

The impact on children

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West Africa is at the epicentre of a global health emergency. Its fragile health systems are buckling under the strain of Ebola and now, more than 8 million children are at risk of contracting the deadly disease.

The three most affected countries – Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia – have had more than 13,500 residents infected with the disease.

With no known cure, Ebola continues to steal the lives of up to 70 percent of those diagnosed. [Read more](#) about how Ebola is spread.

Ebola is a merciless disease and there are already too many harrowing stories of children who have lost their lives or loved ones. Stories like [Annalita's*](#), who lost both her husband and seven-year-old son, William*, to the disease. Or 11-year-old [Anita*](#) who lost both her parents and siblings because of Ebola.

We're in desperate need of more funding for treatment and extra health workers to help people like Annalita and Anita.

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How we're helping on the ground

Save the Children is doing all it can to fight the epidemic and protect children and their families from its devastating impact. Across the region we are:

- Running Ebola Treatment Centres and regional care units
- Re-establishing primary healthcare facilities and training new staff
- Distributing essential supplies such as IV fluids and antibiotics to facilities
- Providing water, sanitation and hygiene kits
- Ensuring unaccompanied, separated and orphaned children are cared for and helping to reunite them with their families
- Providing education for the 3.5 million children across the region who are not being taught as their public schools have closed
- Deploying more than 200 humanitarian staff to support and treat those diagnosed with Ebola

How you can help

We urgently need your help to raise \$1 million to protect children from this deadly disease.

Further funding will help us train more health workers in the field, providing vital treatment and supporting those affected. With your help, we can ensure there's a future for children in West Africa.

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*Names have been changed to protect their identities.

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