



....saving the greatest number of children's lives at the lowest possible cost

Breastfeeding-A High Priority

The **Health Forum in Palestine**, in Ramallah on the West Bank, addressed the major factors that contribute to the high infant malnutrition in the Al Amari refugee camp and that lead to increased susceptibility to disease and death. The objective was to reduce malnutrition through early onset and prolonged duration of breastfeeding.

More than 60% of the population of 10,000 in this camp are children, and 205 of these were chosen for an initial survey to discover breastfeeding practices and what educational methods needed to be implemented. Questionnaires and interviews were used for the research.

A mother's workshop was held to stimulate understanding of the need to breastfeed exclusively for at least 6 months and to help with introducing complementary foods after that age. It was found that more workshops need to be held and funds will be sought to hold more.

The results of the work will help researchers and policy makers in setting up well based programs for interventions in the field of weaning.



Palestinian Baby is weighed in the Study in the West Bank

Reduce Poverty by 2015

More than one billion people -- one-sixth of the world's population—many of them children—still live in extreme poverty, lacking the safe water, proper nutrition, basic health care and social services needed to survive. A United Nations report claims that an annual investment of **less than \$200 billion dollars from rich nations over the next decade could reverse this.**

In 2000, 189 countries, including the U.S., adopted a set of ways to achieve this, called the Millennium Development Goals, to be met in 2015. They include reducing poverty by 50%, promoting education and gender equality, and reducing maternal and infant mortality.

Specific to children, the goals outline eliminating fees that prevent poor children from attending school and distributing insecticide-treated bed nets to prevent the spread of malaria. Children are most vulnerable.

In the United States, the activity is called the Millennium Challenge Account. It offers countries the opportunity to submit funding proposals if they meet the criteria of acceptable levels of education, social services, economic freedom, and fair governance.

It is too early to measure success in terms of the goals, but there has been documented an increase in the adoption of reforms by countries who wish to receive funding.

For the year 2007, funding is still uncertain. Some \$3 billion has been requested but Congress is considering less because of the tight budget climate. You could help

Update on Water Project

Dr. Bilqis Hoque, the principal investigator, and the Environmental and Population Research Centre (EPRC) in Bangladesh, the CHF-funded water project in Bangladesh, set out in 2002 to develop appropriate techniques for management of safe drinking water for children in relation to floods in areas which experience these annually. It continues because of the generous gifts from Miss Esther Lazarson of New York City,

In the past, there was, unfortunately, a lack of information about appropriate ways to manage safe water for children during flood seasons, which occur annually. And the precautions that are known by scientists were usually not carried out by the families. This has been changing.

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*We thank Oden Wortman for his
volunteer help with our Website*

We have a new email address:
contact@childhealthfoundation.org

Have you visited the www.thehungersite.com website lately. Did you know that you can give a cup of food daily to the needy at no cost to you. It's a great way to start the day.

Charity of Former Board Member Lives On

James J. Bausch was one of the early board members of the (then) International Child Health Foundation. He died last July at the age of 70.

Mr. Bausch's son, David, requested that gifts in his memory be donated to Child Health Foundation because he felt that we represent the vital concerns his father had for the health of children in the world.

Since the Foundation received over \$5,000, it was decided with David's agreement that we would designate one of our 2007 Small Grants in his father's name.

Mr. Bausch was, at the time he was on our board, the assistant director of the Peace Corps' Southeast Asia/Pacific region. He also served as the head of various charitable/nonprofit organizations including The Ford Foundation, The Population Council, Save the Children, and The National Charities Information Bureau. In later life he lived with his wife Janet in Sarasota, Florida.

We join all those who honor his memory.

Board Mtg in November

Our semi-annual meeting was held in the conference room of our Columbia office building on November 29th. Discussion centered on ways to acquire more funds and the new directions we want to grow. Several ideas were discussed and will become evident

2007 Innovative Small Grants

We are pleased to announce that we are now soliciting proposals for this year's ISG awards. See our guidelines on our website or Email a request and we will send them. Please note that we are asking that you send a letter of intent first and then we will advise. These \$5,000 grants are competitive and offered to organizations of any kind any place in the world. The project must be innovative and related to child health. Previous awards are also on our website for your perusal. You can send your letter of intent by post, fax or email. The deadline for the letter of intent is March 31st and for the completed proposal, May 31st.



You will have noticed that this seal was securing your newsletter. It was presented to us in 2005 because we met the rigid standards that ICA

CHF 2006 Annual Report is soon ready for distribution. If you would like a copy, please email (contact@childhealthfoundation.org) or call our office at 410-992-5512 and we will send you one.

Annual Report 2006



Visit our website at www.childhealthfoundation.org.

Letter from the Director



Dear Friends and Associates:

It is my pleasure to address you as the new Executive Director as of September 2006. I am honored to be able to continue and expand the reach of our mission "...saving the greatest number of children's lives at the lowest possible cost." In the almost six months I have been here, I have been impressed with the existing programs, among which are:

- **The Small Grants Program**—extending opportunities in many countries to people who are dealing with real problems and attempting innovative actions to relieve significant health problems
- **Water Project** This project is particularly exciting, not only because it has brought access to safe water to over 60,000 people during a 5-year period at a cost of under \$50,000, but also because it has created its own development model. The initial intention was to provide access to safe water, through women's empowerment. As the women BECAME empowered, they realized other needs, and asked first for schools for their children, so the project hired a teacher and bought books. Success brings euphoria and ideas. The women then realized that nutrition could be vastly improved and they were given lessons in agriculture and help with raising crops. Seeds and seedlings appropriate for the area were provided, as well as instruction in food preservation. They are now beginning women's resource centers which will provide family planning, handicrafts and literacy.

I have been moved by the commitment, caring and creativity of those who are recipients of our grants. We hope that you also sense the courage and strengths of these beneficiaries who are trying so hard to make the world a better place for our children. As I look at the work of the organization through the past 20 years, I am humbled at its accomplishments, and excited about the work that we have planned for the future.

We will be obtaining resources to expand both of the mentioned programs as well as developing others. One project that we have begun to develop is an action research project looking at the needs, supports and coping mechanisms of grandparents raising children in difficult circumstances. In future newsletters, we will keep you informed as to our actions on these fronts.

It is clear that there is a tremendous potential in Child Health Foundation to bring research, education and outreach activities to bear on the causes of children's deaths and their associated factors. Please feel

Most Sincerely,
Carol

Students Learn about Cleanliness



Student planting a garden

In an area in Western Uganda, sanitation in the public schools was not a high priority. The **Community Empowerment Initiative (CEI)** aimed to change that in order to reduce illness from water-borne and hygiene related diseases with a 2006 small grant. This is their progress report.

The project was established in 25 schools where workshops were held focusing on

such subjects as hand-washing, using latrines, and covering food. Facilities for these activities were put in place and the students themselves were incorporated into the cleaning-up by forming "sanitation clubs."

Behavior is changing and beginning to improve the children's health. This is proving to be a very successful

Water Program, *continued*

During the latest phase, activities commenced in four villages. All the previously installed water wells were inspected and found to be in full use and arsenic-free. Thirty-two more tubewells providing safe water were installed serving a total of 2,617 people, over a thousand of them children, bringing the total number served to 13,494.

In attempts to bore the tubewells, about one out of four were unsuccessful because the arsenic and/or saline levels were too high. It is encouraging to know that bacteria is not their only concern.

A total of 13,494 villagers now have a safe water supply.

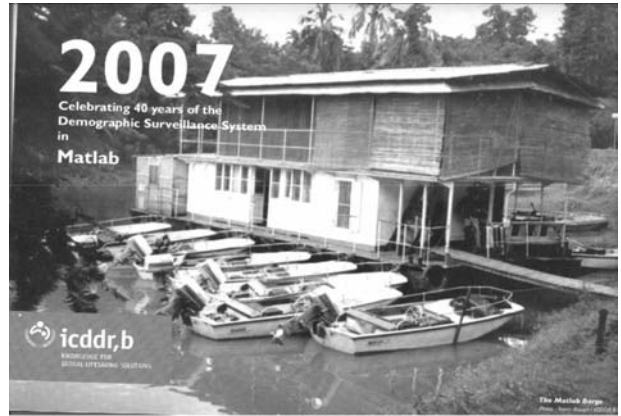
The newest adventure comes because much time has been saved with the new water availability. Therefore it seemed appropriate for the organization to use that time to begin a women's empowerment program. Women's clubs were begun at the schools where the mothers were encouraged to get involved in homestead gardening, literacy and health education.

ORS Disaster Relief Continues

Thanks to private donations from Cera Products and Cumberland Pharmaceuticals, Child Health Foundation has sent CeraLyte oral rehydration solution (ORS) to various disaster areas during the past few years and that continues. In 2005, CeraLyte went to the December 2005 tsunami victims in southeast Asia, and then later that year large shipments went to those suffering from the hurricane in New Orleans.

More recently, MAP International, receiving the donated ORS, transported it to an NGO, Food For the Poor in Nicaragua. It was valued at over \$52,000. In December 2006 another shipment valued at over \$87,000 was sent by Direct Relief International to Pakistan to help with the recovery of victims of the 2005 earthquake.

This ready-to-drink electrolyte solution prevents dehydration and sometimes death from diarrheal diseases, common afflictions in refugee camps. It also can help prevent the need for expensive and painful IV treatments. Children are especially vulnerable.



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This Calendar with beautiful pictures (in color) from Bangladesh is available from our office for \$5.00 (postage included). Call or email us and we will send one immediately.



Cover the Uninsured Week

In its fifth year working on behalf of the uninsured in America, April 23-29 has been set as the 2007 "Covering the Uninsured Week." The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and others are again organizing a campaign to increase coverage for the 9 million children who are living without health insurance. Many families work hard, but make too much to qualify for Medicaid and are still unable to afford coverage.

And, alas, they don't know about the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), which makes it possible for millions of children to see doctors to get checkups, medications, or hospitalizations. Covering our children is a good investment in the future of our country and saves us all money too.

So on the above date, many organizations will engage in activities that will raise awareness of this need, such as, press conferences, health fairs, small business events, campus and interfaith events, and others.

They hope to be able to convince our nation's leaders that health coverage for all Americans must be a top priority. Visit the website and get details about writing letters to your editor and your congresspeople and other things you can do to help: www.covertheuninsuredweek.org

Address Service Requested