

## Your Support for America's Uninsured



### United States

**"We always had health insurance," says Sharon Gaspard. But her family's health coverage ended when her husband died of a heart attack while working on an off-shore oil rig.**

When her husband passed away, Sharon was still recovering from open heart surgery she had just six weeks earlier.



While her son, who has disabilities, receives Medicaid, Sharon, 60, is not eligible for government health insurance. She went to her doctor for follow-up care and soon had an \$18,000 medical bill, far more than Sharon could afford.

A relative told Sharon about the Eunice Community Health Center in her hometown of Eunice, Louisiana. The Eunice clinic is one of more than 600 health centers, health departments and charitable pharmacies AmeriCares supports with donated medicine and supplies. As long as Sharon qualifies, this locally run nonprofit will provide her with medicine and primary care free of charge.

To help meet the needs of the estimated 48 million low-income uninsured in the U.S., AmeriCares provided more than \$207 million in medicines for the uninsured last year—enough medicine for more than 900,000 prescriptions, including the five that Sharon receives from the Eunice clinic each month.

Now Sharon can focus on her health and her son: She is no longer among the millions of Americans who must choose between buying medicine or putting food on their table.

Sharon Gaspard is just one of an estimated 48 million Americans without health insurance (above). AmeriCares India medical teams visited dozens of villages to help flood survivors (right).

## Donations Help Flood Survivors

AmeriCares Emergency Response team is responding to deadly floods in the U.S. and India. September storms dumped record rain in Colorado, creating destructive floods that damaged 17,000 homes and left thousands cut off from assistance. "We immediately sent an emergency response expert to assess the situation and we will work with our partners to meet the needs of ill, injured and displaced survivors," said Garrett Ingoglia, AmeriCares vice president of emergency response.

In northern India, 23 inches of rain last June created debris-filled floods that tore through mountain villages, killing more than 5,000 people. AmeriCares India deployed medical teams that treated more than 1,600 survivors in the affected area in June, July and August.

The fear is that hundreds of villages will remain cut off as winter arrives. AmeriCares India will distribute 6,000 care kits designed to protect flood victims' health. We are also working with local officials on a long-term recovery plan to address ongoing health needs and restore health infrastructure.

**For updates, visit [americares.org/crisisalert](http://americares.org/crisisalert). To make a donation go to [americares.org](http://americares.org)**





## From the President and CEO

Dear Friends,

For 11 years, it has been my privilege to lead AmeriCares. Each year, more than 50,000 donors like you trust AmeriCares to use their gifts to help those who need it most. We pride ourselves on collaborating with local health partners to put your donations into the hands of people in desperate need of medicine and medical supplies.

After the Oklahoma tornadoes in late May, thousands of families were left with nothing (page 2). We immediately sent donations of relief supplies, including tetanus vaccine, chronic disease medicine and medical equipment. Thank you for making our quick response possible.

At the same time, AmeriCares is supporting more than 600 health centers and charitable pharmacies in the U.S. and more than 2,500 health partners around the world. Thanks to you, in the last year we provided enough medicine to fill more than 13 million prescriptions.

I want AmeriCares work to continue for decades to come. That's why, like Alan and Nancy Bernstein (page 3), I have made a commitment to AmeriCares in my estate plan. I encourage you to do the same. Together, we can ensure that even more people live longer, healthier lives.

Sincerely,

Curtis R. Welling  
President and CEO

## Voices from the Field: Tornado Relief

*Many of our donors earmark their donations for emergency response. Here's a first-hand account of how your donations are used in an emergency from AmeriCares emergency response manager Kate Dischino, who traveled to Oklahoma with other AmeriCares staff including Sarah Streeter, pictured below.*

When I heard about the massive tornado that struck Moore, Oklahoma, on May 20, I immediately began making travel plans so I could be in Moore the next day. My co-workers on AmeriCares Emergency Response team began calling partners in Oklahoma and our warehouse team loaded trucks with emergency medicines and supplies that we keep in stock for such disasters.



For two weeks, I remained in Oklahoma, making sure that our medicines and relief supplies got to where they were most needed. In Moore, I met Olga and Ernesto Garcia, whose house had been destroyed by the twister. Their 18-month-old son needs treatment every day for a respiratory condition, and while their insurance covered medicine that was lost in the storm, it did not pay for the nebulizer needed to administer it. At AmeriCares, we know that medical equipment is often ruined in disasters and had included nebulizers in an emergency shipment to our local health partners. The family was grateful to have what they needed to properly care for their son.

For survivors, access to quality medicines and health care can change lives. That's my focus at work every day, but at the scene of the disaster in Moore, Oklahoma, I was living it every moment.

## Thank You for 10 Years of Quality Health Care



Lazaro Jimenez feels lucky: Not only did the AmeriCares Family Clinic in Santiago de Maria, El Salvador, diagnose and repair his hernia, but doctors there treated his wife's cancer as well. Now, Lazaro can keep working at his agricultural job and earn money to send his children to school. In El Salvador, most people do not have access to health services. Government clinics often lack

equipment, medicines—even doctors. Private care is too expensive for most.

Now in its tenth year, the AmeriCares clinic provides quality care for 70,000 patients, including specialty services and health education. The AmeriCares clinic also distributes donated medicines to more than 60 smaller clinics and hospitals nearby. By creating a locally-staffed model of care and supporting other clinics, AmeriCares is improving the way health care is delivered in El Salvador.

After a tornado, AmeriCares replaced essential medical equipment (top). The Jimenez family is just one of thousands who benefit from AmeriCares clinic in El Salvador (above).

## Partner in Profile: Merck & Co. Inc.



When multiple tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma last spring, local clinics and hospitals quickly ran out of tetanus vaccine needed to protect survivors and volunteers clearing debris. Merck & Co. Inc. donated tetanus and diphtheria vaccines, to help fill this critical need. In recognition of this and other efforts, AmeriCares presented its annual Power of Partnership Award to Merck.



Photo by Dru Nadler

Merck is one of AmeriCares most committed donors, providing both products and financial support for our global health and disaster relief work. “Merck has demonstrated remarkable support for AmeriCares Emergency Response Program, as well as enormous compassion for disaster survivors,” says AmeriCares President and CEO Curt Welling. The award is presented annually by AmeriCares and the Healthcare Distribution Management Association to recognize medical manufacturing and distribution organizations that have shown exceptional dedication to expanding access to health care for disadvantaged populations.

Since 1989 Merck has provided AmeriCares with more than \$210 million in medicines for distribution to 94 countries as well as funding for key projects, including a program to reduce cholera-related deaths in Sierra Leone, a five-year program to combat cardiovascular disease in Uzbekistan and a health-worker safety project at one of Tanzania’s largest hospitals.

### A New Smile – a Gift from Donors Like You



Photo by Joshua Gontschall

With a newly repaired lip and palate, this Philippine girl can finally smile. She just had facial surgery thanks to a group of volunteer surgeons and nurses, including Louella Ramos, RN (on right in photo). Along with their medical skills, the U.S.-based volunteers brought medicines and surgical supplies donated by AmeriCares. Each year, with the help of our donors, AmeriCares provides medicines and supplies to more than 1,100 volunteer medical teams traveling to deliver primary care and surgeries in more than 75 countries. Doctors request supplies from an AmeriCares website set up just for such

charitable trips. Last year alone, AmeriCares supplies were used in an estimated 40,000 surgeries that might otherwise not have been available. The medical volunteers often train local staff, so they leave behind knowledge and know-how as well as healthy smiles.

Before cleaning debris, many Oklahoma tornado survivors needed tetanus shots, available free thanks to AmeriCares donors (top). Volunteer doctors used AmeriCares medicines during facial surgery (above). Donors Alan and Nancy Bernstein (right).

## Plan a Gift, Leave a Legacy

A marketing expert and a nurse, Alan and Nancy Bernstein share a deep belief in giving to others. When it came time to plan their estate, Alan searched for an efficient, effective global health nonprofit. He interviewed the leadership team at AmeriCares Stamford headquarters and was impressed. “Because AmeriCares brings a business mentality to executing its goals, it tends to be efficient,” says Alan.

The couple subsequently traveled to Kosovo and India to see AmeriCares work firsthand. In Mumbai, they went into the slums with AmeriCares mobile medical clinics, hearing from patients how the clinics have improved life there. “We want to be able to change the lives of others through our good fortune,” says Nancy. “But you must trust the recipient of that gift—and that is something that has been fulfilled in our travels to AmeriCares field operations.”

The interviews and field visits proved to Alan that AmeriCares is a worthy investment. “Including AmeriCares in our estate plan,” he says, “will help ensure that AmeriCares continues to be effective and efficient.”

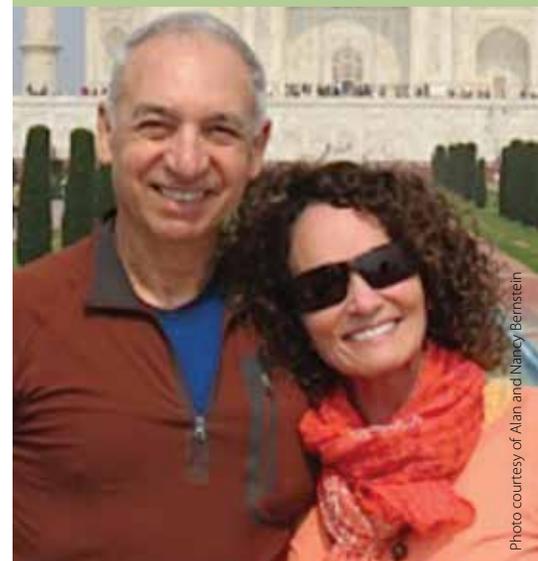


Photo courtesy of Alan and Nancy Bernstein

## Your Donations at Work in 71 Countries

With your help, between April 1 and June 30, AmeriCares sent medicines and medical supplies to the following countries:

Afghanistan	Colombia	Ghana	Jordan	Nicaragua	Romania	Togo
Armenia	Democratic Republic of Congo	Grenada	Kenya	Nigeria	Rwanda	Turkey
Bangladesh	Congo	Guatemala	Liberia	North Korea	Senegal	Uganda
Belize	Costa Rica	Guyana	Malawi	Pakistan	Sierra Leone	Ukraine
Bolivia	Dominican Republic	Haiti	Mali	Palestinian Territories	Solomon Islands	U.S.
Brazil	Ecuador	Honduras	Marshall Islands	Panama	Somalia	Uzbekistan
Cambodia	El Salvador	India	Mauritania	Paraguay	South Africa	Venezuela
Cameroon	Eritrea	Indonesia	Mexico	Peru	Sri Lanka	Vietnam
Central African Republic	Ethiopia	Israel	Moldova	Philippines	St. Vincent	Zambia
China		Jamaica	Mongolia	Poland	Syria	Zimbabwe
		Japan	Nepal		Tanzania	

### Armenia



**Syria:** Nearly 2 million people have fled the war in Syria and, like this boy, are stranded in refugee camps in bordering countries. There is no end in sight to this humanitarian crisis: Already, AmeriCares has sent more than \$3.3 million in medical aid, including antibiotics, wound care supplies and Atropine, a medicine for people exposed to chemical weapons.

**Armenia:** New winter boots from TOMS ensure that 6-year-old Grigor will have warm, safe footwear for school and play in the coming cold months. Armenia is one of seven countries where AmeriCares regularly distributes TOMS Shoes to children.

### Syria



**JOIN OUR TEAM**

A small group of athletic humanitarians from AmeriCares have joined together to run the 2013 New York City Marathon in support of our work around the world.

Learn More. Get Involved. [CLICK HERE](#)

### Annual Emergency Response Partners

Thank you to the following donors whose contributions help AmeriCares maintain year-round readiness for global emergencies:

- Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Boeing
- McGraw Hill Financial
- MedImmune
- ING U.S. Foundation
- OdysseyRe
- Anonymous



### MAKING AN IMPACT

One year after Hurricane Sandy, endurance athlete Diana Nyad will raise funds for AmeriCares Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund by swimming for 48 hours straight in the heart of New York City.

**Share the Excitement. Show Your Support.**

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

# AmeriCares

AmeriCares is a nonprofit global health and disaster relief organization that delivers medicines, medical supplies and aid to people in crisis around the world and across the United States.

88 Hamilton Avenue, Stamford, CT 06902  
 203.658.9500 | 1.800.486.HELP | [americares.org](http://americares.org)  
 Editor: Kathy Kukula, [editor@americares.org](mailto:editor@americares.org)

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