

HEALEY INTERNATIONAL RELIEF FOUNDATION

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

SERVICE AND COMPASSION IN ACTION

hirf.net

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Partnerships Anchor Impact

This past year has been a testament to HIRF's commitment to expanding partnerships and enhancing healthcare in Sierra Leone. From the very beginning, our vision has been to build strength and capacity, providing sustainable solutions that make a lasting impact.

A highlight of 2024 was the inaugural Maternal and Newborn Care Conference in Bo. This event addressed the critical need for focused training on the preventable causes of maternal and newborn deaths.

It truly exemplified the African proverb, *"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."* Over 20 organizations, both local and international, along with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, participated to provide essential training, supplies, and establish mentorships. The success of this conference has paved the way for additional training conferences across Sierra Leone.

Through our ongoing partnerships, in 2024 we continued to deliver essential medicines and supplies to support health facilities in serving their patients more effectively. While we remain committed to providing essential medicines, we are also expanding our focus to address emerging health concerns such as hypertension and mental illness.

Looking forward to 2025 we will continue to seek and develop partnerships that enable us to support our community partners. To holistically support women and children, we will focus on increasing collaborations with women-led organizations, particularly in the agricultural sector.

Helping women boost their income not only enhances their financial stability but also allows them to invest in their children's education and improve their families' food security.

Thank you to all our partners for making 2024 a year of remarkable progress. Together, we have gone far, and together, we will continue to make a lasting impact.



Robert T. Healey, Jr.
Chairman & President
Healey International Relief Foundation

HIRF MISSION

Service and Compassion in Action

Healey International Relief Foundation (HIRF), is a U.S. registered 501(c)(3) organization with offices in the U.S. and Sierra Leone. Our mission is to transform lives and build resilient, self-reliant communities through compassionate, sustainable, and locally driven development.

For twenty three years, we have been dedicated to strengthening health systems, ensuring food security, empowering women and children, and providing timely disaster relief. Our work is grounded in the belief that every individual deserves the opportunity to live a healthy, dignified, and fulfilling life.

We are committed to developing sustainable solutions in partnership with local and international entities.

We align our efforts with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of good health and well-being, quality education, no poverty, and zero hunger.

Through strategic partnerships and community engagement, HIRF invests in building local capacity through training, direct program implementation, and the distribution of essential resources. These include life-saving medicines, medical and agricultural supplies, educational materials, food, and financial assistance to those most in need.

Our approach is holistic and people-centered. We are invested in strengthening service delivery and creating lasting change. By working closely with local communities and governments, we foster resilience, restore hope, and help shape a brighter, more equitable future.

Our unwavering dedication to these principles drives us to continuously innovate and expand our reach, ensuring that every initiative we undertake contributes to a Sierra Leone where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



2024 AT A GLANCE

Activities & Where We Work

January
- Maternal & Newborn Care Conference in Bo
- ROW Foundation visit to Loreto Health Services, Makeni

February
- TRIMEDX Foundation visit to support six hospitals with equipment repair & training

March
- Stella Maris Baby Show
- Vitamin Angels & MAP International visit Sierra Leone

April
- Vitamin Angels Maternal & Newborn Nutrition Training

May
- Disaster Relief Assistance to Susan's Bay

June
- Registration as an official Sierra Leone NGO approved
- Delivery of medicines and supplies to hospitals and clinics

July
- Survey work done for Innovate Your Future Grant

August
- USAID Limited Excess Property Program Renewed

September
- Partnership with Ministry of Health to Address MPox outbreak



October
- Nurse & Midwife Refresher Training
- Holy Spirit Hospital ICU Training
- 2nd TRIMEDX Foundation visit to support repair & training at hospitals
- Innovate Your Future Workshops and delivery of Universal Anesthesia Machines

November
- Christ the King Hospital Baby Show
- Comic Relief Grant to strengthen women-led organizations is announced and operational assessments conducted.

December
- Interfaith Dialogue & Rice Distribution
- USAID visit to review HIRF programs

HIRF AREAS OF FOCUS

Focus Area

Health Systems Strengthening

HIRF partnerships help improve healthcare services by shipping containers from the U.S. to Sierra Leone with medical supplies, equipment, and essential medicines.

Additionally, we are committed to capacity building for nurses and midwives, ensuring they acquire the critical skills necessary to effectively manage emergencies.

Focus Area

Supporting Women & Children

We support women farmers in adopting sustainable practices that boost productivity and protect the environment. By fostering peer-to-peer learning, we encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing among women in agriculture and local markets. We invest in the capacity of women-led organizations--because when women lead, communities thrive.

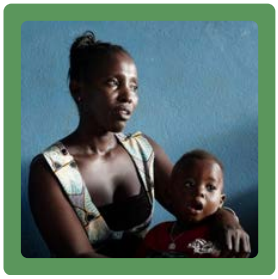
Focus Area

Disaster Response

Through Partnering to Serve Humanity, we swiftly respond to emergencies, including natural disasters and disease outbreaks. We provide immediate relief, aid, shelter, medical supplies, and mobilize emergency response teams.









KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2024

For the past 23 years, HIRF has been committed to strengthening systems that uplift lives in Sierra Leone. Our efforts span a network of clinics and hospitals across the country, providing essential medicines, capacity training, and medical supplies and equipment. We also support women-led organizations building their organizational capacity to drive sustainable change.

2024 Key Accomplishments

- Maternal and Newborn Care Conference: Along with key partners an inaugural conference held in Bo District, focusing on training nurses and midwives to address preventable causes of maternal and newborn mortality.
- Biomedical Repair and Training: In partnership with the TRIMEDX Foundation, we continued our capacity-building initiatives to ensure healthcare facilities have functional equipment to provide quality care to patients.
- Nutritional Training: Collaborating with Vitamin Angels, we provided nutritional training to 26 nurses and health staff from over 14 facilities.
- Comic Relief Grant: Conducted three site visits for organizational capacity assessments of women-led organizations participating in the grant.



37 Hospitals & clinics provided with medicines & supplies



8 Health facilities visited by biomedical technicians to repair equipment and provide training



22 Interviews conducted for Comic Relief grant

HEALTHCARE: REDUCING MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES

Sierra Leone has made notable strides in reducing maternal and newborn mortality rates, however, they remain some of the highest in the world. There is a pressing need to enhance the ability of healthcare providers to effectively manage complications and emergencies.

To tackle this challenge, Healey International Relief Foundation (HIRF), Tenki for Born, Together for Global Health, and a coalition of local and international partners have devised an innovative strategy to deliver essential training aimed at saving the lives of mothers and babies.

In January 2024, the Inaugural Maternal and Newborn Care Conference was held in Bo. Through hands-on training and mentorship, nurses and midwives were equipped with the skills necessary to significantly improve health outcomes for women and children. Additionally, selected conference attendees received specialized training to become Rising Trainers, enabling them to share their knowledge and expand the impact of this initiative.

In October, refresher training sessions were conducted. We were encouraged to see how participants were applying their new skills to enhance care quality.

Looking ahead, additional conferences are planned in 2025 to continue this vital work.



98 nurses & midwives trained in 'Helping Mothers Survive' & 'Essential Newborn Care'



20 training sessions held at health facilities by Risising Trainers

HEALTHCARE: PROVIDING ESSENTIAL MEDICINES AND SUPPLIES

Through strategic partnerships with MAP International, Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB), Vitamin Angels, Brother's Brother Foundation, and ROW Foundation we provided critical medicines and supplies to clinics and hospitals across Sierra Leone.

During 2024, 13 shipments transported more than 100 tons of essential medicines, equipment, and medical supplies. MAP International supplied substantial amounts of critical antibiotics, such as co-trimoxazole and amoxicillin, which supported an estimated 155,000 patient treatments. These medications are crucial for treating conditions such as pneumonia and various infections in children under five.

Supporting our effort to improve the maternal mortality rate in Sierra Leone, CMMB provided a medicine to address postpartum hemorrhage, a leading cause of preventable death during childbirth. This medicine facilitated 1,900 patient treatments.

Our nearly decade-long partnership with Vitamin Angels continues to provide much-needed nutritional support to pregnant women and under five children. Over 25,500 pregnant women benefited from prenatal vitamins and 54,500 children under-five received albendazole along with 95,000 doses of Vitamin A.

Brother's Brother Foundation enabled us to address the growing need for treatments of non-communicable diseases, such as heart disease.

Quality medicines are essential, but so are the supplies that ensure safe and effective healthcare delivery. In 2024, we supplied hospitals and clinics with gloves, masks, medical gowns, and bandages to maintain high infection control standards.

Prioritizing these items in our shipments is crucial for protecting both patients and healthcare workers.



Over **950,000** pairs of gloves



Over **350,000** treatments to reduce inflammation



Over **100** tons of medicines, equipment & medical supplies



13 Ocean Shipments



Supported a catchment population of over **900,000**

HEALTHCARE SPOTLIGHT: ROW FOUNDATION

Loreto Health Services in Makeni, Sierra Leone has been providing comprehensive epilepsy care since 1997. They offer diagnosis, treatment, and community outreach to reduce stigma and improve the lives of epilepsy patients.

Since 2018, Healey International Relief Foundation has partnered with the ROW Foundation to provide Loreto Health Services (LHS) with critical epilepsy medicines.

The backbone of LHS's epilepsy efforts is Mrs. Adama Marian Michael. For 46 years, her dedication has benefited thousands. When the ROW Foundation announced her as the recipient of the Amanda Award, we couldn't think of a more deserving person.

Established in 2019, the Amanda Award honors Amanda Brook de los Santos, who lost her life to seizures at a young age. Each year, ROW Foundation wards a cash grant to recognize impactful leaders or organizations addressing epilepsy treatment gaps.

Amanda's mother, Lisa, presented the award in Makeni, alongside Josephine Garnem, HIRF's Executive Director. Josephine remarked, "Nurse Adama is a true champion in compassionate and professional care for people living with epilepsy. Her tireless efforts have made a profound difference, and we are deeply grateful for her leadership and commitment."

Loreto Health Services:
2024 Epilepsy Program at a Glance

Total Epilepsy Patients: **4,037**

Male Patients: **1,345**

Female Patients: **2,692**



HEALTHCARE: ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS

THE NEED

Makeni, one of the largest cities in Sierra Leone, has long faced healthcare challenges, particularly in the availability of specialized medical facilities. Despite the pressing need for an Intensive Care Unit (ICU), the city lacked such a facility.

However, in 2024, through a generous donation from the Julia Scott Memorial Fund, HIRF began the planning, construction and equipping of an ICU at Holy Spirit Hospital.



This new facility will provide a significant leap forward in healthcare for the local community, providing advanced medical care and support for critically ill patients.

In preparation for the official opening of the ICU, staff received specialized training at Connaught Hospital in Freetown. This training equipped them with the necessary skills and knowledge to manage complex cases and utilize advanced medical technology. By learning from experienced practitioners, the staff will be better prepared to deliver high-quality care to patients in critical condition.



A soft opening of the ICU was held in October 2024 to begin operations on a limited basis. This phase lets staff test equipment, workflows, and procedures in a real-world setting and make necessary adjustments before being fully operational in 2025.

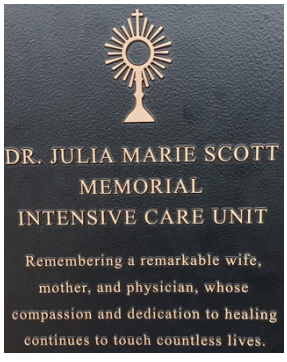
The ICU has five beds for critically ill patients and is equipped with state-of-art equipment, especially as it relates to newborn critical care.

A Legacy of Love

Named in her honor, the ICU is a generous gift from Dr. Julia Scott, an emergency room physician who passed away from cancer in 2020 at just 38 years old.

A devoted mother of four, Julia's heart was touched by the stories her husband, Riley Scott (who serves on the HIRF Board), shared about Sierra Leone.

This ICU stands as a testament to her deep compassion, unwavering dedication to helping others, and profound belief in human kindness.



Remembering a remarkable wife, mother, and physician, whose compassion and dedication to healing continues to touch countless lives.

SUPPORTING WOMEN & CHILDREN

Strengthening Women-Led Organizations

Launched in October 2024, the *EmpowerHER* project, funded by Comic Relief, is a three-year initiative aimed at strengthening women's organizations in Sierra Leone.

In partnership with Uman Tok, Every Woman Sierra Leone, and Berny's Hope Foundation, HIRF will lead and organize workshops to strengthen their capacity and expand their initiatives in Sierra Leone supporting women.

To develop the curriculum for the project, HIRF conducted organizational capacity assessments. HIRF staff visited each organization and interviewed 22 staff members.

As a result of this assessment, staff training in fundraising, project management, finance, monitoring and evaluation, governance, grant writing, and leadership will be provided.

These trainings will equip staff with the skills and tools needed to strengthen their organizations and amplify their support for women across Sierra Leone.

Education a Priority

HIRF is committed to ensuring that vulnerable children can thrive at school. In 2024, we supported the education and living expenses for 24 children at St. Mary's Fatima Interim Care Center.

We are happy to report that three of the children have advanced to university and are studying Accounting and Finance, Engineering, and Gender and Development Studies.

Baby Shows Highlight Mothers



In 2024, HIRF hosted, with partners Caritas-Freetown and the Christian Health Association of Sierra Leone, two baby shows to celebrate the importance of antenatal care in maternal health.

Held at Stella Maris and Saint Anthony's Clinics, mothers were recognized for diligently attending their appointments.

These events also acknowledged men who accompanied their partners to health visits.

Studies show that men's active participation in the birth process can foster more engaged parenting and reduce gender inequalities.



500 10kg of rice distributed at baby shows



Over 100 moms recognized at baby shows

REACHING UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Transformative Engagement for At-Risk Youth



Through our USAID Innovate Your Future Grant, HIRF held workshops with at-risk youth. The sessions were designed to engage young minds and inspire them to think creatively about solving pressing issues in their communities.

By fostering a spirit of collaboration and innovation, HIRF aims to empower the next generation to become leaders in their fields and contribute to the sustainable development of Sierra Leone.

An emphasis was placed on outreach to young women, encouraging them to pursue careers in science, math, and technology.

This focus aligns with HIRF's belief that empowering women is crucial for the overall progress of society.



St. Joseph's School for the Deaf

St. Joseph's School for the Deaf in Makeni provides critical services and education to children who are deaf or have hearing loss. HIRF supports the school with donations of rice from the Tzu Chi Foundation.



Supporting Individuals with Disabilities

Throughout the year, HIRF extends vital support to vulnerable populations. In Lunsar, in collaboration with our partners, we distributed essential items such as rice, clothing, wheelchairs, crutches, and walkers to individuals with disabilities, including many women.

DISASTER RESPONSE SPOTLIGHT: SUSAN'S BAY



Through the Partnering to Serve Humanity coalition—comprised of the Tzu Chi Foundation, Healey International Relief Foundation, Caritas Freetown, and LANYI Foundation—we respond swiftly to disasters with critical emergency aid.

On May 2nd, a devastating fire swept through the Susan's Bay community displacing over 300 families. Partnering to Serve Humanity was among the first to respond.

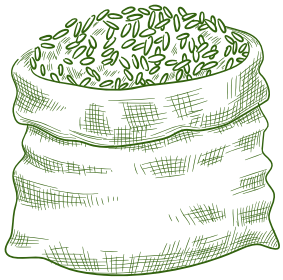
Providing immediate relief through food, blankets, clothing, and cash funds, our goal was to uplift affected communities and help them get back on their feet for the long-term.

Our commitment is to stand with communities in crisis and support their journey toward recovery and resilience.

Over 33,000 hot meals served

Over 1,500 individuals supported

ANNUAL RICE OUTREACH: SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES & UNITY



Twenty containers of rice shipped



Each year, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation ships twenty (20-foot) containers filled with rice, micro-nutrients, and clothing to support disaster relief and also vulnerable communities across Sierra Leone.

A highlight of the year is the December interfaith distribution event, where Christians, Muslims, and Buddhists come together to provide rice to those in need.

This powerful gathering not only provides essential support but also celebrates Sierra Leone's enduring spirit of interfaith dialogue and cooperation among faiths.



PARTNERS IN ACTION

In 2024 several of our partners visited Sierra Leone to see the impact of their support.



ROW FOUNDATION

The ROW Foundation came to Sierra Leone to see the work that Loreto Health Services does in providing treatment to epilepsy patients. During their visit, the ROW team gained firsthand insight into the persistent stigma faced by individuals suffering from epilepsy in the region. The ROW team also had the opportunity to hear compelling testimonies from beneficiaries, highlighting the life-changing positive effects of the epilepsy medicines supplied by the ROW Foundation.



MAP INTERNATIONAL

Visits to St. Anthony's Clinic, Christ the King Hospital, and Holy Spirit Hospital in Makeni showed the MAP International team the value of their seven container shipments in 2024.

Seeing the medicines and supplies in use reinforced the impact of MAP's commitment to improving health outcomes in Sierra Leone.



VITAMIN ANGELS

A team from Vitamin Angels traveled to Sierra Leone to assess the distribution processes and record-keeping associated with their grant program. Their itinerary included stops at St. Anthony's Clinic, Christ the King Hospital, and our warehouse.

Beyond logistical evaluations, the team also dedicated time to meet directly with mothers who have received their prenatal vitamins. These powerful interactions provided invaluable, firsthand insights into the positive impact of Vitamin Angels' crucial support of maternal and child health.



USAID

A visit from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided an excellent opportunity to showcase the significance of the Ocean Freight Reimbursement (OFR) program in our efforts to strengthen health systems.

The OFR program helps cover the costs of certain shipments. In 2024, OFR-supported shipments included essential items such as gloves, masks, and oral rehydration salts, which are crucial for promoting child health.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2024

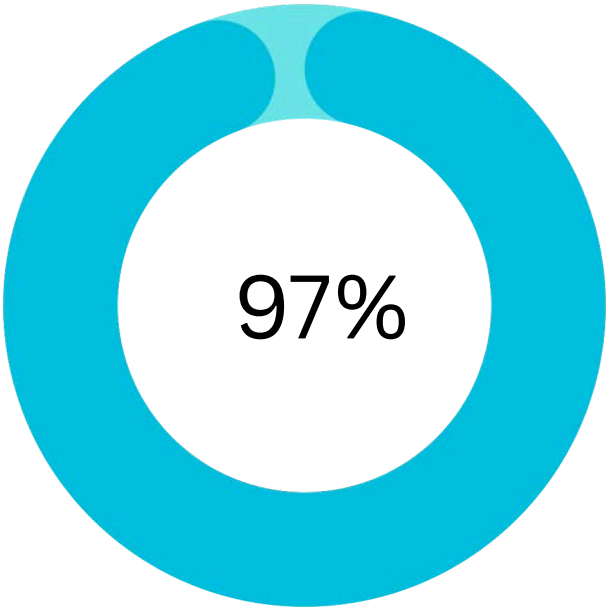
Statement of Activities

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions and Other Revenue	$1,334,668
Donated Goods and Services	$13,470,152
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	***$14,804,820***

Expenses

Program Support	$14,204,209
Administration	$366,146
Fundraising	$141,361
TOTAL EXPENSES	***$14,711,716***



97% of all cash and non-cash donations directly support program implementation for vulnerable communities and partners in Sierra Leone

Hilton Program Update



Thanks to a 2016 grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, HIRF has supported advanced education for Holy Sisters in Sierra Leone.

While the program ended in 2022, its impact continues — including 2024 graduate Sister Norah Oyagi, who earned her MBA in Healthcare Management.

"I look forward to collaborating and applying what I've learned to strengthen Sierra Leone's health landscape. This scholarship has empowered me to make a difference." Sr. Oyagi.

Scan Here to Visit Our Website

MEET OUR TEAM

"WE DO THIS FIELD OF WORK, NOT BECAUSE WE HAVE TO, BECAUSE WE WANT TO. IT'S A PERPETUAL REMINDER OF HOW MUCH NEED IS OUT THERE. KNOWING THE WORK YOU'RE DOING CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS IS CONSTANT MOTIVATION AND THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE HAVE LEFT AN IMPRINT IN MY HEART."

-MEGAN SMITH, PROGRAM MANAGER

HIRF STAFF

Josephine Garnem: Executive Director
Jean Briles: Finance Manager
Megan Smith: Program Manager
Molli Goetz: Monitoring & Evaluation Officer
Vicki Middleton: Development & Government Relations
Nataliya Magnitskaya: Finance Officer

Ishmeal Alfred Charles: Country Manager (PT)
Josephine Amara: Consultant Medical Coordinator
Michael Samai: Warehouse Coordinator
Fayia Baimba: Logistics
Catherine Brewah: Volunteer
Boakarie Braima: Volunteer

BOARD MEMBERS

ROBERT T. HEALEY, JR.

JOAN LEWIS

RILEY SCOTT

LEIGH HEALEY HUGHES

PATRICK LUKULAY, PHD

MARY ALEXIS IACCARINO, MD

ROBERT SHERRIFF

MOSES BARYOH, CBET

EDLEEN B. ELBA

JERRY KELLY, BOARD TREASURER

ALICE FITZPATRICK, BOARD SECRETARY

A Special Thank You

We're grateful to Gracie Sanchez, our Communications Intern from the University of North Carolina, who joined us in January. Gracie played a key role in designing our 2024 Annual Report and supporting our social media efforts. Her creativity, design skills, and attention to detail brought the report to life. Thank you, Gracie, for your outstanding contributions!





Many thanks to Praise Mansary, our Monitoring and Evaluation Intern and final-year Social Work student at Fourah Bay College. Praise played an important role in supporting our project focused on strengthening women-led groups and engaging at-risk youth. She also contributed to our health systems strengthening efforts. We're grateful for her meaningful contributions to the team!

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT HIRF'S IMPACT



"Since I got pregnant, I started coming to this hospital. When I came here, they advised me on how to care for my pregnancy, especially if I felt any pain. They encouraged me to always come to the hospital if anything was bothering me. This is a good hospital with very effective medicines and they treat patients well."
Mariama B. on her antenatal visits to Christ the King Hospital in Waterloo and receiving prenatal vitamins provided by HIRF.

"The drugs we receive and the support we get from the Healey Foundation has been very instrumental in transforming the hospital and providing for the vulnerable."
Dr. Patrick Turay, Administrator Holy Spirit Hospital



"This training has taught me a lot, and now I can implement these practices in my facility."
Mamusu Conteh from Loreto Health Services in Makeni on her gratitude for the nutritional training she received.



"These drugs that Healey provides help us save the lives of children, pregnant women, and the aged."
Daude Yankura Community Health Officer Portoru Community Health Center

"This training not only helped improve our capacity but is going to help change our attitude to our pregnant women."
Juliana a midwife who attended capacity training in Bo

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Service And Compassion In Action

We cannot carry out our mission without your generous support. Your commitment empowers us to bring hope, healing, and critical resources to those who need them most in Sierra Leone.

Thanks to you, in 2024 we were able to:

- Support capacity training for nurses and midwives to reduce preventable maternal and child deaths.
- Support women and children through programs that promote education, nutrition and long-term well-being.
- Support those who have been impacted by disaster.

Together, we are making a lasting impact in improving outcomes in Sierra Leone. With your continued support, we can reach even more communities in need.

Thank you for standing with Healey International Relief Foundation.

www.hirf.net

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HIRF PARTNERS

We are deeply grateful to our partners for their collaboration, dedication, and shared commitment to creating lasting change in Sierra Leone.

Tenki Boku!

HEALEY INTERNATIONAL RELIEF FOUNDATION

SERVICE AND COMPASSION IN ACTION

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