

May 2005

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#8295



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

What's In A Name?

Branding – I've always associated that with cowboys and cows. I'm learning, however, that it is a valuable marketing tool. Just as cattle are marked with an identifying symbol, organizations are "branded" by their publications, colors, logos and names.

If you take apart the name of CrossLink International you would probably understand that it works around the world. The "Cross" signifies it is a Christian organization. But what about the "Link?"

Actually, linking is at the heart of what we do. We link with medical mission teams, mission hospitals and clinics. We link with the medical community. We link with individuals, churches and denominational groups. We link with volunteers. And as we have linked, a supply chain of healing and hope has developed.

Recently at CrossLink's Band Aid Ball the ministry honored four local hospital systems – hospitals that have walked alongside CrossLink in its work. Their compassion and desire to help "the least of these" has been demonstrated in many ways. For instance, because of them a hospital in the Philippines has beds; a clinic in Africa has IV poles; a child in Kenya is alive; and a baby in Romania has a crib.

In response to the December tsunami a local church youth group linked together with CrossLink. They collected 360 pounds of over-the-counter medicines and donated them to the ministry, providing critically needed help in Banda Ache, Indonesia.

Everyone that gives to CrossLink, whether it is a pair of crutches, volunteer time or a financial contribution becomes a link in God's healing chain.

What can you provide? How is God calling you? Will you "link" together with CrossLink to change a life?

No matter who we are, we have a part to play. What is yours?

Linda Cook

“Links” of Love

Steve just seemed to have a calling. Those of us around him sensed that God had a specific mission in mind for this young man.

His heart was in missions – especially children. With this clear-cut purpose he began putting together mission trips to Guatemala with his single friends from church. Their aim – assist an orphanage.

Steve’s relationship with the orphanage continued; arranging concert appearances for them in the States and working to provide for their needs.

That wasn’t enough for Steve. He knew God had more for him to do. After considerable prayer Steve moved to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to work with World Gospel Outreach.

Founded in January, 1984, WGO is dedicated to serving the at-risk children of Tegucigalpa. WGO is committed to changing these children of God from a patchwork of at-risk lives to independent adults. They do this by modeling God’s design for a Christian family utilizing Christian house parents from Honduras, North America, and around the world.

Steve is now the house parent of young boys 7-14. Day after day he models a Godly lifestyle for these young men.

After some time, Steve began to notice a very difficult problem among his “kids.” Several were experiencing problems wetting their beds.

Can you imagine how devastating this condition is to these boys? They must face unbelievable teasing!

Steve sensed their distress and appealed to CrossLink for two specific medicines to provide relief. However, CrossLink faced quite a predicament. We wanted to help Steve show God’s caring love to these kids — BUT one of the medicines cost \$300 every two weeks.

CrossLink put out a request to several pharmaceutical representatives. They were doubtful they could help. The most expensive medicine was rarely sampled, and if they could get it, they couldn’t get very much. But these special ministry “links” promised to explore every possibility.

One day a local nurse was visiting the office and heard the staff discussing this situation. Beckie Hallinger works in several medical offices and said she would see what she could do. Another “link” fell into place.

Before long the ‘unattainable’ medicines were in our hands. In early March, Dr. Barry Byer, CrossLink’s founder, and Beckie delivered enough medicine to Steve to help these kids for 3 to 4 months. Our “links” worked and worked hard. Every pill was donated. Not only that, several of these friends committed to work on this project long-term.

Upon his return, Dr. Byer said, “For me, seeing Steve’s smiling face was a real blessing.”

For CrossLink, the blessing was seen in how God pulled together all of these “links” to bring about His special care for His children.

“... God pulled together all of these “links” to bring about His special care for His children.”



Steve Livingston and one of this ‘boys’ receiving meds from Dr. Barry Byer and Beckie Hallinger.

Dan Watkins' Servant Leadership Award

Dan Watkins, the first Executive Director of CrossLink International, was a servant. There was nothing too menial for him to do if it was of service to others.

He was a big man with an even bigger heart.

When Dan died, CrossLink and his family wished to honor him in a meaningful way – thus the Dan Watkins' Servant Leadership Award — given yearly in concert with the Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship.

Those chosen to receive this award must exhibit the traits of servant leadership through medical missions. They are people that have given of their time and talent to serve those in need around our world.

This year's honorees are Drs. John and Marilyn Sanders. The work they have done around the world in medical missions certainly exemplifies the ideal of servant leadership.

Trained respectively as a general surgeon and an internist, the Sanders felt a very direct call on their lives to missions. As a teenager Dr. Marilyn's father was a county missionary in Appalachia and the whole family helped with his work. Her mother was also a dedicated promoter of missions.

Dr. John had sensed God's calling to medical missions for a number of years. When he attended his first BMDF meeting God really tugged at his heart and he made a commitment to go.

Over the years the Sanders have replaced absent medical missionaries in Indonesia, Nigeria and Tanzania. They have also given their time and talents in China, Yemen, South Africa and other mission sites. And the Sanders have been very involved in a number of mission projects through the Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship.

Both doctors said their most difficult trip was a 10-week stint in Tanzania. It was there that they treated dying babies and children. Caring for these innocent children tore at their hearts.

It is a privilege for CrossLink International to present the 2005 Dan Watkins Servant Leadership Award to Drs. John and Marilyn Sanders. Indeed they certainly are working to "change the world one life at a time through Christ-like missions."



Drs. Marilyn & John Sanders accepting the Dan Watkins Servant Leadership Award.

“ Caring for these innocent children tore at their hearts. ”



Band Aid Ball Goes Caribbean Honoring Partners in Healthcare



The feel of tropical breezes wafted through the ballroom of the Fairview Park Marriott during CrossLink's second annual Band Aid Ball. Birds of paradise, palm trees and the sound of steel drums greeted the more than 300 guests that attended the silent auction and gala. Molly Henneberg, correspondent with Fox News Channel, emceed the evening, reminding all in attendance of the work that CrossLink International does around the world.



Potomac Hospital - CEO William M. Moss and Chair Emeritus Howard Greenhouse.

Guests bid furiously on an array of silent auction items from dinners at local restaurants to a Christmas vacation in Hawaii, complete with roundtrip airline tickets. Many ball attendees could be seen running back and forth to the silent auction room to place their bids.



INOVA Health System - CEO J. Knox Singleton and Chair John Toups.

Honored during the evening for their partnership with CrossLink in aiding the "forgotten" in our world were four hospital systems in the Northern Virginia area. INOVA Health System, Potomac Hospital, Reston Hospital Center and Virginia Hospital Center were

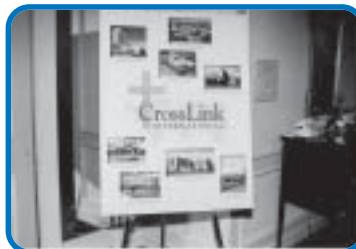
recognized for the significant contributions they have made to the work of CrossLink. All four hospital systems have donated large amounts of in-kind supplies and equipment, and each hospital has assisted CrossLink in unique ways with vendor contracts, monetary donations and assistance with our courier service. Executive Director Linda Cook and Board Chair Glenn Letham commended the CEOs and Board Chairs of each hospital for their compassion and willingness to be their "brother's keeper."

The silent auction and gala raised more than \$145,000 to help CrossLink International with its delivery of medical resources to mission teams, clinics and hospitals in forgotten places.

CrossLink International wishes to thank each and every person that made this event such a success.*



Virginia Hospital Center - CEO James B. Cole and Board Representative Charlene Connolly, MD



CrossLink - surrounded by partners in healthcare.



Reston Hospital Center - CEO William A. Adams

* If you would like to help with next year's Band Aid Ball, please contact the CrossLink International office at 703-534-5465 or info@crosslinkinternational.net.

Thank you!

Sponsors of The Band Aid Ball Goes Caribbean

Gala Sponsors

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Dr. & Mrs. Barry Byer
Hoffman Family, L.L.C.

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Special Guest

Ms. Molly Henneburg

Silent Auction Donors

Thank you to each and every individual/
group that donated items for our Band
Aid Ball Silent Auction.

"Band Aid Ball" Committee

Mrs. Charlotte Benjamin
Ms. Amy Hammer
Mrs. Margaret Havens
Mrs. Bobbi Letham
Mrs. Esther McCullough
Mr. Doug Mussey
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Wagner, Co-Chairs



Tsunami Update

How does one react to such an overwhelming tragedy as the December 26th tsunami? The needs are enormous. The world reaction is tremendous. Where does one begin?

CrossLink is not a disaster relief agency — we just aren't big enough. But we had to respond.

For once, money was not an issue. Generous donors gave more than \$30,000 specifically to aid victims of this disaster. Our question was how do we make sure what we send is appropriate and used for the people affected?

The mission of CrossLink has always been to equip Christian medical mission teams, hospitals and clinics. When the teams started calling us, our questions were answered.

So far CrossLink has sent medicines and supplies valued at more than \$237,000 to Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand. One doctor working in Sri Lanka said that all available antibiotics had been exhausted when he arrived. He claimed that CrossLink was a true blessing because the medicines sent were urgently needed.

There are so many problems that exist in these countries due to the tsunami. Lingering health conditions continue to be treated by various relief organizations from all around the world. CrossLink continues to work with teams that are meeting needs of those that have suffered from this horrific tragedy. We are responding to requests for medicines to treat specific conditions; among them muscle tremors suffered by paralysis victims, and pediatric lung disease.

We are most grateful to the many donors that have provided funds for this cause. Our main request now is that you continue to pray for the people of these devastated nations. Pray that they will feel God's love through the outreach of many Christians, and that their physical and spiritual wounds will be healed.



Devastation after the tsunami.



Dr. Sanchez helps a Sri Lankan process medicines from CrossLink.



Opening precious medicines in Sri Lanka.



**“He claimed
that
CrossLink
was a true
blessing.”**

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.



Become a “Link” – Donate a Clinic Pack

Three simple items – standard equipment in every medical office, clinic and hospital in America. A stethoscope, blood pressure cuff and a thermometer give your doctor vital information about your health.

Would you visit a doctor that didn't have these diagnostic tools? No! Yet, many doctors in desolate places around the globe do without. They are too expensive! The instruments are broken! The doctors can't find them to purchase.

CrossLink has a dream to eventually donate a “clinic pack” to every medical mission team, hospital and clinic that seeks our help. These packs would be donated to the doctors and nurses on the field.

We need your help to achieve our dream. Your donation of \$25* will purchase the entire pack; make a significant difference in many lives; and give you the opportunity to join our supply chain of healing and hope.

* Pricing for Clinic Pack items has increased since our last newsletter.



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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Tel: 703-534-5465
Fax: 703-536-8349
info@crosslinkinternational.net
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NEWS BRIEFS



CrossLink and ECFA

CrossLink International has received word that it has been approved for continuing membership in the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability for 2005. ECFA is an accreditation agency dedicated to helping Christian ministries earn the public's trust through adherence to seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship. Founded in 1979, it is comprised of over 1,100 charitable, religious, missionary, social, and educational tax-exempt, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations.

Online Donations

CrossLink will be accepting online donations soon. Watch for this and the launch of our new website in May, 2005.

United Way/CFC

CrossLink has been accepted for the 2005 United Way campaign, and is awaiting word on acceptance into the Combined Federal Campaign. This year's campaign number for CrossLink International is #8295.

Open House and Health Fair

Plan to visit the CrossLink International facility on Saturday, June 18. for an open house from 9:00 am to noon. On site will be nurses from the Virginia Hospital Center to perform health screenings. You don't want to miss this!

Containers

Filled with urgently needed supplies and equipment, containers will be sent to the following areas in May and June:

Antigua
Democratic Republic of Congo