



Volume 2, Issue 5

Beauty for Ashes

Children's Medical Ministries

Ultimate Compassion

By Kim Hetrick

How will I ever be able to comfort anyone going through this?" I asked as I read the words in my Bible. The verse said, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves received from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

In 1996, my son Jake was born with cerebral palsy. Our hearts grieved for the child that we were expecting to have. Instead of watching him go through milestones, we spent our days feeding him, dressing him, and caring for his every daily need. We had to get used to the reality that life would be more difficult. In these initial years, it was hard to imagine enjoying life again, let alone being a comfort to others in trouble.

Six years later, I can honestly say that our experience in raising Jake is not grim like I had imagined. Jake has a smile that melts hearts and a purity that allows God to work in him without saying a word. We have our struggles, but in light of the joy that he brings to our family, all the extra effort is worth it. Our hearts have healed and we have had opportunities to befriend other parents who have children with different needs.

This summer, we had the experience to extend comfort to some people we have never met. In June, Children's Medical Ministries took Jake's old wheelchair/tray to Bogota, Columbia. Upon returning from their trip, Bill and Erma Collins of CMM took the time to send us a note and pictures of the children that were helped through our donation.

I wept as I read about a very needy family, receiving the chair for their son who has cerebral palsy. This child had never had a wheelchair before and had to be carried by his mother every place he went. Since the boy did not have use for Jake's tray, CMM modified a chair for a disabled girl who needed it so she could do her schoolwork on it.

God used our donation to bring comfort to these people and make their lives a little easier. The blessing we received is in the truth of 2 Corinthians that I once found so hard to believe. He has been the Father of compassion to us and now that comfort has overflowed into the lives of others in a tangible way that we never imagined.



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

MIRACLE BABY

By Jeanene & Richard Sanderson
Children’s Vision International, Inc.

We received a call from a hospital to ask protection for a baby that a mother was trying to kill. His name is **Jhorvi**. He was born at six months, weighing just two pounds. His 15-year-old mother was a victim of abuse. When she found out she was pregnant, she tried many times and many ways to abort her baby. In fact, he has many handicaps because of the methods she used. To her, he was an object of hate, abuse and anger. She left him alone in a box with no food or blankets. She tortured him, severely starved him, neglected and abused him. He is now eight months old and only weighs three and a half pounds. His body is very teeny, tiny and frail. His body looks like a skeleton with a very thin layer of skin on it. He struggles to hold his body heat and looks almost blue. The doctor reports are very sad. He says, “This baby will not live, but we don’t want him killed. His mother has now poisoned him, and won’t feed him.” I have never met a mother that hated a baby as much as her.

We talked to the staff and asked if everyone was willing to help save another life. One by one, with tears, they all said, “Yes!” After his arrival, we began to take his clothes off. It is hard to describe what we found. It was far more than starvation. As you run your fingers along his tiny face, you can feel each little bone and even the smallest

veins. He held his arms and hands, feet and legs so tight to himself, to keep warm and also for protection, we had to pry them back. His little bottom was severely burned. When we asked how long it had been since his last dirty diaper, it had been so long that she didn’t know or care.

So this was our plan of action: First we prayed and asked God to use us, and to be HIS arms!! We used a small syringe to drop warm milk onto his tiny lips. Drop by drop, in one hour he had drunk 2 ounces. We placed him on an electric heating pad to help keep him warm. We had a team in from Tennessee and they all did shifts of feeding and praying for him. Major progress has been made. He has accepted the milk and is now drinking from a bottle. His little arms and legs are starting to be more relaxed. Within hours, he had wet a diaper, and within 24 hours, there were shouts of JOY when the whole house found out . . . he had a dirty diaper!!!

Each day is a miracle for him. He was sent to us to die, but together, we will fight for his life. He has now gained 1½ pounds and loves to be held. His little cheeks have filled out and he even smiles every once in a while. Please pray for him. He is not out of danger yet, but he is in His care!



MORE MIRACLES

A few weeks ago something very interesting happened in Cuzco. Asked to find children and adults who need a wheelchair, our staffworker, **Moises Chinchazo**, placed a small ad in the local newspaper: “If you know of anyone needing a wheelchair, please contact Union Biblica.” He gave a phone number. The next day a young lady phones and tells of her invalid father who is old and no longer can walk. She inquired what the deal was and was told that there was no cost involved and that if she would just leave a name, address and phone number, she would be advised when the chairs arrived. She was very happy.

The next day she phoned back and asked who in Union Biblica (Scripture Union) performed miracles. “Is Union Biblica a miraculous institution, or who is it there

who has done this miracle? Of course, Moises inquired further. “I told my father that there was a Christian organization called Union Biblica that was planning on giving him a wheelchair! Whereupon my father stood up and began walking. Please take his name off the list. He no longer needs the chair.”

Moises relates that ever since, the man and his daughter are attending an Evangelical church!

What a story!

From Paul Clark, Scripture Union

Ministry Update

Precious Miracles

The newest member of Precious Miracles is James. After many failed attempts at abortion, his mother gave birth to him on May 26. He is healthy, with no apparent medical conditions. He is alert and content and thriving in our home. He fits in my foundation accurately as his life is truly a miracle.



My first little baby, Paula, is now Maria Paula Proano. She was officially adopted in June by a Christian Ecuadorian couple. Having Paula leave our home is bittersweet. She is 8 months old and we have all grown very attached to her. She has been in my care for 6 1/2 months and if it were up to me, I would like to keep her forever, but that's not the way it works! Knowing she'll be raised in a loving home where all her needs will be met, and where she will learn about her Heavenly Father is what makes it easier to let her go. Please pray for the Proano family and Paula as they adjust to each other.

In May, four-month-old Catie had surgery to correct her cleft lip and palate. It was a complete success and she is doing beautifully.

Salomé is a 3 year old girl who was left in an orphanage as a baby. She was abandoned once and is now facing a second abandonment by her adoptive parents. She will most likely come in to my home while she awaits her second adoption. Please pray for Salomé as an abandonment and an adoption at this age can be devastating and will take a long period of adjustment.

Thank you for your financial support. Your donations are making it possible for me to provide these children with a home, food, clothing, medicine and adequate care. Thank you for being a part of this ministry through your gifts.



Stacey

Stacey Smith
Executive Director

Precious Miracles is a non-profit foundation offering hope for abandoned, orphaned and homeless children in Ecuador. It started out as a dream and it is just recently becoming a reality. Stacey, a US citizen, was raised in Ecuador by missionary parents. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies and Child Development.

www.preciousmiracles.org

Meeting Needs in Dangerous Places

by Cheryl Briggs

Recently, a medical team from High Street Baptist Church of Springfield, Missouri ministered to the health needs of many people in Asia. CMM sent the team off loaded down with medicine and medical supplies to a denied area in East Asia where one is not allowed to openly share their Christian faith. Upon their return they shared with us with this report.



"We went to 4 different villages and a hospital to hold our clinics. The travel was difficult at times but the reward great. We were able to see between 1500 to 2000 people in all. Many were poor or malnourished. We saw some goiters, lots of ear wax/hearing problems. Some eye problems (still yet to be diagnosed).



Many women had PID/vaginal infections. A 15-year-old girl who was blind has terribly swollen eyes. There were a lot of skin lesions, some itchy rashes, and some scabies."

"We thank you so much for your part in meeting the needs of these people. Even though we may have only scratched the surface, there maybe a soul in heaven that will be thanking you also someday.



Team member, Carl Boonstra, commented, "Your investment in Eastern Asia will produce spiritual fruit. Because of medical aid to a multitude in various villiages, good contacts were made."

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Collins Comments

Merle and Mary Tieken were with their cell group from church one Sunday evening when someone inquired about the upcoming wheelchair distribution in Bogota, Colombia and asked if anything else was needed. Mary mentioned that she thought of taking childrens shoes with her on the trip.

Laura Horak and her mother, **Bobbie Tucker** of Quincy, Illinois, went right to work finding not only 150 pairs of new childrens shoes, but also a foot locker of toothbrushes, toothpaste and other childrens items. In a chain reaction, another lady heard about these efforts and donated 35 pairs of new adult leather shoes. As a result, Merle and Mary took four foot lockers of shoes and toothbrushes to Bogota.

At the same time, **Alvin Miller** and myself were packing thermo blankets and clothing for the same trip without any knowledge of the above. When the wheelchair distribution team connected in Bogota, we contacted **Bob Trout**, an ABWE missionary, to see if he knew who may have need of the humanitarian supplies we brought with us. Bob advised that a few days prior to our arrival, major rains, the worst that Colombia has seen, flooded many homes with waters up to the second floor and all of the supplies the team brought were urgently needed.

National pastor **Ricardo Moreno**, whose church is located in the flood area, shared the relief supplies with the flood victims. Morono told Bob that one family of 8 was living in a 9x12 room and stated that a little boy from the family arrived at church in his white shirt, little tie and new shoes.

Thank you, Father, for allowing us to watch you work!

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Why? Because you can add miles to your frequent flyer program and at the same time share in the Lord's work. Simply go to www.childmed.org and click the "Give" button for instructions. Thank you for your prayers and generous support.

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.

OFFICE 1-877-261-3211 FAX 1-888-410-4647
www.childmed.org

Hail & Farewell



CMM's team makes their "farewell visit" to President Pastrana and the First Lady of Colombia, South America

Save a Child Campaign

CMM is making an appeal for funds to continue supplying orphanages and feeding programs with multi-chewable vitamin tablets for poor children. The 9/11 terrorist attack on America has created a decline in donations to faith-based ministries who are struggling to keep up with their post-9/11 support. This shortage is hurting the most vulnerable among us. Poor children.

"The bottom line is that our "work place" giving is down by 50% and requests for vitamins, medicines and clothing from Christian orphanages and feeding programs for the poor have increased by 100% during 2002," said Bill Collins, president of CMM.

Children's multi-vitamins are not donated by pharmaceutical corporations! CMM and four other faith-based ministries collectively have purchased vitamins at a price just over the manufacturer's cost. CMM's share is \$6,300 for 400,000 vitamins. This quantity will enable CMM to meet the requests from the twenty orphanages and feeding programs we currently support.

Did you know . . .

CMM showed the *Jesus Film* for less than 9 cents a person! In India, between January 1 and May 30, 2002 16,850 people watched the *Jesus Film* at a cost of \$1,480.

CMM distributed 400,000 vitamins in 2001 to poor children participating in feeding programs. This year, the goal is to double this effort by providing vitamins to 1,000 poor children. For 1,000 children to get a vitamin tablet every day for one year costs \$15.75 per day or \$5,657.50 per year.

Bogotá D.C., March 27, 2002

Mr. Bill Collins
President
Children's Medical Ministries
Crofton, USA

Esteemed Mr. Collins,

The 25th of January, 1999 the "coffee community" of Colombia suffered a hard hit from nature when an earthquake caused the death of more than 1,000 persons and damaged dwellings, hospitals, schools, highways and works of infrastructure, affecting the life of more than 200 thousand inhabitants of the region that was hurt by the earthquake.

That day an arduous and dynamic process of reconstruction started, not only physical, but also emotional and spiritual, in which governments, multilateral organizations and non-government organizations from all parts of the world participated.

The Children's Medical Ministries organization deserves a special recognition. Many of its volunteers arrived to serve our country and were of immense help in these difficult moments. Your contribution in work and personal commitment to the children of Colombia, not to mention the humanitarian aid represented in wheelchairs and medicines and other things of great benefit to the affected population, are a palpable demonstration that human beings, no matter where they come from, share the same kind of spirit of God.

To all the volunteers that came to Colombia, to the directors of the organization and to all the donors who make possible your work, I want to extend, in the name of the community of Colombia, a very especially from the children who received your generous help, our gratitude and recognition.

Receive a fond greeting,

Andres Pastrana Arango

President of the Republic of Columbia

CMM spends less than 1% of its donation dollar on administration and fundraising costs. 99% of the donation dollar goes directly into ministry! CMM is an all-volunteer organization which has no paid employees and no paid staff.

CMM's Good Life Guides come with primary healthcare program and scripture memory, teaches language skills and has the plan of salvation.

CMM does not receive any federal grant money or freight reimbursement funds.

MEDICAL SHIP EXPEDITION ON THE AMAZON

by Mary Tieken

On September 28 a team of eight representing Children’s Medical Ministries arrived in Iquitos, Peru to work as a medical team aboard the Amazon Hope. This was the first medical expedition aboard this ship coordinated between Children’s Medical Ministries and Scripture Union’s Peru administrator, **Paul Clark**.

The Amazon Hope medical ship was donated by the Scottish Royal Navy and includes both a doctor’s office and a dental office. The team included **Dr. Scott Ecklund, M.D.**, his 18 year old daughter **Ashleigh**, **Dr. Jim Jespersen, DDS**, **Sarah Johnson**, dental assistant, **Val Brummel of Hope Haven International**, **Hairold Gregory** and **Merle and Mary Tieken** of Quincy, Illinois. Scripture Union provided two very able translators who are missionaries from England—**Sue Lillyman** who is also a nurse and **Anna**.



Medicines brought in were donated by King Pharmaceutical and supplemented with MAP International’s doctors packages. Team members brought much needed equipment, batteries, a transformer, the Jesus films and evangelistic supplies..

The Amazon area of Iquitos is one of the most highly infectious disease areas in the world and is rampant with yellow fever, malaria, tuberculosis and conjunctivitis. Major problems for the Amazonians are snakes bites, poor nutrition and absolutely no health care available.

Every morning crowds lined up on the shore told the team that the need for medical and dental help was great and crucial. During the week hundreds of people received medical care and antibiotics, vitamins, and parasite medication. Most of the dental work entailed extractions but a few patients had teeth that were able to be saved and filled. During sailing time up and down the Amazon Dr. Jespersen and assistant Sarah Johnson continued to keep busy giving dental treatment to the local crew aboard the ship.

The evangelical team, which was supported by a very competent and young team from Iquitos, presented Christ in Bible schools in several remote villages. The teams went out on a smaller boat, taking along crafts such as bracelets of salvation, health and scripture related tracts as well as the Jesus film. The King’s Kids Good Life Guides along with boxes of crayons were distributed and taught lesson-by-lesson and given to the children . The Good Life Guides proved to be an excellent tool for the

hundreds of children who attended the Bible schools.

The team also visited two street boy’s schools in Iquitos and Lima developed and administered by Scripture Union. The Good Life Guides were used in these schools and received great reviews.

There is a great need for medical and dental care in the Amazon, but a primary need is for multi-vitamins

that will enable the people to live a more healthy life and to withstand the many infections that the wet and humid area promotes. CMM is administering a multi-vitamin program, but the need exists for further funding to expand this part of its operation.

A second medical expedition travelled on the Amazon Hope October 26 through November 3. More expeditions are planned for 2003. For further information and dates, **contact Bill Collins at 1-877-261-3211**.

