



Providing
Basic Nutrition
To People In Need

VITAMIN ANGEL ALLIANCE



Vitamin Angels Newsletter 6.28.06

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Out of Sight

Friends,

The Indonesia earthquake left the front pages of our newspapers within 2 days after it occurred but for the people in Jog Jakarta and the surrounding villages, the immediate crises of meeting their nutritional needs, getting medical help, and figuring out where they will live, is a day to day reality. When you ask the people there how many people were injured, they just say 'Banyak, banyak (Many, many)'. The official count is now 40,000-50,000. Over 600,000 people are homeless. **Vitamin Angels** is now supplying three relief agencies with nutritional supplies. We're having a significant impact in lowering the likelihood of a secondary disaster from opportunistic infections and diseases. Recently the eruption of Merapi volcano and mudslides in surrounding towns have complicated the relief work – we know this is going to be a long term effort.

Thanks to everyone who supported this month's work; Our terrific BOD – Elliott Balbert, Tom Aarts, Barclay Hope, Jeff Markel, Yvon Bastien and Bill Sechrest; Loren Israelsen who is co-chairing our Advisory Board; our outstanding PR partners at IMG, Jeff Hilton and Courtney Jacobs; Fidel Lambie our IT angel; Direct Relief International; Roy Walkenhorst and Judy Brooks from Healing Quest; our videographer, Catherine Bennett; Alissa & Gillian Sears as well as all of our helpers at Christie Communications; Kristen Rasmussen for our Berkeley Block Party; our new Intern Jennifer Marsh; and to all of our wonderful supporters for the Indonesia Earthquake Relief Effort!

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Wants & Needs

We are in need of financial contributions to help support our work. We also need planned production of children's chewable vitamins (multiples), adult multiples, prenats, folic acid and fish oil capsules. Please contact Megan at: 805 564 8400 or info@vitaminangel.org to arrange for a financial contribution or a product donation.

Thanks to our supporters and donors this month: Rainbow Light Nutritional Systems; Tishcon; Pharmachem Laboratories; Nordic Naturals; NOW Health Group; Wild Oats; Future Foods; Pharmakon Labs Inc.; GNLD; Shaklee Corporation; NAI; Water Pure Inc; Advocare International; Herbally Yours; Inverness Medical Nutritionals Group; Pure Essence Labs; Highland Laboratories; Kevin & Kimberly Wheeler; and Franconia Mennonite Conference.

As always, please forward this newsletter to all of your friends and colleagues. We spend no money on advertising so we rely on you, our friends, to help get the word out and get people to our site (www.vitaminangel.org) so they can see the scope of what we are accomplishing and make needed contributions. **Your support and encouragement make all of this possible!**

Best,

Howard B. Schiffer

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Vitamin Angel Alliance - May Product Distribution Report

Indonesia

May 30, 2006 **Muhammadiyah**

On May 27th, 2006, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck Central Java, Indonesia killing over 5,000 people and leaving hundreds of thousands injured or homeless. The hardest hit area was the city of Yogyakarta with the heaviest reported damage in the city's southern Bantul district. In response to specific requests for assistance, Vitamin Angels airlifted an emergency shipment consisting of multivitamins and nutritional products for use in the affected areas.

El Salvador

May 31, 2006 **FUDEM**

El Salvador is Central America's smallest and most densely populated country. Seventy percent of the population lives in rural areas where health conditions are extremely poor. Economic problems have been exacerbated recently with a significant drop in the price of coffee and other agricultural commodities. This donation from Vitamin Angels was in the form of multivitamins.

Peru

May 9, 2006 **Hospital Regional de Ayacucho**

The city of Ayacucho, Peru, is attempting to rebuild its shattered economy and to improve its healthcare delivery system after a long and destructive period of guerrilla warfare which centered in this rural, highland region. The 240-bed Ayacucho Regional Hospital is the largest public facility in the area. Vitamin Angels donated vitamins which will help the local physicians provide quality medical care to those who are most in need.

☐ **Haiti**

May 22, 2006 **New Hope Ministries**

The majority of the population in Haiti lives in extreme poverty and is unable to cover even their most basic needs. One of every three children is chronically malnourished, and Haiti has the highest mortality rate for children under the age of five in the Western Hemisphere. New Hope Ministries in Florida organizes medical mission trips consisting of approximately 20 doctors and nurses who visit rural health clinics in Haiti. Vitamin Angels donated multivitamins which will be used to improve the health conditions of these chronically under-served families.

☐ **Liberia**

May 10, 2006 **ELWA Hospital**

In August 2003, a peace agreement ended 14 years of civil war in Liberia, a West African country of approximately 3 million people. After two years of rule by a transitional government, Liberians elected President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf in late 2005 and are turning toward reconstruction of the country. ELWA Hospital is a 40-bed facility located on the outskirts of Monrovia, Liberia's capital offering free and reduced fee services to the greater Monrovia area. This donation from Vitamin Angels was direly needed.

☐ **Nicaragua**

May 15, 2006 **Caritas de Nicaragua**

According to the Agency for International Development (AID), less than 50% of Nicaragua's population has access to essential medications, and there are only eighty-six physicians per 100,000 people. The Consuelo Buitrago Women's Association (AMUCOBU) is located in one of the poorest and most dangerous human settlements in Nicaragua. With a population of 5,000 residents, over half are under the age of 15 as a result of the country's protracted and violent civil war. Gang violence, drug abuse, AIDS, and family violence are also commonplace and are exacerbated by an exceptionally high unemployment rate. Vitamin Angels donated multivitamins, which are so desperately needed by the staff of the AMUCOBU clinic to improve the lives and the health of the people of Nicaragua.

☐ **Sri Lanka**

May 10, 2006 **Children of Joy**

The tsunami of December 26, 2004 struck the southeast coast of Sri Lanka, wrapping around the island to affect the western coast as far north as Colombo. Over 30,000 people were killed by the disaster making Sri Lanka the country with the highest death toll as a percentage of total population. This donation consisted of children's multivitamins to support the youngest who are most prone to opportunistic infections and diseases.

☐ **Ghana**

May 17, 2006 **Jehovah Rapha Health Care Foundation Motoka Clinic**

The Jehovah Rapha Health Care Foundation (JRHCF) was founded in 1996 with the overall aim of extending healthcare coverage to deprived and isolated areas of the country where health services were scarce. This clinic treats approximately 1000 outpatients and 160 in-patients per month. They also conduct health outreach to 20 smaller villages which they access via boat which serves 2,800 people each month. In addition, the clinic operates a nutrition program for malnourished children and mothers that serves 800 women and children four times a week and they provide community health worker and traditional birth attendant training on adolescent reproductive health and general preventive health issues.

☐ **Tanzania**

May 24, 2006 **Kagera Salient Dispensary**

According to the United Nations Human Development Index, Tanzania ranks as one of the poorest countries-number 162 out 177- in the world whose ability to cope with the extreme health

problems of AIDS, malaria and malnutrition is extremely limited. Vitamin Angels donation are making a big difference in terms of improving the dispensary's ability to cope with malnutrition.

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