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Healey International Relief Foundation News: March 2016

--Turning Scars Into Stars--

Report From Sierra Leone

Women have a long history of influence in the political and economic development of Sierra Leone.



Read how International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8th in Sierra Leone in this month's [Report From Sierra Leone](#).

Thank you Ruben Shoes!

Through a partnership with Caritas Freetown and Ruben Shoes, Healey International Relief Foundation distributed shoes to children in need. Thousands of shoes were delivered and as you can see from the photographs they were a big hit with the children. Thanks to everyone who made this donation possible.



With Ebola contained in West Africa, discussion now turns to what lessons were learned from this crisis. As a member of InterAction, HealeyIRF participated in the development of key lessons learned from this crisis and how to plan and prepare for future pandemics.

These recommendations were presented at a forum on Capitol Hill and representatives from HealeyIRF, Global Communities, International Medical Corps, Project Concern International and World Vision (below left) participated. HealeyIRF President Bob Healey, Jr. (below right) made concluding remarks and cautioned that "this is not over" and we must "mitigate the reasons why this happened and to not let people forget."



[Sierra Leone -- 25 Years Ago](#)



On March 23, 1991, a civil war began in Sierra Leone that was to last 11 years. Over 50,000 were killed, thousands mutilated, children were forced to become child soldiers and villages destroyed. 25 years later the country is still struggling to overcome the devastation of this war. Watch our short video "[Rising From the Ashes](#)" that discusses our early work after the war ended.

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