

THE CHRONICLE OF

**OUR CAPSULE
PROGRESS OF AION
HEALTH**

THROUGH GRATITUDE

AION HEALTH - SL

| Empowering Lives! |



AION HEALTH – SL

| Empowering Lives! |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Aion Health SL

4 About Aion Health SL

5 impact in Numbers

6 How We Founded Aion Health

7 Drone Delivery

11 Impact Progress Report

21 Partnerships

22 Entities Supported

23 Community Reached

24 Gratitude



Aion Health SL: From First Pitch to Top Social Venture - By Abubakarr Sidique Konneh

Aion Health SL began as a bold vision pitched by Abubakarr Sidique Konneh at St. Olaf College, aiming to tackle Sierra Leone's high maternal and infant mortality through innovative healthcare solutions. The initial pitch was met with excitement, but also revealed the challenges ahead: limited resources, logistical hurdles in reaching remote communities, and the need to combine healthcare delivery with education and research. Learning from these challenges, the team refined its approach, integrating Health, Education, and Research (HER) into every initiative. Mobile clinics were designed to reach the most underserved areas, solar-powered infrastructure ensured sustainability, and community education programs empowered women and youth to take active roles in health promotion.

Through persistence, innovation, and collaboration with partners such as the Ministry of Health, Bo City Council, St. Olaf College, UNFPA Sierra Leone, Njala University, District Health Management Team (DHMT) and the German Embassy, Aion Health demonstrated measurable impact—treating thousands of patients, training women and youth in digital and entrepreneurial skills, and implementing clean water and sanitation solutions. This combination of vision, learning from early challenges, and tangible results earned Aion Health recognition as a top social venture, inspiring confidence among stakeholders and partners. Today, Aion Health SL continues to scale its programs, driven by volunteerism, research-informed interventions, and community engagement, proving that a vision born in a college pitch can grow into a transformative force for saving lives, educating communities, and strengthening health systems across Sierra Leone.



About Aion Health

Aion Health SL is a pioneering healthcare organization dedicated to improving access to quality medical services in Sierra Leone, particularly for underserved and remote communities. Many rural areas in the country face high maternal and infant mortality due to limited infrastructure, long distances to clinics, and scarcity of trained healthcare personnel. To address these challenges, Aion Health implements mobile health clinics, digital health platforms, and solar-powered infrastructure, ensuring timely, sustainable, and equitable care. Supported by local authorities, international partners, and volunteers, the organization has directly impacted over 5,000 individuals this year, providing maternal care, immunizations, health education, and preventive services. By combining technology with community engagement, Aion Health strengthens local health systems while empowering women, youth, and volunteers to take active roles in improving healthcare access. The organization continues to expand its reach, innovative solutions, and create lasting health improvements in Sierra Leone.

Impact in Numbers

5,000

**PATIENTS
SERVED**

Over 5,000 individuals across multiple communities

68

**PREGNANT
WOMEN REACHED**

68 directly through mobile clinics

80+

**WOMEN
TRAINED**

Women Trained in EmpowerHER & DigitalHer Programs

1,200

**CLEAN WATER
BENEFICIARIES**

Over 1,200 residents through solar health pumps in Niagorehun Bargbo and Lowuma

3,000

SANITRACK

Sanitation Coverage via SaniTrack: Over 3,000 residents impacted

6

**MOBILE HEALTH
CLINIC VISITS**

6 major campaigns across Kalia, Kpawula, Niagorehun Bargbo, and Lowuma

1

**ALUMNI
RECOGNIZED**

Recognized by the U.S Embassy that strive to bring impact through the SLUSAA

6

**PARTNERSHIPS
LEVERAGED**

6 major partners including government agencies, universities, and international organizations

How We Founded Aion Health

Aion Health was founded in response to the persistent healthcare challenges affecting maternal and child health in Sierra Leone. High maternal and infant mortality rates, exacerbated by poor road networks, limited clinic availability, and lack of medical resources, highlighted the urgent need for innovative solutions. The organization began as a small initiative focused on community outreach and mobile clinics, gathering data and understanding local health needs. Through collaboration with international partners, local authorities, and volunteer health professionals, Aion Health scaled its programs to include mobile clinics, digital health dashboards, and community empowerment projects. Implemented through strong partnerships and volunteer networks, these solutions have improved healthcare access for thousands of residents, particularly in remote villages. The organization's founding story demonstrates that innovation combined with local and international support can transform healthcare delivery and create measurable impact in high-need communities.



Rationale Behind Drone Delivery

In Sierra Leone, poor road infrastructure and geographically isolated communities make timely delivery of medical supplies difficult, contributing to maternal and infant complications and preventable deaths. To overcome this challenge, Aion Health is striving to implement drone delivery, ensuring rapid transport of essential medicines, maternal kits, vaccines, and diagnostic samples. Challenges included regulatory compliance, initial technology costs, and community awareness. Aion Health is in the process of partnering with support from international partners, drone delivery will reduced travel times from hours or days to minutes, directly benefiting over 200 pregnant women and 1,500 community members. The program will allow real-time tracking and monitoring of medical logistics, increasing accountability and reliability. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to expand drone coverage, integrate it with community-based delivery points, and combine it with local electric bike deliveries to maximize reach and ensure sustainable, life-saving interventions.



Source: <https://smovevehicles.com/>

Alternative to Drone Delivery Eco-Friendly Electric Bike Delivery

For areas not directly reachable by drones, access to healthcare remained a major problem, with residents facing delays in receiving critical supplies. Challenges included poor road conditions and long distances to clinics. With support, Aion Health will test the feasibility of eco-friendly electric bike, eco-friendly electric bike delivery offers a cost-effective and environmentally friendly solution, capable of delivering medicines, vaccines, and maternal kits to over 500 households. This solution complements drone delivery and ensures continuity of care in remote villages. Next steps involve viability of eco-friendly electric bike delivery networks, training local riders, and integrating them into broader community health logistics for maximum efficiency.

Drone Delivery Point

Even with drones, some villages lacked direct landing access, creating gaps in timely delivery. To address this, Aion Health implemented drone delivery points, centralized hubs where communities can collect medical supplies. Challenges included securing safe landing zones and community awareness, but through stakeholder engagement, these hubs now serve over 1,200 patients, ensuring that essential care reaches even the most remote populations. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to expand delivery points strategically across districts, enhancing coverage and strengthening local health networks.



Source: <https://wingcopter.com>

Progress Made - Wingcopter: Advantages and Limitations

Wingcopter drones will be a game-changer for Aion Health, providing vertical takeoff, long-range flights, and the capacity to transport critical medical supplies. The problem addressed is delayed emergency medical access in remote areas. Challenges included unpredictable weather, regulatory approvals, and initial operational costs. With progress for implementation through this organization, Wingcopter drones will reach over 150 households, delivering maternal kits, vaccines, and diagnostics safely and quickly. The advantages include speed, scalability, and improved logistics, while limitations such as weather sensitivity are managed through planning and community coordination. Moving forward, Aion Health will explore fleet expansion, integration with digital health tracking, and collaboration with local health authorities to enhance the system's effectiveness and sustainability.



Milestones Achieved Before Drone Delivery

Before drones, Aion Health achieved significant progress through mobile health initiatives and national engagement. Communities such as Kalia and Kpawula were reached via mobile clinics serving over 800 patients, providing maternal care, general consultations, and preventive services. Digital tools were implemented to track patient outcomes, and participation in the National Health Summit allowed Aion Health to advocate for innovation in healthcare delivery. Challenges included poor infrastructure, seasonal inaccessibility, and limited local capacity, but solutions such as volunteer mobilization and mobile clinic scheduling mitigated these issues. These milestones created a strong foundation for scaling operations, proving that innovative, community-centered solutions can effectively reduce maternal and infant mortality.



34

**Pregnant
Women
Received Care**

Mobile Health Clinic Kalia

In Kalia, residents face serious barriers to accessing healthcare, including long distances to the nearest clinic, poorly maintained roads, and a shortage of trained medical personnel. This has contributed to untreated illnesses, preventable maternal complications, and low uptake of preventive care services. Implemented through Aion Health with support from St. Olaf College, the mobile clinic provides comprehensive healthcare, treating over 480 patients, including 34 pregnant women. Services include malaria treatment, maternal and child health consultations, vaccinations, and community health education. The program has strengthened trust between healthcare providers and the community while addressing critical health needs. Challenges such as logistical coordination, transportation of supplies, and staffing shortages were overcome through careful planning and volunteer engagement. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to integrate digital patient tracking systems, increase clinic visit frequency, and train local volunteers to support continuous healthcare delivery, ensuring sustainability and a measurable reduction in maternal and child mortality.





380

**Community
Members Served**

Mobile Health Clinic Kpawula

Kpawula has long struggled with limited healthcare access, compounded by low health literacy, insufficient preventive care, and a scarcity of medical resources. Residents often delay seeking care, resulting in worsened health outcomes and preventable complications. With support from St. Olaf College, Aion Health conducted regular mobile clinic visits, providing consultations, maternal and child health services, vaccinations, and preventive education to over 380 community members. This initiative improved awareness of maternal health, malaria prevention, and child immunizations while fostering stronger community engagement. Challenges included difficult terrain, transportation of medical supplies, and occasional staff shortages, all mitigated through coordination with local volunteers. The next steps involve training community-based health volunteers, creating semi-permanent outreach points, and implementing follow-up mechanisms to ensure continuity of care and further reduce preventable illnesses.





1st
To provide basic care in the Summit

National Health Summit

Sierra Leone's healthcare system has historically faced challenges in coordination, innovation adoption, and scaling best practices nationwide. Invited by the Ministry of Health, Aion Health showcased its mobile health innovations and logistics strategies to national policymakers, NGOs, and stakeholders. Challenges included demonstrating the scalability and sustainability of mobile clinics and digital solutions in a way that policymakers could translate into national strategies. The organization also provided on-site health check-ups, allowing stakeholders to witness first-hand the practical impact of mobile clinics. The summit facilitated collaborations, knowledge sharing, and policy dialogue that highlighted the role of community-centered, technology-driven health initiatives. Moving forward, Aion Health aims to advocate for the formal integration of mobile and digital health tools into national healthcare planning, promoting widespread adoption of successful models to reduce maternal and infant mortality across Sierra Leone.





50

Received
Health
Awareness

Mobile Health Clinic Niagorehun Bargbo

Niagorehun Bargbo faces high maternal and child health risks due to geographic isolation, limited clinic infrastructure, and low community health awareness. Implemented through Aion Health with support from YES Global Youth Service Day (GYSD), the mobile clinic reached over 28 patients, providing maternal care, child health services, vaccinations, and preventive health education. Challenges included difficult terrain, poor road networks, limited local healthcare staff, and seasonal access issues. Solutions included mobilizing volunteers, scheduling multiple visits, and using local community contacts to coordinate care delivery. The program significantly improved maternal outcomes, reduced child morbidity, and raised awareness on hygiene and nutrition. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to introduce telemedicine consultations, train local health workers, and establish a permanent health outreach committee to ensure continuity and sustainability of services in the village.





50
Youths
Received
Digital Training

EmpowerHER with Tech

and community health, limiting their ability to implement sustainable health and business initiatives. With support from YES Alumni Grants, Aion Health implemented EmpowerHER with Tech, training 50 women in project management, digital tools, and entrepreneurial skills. Challenges included low digital literacy, limited mentorship, and resource constraints. Participants applied their knowledge to implement community health initiatives and small business projects, improving awareness of maternal health, hygiene, and child nutrition while increasing household incomes. The program empowered women to become leaders in their communities, strengthening local capacity for sustainable health interventions. Moving forward, Aion Health will establish a mentorship network, provide digital resource hubs, and follow-up support to scale initiatives and maintain long-term impact.





30

**Trained in
Digital and
Handy Skills**

DigitalHer Health and Entrepreneurship

Access to entrepreneurship combined with health advocacy is limited for young women in Sierra Leone. With support from the UNFPA Young Women Innovation Challenge and the Ministry of Youth Affairs, over 30 women were trained to integrate health education with business skills. Challenges included securing funding, providing structured mentorship, and supporting practical project implementation. Participants successfully launched micro-enterprises, conducted community health campaigns, and increased awareness of maternal and child health issues. The initiative empowered women economically and socially while improving health knowledge in local communities. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to expand the program to additional districts, provide ongoing technical support, and foster peer-to-peer mentorship networks for sustainable community impact.





50

Received clean
water and clean
solar light

Solar Health Pump Lowuma

Lowuma faced similar water access challenges, with residents relying on contaminated sources and suffering frequent waterborne illnesses. With support from the German Embassy Freetown, Aion Health installed a solar-powered pump serving over 550 residents, providing reliable access to clean water for households and the local health post. Challenges included technical installation, training residents in maintenance, and ensuring sustainable usage. The initiative significantly improved public health outcomes, strengthened clinic operations, and reduced the prevalence of waterborne diseases. Next steps include establishing community management committees, training local technicians, and implementing additional pumps in nearby communities to scale the impact.





650

**Received Clean
Solar Light and
Water**

Solar Health Pump Niagorehun Bargbo

Niagorehun Bargbo lacked reliable access to clean water, contributing to high rates of waterborne illnesses, poor hygiene, and limited clinic operations. Implemented with support from the German Embassy Freetown, Aion Health installed solar-powered pumps serving over 650 residents, providing sustainable access to clean water and reducing disease prevalence. Challenges included lack of electricity, maintenance capacity, and initial community engagement. The project improved public health, supported clinic operations, and empowered the community to manage local water resources. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to train local water management committees, monitor pump functionality regularly, and explore expanding solar water solutions to other underserved areas.





56
Piloted Waste
Data Collected

SaniTrack

In Bo City and surrounding villages, poor sanitation contributed to preventable diseases and low community awareness. Implemented in partnership with Bo City Council and support from the German Embassy Freetown, Aion Health introduced SaniTrack, a mobile app monitoring sanitation conditions and hygiene practices. Over 3,000 residents benefited from improved sanitation awareness, early detection of sanitation hazards, and reduced disease prevalence. Challenges included limited technology adoption and real-time data collection. Through training, community sensitization, and volunteer engagement, the program increased adoption and awareness. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to scale SaniTrack to additional villages, integrate it with health education programs, and develop community sanitation teams to ensure sustainability.





1st

**Recognized as
Changemakers**

U.S Embassy Alumni Celebration Dinner

Recognizing youth-led health initiatives is vital for promoting mentorship, collaboration, and knowledge sharing. By invitation from the U.S Embassy Freetown, Aion Health hosted a celebration dinner recognizing over 50 alumni for their leadership in health innovation, volunteerism, and community service. Challenges included coordinating diverse participants and ensuring meaningful engagement. The event strengthened alumni networks, facilitated knowledge exchange, and inspired continued volunteerism in health and entrepreneurship programs. Moving forward, Aion Health aims to establish an active alumni platform for mentorship, collaboration, and scaling impactful health projects, further promoting sustainable community development.





Partnerships

Aion Health SL's progress and impact have been made possible through strong partnerships with government agencies, educational institutions, and international organizations. Collaborations with the District Health Management Teams (DHMT) and Ministry of Health (MoH) ensure alignment with national health policies, guidance on maternal and child health programs, and integration of innovative approaches into local health systems. Partnering with the Bo City Council (BCC) has strengthened community engagement, enabling sanitation initiatives like SaniTrack and mobile clinic coordination. International collaborations, including support from St. Olaf College, the German Embassy Freetown, and UNFPA Sierra Leone / Ministry of Youth Affairs (MoYA), have provided technical expertise, funding, and mentorship opportunities. Challenges included coordinating across multiple stakeholders and ensuring resource alignment, but these partnerships have enabled the delivery of health services to over 5,000 residents, the implementation of solar health pumps, and the training of women in digital skills. Moving forward, Aion Health aims to deepen collaborations, expand joint initiatives, and create sustainable, community-led health interventions.



Entities Supported - Giving Forward

Aion Health SL actively supports other organizations and initiatives, amplifying the impact of its programs through giving forward. Technical support with Green Leone have enabled environmental health initiatives, including clean water projects and community sanitation campaigns, benefiting thousands of residents and contributing to public health improvements. Another technical support with AcRG (Action for Community Resilience and Growth) has supported youth entrepreneurship, health education, and empowerment programs, integrating health awareness with economic development. Challenges included aligning priorities, monitoring outcomes, and ensuring local ownership, which Aion Health addressed through capacity-building workshops and mentorship. Implemented through structured support and volunteer engagement, these initiatives have strengthened local organizations, trained their staffs through our digital literacy programs and multiplied the reach of health interventions, and fostered sustainable community development. Moving forward, Aion Health plans to expand the network of supported entities, provide long-term technical assistance, and replicate successful models in additional communities.



Community Reached

Through its programs and interventions, Aion Health SL has directly impacted multiple communities across Bo District and surrounding areas. In Kalia, over 480 residents, including 34 pregnant women, received healthcare through mobile clinics, preventive education, and malaria treatment. In Kpawula, over 380 community members benefited from similar mobile clinic services, while awareness campaigns improved maternal care practices. Niagorehun Bargbo received maternal and child health services for over 320 patients, complemented by health education and preventive programs, and Lowuma gained access to clean water and mobile clinic services for more than 250 residents. In Bo City, urban sanitation and hygiene were strengthened through SaniTrack, reaching over 3,000 residents and reducing preventable diseases. Challenges included limited road access, seasonal disruptions, and community engagement, all mitigated through local volunteer support and stakeholder coordination. Moving forward, Aion Health aims to expand its reach to neighbouring villages, scale interventions, and create permanent health infrastructure hubs to ensure sustained community impact.

Gratitude – Aion Health SL

At Aion Health SL, every achievement, milestone, and impact story is the result of collective effort, dedication, and unwavering support. We extend our deepest gratitude to our volunteers, both medical and non-medical, local and international, whose energy, expertise, and compassion bring our mission to life. From mobilizing mobile health clinics and providing maternal and child care, to educating communities, implementing sanitation programs, and mentoring women and youth, volunteers are at the heart of every success.



We also honor our partners and collaborators, whose guidance, resources, and mentorship have been instrumental. St. Olaf College nurtured our initial vision, while government agencies like the Ministry of Health (MoH) and DHMT, and local authorities like the Bo City Council, provided critical support for implementation and sustainability. International partners including the German Embassy Freetown, UNFPA Sierra Leone, and the U.S. Embassy Freetown have amplified our reach, enabling innovation, research, and impactful health programs.

Above all, we are thankful to the communities we serve—in Kalia, Kpawula, Niagorehun Bargbo, Lowuma, and Bo City—whose trust, participation, and collaboration allow our programs to thrive. It is through the shared vision, dedication, and collective action of volunteers, partners, stakeholders, and communities that Aion Health SL continues to improve health outcomes, empower women and youth, and create sustainable, life-changing impact across Sierra Leone.

To all who have walked this journey with us: your contribution, support, and belief in our mission have made progress possible—and together, we continue to transform lives.