



## Turning Scars into Stars

Healey International Relief Foundation  
Annual Report 2014



# HEALEY INTERNATIONAL RELIEF FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

## TURNING SCARS INTO STARS

Founded in 2001, the Healey International Relief Foundation is a 501(c) 3 public charity established to improve the quality of life of individuals and families in Sierra Leone.

We invest to improve the life of the world's most vulnerable people such as families and individuals affected by the Sierra Leone civil war and adverse socio-economic conditions. It supports them through the delivery of healthcare, clean water, food, training and other programs; embracing their needs, investing in their future and increasing the capacity of their communities to become self-sustaining.



We seek to bring hope and empowerment to those who are impoverished, hungry and hurting in Sierra Leone. We strive to provide a hand-up not a handout.

### Find us on Social Media



<https://twitter.com/HealeyIRF>



<https://www.facebook.com/HealeyIRF/>



<https://instagram.com/healeyirf/>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/healeyIRF>



## A Message from Robert Healey, Jr. President, Healey International Relief Foundation

A country already hard hit by a decade long civil war, the recent Ebola crisis brought further hardship to the people of Sierra Leone. This crisis dominated our work in Sierra Leone during 2014.

With nearly 9,000 confirmed cases and approximately 3,500 deaths in Sierra Leone, Ebola wrecked havoc on every family and every community. As Dr. Tom Frieden of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said, "The level of outbreak is beyond anything we've ever seen or even imagined."

With your help and the support of our partners, Healey International Relief Foundation was one of the first on the ground bringing food and medical supplies to those in need and providing training to communities on how to fight and defeat Ebola. Our H.E.L.P initiative helped thousands and would not have been possible without your generous contributions.

We have much to do in 2015 and we are already hard at work. Healey IRF opened a new health clinic in March and we have plans to rebuild 30 more across the country. We are also helping with the urgent need to provide for the large number of orphans.

Again, without your support none of our work would be possible. Thank you and know that you are helping build bright futures in Sierra Leone for those most vulnerable.

Bob Healey, Jr.

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## Contents

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- 3: Mission Statement
- 4: Letter from Robert Healey, Jr.
- 5: Interview with In Country Director Ishmael Charles
- 6: Healey IRF Testifies Before Congress on Ebola
- 7: The Year in Review 2014
- 8: Healey Ebola Lifesaving Project H.E.L.P
- 9: 2014 Healey IRF Donations
- 10: Financial Statement

**“True charity requires courage: let us overcome the fear of getting our hands dirty so as to help those in need.”**

*Pope Francis*

## Meet Ishmael Charles Healey IRF In Country Director

**Tell us a little bit about yourself—in what part of Sierra Leone were you born?**

I was born in Kissy, Freetown my father was an artisanal miner in Yormandu Village, Kono District and my mother was a petty trader and stone breaker, I have three brothers and one sister.

**During the civil war in Sierra Leone you were made to become a child soldier. What can you tell us about this?**

When the attack on our village was launched we were just running on foot into the bush. We were arrested and taken to the township, young men and boys were taken to be part of them and young girls and women were taken as their “bush wives.”

Afterwards, I returned to Freetown and always wanted to be someone who will help my community rather than destroy it. Amidst the challenges and odds I started university and studied Peace and Conflict knowing that I will be able to help people.

With no regrets, I am excited and feeling fulfilled everyday I do what I do and deep touching the lives of those that I had always wanted to touch. It's fulfilling.

**You have been with Healey IRF for three years, what is your proudest accomplishment?**

Healey IRF has many different programs that help the most vulnerable in Sierra Leone. As a father, our programs that help children and orphans touch my heart. Also as being a former child soldier who saw how our sisters were being treated by the rebels and the stigma when they returned home, I am very proud of the Fatima House of Light project - the transformation that has taken place in the lives of those young women is fascinating from being outcasts to key stakeholders.

**The Ebola epidemic is getting under control, looking back what do you think helped turn the tide?**

Sierra Leoneans are very social and some of our traditions and customs had to be altered in order to contain the virus. In addition, we needed to change social behavior and make sure everyone knew the importance of just washing their hands. Healey IRF developed the H.E.L.P. project that provided training workshops to many villages. But having the international community providing many resources and health workers also played a major role in getting the epidemic under control. Now we must work hard to get to zero cases but we will.

**What does 2015 look like?**

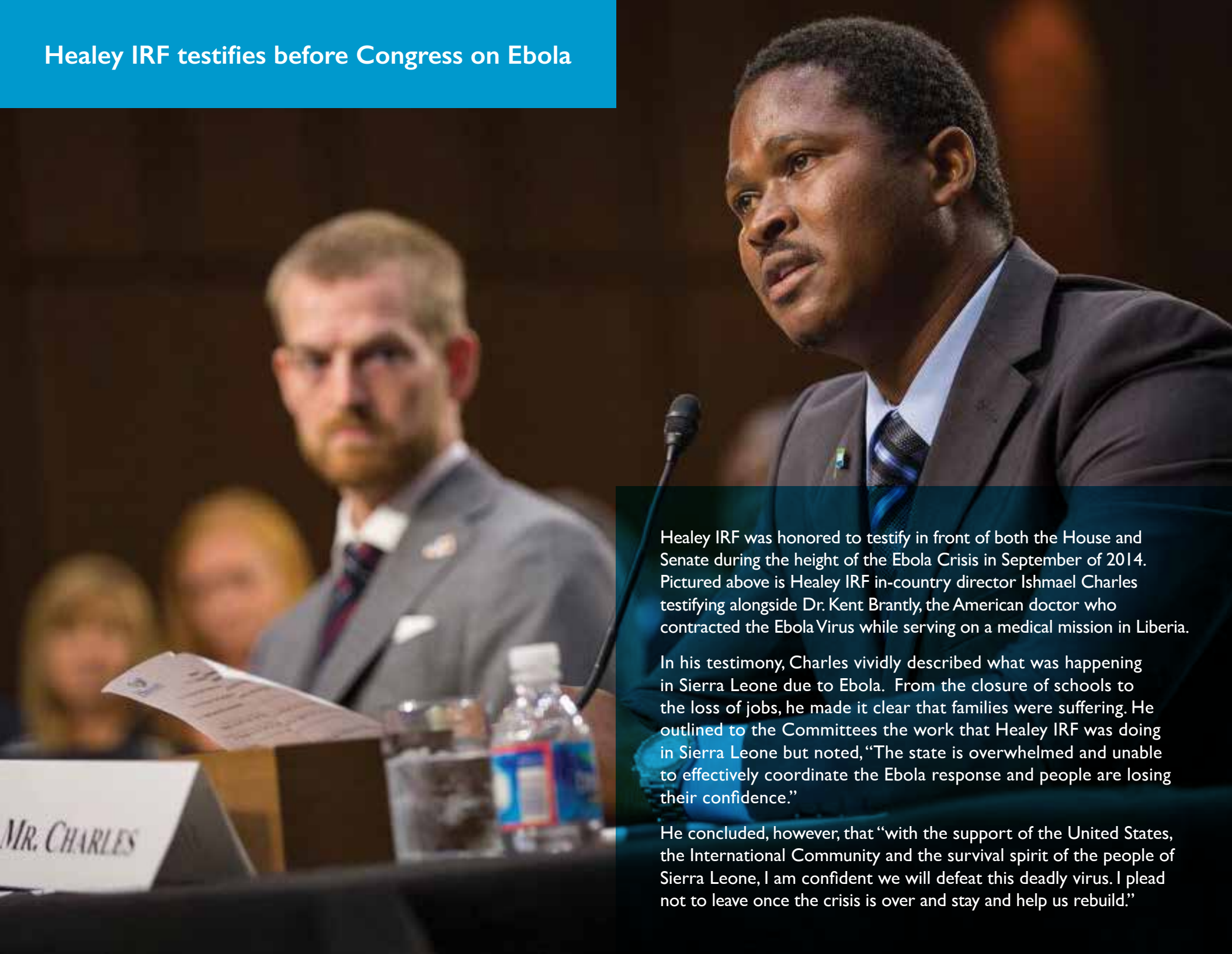
We now must deal with the aftermath, the large number of orphans and the psychological scars that this crisis has created. Healey IRF is going to focus on this population and do everything we can to ensure that these children have a bright future.

**What would you like people to know about Sierra Leone?**

While we have had a devastating crisis, Sierra Leone also has a proud and beautiful history. We will recover and we will put in place a stronger health care system that will help improve the health outcomes for our population. Healey IRF will be a part of these efforts and the future looks good!



## Healey IRF testifies before Congress on Ebola



Healey IRF was honored to testify in front of both the House and Senate during the height of the Ebola Crisis in September of 2014. Pictured above is Healey IRF in-country director Ishmael Charles testifying alongside Dr. Kent Brantly, the American doctor who contracted the Ebola Virus while serving on a medical mission in Liberia.

In his testimony, Charles vividly described what was happening in Sierra Leone due to Ebola. From the closure of schools to the loss of jobs, he made it clear that families were suffering. He outlined to the Committees the work that Healey IRF was doing in Sierra Leone but noted, “The state is overwhelmed and unable to effectively coordinate the Ebola response and people are losing their confidence.”

He concluded, however, that “with the support of the United States, the International Community and the survival spirit of the people of Sierra Leone, I am confident we will defeat this deadly virus. I plead not to leave once the crisis is over and stay and help us rebuild.”

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2014

## HEALEY IRF PROGRAMS THAT HELP TURN SCARS INTO STARS



### FATIMA HOUSE

Theresa Sesay is twenty-four and lives in Freetown. She dropped out of school after losing both parents during the civil war.

Facing many challenges she came to Fatima House of Light when she had lost all hope for a better future and enrolled in the Nursing Aid program. She was a determined young woman and today because of her training she is a nurse.

During the fight against Ebola Theresa was able to help her community and volunteered to offer psychosocial support to families who were quarantined and also served as a contact tracer.

*“With the training provided by Healey IRF I am able not only to support my family but also to provide care for those in my community.”*

Theresa Sesay

### ST. MARY'S CHILDREN'S HOME

Hawa Cecelia Korliwa came to St. Mary's Home for Children at age six.

At St. Mary's she had a safe home and fenced compound that Healey IRF built. But Hawa had a great passion for education that Healey IRF helped her pursue by paying for all her school fees and supplies.

Now twenty-one, Hawa is living in Freetown and attends the Bishop Johnson Memorial School. She has been reunited with her grandmother and now has a very promising future.



### ST. STEPHEN'S AMPUTEE CLINIC

*“I feel happy and blessed to receive this new wheelchair.”* Kaday Sesay

At just seventeen years old, Kaday Sesay is a mother and she is also disabled. Kaday lives at the St. Stephen's Home for Amputees along with 200 other people with disabilities. Previously, she moved around the compound and the streets of Freetown using a wheelchair that was old and broken. It was difficult for her to traverse the unpaved streets.

Making use of donated medical supplies, Healey IRF gave Kaday a new wheelchair that allows her to move around more easily and helps her to provide for her family.

Food and toys have also been delivered to St. Stephen's and young Kadiatu Fofanah summed up his feelings this way – “Thank you, now I have food to eat and something to play with, two things that I had really wanted.”

# H.E.L.P. HEALEY EBOLA LIFESAVER PROJECT



As part of World Health Organization Ebola Roadmap “Social Mobilization and Community Engagement” activities, the Healey International Relief Foundation partnering with Caritas has organized training workshops on Ebola prevention and response in Sierra Leone.

Over 150 community leaders from rural and urban parishes near the capital city Freetown attended, learning about how the virus is transmitted. Community members also received materials such as buckets and posters entitled “Ebola is Real” to set up hand washing stations in their towns and villages.

Six training workshops were organized with 10 health volunteers and five field staff members. In addition, these community health volunteers have gone around the communities with megaphones to demonstrate the prevention techniques for Ebola on a continuous basis. As a result of these activities over 200,000 people were informed about the Ebola virus in the Newton, Kissy Town, Lumpa, Waterloo, Rokel, Hastings, Grafton, Jui, Allen Town, Lakka and Goodrich communities.



# Summary of Donations distributed by Healey IRF in Sierra Leone 2014

In 2014, Healey IRF shipped approximately \$425,000 worth of medical supplies to hospitals and clinics, in addition to school supplies and toiletries.

## Serabu Hospital

- 3 pallets of rice and beans
- IV Pole
- Medical Scales
- 2 boxes of Crocs shoes
- 9 Wheelchairs
- 3 pallets of Syringes
- 2 pallet of hospital linens
- 1 pallet of adult diapers
- Miscellaneous medical supplies and toiletries
- 50 hospital mattresses
- 4 infant bassinets
- 2 cases of IV fluids

## St. Mary's Children's Home

- 4 pallets of rice and beans
- 30 boxes of beanie bears
- 25 Mosquito Nets
- Miscellaneous school supplies, toiletries and toys

## Kychoom Village Clinic

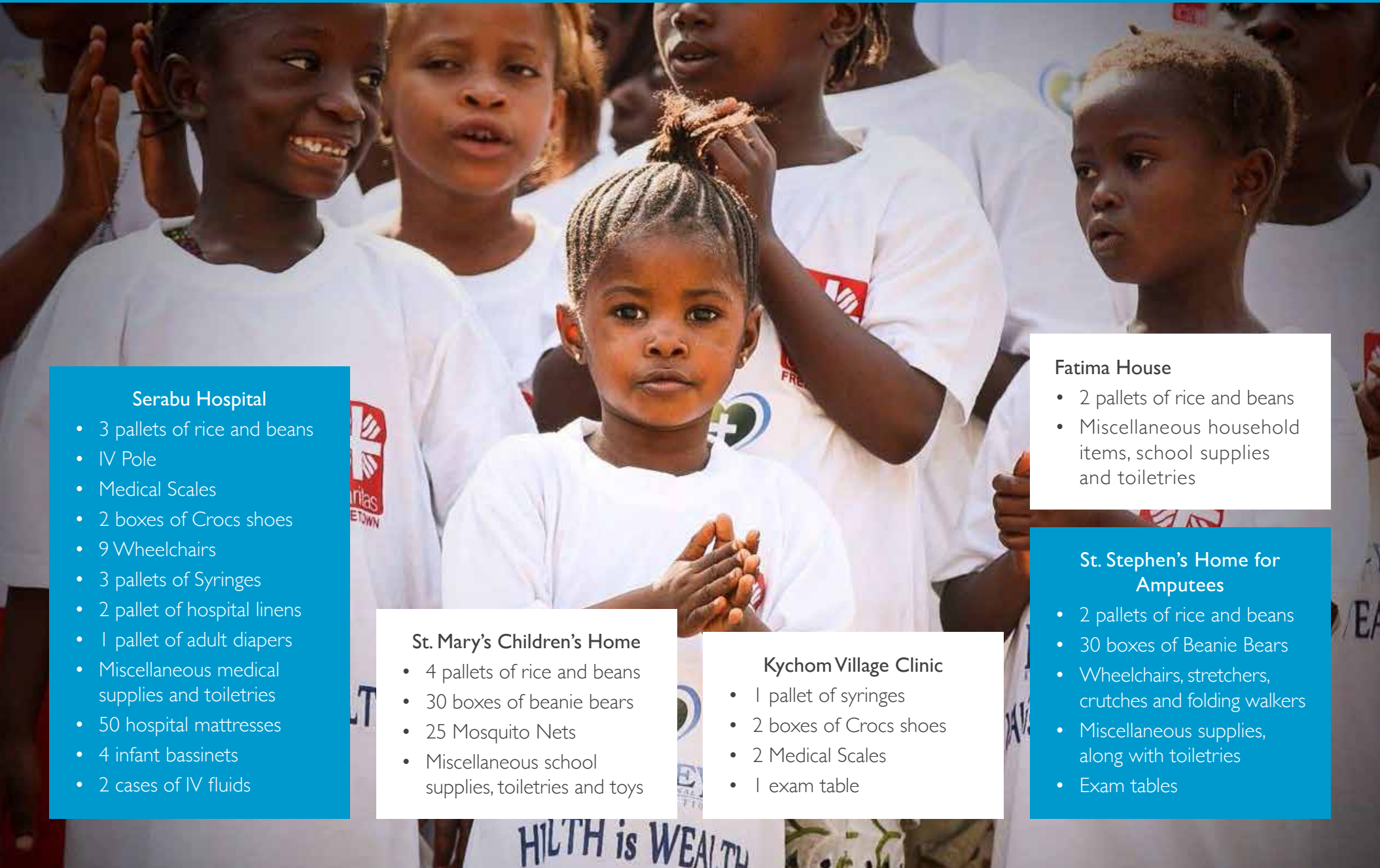
- 1 pallet of syringes
- 2 boxes of Crocs shoes
- 2 Medical Scales
- 1 exam table

## Fatima House

- 2 pallets of rice and beans
- Miscellaneous household items, school supplies and toiletries

## St. Stephen's Home for Amputees

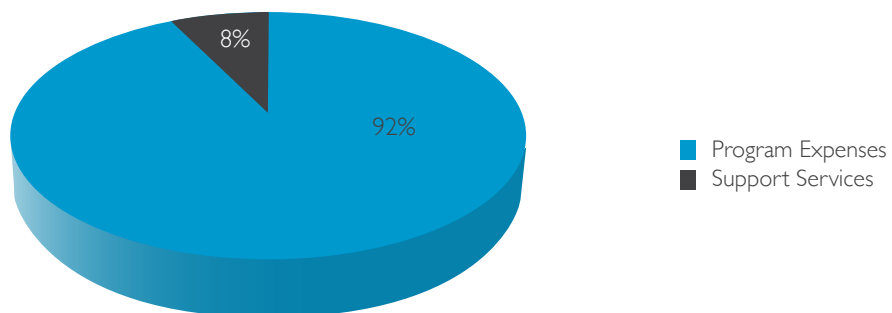
- 2 pallets of rice and beans
- 30 boxes of Beanie Bears
- Wheelchairs, stretchers, crutches and folding walkers
- Miscellaneous supplies, along with toiletries
- Exam tables



# Financial Statement

## Healey International Relief Board Members

- Robert T. Healey, Sr., Chairman
- Robert T. Healey, Jr., President
- Joan Lewis
- Riley Scott
- Leigh Healey
- Patrick Lukulay, PhD
- Alexis Iaccarino, MD



## Healey International Relief Staff

- Robert T. Healey, Sr., Chairman
- Robert T. Healey, Jr., President
- Benjamin Parra, Executive Director
- Megan M. Smith, Program Manager
- Ishmeal Alfred Charles, In-Country Manager
- Alice Fitzpatrick, Administrator
- Zoia G. Pavlovskaja, Public Relations Coordinator
- Vicki Middleton, Government Relations Officer

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2014 and 2013

	2014	2013
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 331,176	\$ 96,814
Receivables and prepaid expenses	28,825	10,262
Investments	1,500,938	1,789,876
Inventories	138,343	-
Property and equipment, net	31,459	37,343
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,030,741</b>	<b>\$ 1,934,295</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 38,316	\$ 16,459
	1,649	924
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 39,965</b>	<b>\$ 17,383</b>
<b>NET ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED</b>	<b>\$ 1,990,776</b>	<b>\$ 1,916,912</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,030,741</b>	<b>\$ 1,934,295</b>

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	2014	2013
<b>REVENUE AND GAINS</b>		
Contributions	\$ 718,196	\$ 362,989
In-kind contributions	558,389	-
Reimbursed expenses	29,855	29,727
Investment income, net of expenses	117,956	116,953
Realized gains (losses) on investments	49,903	(1,939)
Net assets released from restriction		-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND GAINS</b>	<b>1,474,299</b>	<b>507,730</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Program Expenses	951,687	592,629
Support Services	78,391	11,619
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,030,078</b>	<b>604,248</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>444,221</b>	<b>(96,518)</b>
Unrealized gains (losses)	(370,357)	191,063
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE</b>	<b>(370,357)</b>	<b>191,063</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>73,864</b>	<b>94,545</b>
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>1,916,912</b>	<b>1,822,367</b>
End of year	\$ 1,990,776	\$ 1,916,912





## DID YOU KNOW?

- The capital of Sierra Leone is Freetown.
- Sierra Leone has a population of over 6 million and is slightly larger in size than West Virginia.
- The currency is called the Leone.
- Sierra Leone is home to the pygmy hippopotamus and the dwarf crocodile.
- Named by a Portuguese explorer -- Sierra Leone means "Lion Mountain"

## WHY OUR WORK MATTERS

- Sierra Leone ranks 183 out of 187 on the UNDP Human Development Index.
- Life expectancy at birth in Sierra Leone is 46 years.
- Sierra Leone has an infant mortality rate of 107.2/1,000 (10.7%) live births and an under-5 mortality rate of 160.6/1,000 (16.1%) – these are some of the highest mortality rates in the world.
- Sierra Leone has a high maternal mortality rate with a 1 in 23 chance that a woman will die as a result of pregnancy.
- Sierra Leone has had over 9,000 confirmed cases of Ebola and nearly 4,000 have died to date from the virus.
- 78% of Sierra Leone's population lives on less than \$2 a day.
- Sierra Leone has few physicians with only 1 physician per 50,000 people. By comparison the United States has 122 physicians per 50,000 people.

We couldn't have done our work without the help of our partners.  
Thank you, we look forward to future projects together!



## Healey International Relief Foundation

573 Eayrestown Road, Lumberton, New Jersey 08048 U.S.A.  
Tel: 609-267-4104 Fax: 609-261-0799 Website: [www.hirf.net](http://www.hirf.net)