Delivering compassionate healthcare and the Gospel to the most needy in the developing world.

HELPING HANDS Medical Missions

The Problem

- People living in rural areas of developing countries have either never received medical attention of any kind or have limited access to healthcare.
- People of developing countries are exploited by anti-life propaganda and government sponsored programs which inhibit their choice of healthcare options.

The Solution

- HELPING HANDS Medical Missions provide short-term trips by medical personnel to poor areas throughout the developing world to provide medical attention in the fullness of the Catholic tradition. Consistent with our intent to provide long-term solutions to poverty, the missions always include a priest to aid in ministering to the body, mind and spirit.
- Services provided include: surgeries, dental care, physical therapy, consultations, distribution of medications, house calls, and Natural Family Planning courses.
- Our HELPING HANDS Medical Missionaries also take part in the mission's spiritual program of daily prayer, Mass, meditation, classes on the Church's teachings in the field of bio-ethics, and door-to-door evangelization visits.

The Need

- Funds are used to purchase medical equipment, surgical kits, medicines and other necessary materials
- Medical personnel volunteer their time and pay their own travel expenses; funds are needed to defray the expenses for one priest on the mission

"I've become much more involved in caring for the whole person, and sometimes that means joining patients in their prayer lives," he says. "I've learned that some patients are looking for that."

– Dr. Mark Knabel
Medical Mission Team Member

Donate and track your project online TODAY at: www.catholicworldmission.org

Funding Priorities

- Sponsor the mission's chaplain (a Catholic priest): **$2,000** (includes airfare and mission fees)
- Help give urgently needed medical care to 30 poor patients: **$300.00**
- Help give urgently needed medical care to 15 poor patients: **$150.00**
- Help supply medicine for an entire mission: **$3,000**

Sponsor an entire mission for $20,000 (an average mission treats 2,000 poor patients)

To learn more about how you can help those less fortunate, please contact Amber R. DeMartino at:

Phone 800.961.8153 | Direct Line 203.848.3327 | 33 Rossotto Drive, Hamden, CT 06514
amber.demartino@catholicworldmission.org | www.catholicworldmission.org | *Our legal title is: HELPING HANDS Medical Missions, Inc.*

THE PROGRESS – TWO CATHOLIC WORLD MISSION PROGRAMS WORKING TOGETHER

Since 1996, HHMM has served more than 117,000 poor patients and hosted 75 medical missions in Mexico, El Salvador, Venezuela, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Philippines, and Ghana. Each mission is one week long and 10 missions are scheduled annually. Each mission group is comprised of approximately 25-45 participants, who volunteer their time, service, and medical supplies. Included in this group is the mission chaplain (priest) who accompanies the team for spiritual support. The mission site varies depending on the needs of certain communities and requests for help by local authorities and local clergy. To sustain ongoing care all sites are visited annually.

MISSION TRIP: AFRICA

At the end of April, HELPING HANDS Medical Missions (HHMM) sent another medical missionary team into Bibiani, in the Western Region of Ghana, Africa.

HHMM's goal is to provide medical care in the fullness of the Catholic faith and to attend to the spiritual needs of the inhabitants while offering the healthcare workers and missionaries a life-transforming experience. Each HHMM team is made up of medical personnel, a priest, and numerous volunteers.

HHMM's Atlanta Chapter led by Dr. Phil Kelley organized the Ghana mission. Before their departure and in preparation for their arrival, the Chapter had successfully shipped and delivered more than $200,000 in supplies and equipment.

After a commissioning mass, the twenty-member mission team divided into 7 groups to make house calls in the area. The groups encouraged the people to live their faith, prayed with them and reminded them that "the family that prays together stays together." They were also encouraged to take advantage of the availability of the sacraments being offered by the Mission Chaplain, Fr. Jeffery Jambon, LC. On Sunday, the team attended a half-day retreat and the opening ceremony of the new hospital building in Bibiani.

Throughout their week-long stay, primary care teams went out of the hospital to the nearby villages of Subiri and Sui. Over 1,500 patients received medical treatment including medical consultations, urology surgeries, dental care and physical therapy.

HELPING HANDS Medical Missions is currently preparing another trip to Bibiani this year. Dr. Phil Kelley, HHMM's Regional Coordinator for the Atlanta Chapter encourages doctors and nurses who are considering going on a medical mission to *"follow the Holy Spirit's inspiration to serve the poor in need of medical care."*

Catholic Missions Programs for 2010-2011:

Brazil: *Itacoatiara-Amazons*	July 2-11, 2010
Guatemala: *Santa María de Jesús*	Oct. 22-30, 2010
El Salvador: *Sonsonate*	Oct. 29-Nov. 6, 2010
El Salvador: *Santiago Texacuangos*	Nov. 5-13, 2010
Quintana Roo, Mexico: *Playa del Carmen*	Nov. 5-14, 2010
Philippines: *Tanauan-Batangas*	Feb 16-26, 2011
Quintana Roo, Mexico: *Chunhuhub*	March 11-19, 2011
Guatemala: *Escuintla*	March 25-Apr 2, 2011
Africa: *Ghana*	April 6-17, 2011
Mexico: *Cotija*	May 20-28, 2011

HISTORY

HELPING HANDS Medical Missions (HHMM) was formally established in 1996 after 3 years of developing a program for a Catholic medical mission. The idea originated in Dallas in 1991 when a Catholic priest recognized the need for Catholic medical professionals to provide health care services for the poor in rural areas of developing countries. In Holy Week of 1996 a pilot group of medical missionaries from various areas of the U.S. joined the youth missions in Michoacán, Mexico. The mission was a success with a small group (7) of medical personnel. In the fall of 1996, the first mission under the name of HELPING HANDS Medical Missions took place in Cotija, Mexico, with 30 participants: doctors, nurses and volunteers serving more than 500 patients and providing 91 surgeries in just 5 days!