

AmeriCares®

HUMANITARIAN LIFELINE TO THE WORLD

FALL 2005

Sending Hope to Iraq

\$5 Billion in Aid, Millions of Lives



Photo by LIFE for Relief & Development

Iraqi children thank AmeriCares.

War, years of sanctions and decades of authoritarian rule have crippled the Iraqi economy, leaving the country with poor infrastructure and inadequate social services. According to the World Health Organization (WHO),

“almost half of the country’s 24.5 million people are children whose fate depends on a massive and rapid improvement in the country’s health and infrastructure.” AmeriCares is partnering with the Iraqi-based

organization LIFE for Relief & Development to help address medical deficiencies and children’s needs. AmeriCares latest contribution to this effort arrived in August – 27,000 pounds of essential medicines and medical supplies, which were distributed by LIFE for Relief & Development to local health clinics.

“I really want to thank everyone at AmeriCares for your generous donation. We look forward to a continued partnership with your organization to help uplift the Iraqi people,” said Vicki Robb, international programs director for LIFE for Relief & Development.

This donation follows on the heels of an AmeriCares

It has been a challenging year for the global relief community, with an unbroken sequence of natural disasters as well as complex emergencies caused by man’s inhumanity to others. The determination to respond to this unrelenting need has propelled AmeriCares to deliver increasing volumes of aid, bringing health and hope to millions of people. All of this has contributed to AmeriCares reaching a new milestone: \$5 billion in cumulative humanitarian aid delivered since our founding in 1982.

More than 20 years ago, AmeriCares was conceived as a humanitarian relief organization when Pope John Paul II approached founder Bob Macauley about bringing aid into Poland. From that initial airlift, a mission was born. Today, AmeriCares has helped to save millions of lives in 137 countries around the world. Thousands of others in the United States have been helped through our three domestic programs – AmeriCares HomeFront, AmeriCares Free Clinics and Camp AmeriKids.

“We are tremendously grateful for all of those who help AmeriCares extend its humanitarian lifeline around the world,” said AmeriCares President and CEO Curt Welling. “The generous spirit of giving shown by our partners and by the public over the past two decades has enabled us to reach the \$5 billion mark. In a world of unending need, we rely upon this generosity to support our ongoing relief efforts.”

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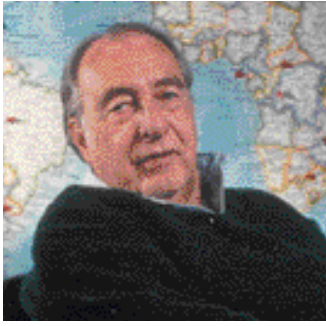
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Left photo from: AmeriCares Archives; Middle photo by Kate Waxman; Right photo by Lauren Nelson

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From the Founder

Dear Friends,
As you know, we are being dramatically recognized for our quick, thorough disaster relief responses – even more so since the tragic tsunami. Yet, equally as life-saving (although not as publicized) is our follow-up with continuation aid and relief work. This is essential in our helping to provide a humanitarian lifeline.

We stay involved not only in the tsunami areas providing water purification, medical and health improvements and economic recovery, but also in many grave situations such as Darfur, northern Uganda and famine situations around the world; the list is continuous. AmeriCares warehouse staff amazingly moved 1,300 tons of medical aid and supplies in and out over the last four months, always with the urgency of maintaining help to those in need.

But international concerns are only part of our commitments. AmeriCares Free Clinics programs are expanding their outreach to many with no medical insurance and much need. HomeFront teams completed basic renovations on 100 homes. Camp AmeriKids provided well-planned camp experiences for 126 campers at each of their two sessions. You can be justly proud of the great success of these caring projects.

The benchmark of having reached \$5 billion in aid delivered is an incredible achievement for all of us including you. Surely, you realize what a vital role you have.

In gratitude,

Bob Macauley

Emergency Response to Flooding in India

AmeriCares recently responded to torrential flooding in India's Gujarat state with an emergency shipment of relief supplies valued at almost \$2 million. More than 130 people died and an estimated 500,000 others were placed in temporary shelters as overflowing dams and rivers inundated the countryside, destroying much of the surrounding infrastructure and forcing the evacuation of entire villages. Officials estimate that more than 9,000 villages were submerged under water.

The AmeriCares shipment included enough water purification treatments to provide 2.2 million liters of clean drinking water, as well as thousands of treatments of oral rehydration solutions, antibiotics and antifungals. The shipment was delivered to



Photo courtesy of Patel

Torrential rains in India.

the Ministry of Health, which distributed the relief supplies to hospitals and clinics in affected areas across the state.

“Millions of people in India were affected by this flooding and were at risk of diseases such as cholera from unsafe sanitary conditions and contaminated water sources,” said Sukirti Bagal, AmeriCares project manager for India.

“Our shipments delivered treatments to aid hundreds of thousands of people in the worst-affected areas.”

AmeriCares has been responding to emergencies in India since 1982, providing critical relief to victims of floods, cyclones, earthquakes and other humanitarian crises, as well as offering ongoing medical assistance to numerous hospitals and clinics.

Helping Tsunami Survivors Resume their Lives

Nine months after the tsunami, life is moving forward for survivors in South Asia. This fact was clearly illustrated to Rachel Granger, head of AmeriCares tsunami relief programs, during a recent visit to Indonesia.

“One of the most poignant moments of my trip came while visiting a camp in Banda Aceh for those who were left homeless, where I inadvertently walked in on a wedding reception. The room was filled with families eating a specially prepared meal and extending good wishes to the new husband and wife. They urged me to join them and were eager to share their food, drink and laughter,” recalls Granger. “For me, this was truly symbolic of how far life has come since the somber days after December 26 – that people are now joining together to celebrate a milestone that is the beginning of a young couple's future.”

AmeriCares delivered \$22 million worth of aid to Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India in the six months following the tsunami. This assistance has reached thousands of people. For example, hundreds of Indonesians benefit daily from primary health care



Photo by Kate Mozhay

Smiling for the camera in Sri Lanka.

services at clinics equipped by AmeriCares; sick patients at one hospital in Sri Lanka are enjoying better health thanks to a recent gift of new dialysis equipment; and survivors in India are receiving medicines to which they would otherwise not have had access. Looking ahead, AmeriCares is continuing to work with local officials to develop sustainable programs that will help those most in need.

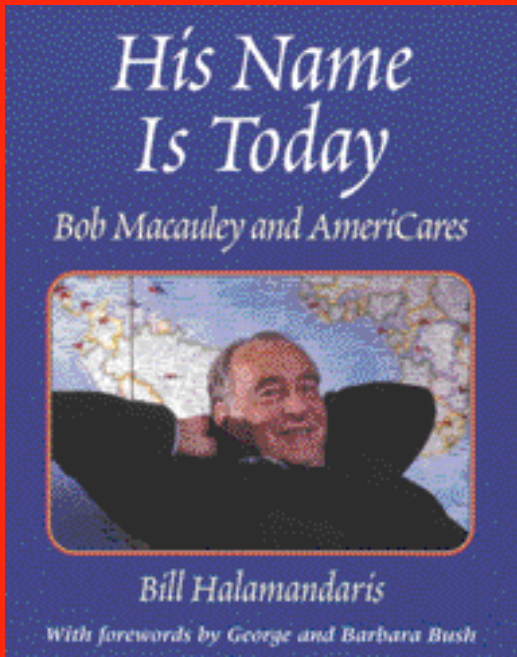
To learn more, log onto the AmeriCares web site at www.americares.org

Book Tells the Story of AmeriCares

AmeriCares founder Bob Macauley is the feature of a newly published book, *His Name is Today*.

More than 23 years ago, AmeriCares was founded – an organization built upon the compassion and humanitarian instincts of one extraordinary man, founder Bob Macauley. Today, the story of Bob Macauley and how he established AmeriCares is the subject of a newly published book, *His Name is Today*.

The book's author, Bill Halamandaris, met Macauley nearly 20 years ago when he was on a quest to find the most inspiring people in America. Out of that meeting, a friendship began, and Halamandaris eventually convinced Macauley that the story of his life and the work of AmeriCares should be told.



The book chronicles Macauley's philanthropic efforts in the '70's and '80's and the birth of AmeriCares. It also covers the early years in AmeriCares history and is rich with anecdotes about some of the famous people Macauley encountered while doing his humanitarian work, including Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Ronald Reagan. It is also a love story – not only of the love of a man for his wife, but of this same man's love for mankind and how this feeling inspired him to take action on behalf of those less fortunate than himself.

The book's unusual title comes from a poem by the same name. Written by the Chilean writer Gabriela Mistral, the poem says in part, "*Many of the things we need can wait. The child cannot. To him we cannot answer 'Tomorrow.' His name is 'Today.'*"

To learn more about this inspirational book, visit the AmeriCares web site at www.americares.org

His Name is Today pays tribute to AmeriCares founder Bob Macauley



From the President

Dear Friends,
We talk a lot about partnership at AmeriCares because it is a subject about which we are passionate. More than 20 years ago, we were founded with the idea that the emergency relief we bring to others would be the end result of strong, continued alliances between AmeriCares and the pharmaceutical industry. Over time, we have extended the idea of partnerships to others who provide support to our humanitarian lifeline.

In this issue you will read about our partner organization in Iraq, a country where the possibility and benefits of humanitarian partnerships is still yet to be fully realized. You will also read about how the tragedy of the tsunami brought us one of our newest pharmaceutical partners, and about two Connecticut hospitals whose ongoing collaboration greatly contributes to the success of the AmeriCares Free Clinics.

Today, thanks to our partners' commitment to the AmeriCares mission, people in the developing world and in our own backyard have access to medical supplies and health-care they would otherwise go without. And the business of delivering these donations is made possible by the continued support of people like you, our donors. Your donations help save lives. And because of this, we consider each of you one of our most important partners.

With sincere appreciation,

Curtis R. Welling

Give a Gift of Health and Hope this Holiday Season

Get a jump on your gift giving for the holiday season!

Give the gift of AmeriCares to your friends, family members and/or business colleagues this holiday season. Your contribution supports AmeriCares vital, life-saving work around the globe and allows you to share your philanthropic spirit with those who are important to you. It's fast and easy on our web site! Log onto www.americares.org and click onto our "holiday giving" link. When you've made your contribution, we'll send all gift recipients a card to tell them of your thoughtful generosity. For more details, visit the web site or send an e-mail to our donor relations department at donorrelations@americares.org or call us at 1-800-486-HELP (4357).

AmeriCares Online

Subscribe now to get the latest news on AmeriCares relief efforts and special events. Visit our website, www.americares.org, and complete the simple registration form. AmeriCares promises to protect your privacy and not release your information to anyone. www.americares.org

PROGRAMS AT HOME

AMERICARES FREE CLINICS, INC.



Area Hospitals Support Free Clinics

Team work and collaboration are two key factors in the success of the AmeriCares Free Clinics. The cooperation demonstrated by volunteer physicians, nurses and interpreters at a clinic session is often remarked upon by newcomers and by the patients

themselves. But equally important is the strong alliance between each clinic and their local hospitals. This is quite evident at the AmeriCares Free Clinic of Bridgeport.

“Bridgeport Hospital and St. Vincent’s Medical Center are both very understanding of our mission,”

says Sharon Joslin, director of the AmeriCares Free Clinic of Bridgeport. “They are absolutely a pleasure to deal with and they certainly help us help the uninsured.”

The AmeriCares

Free Clinic has been collaborating with Bridgeport Hospital and St. Vincent’s since the clinic opened in the summer of 2003. From the beginning, both hospitals were fully committed to providing diagnostic imaging, emergency room visits and access to medical specialists for the working poor.

“The two-year partnership between AmeriCares and Bridgeport hospital has been a success due to coordinated efforts from all those who have been involved,” said Kim Bielecki, the nurse case manager for the Primary Care Center at Bridgeport Hospital. “It gives me personal satisfaction as well as those staff members who interact with these patients, knowing that we can provide these services.”

More than 750 patients have

received care at the AmeriCares Free Clinic of Bridgeport. Volunteer physicians and nurses give up their time to treat these patients, providing a dose of compassion along with medication and advice. Some of these medical professionals come from nearby St. Vincent’s.

“The commitment of our physicians and nurses to this program is the reason why we are able to provide such needed services to the uninsured. Partnering with AmeriCares has helped St. Vincent extend its mission to treat all patients, regardless of their insurance status. We look forward to the continuation of this important program and are grateful to the staff who continue to volunteer their time.”



Photo by Jocelyn Filley

Bridgeport volunteers Dr. Joseph Connolly and his wife Cynthia Connolly, RN, visit with a patient. AmeriCares

AMERICARES HOMEFRONT, INC.

Fixing Tough Realities Close To Home

Imagine being a disabled senior citizen living on an income of \$18,000 a year or less, forced to contend with home repairs that compromise your health.

This is the reality for the average recipient of AmeriCares HomeFront program, and a clear reminder of challenges faced within our nation’s borders.

Each year, the AmeriCares HomeFront team works tirelessly to provide essential residential renovations for citizens of Connecticut and Westchester, New York who are unable to afford critical repairs to improve their sub-standard living conditions.

On HomeFront Day this past spring, 105 volunteer community groups pitched in to help renovate more than 100 properties. Months later, many beneficiaries are still echoing this sentiment of thanks expressed by a senior citizen in Mount Vernon, New York: “The nights I worried about the furnace breaking down, someone [breaking] in through the rotted cellar door, the drafty windows stuffed with newspapers, hung with bath towels to keep out the winter winds, the discolored dirty shingles, the disaster of a backyard. How could I ever begin to



Photo by Laurie Eganthy

AmeriCares Ambassador Frank Catania with a grateful 2005 HomeFront beneficiary.

thank you for fixing up my home? The house and grounds went from a mess to a show place. Everyone who came here worked so hard the entire day and they were so loving it was as though they were family.”

“We work year-round to find the applicants most in need of our assistance,” said Sean O’Brien, director of AmeriCares HomeFront program. “They are the silent survivors of our community – low-income single parents, or elderly grandparents who are the primary caretakers of their grandchildren – who deserve our support.”

The AmeriCares HomeFront team is eager to find more homeowners in need of essential residential repair and renovation. Donors and volunteers are also needed to contribute

supplies, funds or time. For more information or to find out how to help, contact Sean O’Brien at 1-800-887-HOPE or e-mail him at sobrien@americares.org



CAMP AMERIKIDS, INC.



A Decade of Camp AmeriKids

Celebrating its 10th year of service, Camp AmeriKids provided a trip “Around the World in Eight Days” for 250 inner city children and teens affected by HIV/AIDS this summer.

This year’s theme delivered exciting adventures and educational opportunities for campers ages 7 to 15, during two eight-day camp sessions held in July and August in Carmel, New York.

Each day offered events relating to a different continent, with dawn-to-dusk activities including boating, swimming, teambuilding, drama, dance, African drums, woodshop, a special DJ workshop and arts and crafts. Both sessions culminated in the “AmeriKids All Stars” non-competitive talent show, allowing the campers to show off the skills and confidence they gained all week.

It is this diverse programming and nurturing environment that Camp AmeriKids provides every year at no cost to campers from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, that keeps the kids happy and the volunteer staff returning.

“We have taken out personal loans, fundraised by way of selling chocolates, having car washes, holding dance workshops and performances – anything and everything in order to be part of Camp AmeriKids each year,” said Tina Wharepouri, a volunteer counselor who has returned to camp with her family for the past five summers. Wharepouri, who was born in New Zealand and lives in Sydney, Australia year-



Top left: New friends enjoy a swim.



Top right: A camper learns to play the congo drum.



Bottom left: Dedicated counselors Kiri Wharepouri and Justine Landegger share a hug.



Bottom right: A camper expresses his creativity.

round, was thrilled to be able to share her heritage with the campers. “It is a great way to represent my country, and present our cultural and ethnic backgrounds to kids and even staff, who would never get the chance to come to New Zealand.”

Camp AmeriKids also expanded its offerings this

summer to former campers, ages 16 and 17. A year-round Leader in Training (LIT) program was instituted for these adolescents to gain experience and knowledge that will allow them to become future Camp AmeriKids staff members, as well as active peer leaders in their communities.

“Making sure our campers are given a safe environment to lose their worries for a week and have fun is always our priority,” said Paige Granger, executive director of Camp AmeriKids. “Seeing the reciprocal impact of the camp season on both camper and counselors is always a reminder of its significance.”

Bottom left photo by Andrea Doleff; top left, right and bottom right photos by Michele Dausch

Saying “No” to Domestic Violence



Photo by John Mucci

Pediatrician Dr. Myrna Ramirez Chupán discusses care with a patient.

Doris Ventura, an AmeriCares Family Clinic social worker in El Salvador, is a woman who does not take “no” for an answer. Last year, after she began witnessing an alarming number of female patients she suspected were subject to domestic abuse, she was moved to respond. “As a clinic, we could not close our eyes to the problem and pretend it was not there,” said Ventura.

Knowing that education is key to prevention and safe resolution, Ventura began to coordinate with San Salvador and San Miguel-based organizations already working with women and children to combat domestic violence to determine the next course of action.

Joining forces with local schools, Ventura and the clinic staff developed a curriculum to help teachers identify signs of domestic violence and refer affected children to the appropriate local agencies. A year later, Ventura’s initiative is making a difference: More than 70 teachers and community leaders from surrounding areas have benefited from the identification and prevention training provided by the AmeriCares Family Clinic.

It is estimated that more than 22,000 cases of domestic violence occur every year in El Salvador, usually directed toward women and children. By helping address this serious issue, the AmeriCares Family Clinic is responding to an important need in the community.

Partner in Profile: AmerisourceBergen

Just as last year’s tsunami created unprecedented challenges in humanitarian relief – in terms of the number of people affected and the sheer long-term nature of the rebuilding process – it also created some new opportunities.

For AmeriCares, one of the positive things that resulted from the tsunami was the birth of new partnerships. One of these new partners is AmerisourceBergen.

Although AmeriCares and AmerisourceBergen had previously been exploring the possibility of collaborating, no

further discussion was needed when the aftermath of the tsunami became clear.

AmerisourceBergen mobilized its 14,000 employees across the country and donated more than \$1 million worth of antibiotics, antivirals and antimalarials to AmeriCares. These products came from

17 AmerisourceBergen warehouses throughout the U.S.

While it may have been AmerisourceBergen’s first venture with AmeriCares, the donation is reflective of the company’s mission. The source for many of America’s pharmacies and medicine retailers, AmerisourceBergen is dedicated to efficient and reliable pharmaceutical distribution, which was clearly illustrated by their expedient mobilization of medicines for the tsunami survivors.

“We are very pleased that AmerisourceBergen has made a commitment to partner with us,” said Joanne Cooper, corporate relations manager for AmeriCares. “Their timely response to the tsunami disaster was a clear demonstration of their corporate efficiency and we look forward to their continued support in years to come.”



Photo by Kate Mothman

A cargo plane filled with AmeriCares aid.

Building Relationships with the HDMA

Year in and year out, AmeriCares relies upon its partnerships with those in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries to provide life-saving medicines, medical supplies and other relief materials.

It is through the continuing donation of these contributions that AmeriCares is able to help those in need – the tsunami survivors, malnourished children in Malawi, people needing antibiotics in Latin America and others around the world.

Next month, for the fourth year in a row, AmeriCares will be attending the Annual Leadership Forum of the Healthcare Distribution Management Association (HDMA). This yearly conference brings together all of the major constituents of the healthcare products industry, both manufacturers and distributors. It is an ideal opportunity for AmeriCares to solidify existing relationships and develop new ones that can help further the AmeriCares mission.

“It is important for AmeriCares to maintain visibility with healthcare distributors and manufacturers,” said Ken Baker, director of

corporate relations for AmeriCares. “Many of these organizations have an active commitment to improving access to medicines and medical products for those in the developing world. We at AmeriCares couldn’t do what we do without their support.”



Photo by Kate Mothman

Aid from pharmaceutical and healthcare companies arrives in Indonesia after the tsunami.

\$ Aid Delivered This Quarter

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Chad, China, Congo, Colombia, Ecuador, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gaza, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Niger, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Senegal, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam

WE'RE VERY PROUD OF THE WAY WE MANAGE THE FUNDS CARING PEOPLE LIKE YOU GENEROUSLY DONATE. A copy of the latest financial statement filed by AmeriCares may be obtained by contacting AmeriCares, 88 Hamilton Ave., Stamford, CT 06902, (203) 658-9500. Some states require that special notices be included with each solicitation. If you are a resident of one of these states, you may obtain financial information or annual reports from us or directly from the state agency: in New York, Office of Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, New York 10271; in Maryland, for the cost of the copies and postage, the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401; IN NEW JERSEY, FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY CALLING (973) 504-6215; IN NORTH CAROLINA, A COPY OF THE LICENSE TO SOLICIT CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS AS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION OR SPONSOR AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CHARITABLE SOLICITATION LICENSING SECTION, NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, BY CALLING 1-888-830-4989; in Pennsylvania, residents may call the Pennsylvania Department of State at 1-800-732-0999 (in state only); for West Virginia residents, the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305; in Virginia, the State Division of Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209; Washington State residents may obtain a copy of the last report filed with the Washington Secretary of State by calling toll free within Washington, 1-800-332-4483 (in state only); IN FLORIDA, RESIDENTS MAY CALL THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES AT 1-800-435-7352 (in state only). Our Florida Registration number is SC-00910 and since AmeriCares does not employ professional solicitors, we retain 100% of contributions and 0% is retained by such solicitors. Our license number in Michigan is 10588. STATE OF KANSAS Registration #22F593F6SC Office of Secretary of State, First Floor, Memorial Hall 120 S.W. 10th Avenue Topeka, KS 66612-1594. Copies of the filings with the authorities listed above can also be obtained by writing to AmeriCares at 88 Hamilton Ave., Stamford, CT 06902. Registration with any of the above agencies does not imply endorsement by the state.

Eliminating Blindness in Niger

More than one million children under age 10 in Niger are afflicted with the preventable, blinding disease of trachoma, as are thousands

of adults. This contagious eye infection causes scarring on the eyelid and cornea, and leads to blindness when left untreated.

Continuing its yearlong partnership with the International Trachoma Initiative (ITI), AmeriCares recently sent a shipment of more than 3,000 pounds of critical medicines and medical supplies to Niger, to support ITI's effort to eliminate the disease by 2015.

ITI has adopted the World Health Organization's "SAFE" strategy to fight trachoma. SAFE is a community-based prevention and treatment program that encompasses four elements: Surgery, Antibiotics, Face washing, and Environmental Improvement. AmeriCares partnership with ITI-Niger, made possible through ongoing contributions from Pfizer, addresses the surgical component by providing targeted medicines and medical supplies for sight-saving proce-



Photo by Lauren Klebsch

A young girl in Niger takes her dose of Zithromax.

dures. Using a simple and cost-effective surgical procedure, trained local health workers are able to provide immediate relief from the painful and crippling symptoms of trachoma and save the eyesight of the patient.

"AmeriCares generous donation of surgical supplies will allow Niger's National Trachoma Control Program to deliver surgical intervention

to more individuals at risk of losing their sight to trachoma," said Jacob Kumaresan, President of the International Trachoma Initiative. "ITI's strengthening partnership with AmeriCares brings us one step closer to eliminating trachoma by enabling us to expand implementation of the SAFE strategy to communities suffering from this debilitating disease."

Aiding a Fire-Damaged Hospital

Last spring, a fire swept through The Central Medical Store of the Princess Margaret Hospital in Roseau, on the Caribbean island of Dominica, causing an estimated \$1.5 million in damage that destroyed all antibiotics, injectables, anesthetic drugs, and medical supplies in the country's main medical supply center.

AmeriCares responded with characteristic expedience to this disaster, by sending a 20-foot container of essential medicines, medical supplies, and hygiene products valued at over \$1 million to help replenish these critical losses.

As Dominica's one major public health facility and the only

hospital that offers secondary care services, The Central Medical Store is responsible for the inventory and distribution of medicines to all the hospitals and clinics in Dominica's seven health districts, servicing more than 72,000 people.

"I would like to thank you for the efforts made and the generosity of your counterparts in securing much needed medical supplies for not only the Princess Margaret Hospital but the public health sector in Dominica," said Marvlyn Birmingham, hospital administrator at the Princess Margaret Hospital. "Our heartfelt thanks to all who were involved in ensuring that the supplies got to us in good condition."



Photo by Michael Cheng

Pictured left to right, AmeriCares Project Manager Lisa Frantzen, Chief Pharmacist of the Central Medical Store, Errol Thomas and Supplies Manager of the Central Medical Store, Hilary St. Clair.

PHOTOGALLERY

Welcome to a kaleidoscope view of AmeriCares moments around the world.



Right:
In Romania, AmeriCares International Associate Megan Starkey (far right) visits with partners.



Above:
Children laughing in Ethiopia.

Left:
AmeriCares worker Molly Uskudari embraces an orphan in Nicaragua.



Above:
AmeriCares Project Manager Johanna Arp is joined by Senegalese leader Shaykh Hassan and followers.

Left:
Iraqi children thank AmeriCares.



Photos credits (clockwise from top left): Ashley Cross; AmeriCares archive; Lauren Kleutsch; LIFE for Relief & Development; Ashley Cross.

Iraq continued from page 1

shipment of medical equipment and hygiene products, including ten patient beds and an X-ray screen, that were distributed to three health clinics.

Also included in the spring shipment were more than 350 stuffed animals and educational tools that were distributed to orphaned Iraqi children. The supplies were collected by Connecticut Cub Scouts who participated in one of AmeriCares youth-based community outreach activities.

AmeriCares first delivered urgently needed medical supplies to Iraq in March 2003. As soon as security allowed after the fall of Baghdad, AmeriCares sent two emergency airlifts to Iraq, which were the first to arrive from a U.S. non-governmental organization. Other aid deliveries followed, totaling more than \$8.3 million of medicines and medical supplies.

AmeriCares®

Published quarterly for our supporters, AmeriCares is a nonprofit disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization which provides immediate response to emergency medical needs – and supports long-term humanitarian assistance programs – for all people around the world irrespective of race, creed or political persuasion. In the U.S. AmeriCares provides basic medical services for the uninsured, refurbishes the homes of the physically and financially disadvantaged and gives a summer camping experience to inner-city children with HIV/AIDS. Since it was established in 1982, AmeriCares has distributed more than \$5 billion in humanitarian aid to 137 countries.



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