

**February 2005**

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**#8295**



**Changing the world  
one life at a time  
through Christ-like  
missions.**

## **CrossLink at Work - 2004 Reflections**

Thinking about CrossLink International in 2004, I realized that it was 8 years ago this month I began working for the ministry – actually as an office volunteer. Dan Watkins, CrossLink's first Executive Director, and I worked in an office that was 8'x10'. Whenever I processed letters for mailings I had to assemble them on Dan's desk – always gently chiding him not to mess up my stacks.

My how things have changed! That first year CrossLink completed 41 projects to 21 countries versus 362 projects to 68 countries in FY 2004. Where we once had offices and warehouses in three separate buildings, the ministry is now housed in one 7200 square foot complex making our work so much more efficient. And we've grown from an Executive Director with an office helper to seven full and part-time employees, as well as a host of volunteers.

Through all this change and growth, there is a constant – the tremendous physical and spiritual needs around our globe.

No matter how much CrossLink or sister ministries have done to alleviate human need and suffering, there is so much more work to be done. The devastation and loss of life in South Asia alone is overwhelming; but I also think of millions of others that struggle every day just to exist in the Sudan, Haiti, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and so many other difficult places.

But there is another constant – the unchanging and unconditional love of God. He wants the frightened refugee in Sudan, the weary mother in Haiti, the young people of war-torn Liberia, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan, and the grieving citizens of South Asia to know that love. And they won't know it unless you and I are His hands and feet.

As you read these pages about CrossLink work, I ask you to remember the needs that still exist. Join us in prayer, in giving, in going – whatever it takes to share His healing and hope

**Linda Cook**

# A Volunteer's Story

The chain of events that produces a successful mission begins long before a medical team sees their first patient. One of our volunteers, Jackie Mitchell, has a unique perspective on the process, having been involved from end-to-end.



*Jackie Mitchell assessing a patient's eyes in Le Cieba.*

Jackie is a highly outgoing and attractive thirty-something woman who works as a pharmaceutical rep for Sanofi-Aventis. She was recruited to CrossLink by Dr. Barry Byer who, according to Jackie, never misses the opportunity to let visiting reps know that CrossLink should be on the receiving end of any extra medicines.

Fortunately for us, Jackie's interest didn't end with donated drugs. She had long wanted to go on a medical mission. Not only was she attracted to the idea of serving God but she also liked the challenge of going "outside her comfort zone."

Thus began Jackie's participation in mission planning, fundraising and soliciting donations to help enable the 2003 trip to Honduras. She remarked on CrossLink's incredible support, "They were there from the planning stages and throughout, even willing to jump through all kinds of last-minute hoops to help outfit our team."

Jackie was pleasantly surprised by her experience during the 2003 trip. She had expected hard work but not the great sense of personal reward. She later signed on for Dr. Byer's 2004 trip to Le Cieba, also in Honduras.

In Le Cieba, Jackie and the team confronted new challenges. They were nearly overwhelmed by the crowds of people who awaited them and the extreme heat. Unlike prior years, the Honduran military was not there and team members had to perform the tough job of crowd control. Jackie and others were touched that some patients had arrived in their "Sunday Best" clothes and waited four or more hours to be seen. Because of the stressful conditions, the mission staff made an extra effort to greet each new patient with patience and an open heart.

Jackie was assigned to the auto-refractor to assess patient's eyeglass needs. She found that as she examined each person's eyes, she was given a small glimpse into their soul and a moment of grace to pray for their well-being. That experience coupled with seeing the gratitude of people whose vision had been transformed, was for Jackie pure joy.

Besides the facilitating and going on two missions, Jackie organizes teams from her church's singles group (Soul Purpose from McLean Bible Church) to spend two evenings each month sorting and repackaging medical supplies at CrossLink. Jackie finds satisfaction knowing that these volunteer hours are critical to another mission team's patients.

Jackie's involvement in so many facets of CrossLink's work is a reminder of what it takes to fulfill our purpose of bringing hope and healing to suffering people.



*Dr. Franklin, Dr. McGrath, Jackie, and Dr. Byer taking a quick break from their duties.*

*"... as she examined each person's eyes, she was given a small glimpse into their soul and a moment of grace to pray for their well-being."*

# “Planting Seeds for God’s Bumper Crop”

The medical mission team from Bartlett United Methodist Church of Bartlett, TN worked for 6 days in Nagpur, – the exact geographical center of India. Four medical clinics were held and approximately 1200 lives were touched by these compassionate medical professionals.



*A villager with his free medicines.*

“While most people came to us complaining of joint pains, headaches and other basic ailments that are caused by the daily life in India, there were some cases of leprosy, pneumonia, cancer and blindness. Without the donations from CrossLink, we could not have seen the 900+ people we hadn’t originally planned to see. **No one** was turned away! Thank you for helping us touch these lives.”

“The theme of our trip was ‘Planting Seeds for God’s Bumper Crop,’ but we all felt that we were the ones blessed by this experience. How humbling to have people kiss your feet simply because you listened about their aches and pains and gave them two aspirins! \*

“We saw God at work everywhere in India – when villagers walked over 15-20 miles just to see a doctor; when we visited a ministry we helped start 3 years ago now setting up churches; when we had the opportunity to touch the lives of so many people.”

“There was a quote in our devotion book that said, ‘I will never be the same for having seen the other side of the moon.’ We have traveled and seen the other side of the moon, and none of us will ever be the same again. God has used us and blessed us.”



*Waiting to be treated by the doctor.*

*“We have traveled and seen the other side of the moon, and none of us will ever be the same again. ”*

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\* Pain relievers such as aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen and other over-the-counter medicines are the most frequently requested items by medical mission teams. You can help by donating these items directly to CrossLink through the Over-the-Counter Club Program. For more information contact [info@crosslinkinternational.net](mailto:info@crosslinkinternational.net).



# CrossLink at Work

CrossLink sent medical resources valued at more than \$3.8 million to the countries listed below in FY2004.

## EASTERN EUROPE

20 Projects

Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Ukraine

\$218,014



## ASIA - PACIFIC

27 Projects

Cambodia, China, India, Mariana Islands, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Philippines, Tibet, Vietnam

\$295,402

## MIDDLE EAST

4 Projects

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan

\$63,010

## ASIA - SOUTHWESTERN

6 Projects

Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgystan, Mongolia, Uzbekistan

\$77,538



## AFRICA

76 Projects

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

\$818,444

## USA\*

109 Projects

\*CrossLink donates short-dated medicines to free clinics because they cannot be sent overseas.

\$379,985

## ATLANTIC - CARIBBEAN

45 Projects

Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, The Bahamas, Trinidad

\$389,641

## CENTRAL AMERICA

49 Projects

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua

\$1,297,274



## SOUTH AMERICA

26 Projects

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela

\$274,651

# FY 2004

## Crosslink International, Ltd. Statement of Financial Position September 30, 2004

<u>Assets</u>	
Operating assets	\$ 156,064
Inventory of drugs, medical supplies and equipment held for distribution	540,978
Temporarily restricted fund assets	202,498
	\$ 899,540
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Operating payables	\$ 51,727
Grants and advances held for future projects	10,314
	\$ 62,041
<u>Net assets</u>	
Unrestricted for operations	\$ 98,645
Unallocated drugs, medical supplies and equipment	536,356
Temporarily restricted fund assets	202,498
	837,499
	\$ 899,540

## Crosslink International, Ltd. Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year ended September 30, 2004

	Operations	Medical Inventory	Temporarily Restricted	Total
<u>Income</u>				
Donated drugs, medical supplies and equipment	\$	\$3,910,588	\$	\$3,910,588
Contributions & grants	395,219			395,219
Fees and reimbursed shipping	51,032			51,032
Investment income	638		148	786
Annuity released from endowment	5,524		-5,524	
	452,413	3,910,588	-5,376	4,357,625
<u>Expenses</u>				
Program services				
Distribution to healthcare providers	106,876	3,831,196		3,938,072
Collection and warehousing	160,977			160,977
Interaction with other humanitarian aid organizations	53,146			53,146
	320,999	3,831,193	0	4,152,195
Supporting Services				
General administration	32,994		3,327	36,321
Fund raising	52,656			52,656
	85,650	0	3,327	88,977
Total expenses	406,649	3,831,196	3,327	4,241,172
Net change in net assets	45,764	79,392	-8,703	116,453
Net assets, beginning of year	52,881	456,964	211,201	721,046
Net assets, end of year	\$98,645	\$536,356	\$202,498	\$837,499

The organization's financial records are examined by Soza Associates PC, CPA's

# Tsunami Relief

“A wall of water just came racing over us ....” Every time we’ve heard statements like that or watched those horrific pictures from South Asia, we’ve all asked ourselves, “How can we help?”



*Meds and supplies for Indonesia waiting to be loaded.*

Responses began coming into CrossLink the week after Christmas. Doctors and nurses dropping everything to go to South Asia – all calling to ask for help with medicines and supplies. Men and women walking in off the street to donate funds or OTC items. Churches, civic clubs, hospitals – all asking how they could help.

CrossLink, not primarily a disaster relief organization, began to match up donations, both financial and in-kind, with teams working in the affected areas. Lists of needed medicines and supplies were obtained and funds were used to purchase these very specific items. (As of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, medicines and supplies valued at \$134,000 have been purchased for South Asia teams.)

One of our healthcare partners, INOVA Health System, donated \$30,000 of medical resources. This donation, combined with 360 pounds of over-the-counter medicines collected by teenagers at Manassas Baptist Church in Manassas, VA, was sent to Global Peace Initiatives, working in Banda Aceh, Indonesia.

A blood bank in the area called. They are donating \$3 to CrossLink tsunami relief for every person that gives blood during their February drive.

The stories go on and on. A young nurse and her husband said, “Please forgive me. I’m leaving next week for Sri Lanka. Can you help me?” A doctor from New York called CrossLink immediately after making his plane reservations for the same country. “This is what I need.”

In so many ways the aid that has come through CrossLink seems like “a drop in the bucket,” but I would like to share a response we received from a doctor on the ground in South Asia.

Dr. Arul Anketell writes: “Greetings in Jesus’ name! Thank you very much for the Pharmaceuticals and Medical products sent and brought by Dr. Augustine Sanchez. We have gratefully received them on behalf of Healthcare Christian Fellowship and we will be using them in the ongoing medical relief work to those affected by the tsunami disaster. God bless you all for this kindness, concern, compassion and sacrifice.

***“This service that you perform is not only supplying the need of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”***

*-2 Corinthians 9:12.*



*Bruce Geoffrion and Bill Whitescarver loading precious relief for tsunami victims.*

***“This service that you perform is not only supplying the need of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”***



## Will you help us be a supply chain of healing and hope?

Please detach and return with your response to:

CrossLink International  
427 North Maple Avenue  
Falls Church, VA 22046  
www.crosslinkinternational.net

1. Enclosed is my gift of  \$50  \$100  \$200  \$500  \$1,000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. I/We pledge a yearly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ quarterly.
3. Please send me more information about CrossLink International.

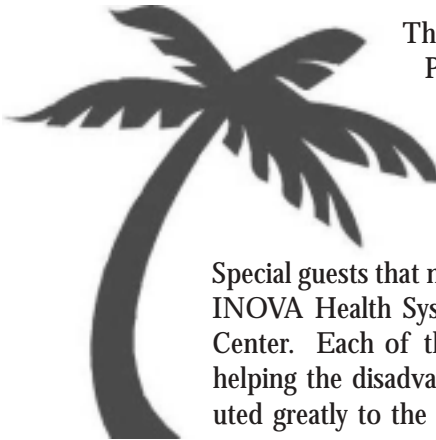
Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Gifts of cash and/or goods to CrossLink International, a 501 (c) (3) humanitarian aid ministry are tax deductible.  
CrossLink is audited annually by an independent public accounting firm and our audit is available upon request.

## *“the band aid ball” Goes Caribbean*



The feel of warm breezes will permeate the ballroom of the Fairview Park Marriott, Saturday, April 2, 2005, at 7:00 pm, as CrossLink International holds its second annual gala, as the ***The Band Aid Ball Goes Caribbean***. Proceeds from the ball and silent auction will aid CrossLink International in its ministry of healing and hope.

Special guests that night will be the Board Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of INOVA Health System, Potomac Hospital, Reston Hospital and Virginia Hospital Center. Each of these hospital systems will be honored for their commitment to helping the disadvantaged of our world. As healthcare partners they have contributed greatly to the work of CrossLink.

If you are interested in attending, offering an item for the silent auction, or providing a donation in support, please contact CrossLink at [info@crosslinkinternational.net](mailto:info@crosslinkinternational.net) and reference ***“the band aid ball”*** in the subject line.

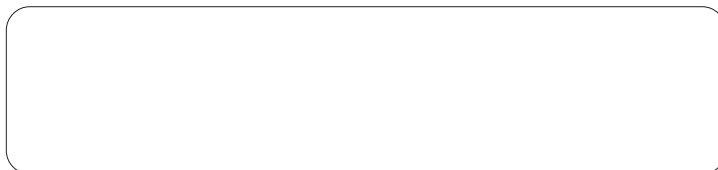


**CrossLink International**  
427 North Maple Avenue  
Falls Church, VA 22046

**Changing the world one life at a time through  
Christ-like missions.**

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Merrifield, VA

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www.crosslinkinternational.net



## NEWS BRIEFS



### Containers

Containers filled with medical supplies and equipment from CrossLink are scheduled for:

- February – The Congo
- March – Kenya
- April – Romania

### Conventions & Exhibits

Visit with CrossLink representatives at the following:

Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship Meeting  
First Baptist Church, San Antonio,  
March 17-20, 2005

MissionFest Southern California  
Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, CA,  
April 29 – May 2, 2005

### “Clinic Pack” Grant

CrossLink International has been awarded a grant from the Diocesan Committee for Human Need from the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. This grant will be used to purchase “clinic packs” – blood pressure cuffs, stethoscopes and digital thermometers. CrossLink will donate these packs to doctors, hospitals and clinics in developing areas through visiting medical mission teams.

“Clinic packs” can be purchased for \$20. If you would be interested in helping secure these vital diagnostic instruments, send your donation to CrossLink marked “clinic pack program.”

