



# 2023 Annual Report

# Table of Contents

03.

Message From Our President

04.

About Us/2023 At a Glance

05.

Capacity Building

06.

Capacity Building Spotlight TRIMEDX Foundation

07.

**Emergency Relief** 

08.

Partnerships Support Healthcare

09.

Partnerships Continued

10.

Partnership Spotlight ROW Foundation 11.

Partnership Spotlight MAP International

12.

Strengthening Health Systems

13.

Facility Spotlight Monsignor Sullivan Clinic

14.

Summary of Impact

15.

What Our Beneficiaries Say 2023 Financial Summary

16.

Meet Our Team Thank You Ben Parra

17.

In Memorium

18.

Acknowledgments
Contact Us

# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Friends & Supporters:

In Sierra Leone, the concept of "fambul" resonates deeply. It symbolizes the interconnectedness and support within a community, emphasizing that our identities and values are intertwined with our relationships.

At Healey International Relief Foundation, we hold dear this principle. We recognize the significance of collective action and solidarity for positive change, while upholding the dignity of every individual we serve and work with.

For the past 22 years, HIRF has tackled pressing issues in Sierra Leone, with a focus on bolstering health systems, improving livelihoods, supporting the education of the children, and providing disaster relief.

With our partners, we have invested over US\$60 million in Sierra Leone's recovery, providing essential medicines, medical supplies, equipment, food, and financial aid.

In 2023, Sierra Leone saw many challenges, yet the HIRF accomplished so much. Under our Strengthening Health Systems initiative, we supported healthcare facilities in underserved regions, ensuring access to crucial medical services and advocating for preventive healthcare measures. Our effort led to improvements in healthcare accessibility and the empowerment of local healthcare providers through capacity-building.

In coordination with Partnering to Serve Humanity, we provided emergency assistance in the form of medicines, food, clothing, shelter supplies and logistical support during disasters. These interventions restored hope to affected communities, underscoring our commitment to those in need. Our Women Entrepreneurship program, funded by the US Embassy in Sierra Leone, achieved remarkable success empowering women farmers, and fostering agricultural sustainability.

While much of our success comes through partnerships, I am mindful of the tremendous dedication of our HIRF staff. I want to thank our past Executive Director, Benjamin Parra, for 11 years of service to our organization. Our success would not have been possible without his strong leadership. Also, I am excited to welcome our new Executive Director, Josephine Garnem. We are grateful to Ben for helping to ensure a successful transition and are confident in Josephine's dedication to our mission and her leadership ability.

True progress in humanitarian work stems from the collective efforts of communities, grounded in respect for every individual's dignity. It is through grace, unity, compassion and respect that we chart a course toward lasting positive change. As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to serve and uplift the people of Sierra Leone.

Thank you for your unwavering support and belief in our shared vision.

Warm regards,

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



Healey International Relief Foundation (HIRF) is an U.S. registered 501(c)(3) organization working tirelessly to address pressing challenges in Sierra Leone for the past 22 years with a particular focus on health systems strengthening, improving livelihoods, and disaster response.

Together with its collaborating partners, the foundation has invested in capacity building through training, direct program implementation and donations of medicines, medical, agricultural and education supplies and equipment, food and financial assistance.

We have achieved significant milestones by partnering with local communities, local governments, and international organizations to implement sustainable solutions that continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

# **SERVICE AND COMPASSION IN ACTION**

Healey International Relief Foundation is dedicated to serving Sierra Leone's underprivileged and economically disadvantaged through the provision of comprehensive initiatives in healthcare, education, economic empowerment, and disaster response.

Our mission, through grace, is deeply grounded in the core values of selfless service, upholding human dignity, and advancing the common good and well-being of all.

# 2023 At a Glance

36 Hospitals & clinics supported

95,000 Children received Vitamin A supplements

Capacity training for healthcare staff

Health Systems
Strengthening

56 Women farmers received training in sustainable farming practices, networking and marketing skills

25 women market sellers attended workshops on climate effects on local markets, business solutions, & networking

> Women Empowerment

24 Children supported with education and living expenses

39 Schools provided multigrain powder to address food insecurity issues

At-Risk Children & Youth

Supported construction of water well in Grafton Community

Distributed 7,780 50'kg bags of rice to vulnerable families and Ebola survivors

278 blankets

**Disaster Relief** 

# **SAPACITY**

# Embassy Public Diplomacy Grant Supports Women's Agriculture Development

HIRF was awarded a public diplomacy grant from the U.S. Embassy in Freetown. This grant allowed HIRF, in collaboration with Caritas Freetown and Njala University, to host a seven-day sustainable agricultural and business development symposium for 81 women in small business and agricultural activities in Bo District. The skills learned will help the women build resilient livelihoods for themselves and their families.



# **Capacity Training: Healthcare Staff**

In 2023 we conducted capacity-building training for health workers in Sierra Leone. The training focused on Emergency Triage, Assessment, and Treatment 'Plus' as well as Emergency Obstetrics and Neo-natal Care (EMONC). The goal, to enhance the skills and knowledge of health workers, enabling them to provide critical support to mothers and babies in need. Twenty nurses were trained across four facilities, who then cascaded their skills to other colleagues.



## **Biomedicial Training**

In March 2023, HealeyIRF facilitated a weeklong visit by TRIMEDX biomedical technicians. The TRIMEDX team visited four hospitals across Sierra Leone to repair equipment and then conducted a training workshop in Freetown for 26 aspiring biomedical technicians.



### **Education & Vulnerable Children**

In 2023, we supported the education and living expenses of 24 children at St. Mary's Interim Care Center. HIRF also supported 2 young women from the ICC that are studying for their business degrees. Additionally, HIRF extended its assistance to approximately 39 child protection facilities across Sierra Leone through our Partnering to Serve Humanity consortium.



# **TRIMEDX Foundation**

The World Health Organization estimates that between 50-80 percent of medical equipment in low-income countries is not in working order. A top request from the health facilities we support is assistance in repairing medical equipment. Thanks to our capacity building partnership with the TRIMEDX Foundation, whose mission is to address the international need for medical equipment repair and support, we are working to meet this need



The partnership began in November 2019, when a team of biomedical technicians supported by HIRF and the TRIMEDX Foundation visited ten hospitals and clinics in Sierra Leone. The mission resulted in the inventorying of over 300 pieces of equipment with 140 pieces assessed or repaired, and 40 identified as repairable.

Due to the COVID pandemic visits were put on hold. But in March 2023 we were able to resume this capacity building effort when two TRIMEDX Foundation biomedical technicians came to Sierra Leone.

The TRIMEDX team visited four hospitals to repair equipment, Holy Spirit Hospital in Makeni, Wesleyan Hospital in Kamakwie, and in Bo both Mercy and Kindoya Hospitals. Critical equipment such as patient monitors, centrifuges, oxygen concentrators, and microscopes were able to be put back in working order. At each hospital the trainers worked alongside onsite personnel to share their knowledge of repairing and maintaining medical equipment.

The visit concluded with a day-long training workshop in Freetown for 26 aspiring biomedical technicians. The participants broke into working groups that allowed the attendees to discuss in more detail the equipment at their hospitals, the challenges faced and how to collectively develop strategies to best address these issues.

A WhatsApp group was formed so participants could stay in contact with the technicians. The next day, help was needed at one of the facilities and they reached out through the group. They



were able to get the needed information from the TRIMEDX Foundation team and fixed the equipment saying, "The training yesterday was really a blessing. I'm so excited because this minor problem would have cost us so much money."

# 

Healey International Relief Foundation takes great pride in the strength of our partnerships. Through collaborative efforts we are able to provide emergency relief and support to communities most in need. Responding quickly when disaster strikes or helping communities with urgent needs HIRF, with its partners Tzu Chi Foundation, Caritas Freetown, and Lanyi Foundation, seek to ensure the long-term sustainability for communities and families. Primarily funded by Tzu Chi Foundation, highlights of our work in 2023 include:

# **Food Distribution**



With Partnering to Serve Humanity distributed 40,000 10-kg bags and 7,780 50-kg bags of rice to orphanages, hospitals, schools, senior centers and more. An additional 9,000 10-kg bags were distributed at the Annual Interfaith event in December.

# **Disaster Response - Kroo Bay Fire**



Through the generous support of Tzu Chi Foundation, HIRF in partnership with the Sierra Leone National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) and PTSH members mobilized quickly to respond to the October 2023 fire at Kroo Bay. Shelter items, clothing, blanket, and rice were provided to the over 60 households impacted by the fire.

# **Grafton Water Well**



The Grafton Community has a large number of physically challenged individuals. Accessing water was extremely difficult for community members. In order to support those in need a solar-powered water well was constructed.

# **Food Support to Schools**



Food insecurity is an issue in Sierra Leone and young children are especially vulnerable. Distributions of multigrain powder were made to 39 schools to provide nutritional support to school feeding programs.

About Tzu Chi Foundation: Tzu Chi Foundation collaborates with local partners to promote grassroots empowerment, developing a more sustainable community after being impacted by disasters. With the standard humanitarian guidelines to provide food security and nutrition, WASH education & capacity, Shelter, Settlement, and Non-Food Items, and Health Action, Tzu Chi aligns itself with the Sustainable Development Goals to create a world in which the vulnerable become empowered and find the strength to help others in need, forming a cycle of compassion and gratitude. Since 2014 Tzu Chi Foundation has donated over 9,000 tons of rice, multigrain and shelter supplies to Sierra Leone.



# PARTNERSHIPS ENHANCE HEALTHCARE EFFORTS

HIRF partnerships are helping improve healthcare services across Sierra Leone. Throughout the year we ship containers from the U.S. to Sierra Leone with medical supplies, equipment, and essential medicines to help hospitals and clinics across Sierra Leone. With grant support from USAID we receive funding for our oceanfreight shipment costs and also participate in their Limited Excess Property Program.



Thanks to Brother's Brother we are able to supply medical supplies and equipment through our network of hospitals and clinics.

"If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go fan, go togethen."

African Provent



# **Caritas Freetown**

In 2023, HIRF worked with our key partner, Caritas Freetown, on sustainable development programs ranging from HIRF's funding of Caritas Freetown's health facilities, staff, provision of medicines and supplies, capacity-building trainings for healthcare staff to joint disaster response and relief efforts.

# **World Hope International**



Partnering with World Hope International, HIRF delivered over 600 Stay Well Care Kits to healthcare facilities throughout the Western Area.



# **USAID Grants**

USAID's Limited Excess Property Program (LEPP) allows HIRF to access federal surplus property to support our work with high quality and much needed equipment and supplies. The Ocean Freight Reimbursement program covers the ocean transport for donated medicines and supplies.

Total Value of medicines and supplies = \$1.7 Million Total # of health facilities supported = 24

Total # of people served = 400,000 (inc. 85,000 women of childbearing age and 68,000 children under 5 yrs old)

# Partnerships (1)



# **Vitamin Angels**

Because Sierra Leone has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world, ensuring women get the essential nutrients for them and their babies is critical to improving women's health outcome.

Our partnership with Vitamin Angels ensures that 209,000 pregnant and lactating women receive needed

multivitamins.



### Tzu Chi Foundation

With a generous contribution of \$505,902 worth of essential supplies including rice, eco-blankets, and nutritional supplements in 2023, Tzu Chi stands as a beacon of compassion, providing vital support to initiatives, through the Partnering to Serve Humanity consortium, across schools, health facilities, orphanages, and beyond, fostering resilience and restoring faith in communities struck by adversity.



### Catholic Medical

### **Mission Board**

Through the generous donation of life-saving medicines and supplies donated by CMMB, lives in Sierra Leone are forever changed. Witnessing the profound impact at Connaught Hospital, where Dr. Lebbie, the country's sole pediatric surgeon, speaks on the enormity and impact of much needed donation of pediatric shunts. HealeyIRF extends heartfelt gratitude to CMMB for their invaluable contribution towards improving healthcare for the children of Sierra Leone.

# **Global Aid Network/UNTO**



Thanks to our new partnership with UNTO, we supported Loreto Clinic, Makeni, children and adults living with Autism in Bo and Lunsar with physical therapy equipment.

Medical supplies were also donated to Bo Government Hospital and Connaught Hospital, Freetown.



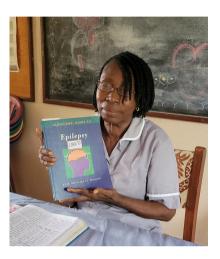
### **Christian Connections for International Health**

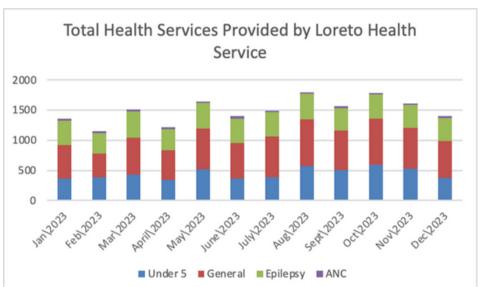
HIRF has partnered with the Christian Health Association of Sierra Leone (CHASL), and Helping Children Worldwide (HCW) in CCIH's 30x30 strengthening health systems initiative. The initiative seeks to strengthen 30 health systems by 2030. HIRF, CHASL, and HCW are supporting the effort by improving leadership, finance, workforce, supply chain, health information and services at health facilities in Sierra Leone.

In June, we attended the CCIH conference in Washington, DC to discuss our efforts. It was also an excellent opportunity to network with other like-minded organizations

# **ROW Foundation**

Thanks to the support from the ROW Foundation, Healey International Relief Foundation has been able to partner with Loreto Health Services in Makeni to provide critical medicine to patients with epilepsy. Most epilepsy patients receive care at the Loreto Health Services clinic in Makeni, however, Loreto Health Services also provides needed epilepsy outreach to surrounding communities. In 2023, the program provided care to approximately 3,900 patients and donations from the ROW Foundation help support this effort. This represents over 25% of all of the health services Loreto Health Services provides to children and adults in the community.





# Epilepsy Outreach Services

214 Patients: Lungi & Lokomasama

218 Patients: Moyamba



153 Patients: Health Center -Njala University

299 Patients: Rutile & Moriba Town

Total: 884





# Partner Spotlight

# **MAP International**

With access to essential medicines a challenge, the long-term partnership between Healey International Relief Foundation and MAP International is a critical component of our health systems strengthening efforts in Sierra Leone. The donation of much needed Amoxicillin and other essential medicines underscores the continued importance of partnerships between humanitarian organizations, pharmaceutical companies, and local healthcare systems.



Amoxicillin, a widely used, lifesaving medication, is especially crucial in these communities to treat various bacterial infections, particularly respiratory and urinary tract infections.

It is highly effective and safe for children, making it an essential medication in pediatric healthcare, preventing the spread of diseases and reducing complications that can lead to severe health consequences.

With the donations from MAP, families no longer have to travel long distances to seek good quality, life-saving medicines for their children, as the medication is now accessible within their communities.

In particular, the generous donation of Amoxicillin has brought renewed hope to families who come to our clinics and hospitals.

Parents and caregivers in the communities where the donation was given, who were previously burdened with the worry of their children's health, now have access to a life-saving medicine.



The improved health outcomes have not only brought smiles to their faces but have also lifted the spirits of the communities.

# **Strengthening Health Systems**

Key facilities receiving medicines & supplies from HIRF



# Western Area

- Connaught Hospital, Freetown
- Don Bosco Fambul Clinic, During Town
- Christ the King Hospital, Waterloo
- Jui Government Hospital, Jui
- Kingharma Road Government Hospital, Freetown
- Lumley Government Hospital, Freetown
- Macauley Street Government Hospital, Freetown
- Monsignor Sullivan Health Clinic, Newton
- Mother Theresa Sisters, Kissy
- PCMH Government Hospital Freetown
- Rokupa Government Hospital, Freetown
- Ola During Government Children's Hospital, Freetown
- St. Anthony's Clinic for the Poor Brookfield
- Stella Maris Clinic, Juba
- Monsignor Sullivan Health Clinic, Newton

# **Northern Province**

- Our Lady of Guadalupe Clinic, Mile 91
- Loreto Health Services, Makeni
- Holy Spirit Hospital, Makeni
- St. John of God Hospital, Lunsar
- Bridge of Hope Communities, Makeni
- Kychom Clinic, Kychom



# **Southern Province**

- Serabu Hospital, Serabu
- St. Luke's Clinic, Gerihun
- St. Mary's Clinic, Moriba Town
- Kindoya Hospital, Bo
- Porturu Clinic, Porturu
- St. Joseph's Clinic, Bonthe Island
- Bo Government Hospital
- Mercy Hospital, Bo

# **Eastern Province**

- Handmaids Maternity Clinic, Pendembu
- Panguma Catholic Hospital, Panguma
- Panguma Government Hospital
- Kenema Government Hospital

# **Sullivan Clinic - Newton**

Since 2015, Healey International Relief Foundation (HIRF) has played a crucial role in funding the construction, annual procurement of critical medicines, supplies, equipment, and other operational expenses, including monthly salaries for ten national staff members at the Monsignor Daniel Sullivan Health Clinic in Newton. In 2023, Sullivan Clinic handled over 4,500 patient visits.



Managed by Caritas Freetown, the clinic serves as a vital medical center catering to two primary groups:

- amputees and
- the general population residing within its catchment area.

With high maternal mortality rates in Sierra Leone, the clinic provides essential and life-saving care to women before, during, and after pregnancy. Nearly 1,400 women of childbearing age are in the clinics catchment area.

Understanding the intersection between women's health and gender justice, HIRF is committed to both. We prioritize women's health and staff at all facilities are trained in person-centered care that is respectful and responsive to the needs of the women in the communities we serve.

# Key Services for Pregnant Women



- 281 Albendazole Doses
- 971 Malaria Prevention Doses
- 218 Vitamin A Doses
- 478 Iron Doses
- 628 Tetnus Doses
- 👀 66 Women Tested for HIV



The clinic's name honors Monsignor Dan Sullivan, a former advocate for the impoverished in Sierra Leone.

# **SUMMARY OF IMPACT**

Service & Compassion in Action



In 2023 HealeyIRF provided ...



\$14,400,000
Medicines, Medical
Supplies &
Equipment
Shipped



36 Clinics and Hospitals Supported



991,380 Patients Served



24 Health
Professionals
Trained as Master
Trainers

\$44,000 in Room & Board, Tuition, School Supplies to 24 children at the River# 2 St. Mary's-Fatima ICC



32,130 Pregnant Women provided with Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS)





81 Women Farmers and Market Sellers Trained

109,000 children (12 - 59 months) given Albendazole 400mg



95,000 Children (6 - 59 months) received Vitamin A supplement



# what our beneficiaries say



"After taking the multivitamin I felt healthy and was able to eat well and maintain a good health throughout my pregnancy." - Adama



"We are overjoyed at this generous and much needed donation of pediatric shunts from Healey and CMMB.

The hospital struggles to treat patients with hydrocephalus because we lack access to the shunts!

These are high quality and will save many lives."

-Dr. Aiah Lebbie, Connaught Hospital



"We have now been taught that burning the planting plot reduces the nutrients in the soil drastically. We have also learned that distancing our cassava plants will ensure productivity."

-Amie, Participant Women's Agricultural Program

# **2023 Financial Summary**

### **Statement of Activities**

### SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions and Other Revenue \$896,563

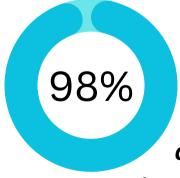
Donated Goods & Services \$14,898,712

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE \$15,795,275

**EXPENSES** 

Program Support \$15,494,708 Administration \$225,952 Fundraising \$81,060

Total Expenses: \$15,801,720



98% of all cash and non-cash donations directly support

program implementation for vulnerable communities and partners in Sierra Leone.

# **Meet Our Team**





# **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

# Cherry Hill, NJ Staff

- Josephine Garnem Executive Director
- Jean Briles Finance Manager
- Megan Smith Programs Manager

# Sierra Leone, In-Country Staff

- Ishmeal Alfred Charles Country Manager
- Josephine Amara Medical Director (PT)
- Michael Samai Warehouse Coordingtor
- Fayia Baimba Transportation
- Catherine Brewah Volunteer



-thankyou

We would like to thank our past Executive Director Benjamin Parra for his 11 years of service with our organization. Under his direction we expanded our reach and impact in Sierra Leone.

His passion, resilience, and determination were a guiding force for our organization.

We appreciated his tireless service, inspiring leadership, and unwavering commitment to humanity.

He helped ensure a successful and smooth transition to Josephine Garnem who we have great confidence in leading our organization in its mission.





# **Archbishop Joseph Ganda**

(1932-2023)

On August 9th we learned the sad news that Archbishop Ganda had died. His legacy is intertwined with the very inception of our foundation. His unwavering dedication and impassioned appeals laid the foundation upon which our mission in Sierra Leone was built. His tireless advocacy was the cornerstone upon which our foundation stood, ensuring that the values of compassion and aid were extended to the furthest corners of Sierra Leone. His friendship with our founder, Robert Healey Sr., was a testament to their shared vision of compassion and support for those in need

As we bid farewell to a revered figure in 2023, we are reminded of his steadfast commitment to education, community health, and social justice. His legacy is a tapestry woven from threads of compassion, unity, and advocacy. May his memory continue to guide our efforts and inspire all those who walk in the path of humanitarian service.



Archbishop Emeritus Joseph H. Ganda's influence on our foundation and the lives he touched will forever be a testament to the power of one individual's unwavering dedication. Our gratitude and admiration for his life's work know no bounds. May his soul find eternal peace, and may his enduring legacy continue to bless those he so profoundly impacted.

# In Loving Memory Bernadette Banita Vandy (2007-2023)





HIRF extends condolences to Fr. Konteh, the staff and children of the St. Mary's Interim Care Center (ICC) on the loss of Bernadette Banita Vandy. At just sixteen years old, Banita left an indelible mark on the hearts of all those who met her, especially within the St. Mary's community. Banita's kindness was her hallmark. She radiated warmth and concern for everyone around her, embodying compassion in its purest form. Whether it was assisting her peers with their chores at the ICC or simply sharing a smile, Banita's unwavering willingness to give touched souls far and wide.

It is our hope that as the St. Mary's community grapples with the profound sorrow of her passing, they find solace in the memories she leaves behind. Her beautiful smile, her humility, and her boundless love will echo through the halls of St. Mary's. Banita's enduring presence will forever inspire her siblings and others to be better, to love deeper, and to cherish every fleeting moment. May her memory be a beacon of strength during these dark hours, reminding us that even in loss, love remains eternal.

# Tenki Boku!

# Thanks to all our partners































# **CONTACT US**

Healey International Relief Foundation 4 Executive Campus Cherry Hill, NJ 08002, USA



info@healeyphilanthropic.org



1.856.354.7300



www.hirf.net



@HealeyIRF