

Beauty for Ashes

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you for your faithful co-partnering in stewardship for the Lord! Your generous gifts continue to make it possible for us to reach out to hurting people around the world. Thank you for being sensitive and sharing as the Lord lays needs on your heart. Recently a donation came in for the work in Thailand; this was before we even made known the many needs caused by the earthquake in May! What a great God we serve, who knows and provides what we need before we even ask!

Bill and Erma Collins
Co-founders

Thailand

May 5, 2014 a 6.3 earthquake struck the Chiang Rai area. Eleven of the thirteen buildings at the Akha Youth Development Center (AYDC) were either destroyed or sustained damages. The Huaisan Akha Village, which is where the Huaisan Akha Baptist Church and Akha Medical Clinic are located, were a mere 5 miles from the epicenter and will need to be rebuilt. Even though it is two months later; aftershocks are still being felt. Estimated damages just for AYDC are estimated at \$236,667 USD. Thankfully, all of the students except five were home on school break. The five staying were able to evacuate before the ceiling of the dorm they were in collapsed. Children's Medical Ministry (CMM) plans to co-partner with First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, FL to help with rebuilding efforts. Nationals will be hired to rebuild the buildings to withstand an earthquake measuring 7-8 on the Richter Scale. To date CMM has been able to bless AYDC with \$7,000 USD. Any amount you are able to give will greatly benefit their efforts to repair and rebuild damages in order to continue outreach among the Akhas!

(Pictures are clean-up efforts and repair work in progress.)



Sharing the Lord's Word on Capital Hill

For over a year, for the first time in our history, Children's Medical Ministries (CMM) has been involved in advocacy, and we have been partnering with like-minded charities, and ministries with a similar mission. This includes:

- Participating in a Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH) Annual Conference where we made valuable contacts with Christians with servant hearts from around the world.
- Becoming a member organization of the Interfaith Working Group on Foreign Assistance (IWGFA). The IWGFA was formed by faith-based groups that were alarmed by the growing sentiment among elected officials to reduce humanitarian foreign aid. While concern over the government deficit is valid, people of faith have joined together to deliver the message that America is a special, blessed country because of its concern for the most vulnerable.
- In conjunction with both CCIH and IWGFA, we have taken part in visits to the offices of four U.S. Senators, and five Members of the House of Representatives. While most meetings were with staff members, we did have in-person meetings with Senator Mark Warner (D-VA), and Rep. Andy Harris (R-MD). In all these visits, we stressed the need to maintain funding for nutrition and medical aid to small children and the mothers of those children.



Left to right: Luke Albee, Chief of Staff to Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA); Jack Walsh, Disabled Children's Fund rep; Alvin Miller, Children's Medical Ministries rep; Rev Charles Swadley, a retired UM Pastor from Williamsburg, VA; and Marty Shupack, a pastor and Director of Advocacy for Church World Service.

During the period May 7, Alvin Miller and Jack Walsh participated in a concentrated day of Congressional visits. This was an IWGFA effort to bring in front-line leaders of various Faith-Based Organizations from around the U.S. In the words of Beth Ann Saracco of Bread for the World, "we made our voices heard on behalf of all those in our world who are considered, the least, the lost, and the last."

Ministry Partner News

July 22, 2014, the Board of Directors of Compassion Care for Disabled Children, CMM's co-partner in ministry, approved the formal name change of this organization to the Disabled Children's Fund (DCF). We have been using Disabled Children's Fund as a "dba" in our fundraising in recent years, and this has met with great success in our participation with the Combined Federal Campaign.

To give by credit card visit our website: www.childmed.org
100% of gifts given through Visa & Mastercard go to Children's Medical Ministries!

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