



GLOBAL HEALTH

Newsletter of Global Health Ministries

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May - June 2006

New Warehouse Dedicated



The number of happy celebrants was estimated at nearly 600 when Global Health Ministries' newly renovated warehouse facility was dedicated Sunday, April 2nd. Rev. Lowell "Bud" Hesterman, a founding leader of GHM, did the ribbon-cutting honors as a Dixieland band played a rousing version of "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In." Board president, Carol Berg, addressed the gathering, thanking the many volunteers, faithful donors, prayer warriors and GHM staff for having had the faith to "move mountains" to bring about the wonderful day.

Former board member, Dr. Erick Bothun, spoke with emotion as he looked around the now-doubled space for sorting, storing and staging shipments of medical supplies and equipment. "It is so awesome," he said, "to remember how we started out in a rented garage and to see today, by God's grace and direction, how we have grown like a mustard seed to bring healing and hope to many more of God's people around the world."

Visitors to the Fridley, Minnesota facility participated in tours guided by board members to 16 stations where volunteers specializing in distinct work areas such as sorting of incoming supplies, evaluation and renovation of donated medical equipment, or packing of midwife and hospice kits gave presentations on their work and invited guests to join them in the mission. Many were amazed and impressed by what they learned and saw of the

volunteers' knowledge and skills and the size and complexity of the operation.

With the new facility, GHM now projects rapid growth from the 14 shipments staged in 2005 to health care programs of Lutheran Churches in the developing world to 27 or more sea containers by 2007. A nation-wide capital funds campaign has begun to raise the \$750,000 needed to secure this new foundation for growth in mission.

Board Receives Report on Malagasy Nursing Program

In November of 2005, Dr. Karen Plager, professor of nursing at Arizona State University and GHM board member, represented GHM on a short-term mission assignment to Madagascar. There she would consult with Dr. Julie Olga Razaonandrianina, director of the Lutheran school of nursing on curriculum design and facilities planning for the newly relocated program in Antsirabe associated with Andranamadio Lutheran Hospital.

Overall, Dr. Plager's intent was to assess what was needed to advance and maintain the highest quality nursing program, and explore possible ways for the Malagasy school to partner with American nursing programs for on-going support and faculty/student exchanges. During her trip, she accompanied Dr. Julie on tours of prominent East African Hospitals and nursing schools to learn from them ideas for possible improvements in educational standards and practices. Dr. Plager experienced many blessings on the journey, as she and Dr. Julie became close friends. "She adopted me as her big sister," Plager laughed. Plager also developed a newfound respect for the gifts and strengths of her Malagasy counterparts in nursing, and a passion for standing with them in their aspirations to grow in their profession.

Among her recommendations to the GHM board on her return, Plager

- encouraged support for the construction of a new educational facility and student dormitory near Andranamadio Hospital where students will do their practicum;

- recommended sending an American missionary nurse to assist and train in teaching skills and instituting a new head nurse position at the hospital;

- supported beginning collaboration between Malagasy nursing leaders and those of Eastern Africa to form the first-ever professional nursing association in Madagascar;

- requested updated supplies and equipment for the new school's clinical lab and library.

The need for well-educated nurses in Madagascar, as well as the other countries where Global Health Ministries has partners, is undeniable, and GHM has been privileged to support the growth of the Lutheran school of nursing, called SEFAM, for many years. It is hoped that Plager's mission will serve as a model to guide future efforts by nurses from America to share expertise, empowerment and professional partnership with the developing world nurses who struggle on the front lines of health care delivery systems everywhere.





Madagascar Goals for 2006 Announced

It was a busy weekend with GHM's Saturday board meeting and Sunday's Warehouse Dedication, but even so, faithful supporters of the Lutheran health ministry of SALFA in Madagascar gathered for a dinner meeting at Roseville Lutheran Church, Roseville, Minnesota, and heard ministry goals for 2006. Leading the presentation was Carolyn Akland, GHM board member and Madagascar Project Manager. Akland spent her childhood in Madagascar with missionary parents, Dr. Len and Agnes Akland, and has a special love for the people and church in that land. Also presenting that evening was Dr. Karen Plager, who reported on her consultation mission to the church's nursing school covered elsewhere in this edition of *Global Health*.

Akland announced that Global Health Ministries has recently reviewed and approved funding for a variety of needed programs submitted by SALFA and SEFAM as their priorities for 2006, and appealed for support from those who have a special love for the people of Madagascar and the Church that serves them. Generous gifts in the past two years have enabled GHM to carry the programs in Madagascar without much difficulty, but now in 2006, with those funds nearly depleted, we will depend on renewed generosity to support the essential services of SALFA.

The GHM-approved programs submitted by SALFA/SEFAM for 2006 are:

48-D6000 Pharmacotherapy: An indigenous Christian movement created residential healing communities called Tobys where the mentally ill receive care. GHM subsidizes the cost of medications and medical visitations for the residents. Goal: \$12,500

48-E4001 Nursing Scholarships: The Malagasy Lutheran Church offers a three-year nurses training course for 25 carefully selected students, the cost of which are supported by this GHM grant. The school is in the process of developing a new training center at its new site in Antsirabe and Andranamadio Hospital, and additional proposals to assist in strengthening their program are expected. Goal: \$27,323

48-E1001 Continuing Education: Training of professional staff in management and patient care. Goal: \$10,000

48RC-P0001 Rural Clinic Support: Salary and supplies subsidies help sustain a growing number of these struggling clinics in the most remote areas of the country, insuring that quality health care reaches the poorest residents. Goal: \$23,300

48-P6410 Pharmaceutical Fund: Also called the 'Revolving Fund' for the purchase of medications to be distributed to all the hospitals and health centers of the Malagasy Lutheran Church. Maintenance of this fund at an adequate level is critical for the proper functioning, yet alone the survival, of the health care system. Goal: \$150,000

48-F0000 Charity Fund: Funds requested by SALFA to be used in covering the costs of services to those who have been unable to pay all or part of their fees for health care services during 2006. Goal: \$5,000

48-Q1502 Medical Equipment: Ultrasound for Vangaindrano Hospital. Goal: \$10,000

48-S0000 Shipping: Costs to SOA of shipping medical supplies and equipment to SALFA are budgeted to be paid by GHM in 2006. Goal: \$9,000

Twin Cities Campaign Events Set

May and June will see the following meal events promoting support for GHM's "Growing in Mission" Capital Fund Campaign to finance our expanded warehouse. Watch for invitations and announcements for these and additional events, and please join us!:

Christ the King, Bloomington:
May 4 @ 6:00 pm

St. Timothy, Saint Paul: May 6 @ 8:00 am

St. James, Crystal: May 6 @ 12:00 noon

Roseville, Roseville: May 11 @ 6:00 pm

Saint Anthony Park, Saint Paul:
May 20 @ 12:00 noon

Faith, Coon Rapids: May 25 @ 6:00 pm

First Evangelical, White Bear Lake:
June 2 @ 6:00 pm

Central, Minneapolis: June 27 @ 6:00 pm

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The B-line



Having a mission dinner at your church and looking for something different to serve?

Here is a recipe from the GHM cookbook that is sure to please:

Cameroon Peanut Butter Stew

Serves 6

2 lbs. beef, cubed 1/2 c. water for paste
1/4 c. flour 8 oz. tomato sauce
3 Tbsp. oil 1/2 c. peanut butter
1 c. onion, chopped 2 tsp. salt
3 c. water 1/4 tsp. pepper

Flour meat and brown in oil. Add onions and stir until sauted.

Add water and simmer until meat is tender.

Mix 1/2 c. water, tomato sauce and peanut butter to make a paste. Slowly add paste, salt and pepper, stirring to blend. Heat thoroughly but do not boil. Serve over cooked rice.

We served this at my church for about 250 people. It was a huge success.

The Cookbook "COME TO THE TABLE" contains 100 recipes from 25 nations. It is available from GHM for a donation of \$6.00 which includes postage.

Baby caps

We now have a pattern for crocheted baby caps. You can download it from the GHM web site or request a hard copy.

The warehouse expansion is a tremendous blessing.

We have space, but we also have a lot of "to be sorted" pallets. The regular volunteers did their very best but couldn't quite keep up during the renovation process. Can you help? Please call Scott at the office or send an e-mail to the attention of either Scott or Bea. Hours are any time between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

We are also looking for MORE Wednesday volunteers.

Donate a few hours a week and experience the blessing of "Helping the Hands that Heal" in far away countries.

Submit questions for the B-line to GHM, attention Bea Haagenson



Dr. Garfee Williams, Phebe Medical Director

On January 11, Dr. Garfee Williams became the new medical director of Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing, replacing Dr. Emmanuel Sandoe who assumed the role following the retirement of Dr. Walter Gwenigale. Dr. Williams and a team of three others (Acting Chief of Medical Staff, Dr. Jefferson Sibley; the Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Kerson Saykor; the Chaplain, Rev. G. Victor Padmore) are directing the efforts of rebuilding Phebe Hospital and re-opening the School of Nursing following the recent end of civil war in that country. A tremendous amount of work has already taken place with work teams from Upper Susquehanna Synod (USS) in Pennsylvania and containers of requested hospital beds, equipment and supplies from USS and GHM.

Ruth Ehrhardt, RN from Cedar Rapids, IA, spent two weeks in March visiting Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing and Curran Lutheran Health Centre as Liberia Project Manager and GHM Board Member. Ruth served as a volunteer at Curran from 1978-79, '81-'83, and '90-'91. The purpose of the visit was to see firsthand the remarkable changes taking place at both of these institutions, and how GHM can

Shipping schedule continues

The shipping schedule is underway at GHM now that the warehouse expansion project is complete and many of our "snow birds" have returned to volunteer in the warehouse. Four 40' containers have been loaded so far, two for Tanzania (Dodoma Christiain Medical Center and Selian Lutheran Hospital), and two for Liberia (Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing and Curran Lutheran Hospital).

A wide range of medical, dental, and office supplies and equipment, including 20 pallets of food from *Feed My Starving Children*, are on-route to Dodoma. The container for Selian included a C-arm x-ray machine, laboratory exhaust hood, two 60" steam sterilizers with boiler, patient stretchers, and other requested equipment and supplies. New nursing textbooks, anatomical models, charts, laboratory supplies and equipment, tractor tires and spare parts, and other items were purchased for Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing from a Danish grant. New laboratory supplies and equipment

were purchased for Curran as well, along with other items to rebuild that hospital after the long years of civil war.

During this summer, containers will go to Bangladesh (LHCB & LAMB), Tanzania (Machame, Kartau, Marangu), Tanzania (Ilembula & Kidugala), Tanzania (Dodoma), Tanzania (Selian), Cameroon, and Papua New Guinea. Medical supplies and equipment are shipped to Madagascar in partnership with SOA (SALFA Overseas Assistance) from their warehouse in Brooklyn Park, MN.

The increase in shipping has put a strain on our supply of basic medical supplies in the warehouse (gloves, dressings, syringes, needles, catheters, linens), but also raising funds to cover the ocean freight charges estimated at \$10,000 to \$14,000 per shipment. Please consider making a donation to one of the shipping accounts or to the general fund so that more shipments of requested medical supplies and equipment can be sent overseas where needed most.

appropriately and effectively respond to their current and long-range needs. Phase 1 of reconstruction is now complete at Curran, Ruth says, and one-half of the main building has been rebuilt, including outpatient and OB wards. A new eye clinic will soon open. Phase 2 is scheduled for the next dry season in October. Curran will need an operating budget as the staff moves from functioning as a mobile clinic to a health centre, and Ruth stressed the need for more funds to be donated to the Curran recovery account (46CU-P0001) in order to support these efforts.



Ruth Ehrhardt visiting Curran Hospital

Important Information for GHM Donors about Thrivent's Giving Plus Matching Program

Thrivent policy holders and *associate** members' gifts to GHM may be matched by **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.**

Donations of \$600.00 or more per year per policy holder will be matched with \$300.00 by Thrivent. Donations above the \$600 to GHM per year per policy holder will not be matched by Thrivent but are equally appreciated by GHM.

1. Make check payable to Global Health Ministries.
2. Complete a Thrivent "Giving Plus" form, available from GHM or it can be downloaded from the Thrivent web site: <http://www.thrivent.com/fraternal/churchcommunity/pdf/GivingPlusApplication.pdf>
3. Complete the reverse of this slip.
4. Mail the check, this slip and the Thrivent form to GHM.
5. Keep a copy for your records.

* If you do not have a Thrivent policy you can become an Associate Thrivent Member for a fee of \$10 per year. To apply online go to http://www.clubcolors.com/products/thrivent_join.jsp?selected_catalog=thrivent or call GHM (763-586-9590) for information



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What is Global Health Ministries? GHM provides a gift of life -- physical and spiritual -- through Lutheran health care work across the world by providing project financial support, locating and shipping urgently needed medical supplies, recruiting health care personnel, and funding the training of national health care givers.

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Future of GHM depends on you

Expanding out Borders: Demolition, rebuilding, painting, cleaning - all done in record time and with the help of countless dedicated volunteers.

Open House: Showing off the expanded warehouse to many more visitors than we had expected - a truly blessed event.

Growing in mission: More containers will leave the GHM dock than ever before to help more health care workers and

individuals than ever before.

What is next: Paying for the building!

You can help by donating to the GHM building fund

Your three year pledge of only \$250.00 per year, when matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, will provide a total of \$1,125.00. Only 500 such pledges will assure that the important mission of Global Health Ministries

continues far into the future.

Below is a pledge form and instructions regarding the Thrivent match.

We count on you, our faithful supporters, and praise God that you are part of "Helping the Hands that Heal."

*In Christ's service,
Bea Haagenson, Capital Funds
Campaign Chair*



Expanding our Borders: Growing in Mission

With thanks to God and in celebration of the mission God has called us to serve, I (we) are pleased to pledge the following contribution to Global Health Ministries' Capital Fund Campaign:

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Year 2005 \$ _____

Year 2006 \$ _____

Year 2007 \$ _____

Total Pledge \$ _____

One-time gift \$ _____

Please make your check payable to Global Health Ministries, enter Acct.#99-42100 GHM Capital Funds on the memo line. Be sure to return this slip with your contribution. - Your gift is tax-deductible

See reverse side for information on Thrivent matching funds opportunity.