

# Medical Teams *International*

One of the new proposed Endowment Fund Recipients is Medical Teams International (MTI), a non-profit organization that provides humanitarian aid to people in need regardless of a person's religious background, affiliation or experience.

Aid recipients are not asked to participate in faith-based activities in order to receive medical care or supplies. Volunteers of various faiths are welcome as long as they can support the mission of Medical Teams International.

2009 marked the beginning of the organization's 30th year. MTI started in 1979, as businessman Ron Post watched television reports of mass suffering in Cambodia. He saw thousands of refugees hoping to escape the Khmer Rouge by stumbling across the border into Thailand. Less than a month later, Ron and 28 medical volunteers set out to make a difference by providing care for the survivors of Cambodia's killing fields.

Medical Teams International is supported by the donations of individuals, corporations, medical institutions and churches. Every \$30 helps send \$4,893 in humanitarian aid and supplies to people in need. More than 96 percent of all donations goes to their programs and services.

Donations also include medicines and medical supplies given by institutions, companies and individuals to be sent to hospitals and clinics in more than 70 countries each year. These donations include bandages, medicines, sterilizers, medical instruments and surgical equipment. Shipments of these supplies have equipped and modernized surgical units and clinics and improved medical worker's ability to care for patients.

Since 1979, Medical Teams International has:

- Changed its name from Northwest Medical Teams to Medical Teams International.
- Sent 2,000 teams to help those in need.
- Shipped \$1.3 billion in lifesaving medicines around the world.
- Cared for more than 25 million people in 100 countries.

MTI's Mobile Dental Program has as its mission to provide free or low-cost dental care to low-income children and adults. The fast facts on the program are:



- Mobile Dental has provided care for more than 155,000 patients since 1989.
- In 2008, MTI provided free dental care to more than 17,000 patients with 200 partners.
- Nearly 900 generous volunteer dental professionals provided approximately \$6.7 million worth of free dental care last year.
- A fleet of 11 Mobile Dental clinics are 38-foot converted Winnebago motor homes.

According to their website at [www.medicalteams.org](http://www.medicalteams.org) - "Medical Teams International's work is focused on several key areas where our staff and volunteers bring tremendous expertise. Our ultimate goal is to serve the people stricken by disaster, conflict and poverty all over the world with the most effective programs possible. We use internationally accepted guidelines which are determined by the global health community. Our headquarters and field staff consistently review our commitments based on needs, capacity and potential for impact."



Dear Dental van,  
Thank you for taking care of the kids teeth.  
your friend Erilyn

Dear Dental van,  
Thank you for giving me four fillings on ehside on my moth.