

West Africa Theological Seminary (WATS) is uniquely positioned to launch a very sizeable initiative in the war on HIV/AIDS. African society is deeply religious, and any approach to solving the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa needs to take this into consideration. The Church in Nigeria, while extraordinarily powerful in the society, is still largely uninvolved and uninformed.

The number one challenge in addressing the HIV/AIDS problem in Nigeria reported by groups such as the CDC Global AIDS Program (GAP) is lack of adequate manpower. Regrettably, a lopsided portion of the funding currently going to address this problem is spent on the sponsoring of conferences, both inside and outside of Africa. Although these conferences have their place, mere research and discussion do not solve the problem.

WATS seeks to address the threat of HIV/AIDS in Lagos, Nigeria, the largest black city in the world, by fielding 250 seminarians on work/study scholarships for a minimum of 10 hours weekly to mobilize the church in Lagos by inculcating HIV/AIDS education, prevention, and care in 10,000 Lagos churches over the next five years.

Our Goals

- To come alongside the citizens of the largest black city in the world as they face the mounting HIV/AIDS crisis.
- To save at least 250,000 lives over the next five years through HIV/AIDS education and prevention programs.
- To mobilize at least 10,000 Lagosarea congregations to help prevent HIV/AIDS, and to provide loving care for those who have already contracted AIDS.
- To assist existing orphanages caring for AIDS orphans by training and mobilizing area church members in the care of AIDS orphans.

Friends of WATS is a US based 501(C)3 charitable organization supporting the work of West Africa Theological Seminary (WATS) in Lagos, Nigeria

All donations are tax-deductible in the USA.
Checks may be made out to WATS or to Friends of WATS

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Quad Cities HIV/AIDS

River Of Hope Campaign



Help Save A Generation

Christian HIV/AIDS Initiative in the Largest Black City in the World

West Africa Theological Seminary (WATS)

The Tragedy of HIV/AIDS

- Every 14 seconds a child is orphaned by AIDS
- 3 Million people die every year
- 57,533 people die every week
- 5 people die every minute



By 2010, there will be approximately 20 million children in sub-Saharan Africa who have lost at least one parent to HIV/AIDS, bringing the total number of orphans in the region to 42 million.

A City in Need

The current HIV-infected rate in Lagos, Nigeria is conservatively 3%, or 450,000 people.

If nothing is done to launch a massive education and prevention program, we can anticipate that over the next five years an additional 450,000 people will be infected with the HIV virus.

An Effective Solution

Founded in 1989 by Dr. Gary Maxey (who grew up in Rock Island, and is a graduate of Rocky and Augustana), WATS is the largest interdenominational seminary in Africa. Its US office is located in the Quad Cities. WATS has over 300 current students and will likely reach 1,000 within five years. Its students come from 13 countries, 41 languages, 30 Nigerian states, representing 82 denominations. WATS students will work in the city of Lagos, Nigeria to bring:

**PREVENTION
EDUCATION
HOPE
COMPASSION
CARE**



Your Donation Of

\$1920 will save the lives of over 400 people
\$160 will save the lives of 35 people
\$20 will save the life of one person