A LOOK BACK AT HAITI AND A NEW WAY TO RESPOND TO NEED

On January 12, 2010, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the small country of Haiti, ravaging what was already the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Haitian authorities estimate that 230,000 people were killed, 300,000 were injured and over one million were left homeless.

We at International Aid praise God for how He has used our organization, donors and partners to serve the suffering in Haiti. This past year, IA received $123,000 in public donations for Haiti and was able to send millions worth of aid to the devastated nation, including tools, tarps, hygiene kits, vitamins and full advanced clinics.

Even though it's been over a year since the earthquake, tragedy continues to strike Haiti. In the past six months, cholera has claimed over 2,700 lives, and has spread to every corner of the small nation.

But God continues to provide. This month, International Aid has sent multiple shipments of medical supplies to Haiti to help our partners combat the cholera outbreak.

While God has used us greatly, we learned from Haiti that common response methods can waste an invaluable resource: time. Large shipments of supplies and medicines can take a long time to assemble, ship and get through customs.

Moving forward, we’ve created a quicker way to provide medicines to areas desperately seeking relief. We now can assemble portable Physician's Med Kits that enable licensed doctors and medical missions teams to carry thousands of dollars worth of medical supplies in a portable container.

These kits are full of essential medicines that help doctors treat common ailments found in the field. The kit includes fever controllers; antiallergic and anti-infective medicines; ophthalmological products; bandages; thermometers; ointments; vitamins; and other medical products.

With your help, we can quickly provide these kits to our partners serving in the areas of greatest need. With a donation of $395, you can help us provide a doctor or medical missionary with $3,000+ worth of medicine and supplies that can be used to treat over 100 people.

To contribute to this initiative, visit www.give2ia.org and designate your donation to “Physician’s Med Kit.”

MISSION STATEMENT
International Aid exists to be used by God to provide relief in the crisis and to equip missions engaged in the process of rebuilding and developing God-glorifying relationships.
Thanksgiving Gift
IA’s first frozen food shipment arrives in time for holiday

Last Thanksgiving, we at International Aid had much to be thankful for.

In November, IA delivered its first frozen food delivery to poor Native American communities in Arizona. A total of 8,064 dinners arrived to the reservation just in time for the holiday.

Working with National Relief Charities (NRC), International Aid distributes nutritional products to Native American reservations multiple times a year. Frozen food is extremely valuable on the reservations because of its high nutritional value and heartier supply of food, yet it is difficult to distribute due to the need to keep it frozen while en route to the reservation.

Likewise, many charities cannot accept this type of donation due to an inability to keep large quantities of food frozen.

By working through logistics with our donors and our contacts at NRC, International Aid was able to secure a refrigerated trailer to transport the dinners down to the Arizona reservation in time for Thanksgiving dinner.

“Sending frozen foods is a new opportunity for IA to help the poor and needy in a different aspect,” said Deb Null, a member of IA’s Health Products Team. “The ability to work with NRC directly to the tables of the beneficiaries who will have a hot meal on Thanksgiving is truly a blessing!”

On The Web...
To learn more about International Aid, visit: www.internationalaid.org

To join with us in meeting the needs of the poor through a financial gift, please visit: www.give2ia.org
It’s not hard to get sick in Mongolia’s Gobi Desert region.

The cold climate causes many health struggles for the poor families that live in the area. Dry winds whip across the barren landscape gathering dust and debris, causing the locals to develop lung diseases. Their drinking water is contaminated, causing many of the herdsmen and their families to suffer from digestive diseases.

“People do not have access to an adequate medical service,” Mongolian politician Yaichil Batsuuri said.

According to Batsuuri, many of the desert’s herdsmen live dozens of miles away from the nearest village center where a hospital is located. For the sick who travel to the village, they are often left disappointed—the majority of the rural village hospitals in the desert do not have the tools needed to properly treat their patients.

“Village hospitals lack necessary medical labs, and cannot analyze the patients’ urine and blood,” Batsuuri said. “The doctor cannot diagnose the patient.”

Therefore, every lab analysis has to be sent to a hospital in a city center, which is sometimes more than 100 miles away from the Gobi Desert village. Meanwhile, the patients in the desert continue to get sicker and sicker.

It is the plight of these people that caused Batsuuri to take action.

In 2000, Batsuuri began a nongovernment organization to improve the quality of life for the poor living in rural areas of Mongolia. After its inception, the Dornogobi Foundation implemented health, education and social welfare projects throughout Mongolia’s Dornogobi province, placing a strong emphasis on the Gobi Desert region.

However, by 2007, Batsuuri realized the needs of Mongolia’s Gobi Desert villages were far greater than what his small foundation’s budget could handle.

By the grace of God, Batsuuri stumbled across IA’s website in 2007 and was able to read about our Lab-in-a-Suitcase program. The Lab-in-a-Suitcase (LIS) is a portable medical lab that is used to diagnose patients accurately and timely, giving patients the greatest chance for survival. Our labs enable health professionals serving in remote areas to perform many of the standard diagnostics tests most frequently requested by field physicians.

Believing this lab was the answer to his problem, Batsuuri got in contact with our organization. For three years, we worked with the Dornogobi Foundation and Mongolia’s Ministry of Health to secure the funds needed to send 14 labs to Mongolia. The first seven arrived last month, and have arrived at the village hospitals.

“These Labs-in-a-Suitcase will be very helpful to the herdsmen who live in remote areas of my country,” Batsuuri said. “It will save their health, lives and money.”
$42 million
The amount of health products and medical equipment shipped to partners serving in countries all over the world between July 1, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2010.

40+
The number of countries International Aid sent health products and medical equipment to between July 1, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2010.

80+
The number of missions, organizations and other partners actively serving the poor worldwide that received shipments between July 1, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2010.

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. Thank you for joining with us to minister to a hurting world.