When Americares emergency staff arrived at the tiny health clinic in remote Carrefour Charles, Haiti, the scene was grim. “They had many patients, but no medicine—they had nothing,” says one responder.

The remote clinic was one of dozens of damaged community health centers to which Americares teams delivered medicine in the first weeks after Hurricane Matthew. “When we showed up with enough medicine to treat 1,000 people for three months, they were ecstatic,” says Americares Senior Vice President of Global Programs, Dr. E. Anne Peterson, who was on the team that made the delivery.

An Americares emergency response team was already on the ground in Haiti before Hurricane Matthew made landfall on Oct. 4. In just a few hours, the Category 4 storm left hundreds dead, tens of thousands homeless and 1.4 million people in southwest Haiti in need of humanitarian assistance. Americares relief workers immediately began delivering urgently needed medicine and relief supplies in the most affected areas.

In the month after the storm, Americares delivered more than $6 million in aid and Americares mobile medical teams treated more than 3,700 patients. The medical teams, staffed by Haitian physicians and nurses working in coordination with the Ministry of Health, spent weeks in remote communities treating patients with infected wounds and respiratory illnesses exacerbated by sleeping outside in the rain.

“ Everywhere we went we found survivors in need of medical attention—children and adults with storm-related injuries, fever and skin conditions,” says Dr. Peterson. “Many of the rural clinics had little on hand to treat patients. At some locations we supplied 90 percent of the medicine.” Americares deliveries for the crisis include more than 6,000 treatments to help hydrate patients with the diarrheal disease cholera.

Americares continues to work alongside local health partners to restore health services for hurricane survivors.

Aid Rushed to Haiti After Deadly Hurricane

Haiti

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Americares medical teams are conducting clinics in three locations a day in Haiti, helping to restore health services after Hurricane Matthew (above). In the U.S., emergency medicine left Americares distribution center for hurricane-affected states.
At just 6 months old, Keren had already suffered pneumonia twice. In El Salvador, health care is not always available or effective, so when her parents brought her to Americares Family Clinic in Santiago de Maria, they had little hope their tiny daughter would be cured.

But soon Alfonso and Raina Morales began to see a change—Keren’s health was improving. “I feel very satisfied with how the staff treats us as patients,” says Alfonso. “And the prescription medicine is excellent.” Keren and her parents are among the thousands of patients Americares Family Clinic treats every year.

Seven years later, Keren still receives regular care and low-cost daily treatments. Today, her respiratory illness is under control and her entire family learns about health, nutrition and disease prevention at the clinic’s health education sessions.

“I enjoy attending the ‘Healthy Child Growth and Development Program’ because I learn a lot about children,” says Raina. “I like that because I learn how to take care of the kids so that they grow up healthy.” Last year, the clinic provided care to nearly 33,000 patients and health education to more than 112,000.

This newsletter outlines many ways Americares reaches people when they need help the most. After Hurricane Matthew flooded communities in the U.S. in October, Americares worked with local clinics to make sure that survivors had access to critical medicine—including insulin and tetanus vaccine. Haiti took a direct hit from the storm; health clinics lost everything and so did their patients. Americares teams of Haitian doctors and nurses are working in damaged clinics, churches and schools to restore health services.

Especially now, your support is critical. Together, we are helping families achieve their dream of health.

In this season of year-end giving, thank you for your ongoing support.

Thank you,

Michael J. Nyenhuis
President and CEO

Your Support Means a Healthy Future

After free surgery from a visiting team, Luis’s eyes will align and his vision grow stronger.

This Young Patient Sang His Thank-You

Luis’s mother woke at 2 a.m. to take her son to the hospital in Salamá, Guatemala. She wanted to be sure he was among the first patients treated by visiting eye surgeons.

She was successful: With medicine and medical supplies donated by Americares, Dr. Thomas Carothers and his team from World Pediatric Project surgically corrected Luis’s misaligned eyes, which will strengthen his vision and help him in school. After the surgery, the doctors heard someone singing and found their young patient in the recovery room, eyes squeezed shut and coated with post-surgery ointments, singing his thanks for the medical team, his mother and hospital staff who had gathered around.

Luis* was just one of 59 patients seen by World Pediatric Project in less than a week; the team used Americares-provided products such as pain relievers and surgical supplies to perform more than 20 delicate eye operations.

“The savings translate into more efficient surgeries for the children we serve,” says Dr. Carothers.

Worldwide, Americares-supported volunteer medical teams performed nearly 48,000 surgeries in 2016. Americares supports volunteer medical teams making trips to approximately 80 countries each year.

* name changed
If hospital patients in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, need anything beyond the most basic medicine, they must find and pay for it themselves, which is not easy in a country where resources are scarce. The Boeing Company, through its Humanitarian Delivery Flight program and partnership with customers such as Uzbekistan Airlines, is increasing Uzbek patients’ access to medicine by donating cargo space in its aircraft for Americares deliveries. Opening aircraft doors to humanitarian aid is just one facet of Boeing’s partnership with Americares. Boeing has been an Americares Annual Emergency Response Partner since 2013, providing consistent, reliable support for Americares emergency programs, including preparedness.

As the world’s largest aerospace company and leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners and defense, space and security systems, Boeing has a global reach, with employees in more than 65 countries and customers in over 150. “Boeing is uniquely positioned to make a difference during disaster and humanitarian relief efforts and be a force for positive change,” says Sam Whiting, director of Northwest Global Corporate Citizenship for Boeing Commercial Airplanes. “Through our ongoing Humanitarian Delivery Flights program, Boeing and its airline customers combine the delivery of new aircraft with vital relief and humanitarian missions.”

“Our partnership with Boeing expands our ability to provide medicine and relief supplies during emergencies and relieve the chronic shortages caused by poverty,” says Dr. E. Anne Peterson, Americares senior vice president of global programs. Since Boeing began working with Americares in 2009, the company has conducted 12 humanitarian delivery flights to assist our mission. Boeing and its airline partners have arranged for Americares to use donated cargo space to deliver more than $3.4 million in essential medical supplies for patients in six countries. That includes four shipments with a total value of $1.7 million for those in landlocked Uzbekistan as well as flights with critical supplies to Chile, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Somalia.

A dozen women arrive daily at the Liberian Government Hospital in Buchanan, Liberia, ready to give birth. Last June, one young mother-to-be showed up too late. In her ninth month of pregnancy when pain began, she and her husband had difficulty finding an open health facility. They first rushed to a clinic near their home, which was empty, having never opened. A second clinic was also closed. Finally, they arrived at the hospital in Buchanan where their first baby was stillborn. Their journey had taken three days.

The same week, another pregnant woman arrived at the Buchanan hospital with pain. She lived nearby and had gotten to the hospital quickly; with an emergency cesarean section, she delivered a healthy baby girl.

After working to combat the Ebola crisis, Americares stayed in Liberia to strengthen health services for mothers and children. Americares improved the maternity ward at Buchanan, adding space and beds, and is keeping two remote clinics open. In the first 10 months of Americares support, more than 1,000 babies were born at the three facilities. Your Help Keeps Clinic Doors Open

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United States: Americares U.S. Program now supports 1,000 clinics and health centers serving low-income un- and underinsured patients in all 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico.

Nepal: Americares continues to expand and restore health care for survivors of the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, including supporting a rehabilitation center where patients gain strength and ability and local health workers receive training in rehabilitation.

Philippines: In the two weeks after Typhoon Haima swept through the northern Philippines in October with 140 mph winds, Americares emergency medical teams treated more than 900 patients and delivered critical medicine.

El Salvador: Expectant mothers in El Salvador now have access to clothing that prevents mosquito bites to reduce their risk of contracting Zika. Americares recently began distributing the innovative insect-repellent shirts created by Maternova to patients of Americares Family Clinic in Santiago de Maria.

Annual Emergency Response Partners

These organizations support Americares year-round readiness for global emergencies:

- Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Anthem Foundation
- The Boeing Company
- Chevron
- Medtronic
- MoneyGram Foundation
- Northrop Grumman
- OdysseyRe Foundation
- Patagonia
- Southwest Airlines
- S&P Global
- Vanech Family Foundation
- Voya Financial
- Anonymous

Your Donations Reached 63 Countries in Three Months

With your help between July 1 and September 30, Americares sent medicine, medical supplies and project support to the following countries:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Palestinian Territories, Panama, Papau New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Swaziland, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United States, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.