



CHILD HEALTH FOUNDATION

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

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### Diagnosing Enteric Illness



Nyaya, Nepal, is evaluating the implementation in rural settings of an innovative, low-cost approach to making culture-based enteric fever (typhoid) diagnosis available in settings without electricity or trained laboratory personnel.

In their interim report they tell us that they first established their hospital microbiology laboratory in order to perform blood cultures, and have been screening all individuals coming in with febrile illnesses. They have developed the necessary forms and questionnaires and had them translated into Nepali. Finally, they hired and trained a research assistant, and obtained agreement in 5 other sites for recruitment of patients and evaluation of the electricity-free incubator. They will begin the study as soon as they receive approval from the Nepal Health Research Council. At the same time they have been working with collaborators at Massachusetts Institute of Technology to design and test lower cost blood culture bottles.

### Philanthropy

It means *love of humanity* etymologically and is, in practice, responding to that love by generous giving. Yet not all charity is philanthropy; charity relieves the pains of social problems, whereas philanthropy attempts to solve those problems at their root causes and creates a sustainable situation. A person who practices philanthropy is called a philanthropist. That's YOU!

You see, Child Health Foundation does not just give a child a fish, we teach the caregivers to fish, so to speak. Our work globally improves and saves the lives of children.

What we are suggesting this year is that, knowing that you are saving children's lives, you give a donation to the Foundation as gifts to your friends and relatives who already have all they need. We will send them one of these lovely cards, hand-embroidered by rescued girls in Bangladesh, and tell them of your gift.



Please use the enclosed envelope and send us a check with or without names and addresses of your loved ones, use our credit card method on our website or give at your workplace. We will be very grateful and so will many children.

### Working with Medical Students



Medsar in Rwanda, in their final report tell us that they recruited 30 medical student from the National University of Rwanda that worked as peer educators. Then they conducted a 3-day training of volunteers event where they learned what is necessary to teach the community about enteric diseases. The volunteers worked with mothers in sessions and one-on-one. They learned not just to prevent the disease but to treat with oral rehydration therapy.

They also trained Community Health Workers who are provided by the government with cell-phones and can be contacted by mothers when needed. Very interesting are the 44 awareness marches that they held in several locations. In the picture that they sent, it looks like hundreds of marchers, mostly youth were winding around the villages with a sound system of sorts to spread the news of disease prevention.

Full reports of projects available upon request.



## Wind and Water



**Aguayuda**, Columbia, has pursued a project to prevent enteric disease by providing a consistent source of clean water. Our humanitarian grant has helped them install a windmill which was paid for with other funds. They now have a consistent source of clean water for 1300 students and 200 staff members at the San Antonio de Aremasian School. The water, however, it turned out, has a higher salt content than is safe for

drinking, so the water is used for hand-washing, showering, laundry, dish-washing, and flushing toilets. The use of this second well with the windmill, has eased the burden on the first well, which has potable water. Therefore, more water is available for the children to drink. The organization plans now to hold workshops with WASH lessons for which they have received other funds.

## Good Training



### PAMICAWIK,

Kenya, is improving hygiene behavior of children under 5. In their project they called SAFE (Sanitation And Family Education), they held training sessions advising

children to wash their hands after using the toilet, to cover food and boil water. They have also taught the use of ORS and how to prepare the homemade kind, and encouraged breastfeeding. As a result, they report, there has been a reduction in illness as well as hospitalization costs, and better management of diarrhea when it occurs. They are also pleased that with less illness in the family, they do not have to take off work and lose pay. Their efforts, with spillover into the community, have reached about 10,000 people and they expect this spillover to continue.

## More Clean Water, More Good Health



**EPRC**, Bangladesh, sent the report of their 15th phase achievements. During this phase they have installed 11 tubewells which serve at least 1170 people, 151 of them children. The total served now since 2002 is about 3,600. Women have more time to plant gardens and EPRC has gathered funds to hold a school for the children. They have added a new initiative, that is, disaster preparedness in cooperation with the government. This includes preparing the tubewells when cyclones are predicted and also going to the cyclone centers with food and water, among other things. This project has been generously funded by Esther Lazarson of New York City. They have now begun phase 16.

## Two New Board Members

**Anwar Huq**, PhD is a Professor at the Maryland Pathogen Research Institute, Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics, University of Maryland at College Park, Maryland.



Dr. Huq received a BS in Zoology and an MS in Marine Zoology from the University of Karachi, and Ph. D in Microbiology from the Univ. of Maryland.

Prior to joining the UMD, Dr. Huq served as the Head of Microbiology Branch at ICDDR,B, Bangladesh. He has done extensive research on cholera and other enteric diseases and published over 200 papers during the past 40 years.

Dr. Huq lives with his wife Dr. Shameem Huq in Silver Spring, Maryland; they have two grown sons. We welcome Anwar to our Board and expect great things from him.

**Christine M. George**, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of International Health, Program in Global Disease Epidemiology and Control, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore. She received a BS in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University and a PhD in Environmental Health Sciences from Columbia University.



Dr. George's primary research goal is to develop effective safe drinking water interventions that: (1) build local capacity at the community level; (2) are in low cost; and (3) can be easily integrated into existing national health systems. She held a Fullbright Fellowship in Bangladesh and has earned several awards for her work. Christine lives in Baltimore. We welcome her youthful contributions to our Board.