

❑ Where You Live Should Not Decide *If* You Live

A teenage boy is diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. Where he lives, in California, his doctors have access to a universe of medical knowledge. They can call up thousands of databases, journal articles, monographs, and other information resources generated by a network of experts. This boy will live—because his doctors are connected to up-to-date medical information.



But other children are not so fortunate because they live in a developing nation where a doctor practices yesterday's medicine—medicine so out of date that they may die of a **treatable** disease.

That's unacceptable. At WiRED International, we refuse to believe that **where** you live should decide **if** you live.

The truth is, tens of thousands of patients living in remote or war-ravaged countries have **treatable** conditions—yet their doctors frequently lack access to the modern information that will ease their suffering.

WiRED wants to be your way of saying **no** to needless suffering—and saying **yes** to providing priceless medical data to isolated doctors.

❑ How? WiRED Connects Out-of-Date Doctors with Up-to-Date Medicine

WiRED has been supplying medical information to doctors in developing countries for more than a decade. In the places we work, medications and medical equipment are in short supply and much of the diagnostic wonders available in developed countries cannot be performed in these distant locations. And yet, a simple journal article, a new set of clinical guidelines, or a quick course on new treatments can supply the knowledge a doctor needs to save lives.

❑ Where We Work

Over the years, we have set up 100 Medical Information Centers in 12 countries on four continents. Through these Centers, we are using information technology to deliver educational material to many needy doctors around the world.



❑ Training Doctors to Use the New Technology

Predictably, a doctor with a new computer goes online with little information about how to access what is offered. At WiRED, we know that getting doctors up to speed amounts to more than expensive gadgetry. It means introducing them to both the latest technologies and medical curricula available—then demonstrating how to use it all to save patients' lives.

❑ A Short List of How We Equip, Train, and Interface with Physicians

- First of all, WiRED provides equipment and advice on continuing medical education programs. We introduce doctors to a wealth of intellectual material—libraries and medical courses—to assist those people isolated by poverty and war.



- Then, thanks to our relationships with institutions such as Harvard University and the University of California, San Francisco, we now arrange special courses that address medical information needs specific to doctors in the communities we serve.
- Through our ties with teaching hospitals, we are continually developing medical curricula to create dialogue between isolated doctors and medical experts.
- We have established online courses that let doctors decide what information they need—illness prevention, health care to young children, “miracle” drugs and their availability, even lectures on emerging health conditions resulting from environmental collapse.
- We are introducing physicians to our e-libraries available through WiRED-administered web sites that offer access to the countless books, videos, and PowerPoints that constitute up-to-date medical information.



❑ Are Physicians Our Only Concern?

No, WiRED serves people at the grass roots level through its Community Health Information Centers. These Centers allow people to access interactive information through computers. This helps make it possible for users to take responsibility for their own health care.



A good example is our work in Kenya: Seven years ago, WiRED teamed up with Kenyans in the war on HIV/AIDS. We enlisted and trained a cadre of young people to operate portable computers programmed with interactive information on prevention. They brought these Pack 'N Go computers to rural villages and other remote locations, meeting with community leaders, traditional healers, and birth attendants.

Through our HIV/AIDS programs, one million Kenyans were reached, including 100,000 young people who learned basic computer skills.

Visit us at www.wiredinternational.org.



□ Conclusion

Our mission is simple and doable—it's saving patients by updating their doctors.

How? With doctor-friendly computers and electronic medical data.

Result? WiRED gives doctors what they need most of all—the information resources to treat the treatable and cure the curable.

After all, **where** you live should not decide **if** you live.



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□ Joining Our Team

We do a lot with a little because volunteers perform most of our work. What we need now is your pledge to extend our life-saving mission to the grass roots communities and the thousands of health care workers like those in Nicaragua and Kenya, Iraq, and Kosovo. Each of the doctors we hope to help train is looking into the eyes of scores of patients hoping for the know-how to save their lives. You can help now with your pledge!

Donations to WiRED, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your dollars make a difference.

Mail your donation to:

WiRED International
Drawer 371132
Montara, CA 94037-1132

Or donate securely online to PayPal from the WiRED Web site at:
www.wiredinternational.org.

□ Your Dollars at Work

\$100 Staff meals for one month

\$250 A week-long outreach program for disabled people

\$500 One Pack 'N Go computer for HIV/AIDS prevention program

\$1000 Nursing training module for diabetes, H1N1 flu, or cholera

Organizational Hero

WiRED International was selected as the *2009 Organizational Public Health Hero* by the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health.



How You Can Help

To sign up for WiRED's newsletter or to make a donation, please visit us online at www.wiredinternational.org. Your support goes a long way.



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—WiRED International—
*Saving Lives by Supplying
Doctors with Up-to-Date
Medical Information*