



Adventist Health System  
Waterloo Hospital  
Sierra Leone

## ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM WATERLOO HOSPITAL

### REPORT ON SIERRA LEONE EPILEPSY SOCIETY, SUPPORT TO ADRA EBOLA HOLDING & TREATMENT CENTER

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## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM

Waterloo Adventist Hospital  
Hospital  
**Address:** Waterloo



Waterloo Hospital is owned by the Seventh - day Adventist church and was formed in 2000. The transition period from relief to development interventions led to the construction of the Adventist Health System, Waterloo Hospital in Waterloo, commonly known by the community people as ADRA Hospital. The hospital was established to cater for the health needs of the Waterloo District community on a cost recovery basis while extending the service to persons from urban settlements seeking for professional health care. This latter category of patients pay service fees a little higher than the community people, and such proceeds has been used to augment health services offered on charity to the very poor community people. Since 2000 the hospital has conducted many surgeries and provided medicines, community outreach programs, radio programs on health and sanitation to thousands of people, the majority being community people. Managed by the Seventh Day Adventist church, the hospital regularly receives Expatriate Doctors who provide standard professional health care in the hospital. In February 2011, the hospital received Doctor Felix, a Nigerian Expatriate based in the United States, who came to continue providing health care in the hospital. On his arrival he has visited all the earlier mentioned communities and many more, conducting outreach clinic services including health education and hygiene promotion.

Waterloo, Lumpa, Maburah, Fogbo Benguema, Samuel Town, Kossoh Town, MacDonald, Mama Beach, Tokeh Godrich and York Road, in the District are large villages with houses between 30 houses and 1000 houses. Waterloo District is, positioned as a neck connecting the capital city Freetown to the rest of the country. The area is geographically referred to as the Freetown Peninsular. Some of the mentioned communities are found along the main Freetown-

Bo highway while others such as Fogbo, Benguema, Samuel Town and MacDonald are 7km away from the highway.

Adventist Health System, Waterloo in the Western Area Rural District, is the only major healthcare institution in this area with a population close to 80,000. The hospital has been used as an Ebola Holding and Treatment Center since December, 17<sup>th</sup> 2014 following a 40 days quarantine period of all staff after three staff contracted Ebola in August and two died.

## SIERRA LEONE EPILEPSY SOCIETY SUPPORT TO AHS HOSPITAL

The above mentioned communities are very large areas with prevalence of high number of epilepsy patients. In 2012, Sierra Leone Epilepsy Society donated huge consignment of epilepsy drugs and other medical supplies to AHS Hospital. These donated supplies created a huge relieve to the hospital as many epilepsy patients has been visiting the hospital for medical attention. Many came with other medical problems but during doctor's investigations, we were able to identify over 50 of epilepsy patients in the Western Area Rural District. Within few days of receiving the donations, we were able to register over 100 epilepsy patients. The news went round rapidly after we went to different media to announce and sensitize the community about the donation of epilepsy drugs by Sierra Leone Epilepsy. The drugs were distributed free of charge to all registered epilepsy patients. The hospital also went on to provide free treatment for other medical conditions to epilepsy patients and their families since almost every epilepsy patients are very poor and many of them have been neglected by their families and the community. The hospital normally runs a radio program called **Adventist Hour** every Saturday evening sensitizing the community about health and sanitation. During this radio program the doctor and other medical staff usually discussed about epilepsy and the need to care for every epilepsy patients.

Many of the stories were too pathetic. Some epilepsy patients were admitted with severe burns and wounds and many has mental disorder due to the frequent fell and stiffness. They fell into fire, hot water, gutters and other dangerous areas. Some of our staff also has their children and relatives with epilepsy.

Presentation of free Epilepsy drugs by Sierra Leone Epilepsy Society



Donated Drugs to the hospital



SLES Team During Presentation



Epilepsy Patient

Abnormal Epilepsy Patient

Epilepsy patient fell into fire



Dispensing Epilepsy Drugs to Patients free of charge

## SIERRA LEONE EPILEPSY SOCIETY JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST EBOLA

As mentioned earlier, the hospital has been used as an Ebola Holding and Treatment Center since December, 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 by the Ministry of Health and sanitation. As a supportive partner to the AHS (ADRA) hospital, Sierra Leone Epilepsy Society on Saturday, 17 January, 2015 donated medical equipment including nasal, facial, elbow and mask, gloves, drips and a large quantity of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as a support to fight against Ebola in the sub region and Sierra Leone in particular. Madam Mabinty Koroma, the Matron at the Ebola center received the donated supplies on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and ADRA Hospital. The Matron commended the Sierra Leone Epilepsy Society for their timely support to the Ebola center and praised them for the gloves as they were of good quality compared to the ones they have in stock.



With the support of Sierra Leone Epilepsy Society and other organizations to ADRA Ebola Holding and Treatment Center by providing medical supplies and PPE's, no medical and other supporting staff working at the Ebola Center contracted Ebola.

The Table below shows statistic of Ebola cases treated at ADRA Ebola Center:

<b>Admission</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Survived</b>	<b>Death</b>
313	47	20	27

With the help of WHO and Adventist Health International, the hospital has been completely decontaminated and some renovation has been done. By the Grace of God decommissioning and reopening of the hospital has been scheduled for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at 10am.

### **Submitted By:**

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