

Responding to Ebola Crisis

Partners: Anglican Diocese of Bo in Sierra Leone & The Episcopal Church of Liberia

Episcopal Relief & Development is partnering with the Episcopal Church of Liberia and the Anglican Diocese of Bo in Sierra Leone to alleviate suffering and contain the Ebola outbreak. Currently, our Church partners are coordinating with their respective local government bodies – the District Health Management Task Force in Sierra Leone and the National Ebola Task Force in Liberia.

The existing infrastructure of both dioceses covers major towns and remote villages. Our partners are delivering key health messaging and providing food and basic hygiene supplies as well as protective equipment to affected communities.

Summary of Activities

Liberia

- Fifteen local radio stations in nine counties are continuing to broadcast Ebola messaging the local dialect, potentially reaching nearly 3 million people (according to 2008 census).
- The Episcopal Church of Liberia distributed informational posters and bumper stickers on basic hygiene practices to communities through local Episcopal churches and ecumenical partners.
- The Church provided supplies to 500 people from quarantined communities including food, hygiene kits and equipment such as bleach and hand-washing stations (large buckets with taps fitted).
- The Church in Liberia is also delivering protective gear such as masks (face/nose), goggles, medical gowns, aprons, gloves and thermometers. These critical supplies will be used by health workers at Phebe and two other hospitals in Montserrado County.
- Five active counties: Montserrado (includes the capital, Monrovia), Bong, Lofa, Cape Mount and Rivercess

Sierra Leone:

- Health information has reached an estimated 150,000 people through radio panel discussions and public rallies organized by the Anglican Diocese of Bo and local partners.

- Volunteers, priests, community stakeholders and field staff are increasing awareness about Ebola and promoting hygiene and other health practices to reduce the spread of the disease.
- They also distributed sanitation supplies and materials such as chlorine, buckets, detergents, gloves, sanitizers, masks and bowls to communities that have been quarantined.
- Trained volunteers are referring suspected cases to local health services, carrying out contact tracing work and providing education and counseling to families.
- Five active districts: Bo, Pujehun, Moyamba, Kailahun and Kenema

The Disaster Response & Recovery Approach

Phase I: Immediate Response

The initial response focuses on providing resources, community sensitization, and key messaging. This includes providing food assistance, sanitation supplies and hygiene materials to affected communities.

Phase II (*Currently in Progress*): Continuation, scaling up and intensifying emergency response

In this phase, partners are replenishing supplies as necessary and delivering essentials to health centers such as sanitation supplies, hygiene materials and food assistance.

Phase III: Preparing for post-Ebola recovery

The plans for post-Ebola recovery will include rehabilitating survivors and other affected individuals and families by strengthening livelihoods, providing agricultural support and reintegrating survivors to their home communities.

Related Links

- Ebola Crisis in Sierra Leone and Liberia: [press releases and web updates](#).
- Country Page: [Sierra Leone](#)
- Country Page: [Liberia](#)
- Donate to the [Ebola Crisis Response Fund](#)