



CHILD HEALTH FOUNDATION

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

Issue #1 2017

## Small Grants Awarded



In 2016 we received over 60 proposals from 21 countries covering various children's health related issues. They were reviewed by our grant committee of health experts, who look for projects which employ innovative methods to improve and save children's lives, and then award them up to \$5,000 which, especially in developing countries,

is a small fortune. We were able to fund 6 Innovative Small Grants from 6 different countries. **Lessons learned ultimately benefit children everywhere.**

### Innovative Small Grants

1. **ARTS**, Pakistan will do a study to conquer iodine deficiency
2. **GRAMPARI**, India (funded in 2013 and 2015) will continue the Tippy Tap program to teach hand washing.
3. **ACE**, Kenya (funded in 2012) will create a Mother and Infants Center to provide nutritional education.
4. **ACNN**, Papua, New Guinea, has a program called Helping Babies Breathe. This will be a follow-up.
5. **ENACTUS**, Togo will put solar lighting in health centers.
6. **KIPRISTA**, Rwanda, will conduct sanitation and water projects.

We wish we could fund the others that received high scores. If you would like to help with funds for these, please let us know and we will even let you select the project, then keep you informed about its progress.

Our 2016 Annual Report will soon be on our website or we can send it by email if you request.

**Please:** Use **GoodSearch** as your search engine and earn dollars for Child Health Foundation. We get one cent every time you use it and you can shop there too with Good search and get a percentage from the retailers. Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and register.



## Revolutionary New Vaccine

An article in a recent issue of the New York Times, *Turning the Tide Against Cholera*, explains in detail about the development of a vaccine that could sometime in the future eliminate cholera from the earth! You can find this article on our website. It has marvelous pictures and even a video from Child Health Foundation's partner, the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research in Bangladesh (icddr,b).

They begin by giving the history of the treatment of cholera by intravenous and oral rehydration therapy (ORT)\*. The article doesn't mention this, but our Director, Dr. R. Bradley Sack was one of the researchers involved in the development of ORT in 1968. Dr. Nate Pierce, one of our board members was also on that study and, in fact, received in 2002 the Pollin Prize for his ORT research.

Cholera is a diarrheal disease which causes dehydration so severe that patients could die within hours of contracting the disease. Giving ORT immediately has proved to save millions of lives. The British Medical Journal Lancet said years ago that it is "potentially the most important medical advance of this century."

But now the Centre has developed a functional cholera oral vaccine. The article does not mention that Dr. David Sack, who is also on our Board, was a partner in the early development of this vaccine. Further, he travels widely at the present time to find countries to manufacture it in order to keep the cost down. Having enough vaccine to immunize the millions who need it, however, means that the prevention and treatment will still be important for some time, probably years, to come.

\*See homemade recipe for ORT on our website.





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### Preventing Malnutrition

**Youth for Social Change**, Rwanda, has set about to detect the early signs of malnutrition in children and then provide sustainable solutions. They elected the project leaders to conduct the evaluations and initiate partnerships with health centers, and trained 10 volunteers in a workshop on rice growing,



good agriculture practices, post-harvest techniques and safe chemical use. They then made twice a week visits in the communities.

Community Health Workers were also trained to take the necessary measurements and give nutritional advice.



Then carrying out these activities was done in the last half of the project year. During this period they discovered that it was important to include maternal nutrition also since pregnant women of poor nutritional status deliver underweight newborns that are more at risk of postnatal mortality.



### Saving Newborns

**Women Empowerment Program**, Rwanda, is addressing neonatal mortality by promoting bubble cPap, a low-cost, noninvasive ventilation strategy, and Kangaroo care. The 25 nurses they recruited are working in various hospitals teaching this procedure to save newborns lives. As a result, they have been able to make 6,150 low-cost bubble cPaps, reach 8 district hospitals and 85 health centers, and thus far saved 28,863 neonates. 65% were born below 31 weeks gestation. They also continued the Kangaroo care program and breastfeeding. Community Health Workers have been trained to follow-up the mothers at home. The success of this program has spread and the PI is so pleased with the success that he thanks CHF and hopes they “cover the whole country.” This was a continuation of a 2014 project.

### Better Health with Clean Water

The Environment and Population Research Centre (EPRC) has finished its 20th phase of the water project financed by Esther Lazarson of New York City. Since the onset of this very important project in 2004, over 42,000 people, many of them children, have been provided with clean water. This, of course, prevents many water infested diseases, including cholera (*See page one*). The project installed 4 deep tube-wells and 5 shallow tube-wells and supplied safe drinking water to approximately 160 children, 825 women and men, in total 985. (To maintain the wells, the project has initiated a women-led system for safe water supply, environment and livelihood among the poorest, conservative and most vulnerable and water deprived populations.)



With funds collected from the communities, they are paying teachers and continuing two adult literacy schools. Also with other funds they are distributing seeds for home gardening.

*All reports herein are available on our website and more complete reports can be sent to you if you request them.*