

Wichita County Medical Alliance

Myanmar Relief Mission

This WCMA Relief Mission was in response to cyclone Nargis which killed an estimated 150,000 people in Myanmar and devastated the country's capital and richest food producing region.

The WCMA raised funds for this relief effort with the help of three physicians from Myanmar who practice medicine in Wichita Falls, Dr. Lucy Tan and Drs. Nick and Rita Kong and the Wichita Falls Medical Society. A fund raising get-to-gather was held in the Kong's home shortly after the disaster to collect funds and show support for the cyclone victims.

Through these physicians and previous WCMA contacts a number of relief projects were identified and two were selected. It is important to note that all WCMA missions are successful due to the action of highly knowledgeable and responsible partners in the disaster area.

1. Working in cooperation with Globus Relief, the WCMA was able to ship a container with 22 pallets of medical supplies valued at over \$200,000 to Myanmar for distribution by Gleaning for the World through its local medical clinics in the disaster area. This was an unusual accomplishment as the country's government was refusing almost all outside assistance at the time -including aid from the U.S. government.
2. Through the contacts of our three Myanmar physicians we were able to partner with Dr. Pyi Htun, the BRN and their engineering associates in Myanmar to finance the construction of tube wells in the Irrawaddy delta for 5 cyclone damaged villages that had no potable water. It was necessary to drill each well over 600 feet to get to pure water. Each well was equipped with a casing, service platform, pump, motor and reservoir. They could pump sufficient water to supply an entire village of from 1,500 to 3,000 people. In total, about 10,000 people now receive pure water from these 5 wells.

Wichita County Medical Alliance
Myanmar Tube Wells Project



Drilling in Medawsu



School Opening



One of the 5 tube wells/water pump and container that was sponsored by the Wichita County Medical Alliance.

From: Holly Uphold [huphold@globusrelief.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2008 12:56 PM
To: rhorth@sw.rr.com
Subject: Myanmar Load Details

Dear Bob,

Here is the list for the total 22 pallets:

- 4 Pallets protein shakes
- 3 Pallets of surgeon's gowns, isolation gowns, exam gloves and surgeon's gloves
- 0.5 pallet respiratory products
- 0.5 pallet IV supplies
- 2 Pallets of needle and syringes
- 1 pallet orthopedic supplies (casting material and other ortho supplies)
- 2 Pallets OTC's including basic pain relief for adults and children, vitamins for children and adults, cough/cold medications, antibiotic ointments, etc)
- 0.5 Pallet Urinary catheters and accessories
- 0.5 Suction catheters, suction tubing, assorted
- 2 Pallets Basic surgical kits (basins, laceration trays, delivery trays, basic kits, general surgery kits
- 2 Pallets dressings and bandages
- 1 Pallet of general medical clinic supplies (reusable BP cuffs, hand sanitizer, feminine hygiene products, test kits-pregnancy, fecal, blood collection sets, thermometers, dressings, basic testing supplies, doctor's office supplies)
- 1 Pallet assorted sutures
- 1 Pallet stainless steel instruments: hemostats, forceps, scissors, other assorted instruments
- 1 Pallet baby supplies (medical supplies, bottles, breast pumps, collection bottles, formula, diapers, baby wipes, etc)

The group responsible for the product once it lands in country is called Gleaning for the World. These items will be going to their traveling medical clinics. They have missionaries' in-country that will meet the load and distribute the product. I am requesting a more detailed description of this process from them and I will forward it on as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
Holly

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