

# National Black Church Initiative

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August 28, 2014  
**For Immediate Release**

## **NBCI Requests \$1 Billion in Aid, Access to Ebola Experimental Drug for Africa** *Why do Africans always have to die first*

**Washington, DC** – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, is calling on Obama administration to allocate \$1 billion in aid for Africa to effectively fight the Ebola virus. This health crisis has morphed into a national security issue, and U.S. leadership must join together with key stakeholders at the World Health Organization and the National Medical Association to coordinate a robust and effective response to the virus.

NBCI leadership detailed out appropriation priorities for the funding, to include: \$100 million for quarantine security; \$120 million to aid the victims' families and for community health outreach; \$350 million for public health system support; \$200 million for medical supplies and \$700 for basic and clinical research both in country and abroad at world-class academic institutions. In addition to monetary aid, NBCI calls for the immediate shipment of 5000 units each of the experimental Ebola medicine known as VSV-EBOV to Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Zaire.

Reverend Anthony Evans, NBCI President called attention to Africa's plight, saying "The WHO and European health agencies have once again failed Africa. The death rates speak for themselves. Failure to provide Africa what it needs to overcome this virus, both through funds and resources will certainly be met by a steep moral price tag, along with the risk of the virus reaching the shores of Europe and the United States. Experts must meet immediately to outline a strategic plan that will arrest and eliminate the Ebola virus, strengthen the health delivery systems of the affected countries and put best practices in place so this type of disaster is avoided in the future. We must first create these protocols in Africa, and then export solutions to the rest of the world. The time is now. "

## **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.

The National Black Church Initiative's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at [www.naltblackchurch.com](http://www.naltblackchurch.com).