ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY!

BLESSINGS’ MEDICINES AID TEAM RESPONDING TO MAJOR EARTHQUAKE
"Someone in Ecuador needs us" was the tug Brenda Clowers felt in her heart on April 16, just after a deadly earthquake struck Ecuador. The quake killed more than 650 people, injured some 27,000 and left even more homeless. Brenda and her husband Dan are part of the IHPC missions and head up their ministry outreach to Central and South America.

“The damage is all up and down the coast,” says Brenda, “and some areas are getting more help than others. Some areas are being neglected.” The team decided to travel to an island and help 25 families who had lost everything. “During the earthquake the ground opened. Because the water table was so shallow, many homes sunk into the muddy ground. Once the 40-second quake finished, other homes were completely destroyed and people were left with nothing.”

The team distributed water, food, clothing and medicine to those in greatest need. Through our Emergency Disaster Relief Fund, Blessings was able to donate all the medicine the team requested for its emergency response. “We cannot begin to thank Blessings International for the help you have given in this case. To get the medicines to us so fast was amazing! Your ministry has been blessing our work for years and we really appreciate it.”

Thank you for enabling Blessings to be able to bless others responding to disasters around the world. If you would like to help Blessings in our efforts, please consider making a gift to our Emergency Disaster Relief Fund at www.blessing.org/donate.
Dr. Harold and Linda Harder founded Blessings International 35 years ago this summer. Their aim was to equip medical missions teams with the medicines they needed to treat the sick and bring the good news of Christ to people around the world. Blessings’ first warehouse was very humble. It was the Harders’ garage.

God has blessed and significantly grown the ministry in the three and a half decades since then. Today, Blessings ships over 250,000 pounds of medicine (far more than any garage could possibly hold!) to around 100 nations annually.

“The medicine and medical supplies that go out from here are meant to heal the hurting, build healthy communities, and share the love and compassion of Jesus Christ,” says Barry Ewy, Blessings’ second CEO. “For 35 years, we have held firm to that purpose for existence and, as a result, we have seen continued growth. We aim to serve those who serve others, and we truly mean that. Each person that works at Blessings arrives every morning with the mindset that we are coming to serve those who need help. I believe that is why the teams and ministries that use us continue to do so. They know we care about their success.”

Blessings recently summarized its core values so everyone could clearly understand and apply them. The values are important because they guide our staff in their daily activities. In every interaction, we want the staff of Blessings International to model those ideals.

Blessings will always be CHRIST CENTERED, CUSTOMER FOCUSED and QUALITY DRIVEN. Those are our top values.

Along with those, Blessings will model TRANSPARENT INTEGRITY, DONOR APPRECIATION and will CELEBRATE SUCCESS.
TRIP TO HAITI

I recently returned from a medical mission trip to Bondeau, Haiti. While there, I served as the pharmacist for a group from Grey Dove that included a nurse practitioner, two family doctors, two OB/GYNs and one dentist. Over the course of three days, we saw 530 patients and they certainly kept the one pharmacist (me!) very busy.

We served children and the elderly, and Blessings provided most of the medicines that were distributed. At the time the government hospitals, which were struggling to provide care already, were shut down because of a workers’ strike. That meant more people coming to us for help. You may not know, but in addition to pharmaceuticals, Blessings also distributes general medical supplies and eyeglasses. It was fun for me to watch as people visited the area we had set up to distribute the eyeglasses. Medicine often takes a few days to take effect, but when someone who can’t read puts on a pair of glasses that are prescribed to their needs, the result is immediate. They often shout for joy and it is beautiful to see (pun intended!).

Thank you for enabling Blessings to be a blessing to so many hurting, sick and visually impaired people in places like Haiti and around the world!

Barry Ewy, PharmD, JD, MHA

What is Blessings International?

For 35 years, Blessings International has worked to heal the hurting by providing life-saving pharmaceuticals, vitamins and medical supplies to medical mission teams, clinics and hospitals located around the world; to build healthy communities by treating the poor and victims of endemic medical problems, outbreaks of disease or overwhelming disasters; and to transform lives by actively demonstrating the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

For more information or to order medicine, go to www.blessing.org or email info@blessing.org
Mail gifts to P.O. Box 35292, Tulsa OK 74153-0292, USA. Make checks payable to Blessings International.

Give online at www.blessing.org

Text to give by texting ”Medicines” to 41444

Federal employees can donate through the Combined Federal Campaign #11864

State and Local government employees can also give to Blessings through their payroll giving plan

Consider making a legacy gift to Blessings

Would you like to make a lasting contribution to Blessings International’s work to heal the hurting around the world?
Consider adding Blessings to your will. Your legacy gift will be used to bring healing and hope to people all over the world who need medical care and a touch of God’s love.