WiRED International

WIRED
INTERNATIONAL

What does WiRED do?

WiRED International brings free computer-based medical and health education to underserved communities around the world. Educating a sufficient number of people about healthy practices and signs, symptoms, diagnoses and likely treatments of common illnesses can elevate the health of an entire community. WiRED believes that providing peer-reviewed, evidence-based educational training tools will enable community members to take responsibility for and contribute to their own health.

How is WiRED's mission unique?

Saving lives during a community epidemic is a heroic mission. *Preparing* communities through education can head off health problems and yield lifetime benefits. This is WiRED's quiet, life-saving mission.
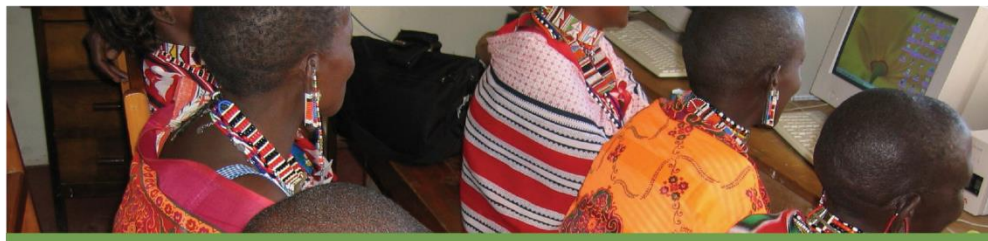
What about WiRED's bang for the buck?

The World Health Organization estimates that for $58 per person per year millions of deaths could be prevented and the lifespans of millions of people could be increased. WiRED's price tag to train a person about health on a wide range of conditions is less than a penny. With hundreds of health education courses, and the number growing, WiRED's digital Health Learning Center is unique. All courses are free to use online and to download on laptops, tablets and smartphones. No other organization or institution offers such a wide variety of cost-free, professionally prepared interactive health education material targeted to people in remote areas with limited communications infrastructure.

What is the secret of WiRED's success?

WiRED sustains its operations and continues to grow because of its adaptability and its recruitment of talented volunteers. WiRED spends around 95% of its funds directly on programs. WiRED operates through the generosity of individuals and small foundations; most of WiRED's staff are volunteers.

Delivers first services by providing Internet connections in war-ravaged towns throughout the former Yugoslavia	Works with the U.S. State Department on first assignment to bring the Internet to Kosovo	Pilots Video Visit Program in Pristina, Kosovo	Introduces Community Health Information Centers delivering HIV/AIDS education in 25 communities in Kenya	Works in partnership with the U.S. Department of State to install and operate seven Internet Access Centers in Kosovo
1997	Late 90's	2000	2001	

WiRED International Timeline

WiRED's History

Gary Selnow, Ph.D., a San Francisco State University professor, founded WiRED in 1997 while on a Fulbright Fellowship as a visiting professor at the University of Zagreb in Vukovar, Croatia, soon after the war ended between Serbia and Croatia.

According to Dr. Selnow, "When I saw in Vukovar how technology could make a difference in the lives of isolated people, I thought we might form an organization to extend the idea of technology-based education in low-resource regions. By 1999, we focused our efforts on medicine and health training. We couldn't have known it in 1997, but over the next two decades, as WiRED took shape and ran programs in underserved regions, we would engage with millions of people isolated by war, poverty, politics and geography."

Today WiRED International, now a global presence across continents, brings medical and health education to low-resource communities. WiRED fine tunes cutting-edge technology to develop training programs that have led to:

- ♦ Bringing WiRED's e-library to remote Amazon villages and supplying the technology to operate community heath training programs. WiRED also provides portable, electronic medical records systems in the Peruvian Amazon
- ♦ Producing a rheumatic heart disease (RHD) animation to accompany the creation of WiRED's RHD Training Series
- ♦ Bringing WiRED's health training programs in Spanish to medical students and nurses in Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador
- ♦ Working with WiRED-Armenia to bring health training programs on such topics as diabetes, hypertension, dental hygiene and smoking cessation
- ♦ Using technology to train Community Health Workers following WHO guidelines. Training involves a three week program, followed by continuing health education using the Internet and smartphones. This provides access to remote, low-resource communities.

Expands HIV/AIDS training program in Kenya	Increases reconstruction assistance in Bosnia, establishing three Community Health Information Centers	Collaborates with the American Federation of Teachers to bring a Community Education Center to Sierra Leone	Cuts ribbon on first medical training facility at Medical City Center in Baghdad. Launches nine Medical Information Centers elsewhere in Iraq	Opens medical information center in Nairobi

2002   **2003**

WiRED International Timeline

WiRED's Health Learning Center

http://www.wiredhealthresources.net

What is it?

WiRED's online Health Learning Center contains hundreds of interactive modules — free to all. This e-library of medical and health training courses enables physicians and nurses, patients, community health workers and people in low-resource areas to address the prevention and treatment of infectious and non-communicable disease worldwide, especially in developing areas.

WiRED has developed an entire series on large health topic areas such as infectious diseases, cancer, diabetes and HIV, as well as Express Modules that give the basics of a subject of urgent interest. WiRED has translated nearly 100 modules into Spanish, French, Mandarin, Portuguese, Arabic, Armenian and other languages.

With these interactive training tools, communities and medical professionals alike can educate themselves through the material released on this website and also distributed on portable media for communities off the grid.

Who develops these tools?

WiRED modules are developed by its team of physicians, medical editors, imagers and technicians along with contributions from many other medical experts. WiRED continually updates the existing material and creates new modules to enhance a rich source of health information.

What are rapid response modules?

WiRED rushes into action to create modules whenever an urgent need arises in areas with little communications infrastructure. For example in response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, WiRED produced the first computer-based, peer-reviewed Ebola training modules. WiRED is often a first responder in providing education to enable the local population to address the immediate situation and establish an ongoing information and training support presence.

Opens first two Medical Information Centers in Leon, Nicaragua	Installs the first Medical Information Center at the University of Pristina Medical School, Kosovo	Opens three new Medical Information Centers in Serbia with support of The Medtronic Foundation	Completes final installation of 39 Medical Information Centers in Iraq	Launches Telemedicine program between hospitals in Iraq and medical facilities in the United States
2003-2004	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	

WiRED International Timeline

Examples of WiRED's Unique Programs

Community Preparedness for Infectious Disease Outbreaks Project

This interactive project is WiRED's largest ever release of training material. The distinct feature of this project is that, using only two features, a computer program can instantly create a training course to suit the user; that is, it uses the role of the person in the community (for instance a community leader, a medical professional, or a member of the general public) and the name of the disease threatening the population. After a user enters this information, the computer will deliver a four-part course. The Infectious Disease project contains nearly 50 topics, selected because they are cited by the World Health Organization as the most common infections likely to cause an outbreak.

Mother and Child Project

WiRED offers a 24-part educational series titled "Mother and Child Health." This series provides a comprehensive training program to assist families, caregivers, community health workers and others with issues related to the following four topics: Before Pregnancy, During Pregnancy, Labor and Delivery and Becoming a Parent.

The Mother and Child Health series will be used by schools, clinics and hospitals, other NGOs and organizations that help families prepare for a healthy pregnancy, delivery and the early years of childhood up to age five.

Certificate Program

WiRED began a certificate program in Kenya in 2011, which encourages community members to study health modules, and, when they're ready, to take a test on the material. To qualify for a certificate, they must pass each module with an 85% grade or better. Certificates are not offered as accreditation; their purpose is to confirm successful completion of the training modules. More than 300 people have received certificates from this WiRED program so far.

Expands Medical Information Center Program in the former Yugoslavia, opening two new facilities in Bosnia	Opens Medical Information Centers in Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador	Is awarded Public Health Hero Award by UC Berkeley School of Public Health	Expands Telemedicine Network to include five more centers in Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador	Brings medical and health information to underserved and remote communities in the Peruvian Amazon via first use of computer training there
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011

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Comments About WiRED

Health education isn't as dramatic as a daring rescue, but it saves countless lives. Prevention is a grand bargain.
— **Dr. Gary Selnow, WiRED Director and Founder**

If I'd had the WiRED equivalent as Surgeon General, I could have changed the world. Because you have a distribution network, you have intellectual property, you have content that nobody else has. And you reach the world. And this is more than just a bunch of good people doing nice things for poor people. It's much bigger. This is health diplomacy.
— **Dr. Richard Carmona, 17th Surgeon General of the United States and WiRED Board Member.**

The association of Project Amazonas with Wired International has been highly productive for us. The Spanish-language health modules and the computer and AV equipment provided by WiRED allow us to take health education to where the people are — the isolated river-side communities of the many tributaries of the Amazon. The Wired modules will be a core element of our boat- and land-based rural medical service expeditions, allowing us to effectively integrate education and treatment in the Amazon.
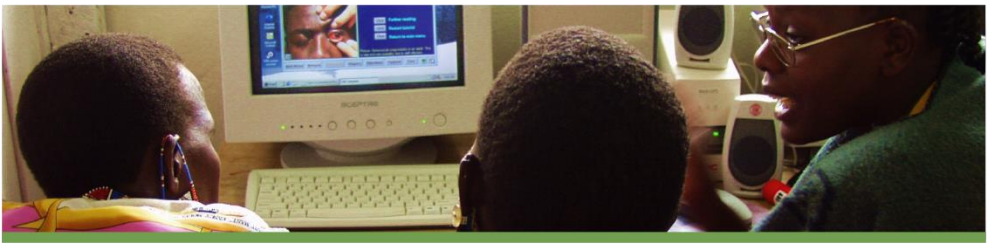— **Dr. Devon Graham, Director, Project Amazonas**

The ripple effect of information to improve community health is significant. It means they engage in better behaviors, recognize early signs and symptoms, and understand how to work with health professionals to address illness and disease.
— **Dr. Charlotte Ferretti, WiRED Board Chair**

Ever since the launching of WiRED International Health Education in Armenia, it has proven to be instrumental in substantially improving health, as well as increase the awareness in prevention necessities within the Communities of Armenia.
— **Sebouh Baghdoyan, Director, WiRED Armenia.**

Launches Graduate Certificate Program in Kenya	Works with China California Heart Watch cardiologists to develop hypertension, stroke and heart murmur modules in Mandarin for doctors	Works with Armenian volunteers to bring health training throughout Armenia	Launches Health Education Learning Portal to introduce an expanded Community Health Education e-library	Presents Ebola training program in West Africa, first of its kind in the world	Premieres its Filling Station to expand the global reach of its e-library to communities that are off the grid

2012   **2013**   **2014**

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Testimonials From Underserved Communities

WiRED International has given us a very resourceful information center and the Internet site connections to make it possible for us to obtain medical literature that was otherwise out of our reach. Of all the people who promised us "the wonderland," you are the only one who really delivered us one.
— Safwan A. Taha, M.D., Basrah, Iraq

People here in Kenya need WiRED's support. Please continue educating the public about health and continue visiting schools so that we can stay healthy for upcoming generations. Your work is helping us, and I am proof.
— Aaron Masiga, Nurse's Aide, Kisumu, Kenya

The WiRED information at the Center has helped me to change and also helped me to change the life and belief of other mothers and their children and the community at large.
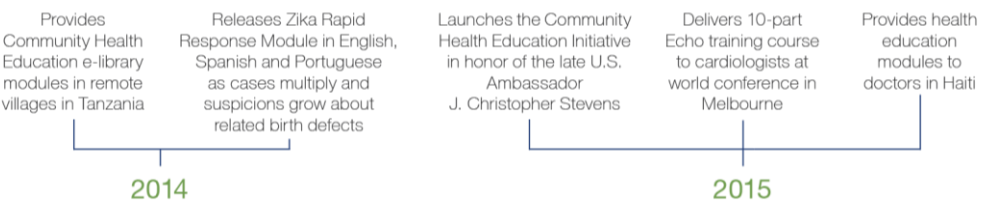**— Beatrice A. Omwa, community nutrition assistant, Kisumu, Kenya**

Through WiRED I realized that it is possible to live a positive life after getting infected with HIV virus and it is possible to prevent the child from being infected by the mother.
— Lavender Amondi, student, Kisumu, Kenya

Information is no longer a luxury for the rich. I don't have to Google or blame everything on my superstition. All I have to do is come here. I am in a better position to take care of my family and my unborn child.
— Brenda Akoth, visitor to the WiRED center in Obunga, Kenya

| Provides Community Health Education e-library modules in remote villages in Tanzania | Releases Zika Rapid Response Module in English, Spanish and Portuguese as cases multiply and suspicions grow about related birth defects | Launches the Community Health Education Initiative in honor of the late U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens | Delivers 10-part Echo training course to cardiologists at world conference in Melbourne | Provides health education modules to doctors in Haiti |

2014   2015

WiRED International Timeline

Mission Statement

WiRED International brings vital medical and health education, free of charge, to underserved communities around the world.

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WiRED welcomes your support!
Please donate by going to:
http://www.wiredinternational.org/how.html

Releases Rheumatic Heart Disease modules and animations in Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese	Unveils Electronic Medical Record System in Peruvian Amazon	Releases comprehensive Mother and Child Health series of two dozen modules for use in schools, clinics and hospitals	Releases extensive Training Courses for Communities: How to Prepare for and Manage Epidemics	Offers now nearly 100 modules in languages other than English. Offers 400+ modules in its e-library	Celebrates 20th anniversary of providing free health care information to underserved communities throughout the world

2016   2017

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