

## How to Support

### Financial Contributions

Online by going to:  
[developmentforafrica.org/donate.shtml](http://developmentforafrica.org/donate.shtml)

### By mail:

AAPDEP  
P.O. Box 17014  
Huntsville, AL 35810  
make checks payable to "AAPDEP"

### Sponsorship

Become an official sponsor with a minimum contribution of:  
Individual sponsorship—\$75  
Organizational sponsorship—\$225

### Brick Recognition Program

- Sponsors who contribute at least \$500 will have a commemorative brick inserted into a wall of the clinic.
- Sponsors who contribute \$1000 or more will have a plaque displayed on the clinic's "Wall of Honor."

### School Fundraisers

To learn more about this program or to get more information and materials for your school email,  
[info@developmentforafrica.org](mailto:info@developmentforafrica.org).

### Volunteer

Call or email us to find out the many ways you can volunteer your time or skills.

Priority volunteers for this project are midwives, doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers.

## What is AAPDEP

AAPDEP is a membership-based non-profit organization that coordinates African-led development projects in Africa and African communities around the world. It is a revolutionary strategy aimed at transforming the dismal reality of Africans everywhere and forwarding self-determination for African people.

The most important features of this project that distinguish it from other approaches are:

- It is spearheaded by Africans for Africans .
- It organizes the highly trained and skilled sector of the African population to use their skills for the development of Africa and African communities everywhere.
- It is NOT charity – the most popular and accepted way of dealing with the objective conditions in Africa - as this approach demoralizes Africans everywhere, the recipients as well as other African people who witness it.

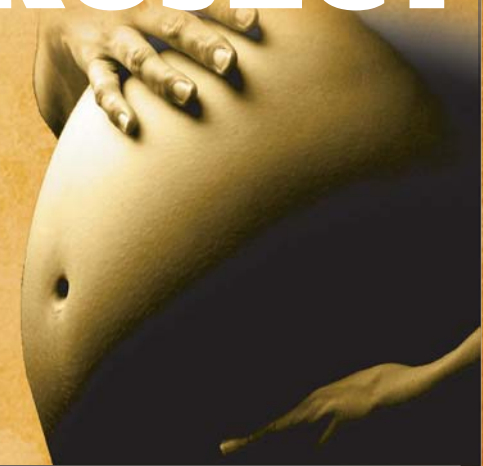
### All African People's Development and Empowerment Project

**P.O. Box 17014  
Huntsville, AL 35810**

email: [info@developmentforafrica.org](mailto:info@developmentforafrica.org)  
website: <http://developmentforafrica.org>  
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aapdep

# INFANT and MATERNAL HEALTH PROJECT



[developmentforafrica.org](http://developmentforafrica.org)

## What is the Infant and Maternal Health Project (IMHP)?

The IMHP is an AAPDEP initiative aimed at reducing the high rates of infant and maternal mortality for Africans on the continent of Africa and around the world. Initial work of the IMHP is centered in Sierra Leone, West Africa, a country which despite its wealth of natural and human resources, has an average life expectancy of 48 years and the highest maternal mortality rate in the world.

## Infant and Maternal Mortality in Sierra Leone

Women in sub-Saharan Africa are more likely to die during childbirth than those in any other region, with a mortality rate 100 times greater than that of “developed” countries.

Nearly one in ten infants in sub-Saharan Africa will not live to the age of one year, a figure that does not take into account the disproportionate number of miscarriages and stillbirths.

The danger of infant and maternal mortality is especially great in Sierra Leone where hospitals are poorly equipped, insufficiently staffed and often inaccessible to most due to cost and physical distance. Many pregnant women must rely on Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA's) who often do not have adequate training to deal with complications during delivery.

According to the United Nations, at least one in eight women in Sierra Leone is at risk of dying during childbirth. With 123 out of every 1000 babies not surviving to the age of one, Sierra Leone also has one of the highest global rates of infant mortality.

## Infant and Maternal Mortality: Not Just a Problem in Africa

Far from being an issue only facing Africans on the Continent, maternal mortality plagues African women wherever they are located.

Despite its rank as the world's richest country, women in the U.S. face a greater lifetime risk during childbirth than those in 40 other countries, and it is women of color who bear the brunt of this risk.

African women in the US are four times more likely to die of pregnancy-related complications than white women, and African babies die at more than twice the rate of white infants.

In Washington, DC, which has a majority African population, women are almost 30 times more likely to die than in Maine.

Many of these deaths are attributable to systemic barriers to healthcare in the US, with Amnesty International stating

that nearly half of these maternal deaths are preventable.

## How Does the AAPDEP IMHP Address This Critical Issue?

In order to improve birth outcomes for African women and babies in Sierra Leone, the IMHP focuses on two main areas: 1) training for Traditional Birth Attendants and 2) the construction of a community birthing center.

AAPDEP has partnered with Common Sense School of Midwifery in Winter Garden, Florida and the Sierra Leone TBA Association, Women in National Development (WIND), to provide training in life-saving delivery skills for networks of TBA's throughout Sierra Leone who are participants in the IMHP.

AAPDEP is also working just outside of the capital, Freetown, to build a community birthing center that will provide much-needed care for pregnant women and babies in the area.

