On March 11, 2011, a 9.0-magnitude earthquake occurred off the shore of Japan, causing a massive tsunami to wreak havoc on the island nation. Towns are flooded, fields are destroyed and thousands are dead. The combination of the earthquake and tsunami also compromised one of Japan’s nuclear plants, throwing the nation into a nuclear crisis.

International Aid immediately contacted partners on the ground to see how we can best equip them to respond to the disaster and prepared shipments of aid. Our donor base also sprung into action—during the month of March, IA received over $30,000 in donations for disaster relief in Japan.

In the next few weeks, IA will ship over thousands in aid to Japan. This shipment will include over-the-counter medications, hygiene products, blankets and flashlights.

While IA praises God for your generous response to this disaster, we continue to covet your prayers for the island nation. We ask that you pray:

- That God would bring peace to those suffering throughout Japan.
- That the Japanese nuclear crisis is resolved with a minimal amount of damage.
- For wisdom, guidance and effectiveness for our ministry as we continue to respond to this crisis.
- For safety and effectiveness for all relief organizations working in Japan.

To help International Aid respond to need all over the world, donations can be made at www.give2ia.org.
Why Liberia?

An explanation for why International Aid is pouring into the West African country

In International Aid’s March mailing, IA’s CEO Brian Anderson explained how our ministry is beginning to pour into the nation of Liberia. But why is IA taking interest in Liberia? Here are three short reasons why we have a heart for this West African country:

**Liberia has great need.**

Liberia, the world’s second poorest country, exists in immense poverty. A 13-year civil war (1989-2003) devastated the country, destroying its infrastructure along with most of its businesses. The public school system shut down during that period, and many have been left without an education. Even though the war ended years ago, Liberia’s unemployment rate remains at 85 percent and access to healthcare continues to be a struggle.

**IA is equipped to meet many of their needs.**

Many of Liberia’s health problems are due to hospitals and clinics lacking the equipment needed to treat their patients and the funds to buy this equipment. This is exactly why we have our Medical Equipment Services, and—due to recent exploratory trips to Liberia—we know our organization could transform some of Liberia’s key hospitals with the equipment we already have in our warehouses. Also, Brian Anderson has created strong relationships with people who can help us distribute medicines, vitamins, and food to a substantial number of clinics and schools in the country.

We thank God for the opportunity we have to help rebuild this nation, and we look forward to sharing more stories with you about the work IA accomplishes in Liberia.

To learn more about IA’s relationship with Liberia, visit: www.internationalaid.org

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**INTERNATIONAL AID**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

*(July 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011)*

58 countries received medical equipment, nutritional supplements and health products from IA

120+ missions, organizations and other partners actively serving the poor worldwide received shipments from IA

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**We could not have done this without you.**

International Aid has been able to accomplish more than we could have ever dreamed because God has given us donors who are passionate about our ministry. Your monetary contributions enable us to supply those in need with desperately needed medicines, vitamins, health care products and medical equipment.

Thank you for joining with us to minister to a hurting world.
Life in Dorzohn is not easy.
Buried deep in the Liberian jungle, the people of Dorzohn rarely have contact with the outside world. Their currency is what they are able to grow in their farms and trade with the vehicle that travels the treacherous path to their community once a week.
And for four months out of the year, their creeks dry up and the people have to trek through the jungle to surrounding communities in search of water.
Their survival depends on their ability to work—and once the sun sets, all work comes to a halt.
But the darkness won’t hinder the community anymore. In January, International Aid delivered the first shipment of PiSAT Solar’s solar-powered lanterns to the rural community of Dorzohn.
“These lights will change this community,” said Massa, one of the Liberians. “We love that they only need the sun to work.”
The distribution of lanterns was a part of International Aid’s “Lanterns for Liberia” initiative. During a January trip led by former CEO David Wisen, lanterns were delivered to two rural churches.
“Going to Dorzohn is going as close to the edge of the world as you can,” Wisen said. “Seeing the excitement in people’s faces is something I’ll never forget.”
Families in the church communities were thrilled to receive them, and were trained by IA team members on how to care for and use the lanterns.
“These lights represent more than an ability to function at night; they represent hope,” Wisen said. “For the church people who received these lanterns, the light is a visual reminder of how the Gospel sheds light in a dark world.”
A second shipment of lanterns from International Aid was delivered to Liberia this month along with over-the-counter medications and replacement medical equipment parts.

**“LANTERN FOR LIBERIA” FAST FACTS:**
- Back-to-back civil wars destroyed Liberia’s infrastructure, including the nation’s electricity system.
- Nearly two-thirds of Liberia’s population exists without light after sunset.
- This year, International Aid has delivered two shipments of solar-powered lanterns to rural Liberian church communities.
Kids for a Cause:

Girl’s Club makes and donates blankets for the poor in the Republic of Georgia

In February, the girls of the Georgetown Christian Reformed Church Girl’s Club came together for a night of fun, fellowship and service—all for the purpose of benefitting the poor.

The girls gave up their evening making tie-blankets for impoverished families living in the Republic of Georgia. By making these warm fleece blankets, the girls tangibly demonstrated the love of Christ to those in need.

International Aid and our partners have been actively involved in relief work in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union for over a decade. In Georgia, we work with poverty-stricken families who lack food, clothing and/or medicine. We seek to show these families the love of Christ by providing medicines, blankets, health products and nutritional supplements to Georgian schools, hospitals, nursing homes, homes for the disabled, orphanages and churches.

By donating these tie-blankets, the Girls Club became a part of the volunteer legacy that has existed at International Aid. For years, diligent volunteers have hand-made and donated tie-blankets and quilts to send overseas.

Thank you so much to Georgetown CRC’s Girls Club for your generosity, and for partnering with International Aid to bring hope and healing to those who desperately need it in the Republic of Georgia!