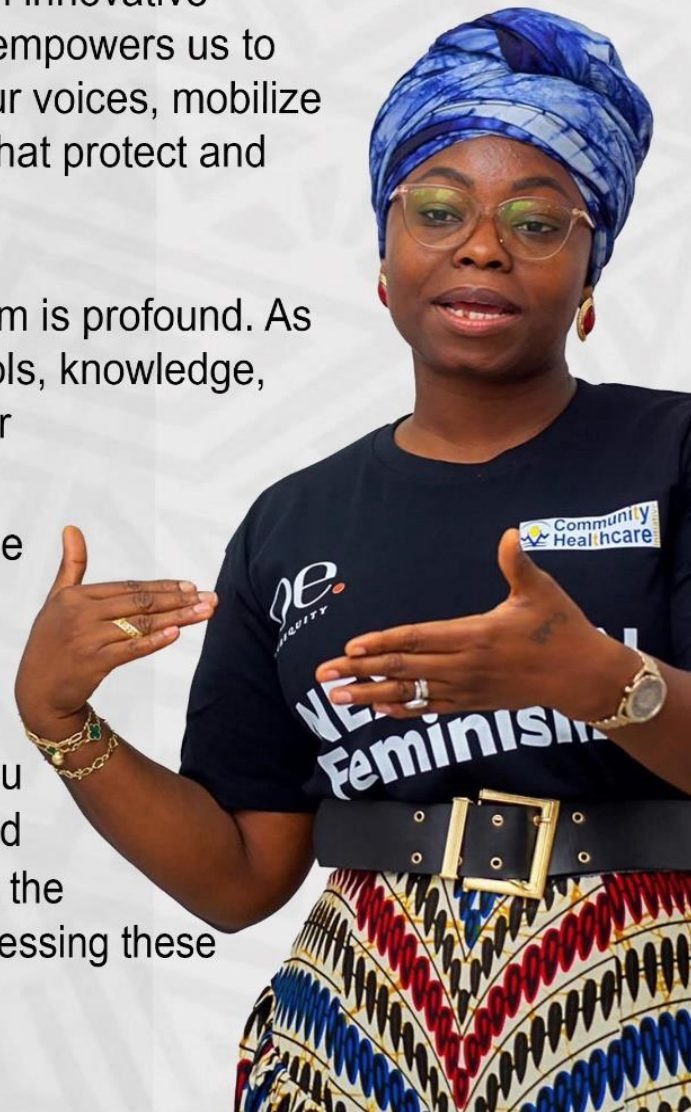
# Executive Director's Statement

As we embark on this exciting journey into the realm of Next Gen Feminism, I am thrilled to share insights into a movement that represents not just a continuation of the feminist legacy, but a transformative evolution. Next Gen Feminism is characterized by its inclusivity, intersectionality, and a commitment to harnessing technology and innovation to address the pressing issues faced by women and marginalized communities. It emphasizes that the fight for gender equality is multifaceted, ensuring that every woman, regardless of her identity, has a voice and a seat at the table.

In today's world, marked by rapid change and unprecedented challenges—from the global pandemic to climate change and rising authoritarianism—the urgency for Next Gen Feminism is clearer than ever. Women and marginalized communities are often at the forefront of these crises, making it imperative that we respond with innovative solutions and collective action. This movement empowers us to leverage digital tools and platforms to amplify our voices, mobilize communities, and advocate for policy changes that protect and advance women's rights.

For our fellows, the impact of Next Gen Feminism is profound. As emerging leaders, you are equipped with the tools, knowledge, and networks to drive meaningful change in your communities.

As emerging leaders, you are equipped with the tools, knowledge, and networks to drive meaningful change in your communities. This cohort will serve as a space for collaboration, learning, and sharing best practices, allowing you to develop skills in advocacy, digital activism, and community mobilization. Together, you will explore the intersections of gender, race, and technology, harnessing these elements to create a more equitable world.





As we move forward, my expectations for this cohort are high. I encourage each of you to engage fully, challenge the status quo, and bring your unique perspectives to the table. Embrace collaboration and support one another as you navigate the complexities of this work. Remember, Next Gen Feminism is not just about individual empowerment; it is about collective action and solidarity. Together, we can create a future where gender equality is not merely an aspiration, but a reality.

## Feminism in Liberia

Liberian feminism has evolved through several waves shaped by the country's political history, traditional gender norms, and struggles for peace and equality.

Historically, women in Liberia played influential roles in trade, community leadership, and conflict resolution, but colonial-era and post-independence politics often sidelined them from formal decision-making.

Feminist activism became more visible during the late 20th century, particularly in the 1980s–1990s, as women's groups pushed for legal rights, education, and protection from gender-based violence.

Thank you for being part of this transformative initiative. I look forward to the incredible work we will accomplish together!

The early 2000s marked a defining moment with the Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace, led by Leymah Gbowee, which used nonviolent protests to pressure warring factions toward peace, contributing to the end of the Second Civil War in 2003. This activism also helped pave the way for Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's election in 2005 as Africa's first democratically elected female president.



# Feminism Timeline



## **Pre-20th century –**

Women hold significant roles in trade, agriculture, and community dispute resolution, though

**1940s–1960s** – Women's organizations like the Liberian Women's Social and Political Movement emerge, advocating for education and political participation.



## **1980s–1990s –**

Rise of women's rights activism amid political instability; groups call for legal reforms

**2003** – Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace, led by Leymah Gbowee, mobilizes Muslim and Christian



**2005** – Ellen Johnson Sirleaf elected President, becoming the first democratically elected female head of state in Africa. Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.



**2011** – Leymah Gbowee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her role in peace activism.



**2014** The establishment of Liberian Feminist forum ( Korto Williams and Caroline Boyeh) co founder



**2015**–present – Feminist movements push for stronger laws on rape, sexual violence, and harmful traditional practices.

Feminist Lecture series  
**2017.** Gbowee Peace foundation



**2017** The Feminist Humanitarian Network ( supporting women first line responders)



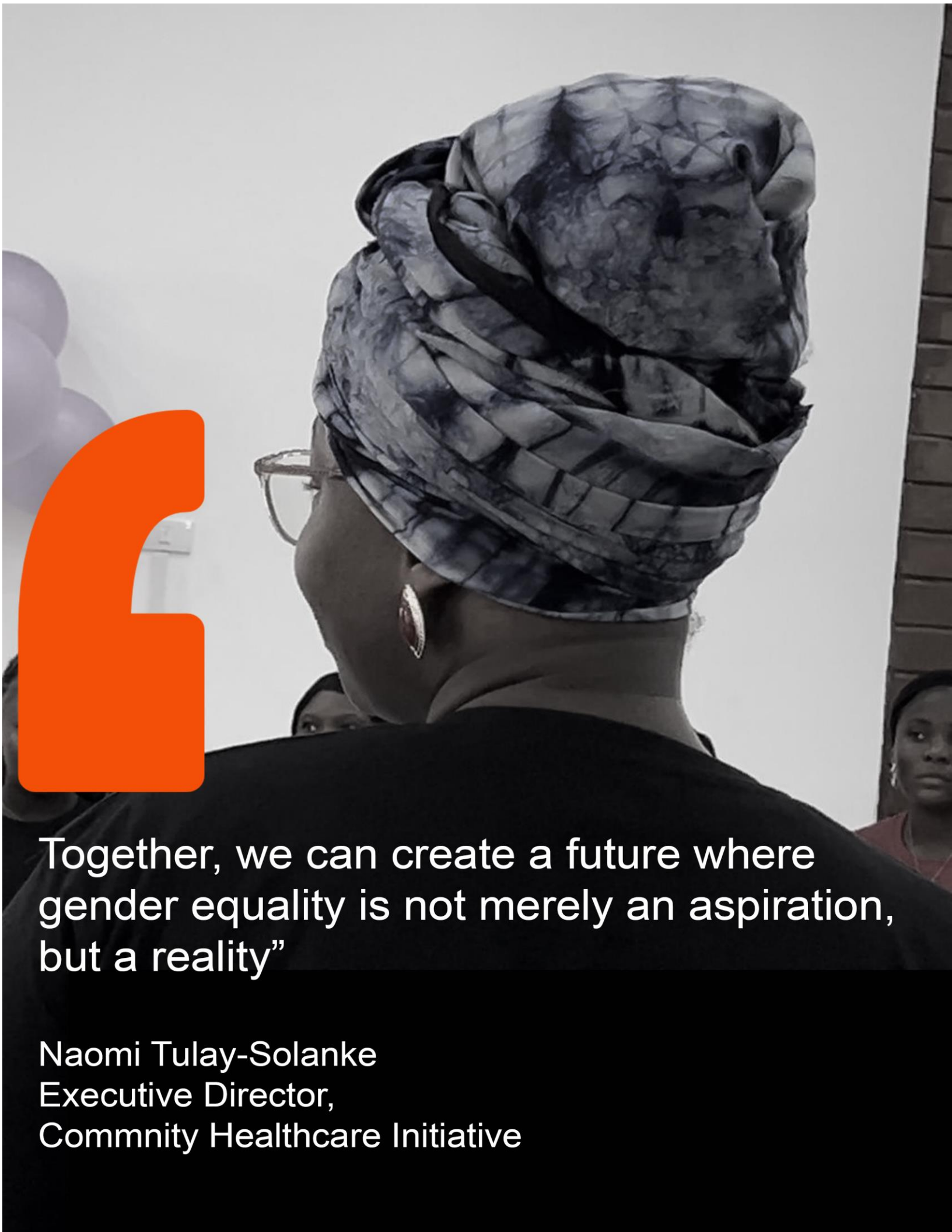
**2024**



**2025**

Next Gen Feminism  
Mentoring young women into feminist leaders





Together, we can create a future where gender equality is not merely an aspiration, but a reality”

Naomi Tulay-Solanke  
Executive Director,  
Community Healthcare Initiative



## Fellows Testimonies



The sessions of the next generation of feminists made me to reflect on the strengths of my mother who has taught me to always fight for girls and women, to always speak for justice, because I know what it feels like to be treated less. .

Shirley Paulinus  
Next Gen Fellow



## Fellows Testimonies



Feminism is not a flame to burn, but a light to see by. You matter, you always did. A girl in a small moment is raising her hand with no fear, a mother choosing her path freely, a boy learning that strength has many shapes and kindness is one of them.

Saoballah P. Borbor  
Next Gen Fellow





## Fellows Testimonies



The day I became a feminist was when I realized the the injustice women face in our cruel world. The inequalities in our homes, schools, work spaces. Women were made to be in the kitchen cooking to serve me, while they were in the offices.

Parzabeth A. Johnson  
Next Gen Fellow



# Photo Journal



During the course of the week, fellows engaged in a warm, inclusive session focused on relationship building recognizing that feminist work thrives in community. Participants were guided through intentional exercises to build trust, share personal journeys, and identify common values. Icebreakers, small group conversations, and storytelling circles created a safe space for vulnerability and openness. This relational grounding set the tone for the cohort's future collaboration and mutual support, emphasizing that connection is both a strategy and a strength in feminist organizing.





# Feminist Mentors





Action Aid Liberia hosted the fellows and provided a shared understanding of feminism's history, Action Aid connection between gender justice and feminist principles, and diverse expressions across cultures and communities. Participants explored:

1. The origins and key waves of feminism
2. Intersectionality as a critical lens
3. Global feminist movement and their impacts
4. Contemporary feminist issues such as bodily autonomy, economic justice, and gender-based violence







# Moima Briggs Mensah

Representative, Salala, District 6, Bong County









# Ame Atsu David

Global Fund For Children







**Caroline Boweh**

Liberia Feminist Forum















**Aminata Kamara**

RFSU