



## Healey Foundation News



### Ebola is Real. Mr. Charles and Fr. Konteh Visit the U.S. to Raise Awareness of Outbreak.



Ebola is real as **Fr. Konteh** and **Mr. Charles** can attest. Both are Healey International Relief Foundation representatives in Sierra Leone. Father Peter Konteh, Director of Caritas Freetown, and Mr. Ishmael Alfred Charles, a former child soldier and Foundation's current In-Country Manager, arrived in the U.S. on Sunday, September 14, 2014, and will stay until the end of the month.

This Friday, September 19, 2014, wraps up the first week of their visit to the U.S. It was a busy week of meetings in Washington, DC, ranging from meetings with different media sources, including **EWTN** TV Network and The Catholic Health Association of the U.S, to meetings with congressmen and NGOs.

On Tuesday, September 16, 2014, Mr. Charles testified before the **U.S. Senate** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related. "Today there is a general atmosphere of fear," said Mr. Charles. "This is the biggest crisis we have faced since the end of our civil war."

Watch **VIDEO** of the testimony here: <http://www.c-span.org/video/?321494-1/hearing-ebola-outbreak-west-africa>

As of September 17, there are **1,585 confirmed cases** of Ebola Virus Disease in Sierra Leone, with **489 of those resulting in fatalities**. There are **364 survivors**. The confirmed cases are in Kailahun, Kenema, Kono, Kambia, Bombali, Tonkolili, Port Loko, Pujehun, Bo, Moyamba, and Bonthe districts and the Western Area Urban and Rural. (Source: U.S. Department of State: Embassy Freetown, Sierra Leone)

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