

Artists with One Voice (AWOV) Project Proposal



As of 2014, an epidemic of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) is ongoing in West Africa. The epidemic began in Guinea in December 2013. It then spread to Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Senegal. The disease is caused by the *Ebola virus* (EBOV). It is the most severe outbreak of Ebola since the discovery of the virus in 1976. By September 2014 cases of EVD from this single outbreak have exceeded the total of all cases from previous known outbreaks. The 2014 Democratic Republic of the Congo Ebola virus outbreak has been determined to be unrelated.

As of November 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local governments reported a total of over 11000 victims.

For Ebola to be eradicated we must be able to reach all Africans wherever they live through effective and strategic communication channels. This is of particular importance in a continent where much of the population, live in poverty, often in

isolated villages that are difficult to reach by road or any other means. In doing this we shall have to overcome two fundamental problems: first, most of the population are illiterate and can therefore only be reached through voice messages and mouth-to-mouth communications. Second, Africa consists of several different ethnic groups with many different languages.

In order to overcome these obstacles, the **Artists With One Voice (AWOV)**, a non-for profit organization, was set up with main objective, to jointly develop a creative outreach programme through a number partnerships with other institutions like the UN and African Union and other international organizations that can facilitate their reaching out, to a large number of Africans, especially in the most afflicted countries such as Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea and Nigeria.

With this outreach program, we hope to transmit awareness messages that are adapted to the various languages and cultures in the different countries. Through the **Artists with One Voice (AWOV)** and other organizations, we hope to be able to develop special packages that deal with core issues of fighting and raising awareness against Ebola and other social affecting mankind.

It is expected that, the songs and outreach programs, shall henceforth make an essential contribution to providing access to information and education to all Africans, in particular those who otherwise remain largely isolated in the rural areas.

It is the groups ambition to also reach out to Africans who are difficult to contact through normal radio and Television broadcasts, social media or religious communities. However, most are reachable though music. That is why the, the creation of the **Artists with One Voice (AWOV)** provides a unique opportunity to “speak” also to a large section of Africans and the world that would otherwise be difficult to reach.

The **Artist with One Voice (AWOV)** combines a wide range of musicians from different backgrounds such as rock-singers, hip-hop singers, comedians and even gospel singers from different Cameroon, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, sierra Leone and the United States all residing and working or schooling in the United States. It is led by Peter Ngu Tayong of Cameroon, a former Chief of Public Information and Spokesman for the a United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone.

Our Mission

- Our Mission is to contribute our quota at all levels are to inform and educate through informed through persuasive messages entertainment songs, that, will and empower to remove the threat of Ebola and related diseases to human health in Africa. Through the music strategy from health-care settings to house-holds, we shall advocate for Ebola patients to be supported and treated effectively with dignity, respect and love.

- **Values**

Our core values are, Integrity, discipline, transparency, accountability, team work and knowledge promotion.

Goals

- The **Artists With One Voice**, shall also use music to support and develop messages to achieve key behavioral and social changes, depending on local context, that will contribute to sustainable increase, in awareness against Ebola and other diseases, through concerts, road shows, radio-television programs, , social media , community outreach, that will engage African and World Leaders and citizens at all levels.
- Develop training packages for artists development in leadership, communication, governance , health related, issues to better inform societies and communities.