



Providing  
Basic Nutrition  
To People In Need

VITAMIN ANGEL ALLIANCE



Vitamin Angels Newsletter, March 2007

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Dear Friends,

**Vitamin Angels** has recently sent two large shipments of children's multiple vitamins to Darfur. The situation in Darfur has continued to worsen as 2.5 million people have been driven from their homes. Refugees are living in horrendous conditions and are vulnerable to starvation, disease and rape. It is estimated that between 200-400,000 people have already died. Our partners have been getting out rice meals along the Sudan-Ethiopian border where approximately 80,000 refugees have congregated. The vitamins along with the rice are the only real nutrition these children and families are now receiving.

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## Gujurat Vitamin A Program

We recently received photos from our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Doshi of the Gujurat Blind Relief Association. Dr. Doshi is now 92 years old and has been responsible for over 200,000 eye surgeries. His hospital offers free eye care to the poor and the photos he sent were of the Vitamin A campaign they are now doing to help prevent childhood blindness. With Dr. Doshi and the health care workers who assist him, we are now reaching 45,000 children every year in Gujurat. As Dr. Doshi says "It is so much easier to prevent childhood blindness than to try to help a child after the have lost their sight."

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## Vitamin Angels on DVD

Want to get a good idea of how **Vitamin Angels'** programs look and work – Contact us at ([info@VitaminAngels.com](mailto:info@VitaminAngels.com)) and ask for one or more of our DVD's; Operation 20/20, Honduras, Asia, Mississippi, PBS Special. We will happily put drop them in the mail to you.

We thank all of our supporters who make this work possible!

*Thanks to everyone who supported our work this month: our amazing BOD, Tom Aarts, Barclay Hope, Yvon Bastien, Bill Sechrest, Elliott Balbert and Jeff Markel; Peter van Stolk and the awesome team at Jones Soda; Lindsay, Kira, Ann, Bridget, Sherri, and all of our wonderful volunteers at SMQAA; Wendy Meyerson and our friends at Natur-Tyme in East Syracuse, New York, Jeff Hilton, Courtney Jacobs, Amanda Holty and all at IMG for all their wonderful help with Vitamin Angels' branding and marketing; our amazing intern Jessamyn Wead; Amy Summers and Miranda Jarrell at Pitch; and Loren Israelson, Robert Orr and Melody Harwood our SMQAA co-conspirators!*

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## Wants & Needs

We are in need of **financial contributions** to help support our work. From the recent **World Bank** book '**Repositioning Nutrition as Central To Development**', it is clear that our need for vitamin supplements is greater than ever before. We need *planned production* of children's chewable vitamins (multiples), adult multiples, prenats, and fish oil capsules. Please contact us at: 805 564 8400 or [info@VitaminAngels.com](mailto:info@VitaminAngels.com) to arrange for a financial contribution or a product donation.

*Thanks to our donors this month: Earthrise, Nutriforce, Shaklee, Vitaquest, Tishcon, Pharmachem, Icasor, Inc., Rainbow Light, NAI, and Nordic Naturals.*

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](http://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 the difference in the world!**

Best,

Howard B. Schiffer

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## Product Distribution Report - 2/1/2006 - 2/28/2007

### **India**

Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson our campaign in India is in its fourth year and is now reaching 1 million nursing mothers and children with vitamin A and deworming tablets – both the vitamin A and the deworming are given two times per year.

### **Tibet**

In this program we work closely with Dr. Nancy Harris who is the founder of Terma. We've been distributing up to 2 million children's multiples per month.

### **Philippines**

We are doing a deworming program in partnership with Save The Children reaching 250,000 kids per year. This program began in the first quarter of 2006 and is now slated to run through the last quarter of 2007.

### **Honduras**

This program is sponsored by Sight & Life (DSM), UNFI, Anabolic Laboratories, United Flavors, Domino Foods, George Washington University, Pan American Health Organization and Medpharm. This program is reaching 55,000 children per year for three years. Our in-country partners are Cristo Salva, Ministry of Health and PAHO. We are distributing children's multivitamins and antiparasitics (the multivitamins are given daily and the antiparasitics are given twice a year).

### **Dominican Republic**

The DR program is slated to be a three year campaign to reach 55,000 children per year. We are distributing multivitamins daily and antiparasitics two times per year. Our program partners are Direct Relief International, who will handle all to-country shipping and Batey Relief International, who will handle all in-country distribution.

### **Mississippi**

Ruleville Mississippi is a very poor rural district in the Mississippi Delta. With the support of Univera and their Serve First Program, we are now reaching 2,000 children with a daily nutrition supplement; Ageless Essentials.

### **Dominican Republic**

Medical students and physicians from the University of Florida College of Medicine travel to rural villages in the Dominican Republic every spring to assist local doctors and nurses. High population growth, chronic malnutrition, and economic factors have resulted in serious deficiencies in health care for the people of this impoverished island. This hand carry consisted of nutritional supplements.

### **Savusavu Community Foundation**

The Savusavu Community Foundation was formed to provide health and education to

Savusavu, the main town on Fiji's second largest island. There are roughly 50,000 people living in the vicinity of the hospital but it has never been adequately equipped. This was our first shipment and consisted of nutritional supplements.

### **Guatemala, Presbiterio Kaqchikel**

According to the Pan American Health Organization, 75% of Guatemala's general population lives in poverty, and 58% live in extreme poverty. The lack of easy access to clean water and the improper handling of waste have led to high rates of disease and malnutrition. The small Kaqchikel Medical Clinic, on the outskirts of Guatemala City, sees over a thousand patients per month. **Vitamin Angels** donated multivitamins in an effort to address the pressing health concerns of this underserved population.

### **Haiti, Jean-Wilfred Albert Clinic**

Throughout Haiti, the mortality of children aged 0 to 5 has increased by 10% from 1996 to 2000. Leading causes of death and disease in children are acute diarrhea, malnutrition, and acute respiratory infections. The clinic offers basic primary care services, with some outreach to the surrounding countryside with nutritional supplies. **Vitamin Angels** supplied a variety of nutritional supplements.

### **China, One HEART**

One H.E.A.R.T.'s mission is to reduce the mortality rate for mothers and newborns living on the Tibetan Plateau. 95 percent of Tibetan women give birth alone, 1 out of 33 Tibetan women die during childbirth, and 1 out of 10 Tibetan newborns die within the first month of life. Most of these deaths are preventable with minimal technology, awareness-raising and simple community-based interventions. This shipment consists of pre-natal vitamins.

### **Caritas de Nicaragua**

According to the Agency for International Development, less than 50 percent of Nicaragua's population has access to essential medications, and there are only eighty-six physicians per 100,000 people. 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. **Vitamin Angels** donated children's multivitamins and prenatals.

### **Sierra Leone**

#### **Ndegbornei Development Organization**

Sierra Leone is a West African country of approximately 5 million people that in 2002 emerged from a decade-long brutal civil conflict. The war left Sierra Leone's infrastructure destroyed and the country struggles to rebuild itself. This donation consisted of nutritional supplements.

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**vitaminangels**

Providing vital nutrition  
to children in need.

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