



Volume 2, Issue 3

Beauty for Ashes

Children's Medical Ministries

The Joy of Serving the King

*To appoint
unto them that
mourn in Zion,*

*to give unto
them beauty
for ashes,
the oil of joy
for mourning,*

*the garment of
praise for the
spirit of
heaviness:*

*that they
might be
called trees of
righteousness,*

*the planting of
the Lord,*

*that he might
be glorified.*

Isaiah 61:3

A container with 120 wheelchairs for Colombia, South America was delayed in customs, but this didn't stop the Lord's work! **Stacie James**, a pediatric physical therapist, was accompanied by **Bill Collins** and **Alvin Miller**, a technician, hand-carried in 6 children's wheelchairs for a week of ministry that began in Bogota. The primary focus was to seat two little boys born without legs.



Giovani Toro, Age 2



Jose Martinez, Age 4



Angie is 10 years old and only 30" tall. She suffers from osteogenesis imperfecta.



This precious child wrote and read a beautiful poem to the Presidential distribution team.

Refugee Camps



A team of **Children’s Medical Ministries (CMM)** share partners traveled to the Sahrawi Refugee Camps in Tindouf, Algeria to measure children and adults for wheelchairs and to determine the need for crutches, walkers and canes. This effort also provided an opportunity for the volunteers to build a friendship with the amiable Sahrawis, who were obviously grateful for the gift of wheelchairs. Special thanks to **Hope Haven** and **Wheelchair Foundation** who sent two containers of wheelchairs to the camps at the request of CMM.



Two thousand toothbrushes and toothpaste packets were distributed to the families. The children were taught how to brush their teeth and were given a primary healthcare program using the **King’s Kids Good Life Guides**. The team took with them 60 Arabic New Testaments that were given to any Sahrawi who expressed an interest in one.



Jeff Frederick, **Rehabilitation Engineering, Inc.**, conducted a fact-finding study to determine the feasibility of building a brace and limb shop in the camps. Jeff has prepared and submitted a grant to obtain funding from the U.S. government for this project.

Celebrate

After more than three decades of hard work and advocacy, legislation has finally been passed creating immediate citizens of all adopted foreign-born children. No longer must adoptive families endure the long, arduous and expensive process of naturalization. No longer must they face countless obstructions and endless bureaucratic red tape before receiving insurance for their newly-adopted little ones. No longer are companies permitted to refuse benefits to the adopted children of their employees.

This much-anticipated piece of legislation will save not only the energy, efforts and sanity of adoptive

families but the money and labor of the United States government. No wonder celebrations were held all over the country — by organizations, agencies, parent groups and individual families.

Such celebration has been long-awaited and is met not only with fulfillment and relief but with hope for the future. My wish is that common sense prevails and we all keep in our sights “the best interest of the child.” Congratulations to all of our new little citizens.

Excerpt from *Maps Musings*, Spring 2001
Dawn C. Degenhardt, CEO
Maine Adoption Placement Services

ON THE HORIZON NEW CHALLENGES



Picture a donated 170 ton ex-Royal Navy Clavely Class Tender sailing 2000 miles up the Amazon River in early October docking in Iquitos, Peru. The purpose of this operation is to provide primary healthcare to families along the banks of the Amazon.

The need now is medical teams. The boat will set sail when a group of doctors and nurses are committed to serve short-term tours, in addition to the funding to cover expenses of the mission. The boat is there, the rivers, the countless needy people, both sick in body and soul, needing a touch from God. The doctors, nurses, medicine and finances to operate the outing are not.

Check out www.amazonferry.com.



10/40 WINDOW

Box Score

So far in 2001, CMM has . . .

- ◆ Showed the Jesus Film.
- ◆ Passed out over 300 Bibles in Arabic.
- ◆ Conducted primary healthcare classes.
- ◆ Provided Dermatone, medicine and dental supplies.
- ◆ Shipped and distributed two containers of wheelchairs.
- ◆ Submitted a grant request to establish an orthopaedic rehabilitation program.
- ◆ Sent two orthopaedic surgeons to conduct a survey.

Did you know . . .

Today, more than 19,000 children's lives were saved from preventable diseases.

VITAMIN PROGRAM RESULTS

CMM's **King's Kids Vitamin Program** began on May 30, 2001 with deaf students at Philadelphia School for the Deaf. **Patti Jones**, Director, reports on the activities, results, and future plans of the program.

ACTIVITIES

- Each parent receives information about the program asking them to authorize the school to give one vitamin each school day (Monday to Friday) to their child. If they wanted their child to participate, they returned the document with their signature.
- The second step is to record each child's weight and height.
- The children whose parents authorized their participation begin to receive one vitamin each school day.
- Each child in the program receives a copy of the **King's Kids Good Life Guide**, which they are studying in their science classes.

RESULTS

After a few days of receiving the vitamins, the children reported that their appetites had increased. The children take their vitamins with a good attitude and understand that this helps their physical development and to maintain good health. The King's Kids Good Life Guide enables them to understand their own responsibility for their health.

FUTURE PLANS

Record each child's height and weight and compare it with the initial record to determine the effectiveness of the program related to growth and development.

Evaluate each child's understanding of the Good Life Guide and how it has affected their health.



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Collins Comments

Thank You, Father!

The most exciting and gratifying benefit of being a servant of the King is daily experiencing His divine intervention. A classic example is my recent attempt to get a speaking engagement for **Peter Arballo** (center chair) to give his testimony to one of the mission churches in Bogotá Colombia.

My frustration was that all of the missionaries were out of town completing summer camps and we were leaving for Bogotá in a few days. Out of desperation, I called **Jeanette Perry de Salavia**, the founder and director of **Cirec Rehabilitation Center** (far right), to see if she knew of any places where Peter could speak. Jeanette said she would see what she could do and we soon departed for Bogotá.



The bottom line: Peter gave his testimony in Spanish which included the plan of salvation to a crowd of 500 to 600 people in a Catholic church and encouraged them to read their Bibles and search the scriptures for themselves. Peter received a tremendous ovation from the congregation. **Thank you Father** for opening up this opportunity to witness.

Note: During the sports camp for the disabled, Peter led 17 attendees to Christ.

In Memory of Amelia M. Stauffer

John E. Stauffer Jean M. Niemeyer
Col. & Mrs. B.K. Collins

Mission Statement

Children's Medical Ministries is a non-denominational ministry of 700 evangelical health-care professionals who have the common objective of sharing God's love with those whose lives are in "ashes" and who only need the "Beauty of Christ" to make them whole again. Our primary objective is to exalt Jesus Christ through the God-given "gifts" that we each possess.

Compassion is Love in Action

OFFICE 1-877-261-3211 FAX 1-888-410-4647
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The Story of Ruth

Ruth and the orthopaedic rehabilitation program at Kikuyu go back 8 years when she was a student at the Salvation Army's Joytown Special School for the Disabled beginning her junior high school studies. As is the sad case of thousands of children born in Kenya, Ruth had congenital deformities which were to leave her disadvantaged in a home that was already pressed to the limit for basic needs.

The third of eight children in a family that lives on a one acre piece of tea-raising land, Ruth was born with severe deformities of hands and legs. She began walking on her knees at the age of four. At the age of twelve she developed an infection of the bursae overlying her knees requiring 6 months of treatment in a local provincial hospital. She was referred to the Presbyterian Kikuyu Hospital for evaluation and treatment. Her surprisingly agile hands were found to have misshapen fingers and no thumbs. Amputation of a digit that was useless and especially disfiguring was the only hand surgery indicated. Her legs were very shortened and angulated with ankles and feet that had failed to develop. Ruth was glad to be rid of her useless legs from amputation and was fitted with artificial legs. Now she could walk, and she could look you in the eyes and smile.



After graduation from Joytown High School two years ago, Ruth applied to an industrial course for further training to make her job eligible in a largely unemployed society. Able to scrape up nearly the equivalent of

100 dollars, she enrolled in the cheapest course which was elementary computer training. Unable to find the cash for exam fees and certification and crying out to God in her frustration, she contacted Children's Medical Ministries in the U.S. who asked the Kikuyu Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre (KORC) to interview and evaluate Ruth for assistance. Last April our nursing supervisor, Margaret, and I found standing before us an attractive, modest, neatly dressed 21-year-old lady.

Drawn by her attractive appearance and poise, it was awhile before we realized that we were dealing with our former patient with prosthetic legs and grotesquely deformed hands. Her initially fitted legs, now worn out and no longer fitting the mature stumps of her lower legs, were developing painful sores. With financial help from Children's Medical Ministries, Ruth has received a new set of artificial lower limbs and is studying at the Health Records School at the Kenya Medical Training College in Nairobi.

Ruth is a fine example of a very handicapped young woman making her way along in an economically-depressed society. In retrospect, we find her an example of many handicapped children who have entered a better life than their normal siblings. Her life illustrates the kind of rescue and rehabilitation that can only be achieved through the networking of various organizations. In this case it was the Salvation Army school, which brings faith and education to over 500 children. It was the



Orthopaedic Centre which carries out corrective surgery and rehabilitation of hundreds of children and young people in a Christian setting. It was the Children's Medical Ministries which typifies many caring groups and individuals that fund our program. Of course, it is the individual's resolve and perseverance that is the essential ingredient. What an inspiration these young people are to us! What a privilege to be part of the process. Pray for Ruth and for the ministries that God has raised up to bring abundant life for mankind and glory to Himself.

Stan Topple, M.D.

Kikuyu Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Centre

Editor's Note: Ruth is the first recipient of the Margaret Coles Memorial Fund.

Ministry Spotlight

Precious Miracles



Greetings from Ecuador! **Precious Miracles** continues to progress slowly through the government system. I have met with my attorney and am in constant contact with him for any news on the progress of my situation. I have been asked many times when I expect to be able to care for children. I still do not know the answer to that question.

The next step in the approval process is a visit from the Ministry of Protection of Minors to my home. They will complete an inspection of the home to see that it is satisfactory for the care of children. Their visit will also include a personal interview, to ensure that I am adequately trained and capable for the task that is before me. After the inspection, my paper work will get shuffled around to a few more people and then I will be authorized to accept children legally in my home. There is no way to put a date on when these final steps will be accomplished.

I am continually praying for patience and peace that everything happens in God's time. I try not to get frustrated with the bureaucracy. I have been keeping busy setting up the house and decorating the babies rooms. I have almost all the cribs, high chairs, car seats, etc that I will need. So

many of you have been very generous in providing the material needs of this home.

Monthly support is needed now more than ever as I am beginning to hire the staff I will need to help me in the care of the children. Several Christian individuals are interested in helping out with this ministry. Please pray that the Lord will guide me to know who the right individuals are for this very important job. Pray also that the monthly funds will be available to meet the payroll.

Meanwhile, I am also involving myself in different areas of my church. I am taking two classes at the Bible Institute and participating in the praise team. I also plan on being a counselor at youth camp and a teacher at Vacation Bible School. I appreciate your prayers so much. Please continue to pray for me and the abandoned children of Ecuador.

Stacey Smith
Executive Director

www.preciousmiracles.org

DENTAL NEWS

CMM is involved in several projects this year.

◆ A dental clinic was built in Chiang Rai, Thailand at the **Akha Youth Development Center**, and will be dedicated in March, 2002.

◆ Dental supplies were shipped to Romania and to the Saharawi Refugee Camps in the Sahara Desert.

◆ Coordinating with **Theresa Ost, Defense Forum Foundation**, regarding a comprehensive dental plan for the 200,000 Saharawi refugees.



Chris Santo giving Saharawi children primary healthcare instruction.

◆ Conducting dental surveys in Cambodia and Peru.

◆ Plans also are being considered for CMM involvement in the countries of Cambodia and Peru.

◆ Presently, **Steve Henley, DDS** a CMM board member, will travel to Vietnam to conduct a dental clinic in Ho Chi Minh City for street children. CMM is providing dental supplies for this project and **Maine Adoption Placement Services**, a non-governmental organization will furnish dental assistants and administrative services. This project will run during the months of March and October for the next two years.