

[View this email in your browser](#)



Worldwide Initiative for Rh disease Eradication

Welcome to WIRhE's First Newsletter

We are delighted to provide you with WIRhE's first newsletter to highlight the work we have been doing these last several months, and to inform you about the activities our incredible partners have been carrying out with their communities.

If these activities inspire you to pursue your own project, please let us know and we will be happy to speak with you to see how we can move forward together. In particular, we are constituting a working group to develop educational materials to help inform various constituencies, including local health care workers, traditional birth attendants, physicians, nurses, midwives, and lay people.

We also hope to develop a "speakers bureau" of individuals willing to provide educational sessions in various venues in person and/or by videoconference; if this would be of interest to you, [please let us know](#).

Organisational Update

We have established the "WIRhE Foundation" in Amsterdam as our new centralized, global lead, thereby strengthening funding opportunities and partnerships. We are currently forming regional subgroups (in North America, Latin America, Africa, etc.) that will further enhance global representation. To this end, we are delighted to have completed our Africa Regional Board as well as our North America Board.

[Please see the website for an overview of who has joined the Boards!](#)

We are still identifying members from the other regions, so if you are interested to join, please let Gaia know (see below).

I want to join a Board



Cameroon: Community Engagement Campaign

In partnership with **For Mom and Baby Foundation (FOMAB)**, our partners carried out an Rh Disease Awareness Campaign in October 2025 across markets, hospitals, and community centers. Activities included educational videos, testimonies, antenatal sessions, and market outreach, more than doubling their initial target. They went above and beyond; the initial plan was to reach out to 150 women, but they engaged more than 420! [> See more](#)



Kenya: Collaboration Blood Drive

We're also proud to have collaborated with the **Coalition of Blood for Africa (CoBA)** and the **Coalition of Women's Health Africa (COWHA)** on October 24, 2025 in their powerful outreach initiative at Pumwani Maternity Hospital in Kenya, held in honour of Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPH) Awareness Month. WIRhE was honoured to contribute educational flyers that helped spread awareness on blood typing and Rh disease. Clear, accessible information is key to empowering communities, and we were grateful to support this vital cause. [> See more](#)



Liberia: Women's Health & Wellbeing Workshops

On October 22 and 30, 2025 in Liberia, the **Mineke Foundation** and **Help a Mother and Newborn Initiative (HMNI)** held workshops that empowered 140 women and girls by providing maternal health information, including Rh disease awareness, nutrition, stress management, and practical wellbeing skills. Interactive sessions were tailored for lower-literacy market women. [> See more](#)



Ghana: Health & Blood Typing Outreach

On **November 6, 2025**, WIRhE, **Equal Help Ghana**, and local health services reached 176 community members with malaria testing, blood typing, Rh disease awareness, and menstrual health education. Women received accessible Rh disease flyers, and schoolgirls were given reusable menstrual pads. Services included malaria testing and treatment, HIV/STI screening, hemoglobin and glucose testing, and vital signs monitoring. [> See more](#)

WIRhE Website Update

Since joining in June, our Foundation Coordinator, Ms. Gaia Mori, has been actively updating the [WIRhE website](#) to align with our renewed vision.

The website now features:

- An **interactive map** of all countries where WIRhE is active
- A new page showcasing our **projects and partnerships**
- Regularly updated **resources**

Members are encouraged to share any work or updates they would like highlighted on the website or in future newsletters.

Upcoming Activities

Sierra Leone

With our partners UMPIWE, in December, we will commence our pilot for health promotion outreach in 24 rural communities, focusing on maternal and child health, Rh disease, and preventive care. As part of this outreach, we will conduct a study to understand more about the awareness women have of Rh disease in their community and whether they have had any lived experiences, as well as what barriers they may face in access to care.

Nigeria

In December 2025, together with our partners at Rhesus Solution Initiative (RSI) in Nigeria, RSI will educate 250–300 women and teenagers on blood typing and provide free blood group testing. They will also conduct a midwife training regarding the importance of making sure that their patients are aware of the importance of knowing their blood type, that of their spouse, as well as about Rh disease.

Pakistan

Together with our partners at SickKids in Toronto, Canada, in 2026 WIRhE will support the scale-up of EidonCard point-of-care testing and RhIg administration in Sindh and Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan. The project entails monitoring maternal and neonatal outcomes, as well as a pilot project on household testing. This pilot aims to assess the feasibility of household testing and of directing Rh(D)-negative women to appropriate facilities for intramuscular injections in each sub-district/district.

Upcoming Events

WIRhE will participate in the **International Maternal and Newborn Health Conference**, Nairobi, **March 23-26 2026**.

Our next annual international WIRhE meeting will be held on **May 28, 2026** during the [Alloimmunization Conference in Leiden](#). We will be able to offer some travel fellowships to support attendees from lower-middle income countries.



Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

