In three different war zones, on three different continents, medicines from Blessings International are healing the sick, saving lives and restoring hope.

SYRIA UKRAINE NIGERIA

Healing the Hurting | Building Healthy Communities | Transforming Lives
TREATING THE SICK AND SUFFERING ON THE SYRIAN BORDER

The Syrian people are suffering. Blessings International recently provided a significant grant, made possible by our donors, to help a medical ministry obtain critically needed medicines for Syrian refugees.

Because of the sensitive nature of its work, we cannot mention the specific name of the organization or its location. But we are pleased to share with you how your gifts to this ministry are providing medicines to this program treating Syrian refugees, as well as other medical teams treating the injured and sick in several crisis areas.

The program’s medical director shared that, “The Syrian people feel forgotten and unseen by the world. So to be able to communicate to them that God sees them, sees all that has happened to them, and has a heart full of affection for them is really powerful for them and for us. It’s truly an honor to be able to partner with the Lord, and humbling to see the ways that He is encountering the Syrian refugees in their hour of need.”

As a result of the terrible fighting in Syria, the team sees a wide variety of problems among the people who are now forced to live in squalid conditions.

“The Syrian people feel forgotten and unseen by the world. So to be able to communicate to them that God sees them, sees all that has happened to them, and has a heart full of affection for them is really powerful for them and for us...”
“Many of the medical needs we see are due to poor and dirty living conditions: eczematous skin reactions, lice, scabies, rat bites, a lot of kids with reactive airway disease due to the dust and pollution, and a lot of adults with kidney stones from the dirty water... during the wintertime and springtime, we see a lot of children with burns from the heaters inside the tents. And at the same time, we see many similar conditions to those in the U.S. like upper respiratory infections, bronchitis, hypertension, diabetes and reflux.”

This team has identified Syrian nurses among the refugees and has been able to utilize their skills to treat their own people. The nurses say it is the most fulfilling thing they do. Most are not Christians, but many are being exposed to the Gospel of Christ as they serve others: “In the last few years, we have befriended them and started Discovery Bible Studies with them. Through these Bible studies, they are learning about Jesus, responding to what they are learning in their own lives and sharing what they are learning with those around them. These Muslim background believers are on a journey discovering Jesus as Lord who helps us. Some will help get medications, get information from patients or do urine dipsticks in the clinics. But mostly they will pray for healing in the name of Jesus for their fellow refugees that are seen in the clinic.”

Blessings International intends to continue helping groups like this one, treating Syrian refugees, for as long as there are people who need medical care and a touch of God’s love.
AID FOR SOME OF THE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE FLEEING FIGHTING IN NIGERIA

Drs. Mark (MD) and Doreen (DPH) Babo lead the ministry Heal Our World. Their organization operates three hospitals in crisis zones in Nigeria. These areas are under constant threat from the Muslim terrorist group Boko Haram.

Doreen recently wrote Blessings. “Our hospital in Karmo, Abuja sees predominantly Muslim patients. Threats are a constant reality that we have to guard against. Thankfully, the government provides military checkpoints at all major roads to cut off suicide bombers and such.”

She added, “Our hospital in Benin City is where we are treating those fleeing from Boko Haram. We regularly visit the refugee camp of 2,500 people and growing. It is full of women and children, and we see the cases that the camp nurse needs help with. We take any of them needing surgery or more intensive treatment back to our hospital. These women and children are so traumatized that they find it difficult for anyone to get near them to take care of them. They have seen their parents, husbands and brothers killed. One child saw her parent cut into pieces before her. The children are frightened when they hear the sound of any vehicle and go running into the woods to hide. In time, with loving care we have seen them overcoming their fears and playing again as children. It’s really rewarding to be able to help them.”

Boko Haram has terrorized Nigeria for the last seven years. Their murderous attacks and threats of violence have resulted in around 15,000 deaths and made some two million displaced people. According to UNICEF, 49,000 children are at risk of dying of malnutrition caused by the humanitarian crisis, and entire towns and villages are in ruins. The Nigerian army has taken back some territory from Boko Haram, but an estimated 2.2 million people, more than half of them children, remain trapped under Boko Haram.

There is weekly burning of churches and persecution of churches and Christian communities. It is heartbreaking to see that families have been torn apart and survivors traumatized. But it’s a privilege and honor to treat these precious people and to see the children playing again,” wrote Doreen.

Thank you for giving to help Blessings International help organizations like Heal Our World, which serve those who are suffering in Nigeria.
The number of people killed is uncertain but estimates are around 10,000 people, including many civilians. The number of displaced and homeless people is estimated to be at least one million, according to the UN.

Dr. Wheeler is working to provide these war-displaced refugees with urgently needed medical care. Many doctors have fled the towns in the Ukraine military zone where she and her team work.

“In the villages where I work regularly, there is little or no access to health care. These are destitute villages with no running water, minimal electricity and horrible roads. These refugees have no money to buy medicines. They are barely surviving. Our Crisis Fund is feeding many of them.”

Dr. Wheeler says medicines from Blessings are truly a blessing to those she serves.

“I really appreciate the ministry of Blessings to provide medicines at reasonable costs and especially for your financial support of my ministry this year. That is a special gift of the Lord!”

Thank you for helping Blessings serve Dr. Wheeler and others working to improve the lives of refugees around the world.
So here I am today, eighty-five years old! I am still as strong today as I was in the day Moses sent me; as my strength was then, so my strength is now, for war and for going out and coming in. Now then, give me this hill country about which the LORD spoke on that day, for you heard on that day that Anakim were there, with great fortified cities; perhaps the LORD will be with me, and I will drive them out as the LORD has spoken. So Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance.  

Joshua 14:10-13

According to Joshua 14:10-13, Caleb the Israelite was 85 years old when he asked to be given the Canaanite hill country that was believed to be filled with giants. He would have to fight and subdue them, and he did. Caleb stands as an example to us all as someone brave and strong, willing to take on huge odds because he knew his Lord was with him.

In this newsletter, you have seen heroes who are fighting giants in the name of the Lord today. These heroes of today may not be fighting literal giants (of the extra tall variety), but they are still facing foes that are tremendously vicious and deadly. These “giants” come in the form of ISIS and Boko Haram terrorists, rebels and soldiers of various allegiances in Ukraine, and disease, homelessness and despair.

With your help, Blessings International is able to empower today’s Caleb-like heroes as they fight to bring healing, hope and the gift of Christ’s love to people who are suffering under the weight of today’s terrible wars.

Thank you for your gifts and prayers that make it possible for us to serve these heroes of the faith. Please consider how you can help us help them more.

Barry Ewy, PharmD, JD, MHA

WORKPLACE GIVING HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

Blessings International is participating in United Way campaigns across the country this fall through our federation Neighbor to Nation. Whether you work for a corporation or are a state employee, please look for us in your Charity Guide, or write us in using the EIN#73-1130590. Federal employees also have the opportunity to give through the Combined Federal Campaign using CFC#11864. Please refer us to anyone you know who may work for the federal or state government, as these funds are a tremendous blessing to us, allowing us to give more free medicine to more needy people.

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