

“These Are the People Who Saved My Life”



Photos courtesy of Uganda Spine Surgery Mission

Uganda

At age 13, Francis lived his life bent over. His spine was fused at a 90-degree angle, a condition he was born with that had worsened as he grew. Daily life—even breathing—was difficult.

No doctor in Uganda could correct his back. But for nine years, a volunteer spinal surgery team has been traveling to Mbarara, Uganda, to repair the spines of young people like Francis* so they can live their

lives fully, standing and walking straight. In July, the team operated on Francis and over 30 others, using medicine and medical supplies donated by AmeriCares.

The team helped Francis walk just two days after surgery. When staff visited on the fourth day, “Francis put on a contagious smile,” says Matt McLaurin, a pre-med student from Louisiana volunteering with the group. “His mother translated his words: ‘These are the people that saved my life.’ Then Francis climbed out of bed, unassisted, and shook each of our hands in a thankful manner.”

Uganda Spine Surgery Mission is just one of 1,200 volunteer medical teams AmeriCares supported last year with more than \$48 million in medicine and supplies. Like most teams, the spine team trains local doctors and nurses each time they visit. Students from Mbarara School of Medicine assisted in every step of patient care, even surgeries.

“This year we treated more patients and trained more health professionals than I had ever imagined we could,” says Isador Lieberman, M.D., who led the team. “We established a firm foundation with the health care community in Mbarara and at the University which will continue to flourish in the years to come.”

**name changed*



A volunteer medical team (top) used medicine and supplies donated by AmeriCares to provide free surgery to Francis (above), who suffers from a congenital spinal condition. Thanks to a generator donated by AmeriCares, doctors delivered babies safely during Typhoon Hagupit in December (right).

Disaster Preparedness Protects Communities

Sixteen pregnant women were patients at the Albuera Rural Health Unit in the Philippines when Typhoon Hagupit tore through the country last December. The storm knocked out electricity in the area, but the clinic’s medical equipment stayed on, thanks to a powerful generator donated by AmeriCares. “No lights, no power, no worries—because we have our generator,” says clinic director Dr. Noemi Mencidor. “Everywhere else was dark but here there was light.” Under generator power, staff delivered 16 healthy babies.

A year earlier during Typhoon Haiyan, the Albuera clinic lost power for two weeks forcing doctors to treat patients in the courtyard. With support from our broad base of donors, AmeriCares has provided \$21 million in emergency response and recovery aid to restore health services in the Philippines and build a more resilient health system. Among the contributions were 10 generators, made possible by the GE Foundation. AmeriCares installed the generators in storm-proof enclosures at clinics such as Albuera, so health workers can care for patients during future disasters.



From the President and CEO



Dear Friends,

“Sending help to countries in crisis is a very good thing, but it is sometimes important to be on the ground. This is exactly what AmeriCares has done in Liberia.”

These are the words Liberia President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf used to describe AmeriCares commitment to her Ebola-ravaged country when I met with her in Monrovia in February.

There’s nothing more gratifying than hearing from a country’s leader that you’ve made a difference during a crisis. In addition to meeting with President Sirleaf, on my February visit I had the privilege to meet our Liberia staff and thank the doctors, nurses and health workers who stepped up to fight the virus and save lives. I visited our recently opened office and warehouse that support hospitals and clinics, weak before the crisis, and now needing our help even more.

With offices in Haiti, India, El Salvador, the Philippines, United States and now Liberia, AmeriCares is making a difference every day, helping more people access the health care they need to live full, productive lives.

Your continued support allows us to confront crises where they arise and stay to create change and build healthier futures. Thank you.

Michael J. Nyenhuis
President and CEO

With Your Help, This Little Girl Survives Ebola

Just 3 years old, Rachel* has already lived a lifetime of sorrow and hope. Both of her parents and her youngest brother died of Ebola. But, helped by doctors and health workers at an Ebola treatment unit in Tubmanburg, Liberia, Rachel and two siblings survived.

Rachel and three of her brothers tested positive for the Ebola virus when they arrived at the Tubmanburg treatment unit, one of three that AmeriCares equips with medicines and supplies critical for helping patients and protecting health workers; all three are managed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

“We kept hoping for the best every single day,” says Zipporah Wasilwa, a health worker at the facility. “We tried to feed them and give them the fluids to keep them hydrated.” But the struggle took its toll. Rachel’s 2-year-old brother died on the sixth day. An older brother recovered; Rachel and her 12-year-old brother remained in the ETU, fighting.

Then, after days of no symptoms, both children tested negative. “I was happy because we struggled for them and they are well,” says Zipporah. “They are fighters and they are heroes.” Rachel and her brothers were adopted by an uncle.

AmeriCares has been supporting health workers, hospitals and clinics in the fight against Ebola since April 2014. With critical medicine, supplies and project support, AmeriCares is working to expand treatment capacity, reduce transmission, restore access to essential health services and improve safety practices in health care facilities to improve care and prevent future epidemics.

**name changed*



Photo by IOM

A New, Healthier Life

Seeing her today, you would never believe that Jennifer once needed 17 medicines and 800 units of insulin to get through the day. Unemployed, diabetic and suffering from high blood pressure, Jennifer weighed 350 pounds.

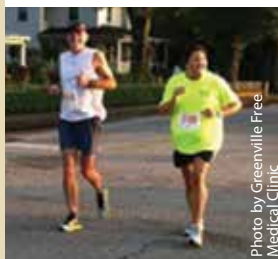


Photo by Greenville Free Medical Clinic

But with help from a clinic selected by AmeriCares to participate in a national program to help patients with prediabetes, Jennifer changed her life. Medical staff at the Greenville Free Medical Clinic in Greenville, South Carolina, coached Jennifer through lifestyle changes, including diet and exercise. Jennifer has now lost 165 pounds. She runs five or six days a week, has a new job and has gotten off most of her medications. Her diabetes is now well controlled.

Greenville Medical Free Clinic serves low-income uninsured patients and is one of more than 750 safety net providers participating in AmeriCares U.S. Medical Assistance Program and is one of seven partners AmeriCares selected to be in the Transforming Prediabetes Care Initiative. The clinic also receives medicine and supplies from AmeriCares, including more than 12,000 insulin syringes since 2009.

AmeriCares is the largest provider of donated medicines, vaccines and supplies in the United States, with more than \$3.6 billion delivered to date.

Free of Ebola, 3-year-old Rachel adds her handprint to the survivors’ wall at an Ebola treatment unit AmeriCares supports in Liberia (top). Jennifer got the help she needed at a clinic receiving medicine and health programs at a clinic supported by AmeriCares—now she’s active and healthy (above).

Partner in Profile: AbbVie

When 9-year-old Diona* developed pneumonia, her mother was concerned. Both mother and daughter are HIV-positive and struggle to make ends meet in Constanta County, Romania. But the pair live close to a pediatric health facility supported by AmeriCares and AbbVie, a global biopharmaceutical company. AmeriCares had recently delivered a donation of Biaxin, an AbbVie antibiotic, and doctors provided it immediately at no cost to the family.



AbbVie's donation of Biaxin is one facet of the company's support for AmeriCares: Since AbbVie became an independent company in January 2013, the company has donated medicine valued at \$29 million to AmeriCares. AbbVie's donations to AmeriCares align with its mission of making a remarkable impact on patients' lives.

AbbVie has a long history of philanthropy focused on global health, dating back to when it was part of Abbott Laboratories. That includes donations of Survanta, a lifesaving lung development medicine for newborns. AbbVie has donated more than 500 doses of the medicine to AmeriCares, which provides it to partners in Kosovo; last year alone, 192 babies' lives were saved in Kosovo by AbbVie's donations of Survanta.



A key part of AbbVie's contributions are for medical professionals traveling overseas on volunteer medical trips. AbbVie has donated medicine valued at \$3.7 million to AmeriCares Medical Outreach program. Donations include the critical antibiotics and anesthesia necessary for specialty surgeries, including cleft palate surgeries on children. AbbVie continues a decades-long tradition of support for this key program.

When disasters create humanitarian crises, such as the 2013 typhoon in the Philippines, AbbVie Foundation generously supports AmeriCares emergency response work with cash donations, helping to save lives immediately and restore health services for survivors.

**name changed*

"Another Day Without Suffering...Thank You"

Life in Haiti can be especially hard on the elderly. For example, employers prefer younger, stronger laborers, contributing to chronic poverty in older people. To help them, AmeriCares donates medicine to Daughters of Wisdom, a charitable clinic in Cap Haitien where patients receive free medicine. One recent shipment included analgesics, antibiotics and anti-hypertensive medicine.

"A lot of people like me receive care and medicine for free and we can live another day on earth without suffering from hypertension, fever and headaches," says Virginie, a 79-year-old patient who received donated medicine. "Thank you for your support." With the help from AmeriCares, Daughters of Wisdom can use its limited funds to purchase other needed medicine and supplies. AmeriCares began sending medicine to Haiti in 1984; since the catastrophic 2010 earthquake, we have provided more than \$86 million in aid to more than 80 Haitian health partners.



Photo by Obenson Amazan

A newborn in Kosovo has healthy lungs thanks to a donation of Survanta (top). For older patients in Haiti (above), free medicine from AmeriCares is a lifeline to health.

A Gift With Income Benefits for You



Many of our supporters choose to establish tax-smart gift annuities to fulfill their charitable wishes and plan for retirement. Gift annuities are simple to put in place and represent a time-tested, secure way to guarantee future payments regardless of what happens in the economy.

Here's how it works: You transfer assets (such as cash or appreciated securities) to AmeriCares, and we guarantee to pay you a fixed amount each year for the rest of your life. You may also enjoy valuable tax benefits.

One Life Gift Annuity

Your Age	Rate of Return
70	5.1%
75	5.8%
80	6.8%
85	7.8%
90+	9.0%

(sample rates as of February 2015)

Alan Selby and his wife Sandra Martensen chose to create a charitable gift annuity with AmeriCares: It will provide fixed payments at good rates for Alan and Sandra's lifetime. "We could make the donation and count on the income in case of an emergency," says Alan.

For more information on the benefits of gift annuities or other giving vehicles, contact Malaine Miller at AmeriCares: 203.658.9634 or mmiller@americares.org

Your Donations at Work in 64 Countries

With your help, between October 1 and December 31, 2014, AmeriCares sent medicine, medical supplies and project support to the following countries:

Afghanistan	Congo (Kinshasa)	Guatemala	Lebanon	Nepal	Poland	Ukraine
Armenia	Costa Rica	Guinea	Liberia	Nicaragua	Romania	United States
Bangladesh	Dominican Republic	Haiti	Libya	Nigeria	Rwanda	Uzbekistan
Belize	Ecuador	Honduras	Macedonia	North Korea	Senegal	Venezuela
Bolivia	El Salvador	India	Malawi	Pakistan	Sierra Leone	Vietnam
Brazil	Ethiopia	Ivory Coast	Mali	Palestinian Territories	St. Vincent	Zimbabwe
Cambodia	Fiji	Jamaica	Marshall Islands	Panama	Tanzania	
Cameroon	Ghana	Japan	Mexico	Peru	Trinidad	
China	Grenada	Kenya	Micronesia	Philippines	Turkey	
Colombia		Kosovo	Myanmar		Uganda	

Liberia



Liberia: Medicine and safety supplies arrive at AmeriCares Liberia warehouse in Monrovia. Bleach is critical for infection control at hospitals and clinics, which are vigilant in their guard against the Ebola virus.

Florida: Low income uninsured patients receive care, including medicine donated by AmeriCares, at Grace Medical Home in Orlando, Florida, one of more than 750 U.S. clinics and health centers in our U.S. Medical Assistance Program.



Pakistan

Pakistan: After flooding in September, AmeriCares brought relief supplies to 200 families whose homes had been damaged or destroyed. "This is the first time after the flood that someone came to our village and provided assistance. Thank you," said one survivor.

Philippines: Residents of battered villages received relief supplies from AmeriCares in December after Typhoon Hagupit destroyed homes and flooded roads, cutting off communities.

Annual Emergency Response Partners

Thank you to the following donors whose contributions help AmeriCares maintain year-round readiness for global emergencies:

- Alexion Pharmaceuticals
- Anthem Foundation
- Boeing
- Covidien
- McGraw Hill Financial
- OdysseyRe Foundation
- Southwest Airlines
- Voya Foundation
- Anonymous

Philippines



United States



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AmeriCares is an emergency response and global health organization committed to saving lives and building healthier futures for people in crisis in the United States and around the world.

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