

WORLD HOPE

Live!

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Saving
Lives,
**RESTORING
HOPE**





EBOLA CRISIS

WHI is on the front lines, working to
stop the spread of the deadly virus.

As of December 1, 2014, more than 5,500 people have died from the Ebola virus in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates the true death toll may be three times higher.

More than **70%** of people who have contracted Ebola during this year's outbreak have died.

About **5,000** children have been orphaned by the disease since the outbreak began.

Among the thousands of Ebola cases are nearly **450** health care workers, more than half of whom have died. Many have gotten sick for the lack of basic protective gear like rubber gloves, goggles, and aprons.

1 to 2: On average, a person infected with Ebola will pass the virus to two others.

Sierra Leone spends just **\$205** per person on health care each year. The United States spends nearly **\$9,000** per person on health care annually.

There are just **2** doctors for every 100,000 people in Sierra Leone. There are **242** doctors for every 100,000 people in the United States.

Ebola treatment centers in West Africa have only **25%** of the isolation beds they need. Without enough beds, families are having to care for sick relatives at home and risk infection.

A Call to Action

The worst-ever Ebola outbreak continues to rage out of control in West Africa. With about five new infections per hour, the crisis is greatly outpacing Sierra Leone's capacity to respond. This tragedy is almost beyond imagining.

Sierra Leone's health system is collapsing. Health workers are caring for patients without protective equipment. At overcrowded hospitals and clinics, infected men, women, and children lay sprawled on floors awash in infectious fluids. Afraid that if they come to a treatment center they will never leave, many infected people are staying home, where they are spreading the virus further and further. Once again, Sierra Leone is living in fear.

World Hope International first entered Sierra Leone in 1998 to provide relief to the victims of the country's decade-long civil war. Today, WHI is one of the largest privately operated non-profits working in Sierra Leone. We know the people, speak Krio, their native language, and are deeply committed to a peaceful, prosperous future for this nation. That means we have both the opportunity and an obligation to do everything in our power to fight this horrible disease.

Thanks to the incredible compassion of friends like you, WHI is leveraging all our resources to halt the Ebola outbreak and eventually see it end.

and hours over bad roads to make sure that the international medical aid beginning to pour into Sierra Leone reaches the hospitals and clinics where it is desperately needed.

In addition to providing urgent care, we also need to restore hope and faith to these suffering communities. Even as our response to the Ebola crisis has intensified, WHI has remained true to our long-term mission in Sierra Leone. Initiatives like our recovery center for girls and women who have survived sexual slavery and the Pineapple Project, which is creating economic opportunities for poor farmers, are providing a pathway back to lives of hope, dignity, and opportunity.

Through our work on the front lines of this crisis, we continue to dedicate ourselves to providing faith and compassion for all those who suffer. Please join me in praying for the people of Sierra Leone, for the sick, for their families, and for the safety of the health workers and WHI staff fighting the good fight against this deadly virus. Together, we can continue our call to care for the "least of these" and bring hope to a broken world.

Tenki, tenki (Krio for "Thank you").


John Lyon
CEO & President

Thanks to caring friends like you and the Wesleyan Emergency Relief Fund, World Hope International is on the front lines of the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone. We are making sure lifesaving medical assistance gets to people in need, working to stop the spread of the outbreak, and providing long-term relief to restore hope, dignity, and opportunity to these communities. Here's how:



Supporting Health Workers:

The Ebola outbreak has completely overwhelmed Sierra Leone's fragile health system. There are simply not enough treatment centers, beds, supplies, or health workers. Doctors and nurses are desperate for basic protective gear like rubber gloves, and many infected patients are suffering at home without medical attention.

To help increase the health system's capacity to deal with Ebola, WHI, in partnership with the Wesleyan Church, set up an isolation unit at Kamakwie Hospital in northern Sierra Leone and is providing staff training, equipment, and supplies. We are also assisting the Ministry of Health in building roadside checkpoint facilities to screen for the virus. This is helping restrict the movement of those infected and encouraging them to come forward to receive treatment, instead of staying home and potentially infecting their families.

We have also set up training for medical personnel in 15 Community Care Centers (CCCs) in Sierra Leone with the assistance of Carrie Jo Cain, RN. CCC staff will be better equipped to care for the sick while they wait for test results, as well as provide monitoring and evaluation support, and food relief to the local community.



Transporting People and Supplies:

Medical supplies are now quickly coming into Sierra Leone from international governments and non-profit organizations. Unfortunately, these donors lack the logistical network in Sierra Leone to distribute these supplies throughout the country. To meet this critical need, WHI's fleet of trucks, made up of two large trucks and 15 pickup trucks, is delivering airlifted medical supplies to remote hospitals and clinics, and we are working to secure more large trucks to meet the growing need for supplies.

The inability to quickly move Ebola patients to isolation and treatment centers is a major reason why the virus continues to spread. Working with the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), WHI has started an ambulance service to transport Ebola patients and ferry lab samples. We have converted two trucks into makeshift ambulances, purchased eight new ambulances, and staffed them with drivers trained in infection control. This work is critical to bringing the outbreak under control.



Education and Prevention:

With many of the sick unable to make it to hospitals or treatment centers, WHI is working to bring lifesaving care and prevention to people in their villages. We are training 750 community health workers to identify the symptoms of Ebola, treat the sick, and prevent its spread. We also are teaching them about nutrition, sanitation, and providing other basic health care their communities need during this crisis.

Education is critical to stopping Ebola. WHI is working with the Ministry of Health on a mass education campaign about the deadly virus. We are conducting public information radio broadcasts, village seminars, and, in remote areas, travelling door-to-door to deliver information.



Water and Sanitation:

At the request of the government of Sierra Leone, WHI is working quickly to provide water wells and sanitation facilities for Ebola treatment centers all over the country. We have upgraded the well at Makeni Hospital, a primary treatment center for Ebola patients, and constructed two wells for a new 100-bed treatment center in Port Loko. Water from these wells will hydrate Ebola patients and medical staff, help fight infection, and increase the survival rate.

Thanks to our faithful supporters, we hope to complete 4-5 new wells per week. We are also providing vulnerable communities with hand-washing buckets and chlorine supplies. Lack of sanitation is a huge challenge in Sierra Leone, as most homes do not have running water or a toilet. Promoting regular hand-washing with chlorine is one way we can keep Ebola from spreading. But this is a massive task under incredibly dangerous conditions. WHI's teams are putting themselves in harm's way to bring lifesaving water to these communities.



Increasing Food Security:

Despite the Ebola emergency, people in Sierra Leone still need to eat and earn a living. In fact, food security is critical to the health and resilience of people infected with or at risk of contracting the virus. WHI continues to work with our village cooperatives to grow pineapple and papaya, which provides poor farming families with a vital income to buy food, medicine, and other necessities. Although the supply of pineapple plants has been limited by the closure of the border with Guinea, we are still helping farmers plant about 10,000 to 20,000 plants each week.

We are also carrying on with our "Greenhouses Revolutionizing Output" project (GRO), which is producing and distributing affordable greenhouses. GRO project greenhouses are easy to build and reduce water use, which makes it easier for small farmers to grow crops year-round, including during a crisis like this outbreak. This technology will allow farmers to have a source of food and livelihood during this difficult time when food is scarce.

WHI's Ebola Response in the News

If you've been following the news from West Africa, chances are you've heard about the remarkable work World Hope International is doing on the ground in Sierra Leone to help fight the Ebola outbreak and bring emergency medical care to those who suffer. While many other international non-profits have left, WHI has stayed by the side of the people of Sierra Leone—and the world has taken notice. Here is a snapshot of what people are saying:

"I would also like to take this opportunity to commend [World Hope International] as well as express on behalf of the Government of Sierra Leone, thanks and appreciation to your institution for the immense support and contributions you are making towards the fight against the Ebola Virus Disease in Sierra Leone."

—Letter from Senior District Officer, Bombali District, Sierra Leone

"There are about five new infections per hour there. So the rate of infection is greatly outstripping the number of beds they have to hold patients."

—John Lyon, WHI CEO & President

"It's a massive order....We've been working on the Makeni hospital. Just last week we put in a submersible pump and then we're drilling a new water well for Makeni hospital. That hospital, just in the last month, has had 100 cases of Ebola."

—John Lyon, WHI CEO & President
Voice of America

"God couldn't have written a more perfect invitation that said, 'Carrie Jo, I need you to do this,'" Cain said. "I have the skills and I have the open door to go in and impact that situation. I feel strongly that I need to."

—Carrie Jo Cain, St. Paul Pioneer Press

Carrie Jo, a nurse and Wesleyan Church member from Fridley, MN, travelled to Kamakwie, Sierra Leone, on trips sponsored in part by World Hope International to help train medical staff and deliver much-needed medical supplies.

THE HUFFINGTON POST

"Ebola's Economic Impact Threatens To Cripple Once-Rapidly Growing Sierra Leone"

"Under the very obvious and serious health issues facing the country is an equally troubling and broad set of concerns that are deeply impacting the local Sierra Leonean economy and the rest of the region....With the help of Virginia-based nonprofit World Hope International, Africa Felix organized more than 5,000 of the smallest and poorest farmers in the country into co-ops as a mechanism to source fruit for the factory, specifically mango." — Jonathan Shafer, Managing Director of Africa Felix



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PHOTOS BY: InterMotion
Media & Alex Watson

