



International Relief Agency
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EIN 27-3504467

Rescue Task Force is a program of
Life Charities, Inc.

October 2012



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Please join with us in thanks and celebration of a special birthday...

**On October 28th RESCUE TASK FORCE will celebrate
25 years of service**

What better way could there be to celebrate, and begin the 26th year, than with a medical and dental team deep in Honduras' Miskito Coast jungles.

We are having a birthday party and this is surely one invitation you will be glad to receive... We are having an 'I will be with you in spirit' party. The actual "party" will be in some jungle village to where the attendees (team), having paddled dug-out canoes and waded through alligator infested swamps, will be working from dawn till dusk, feeding a zillion mosquitoes, providing dinner for a host of burrowing spiders and bugs while standing all day(s) in sweltering heat seeing hundreds of patients.



Consider the benefit being with us "in spirit" means: You do not have to get a bunch of shots, fly in vintage aircraft and then wade through swamps nor do you even have to get dressed up or hire a babysitter... Just send a gift and then sometime on the 28th think and reflect on what your support to RTF has and continues to accomplish. And know that on that day people, many who have never seen a dentist, will be being treated. Imagine a rip-roaring toothache with infection / abscess and no help!!! Imagine having one of your children or grandchildren sick (or dying!!!) and actually having a real doctor right there in your village.

A birthday present to RTF will do much. The \$2.00 that you would have spent on wrapping paper will buy ointment that treats a little girl for a disfiguring parasite that burros under the skin and lays eggs. The cost of a nice gift will provide yet more water filters that break the cycle of parasitic infections. (Parasites pass through the mothers' milk to infants and often babies start their lives on day one struggling to survive.) Your birthday present will help ship more shoes and medicines, help as special needs arise such food and water filters for orphans in Cambodia and Thailand and like young Jose in El Salvador who fell from a coconut tree and broke his spine.

Think back, for many of us many, many, many years ago to when we were about nine or ten years old and it was the night before your big birthday party, or Christmas eve, or something very extra extra special... Remember the excitement? The wonderful excitement and how horrible it was trying to make time pass faster – trying to go to sleep so that time would pass faster so that it would be morning and the big day would come.

Sound carries far in the jungle. Imagine the excitement rippling through the village as the chugging sound of the RTF boat(s) comes toward them through the swamp.

Friends, this kind of excitement is what it is like for people all around the world knowing that a RESCUE TASK FORCE team is coming. Beyond the medical care imagine the excitement of a farmer, a young man raising his children by his hand labor, knowing that the RTF boat will have hand tools, axe heads (they make their own handles of Mahogany wood), hoes, machetes and most precious of all, files with which to groom his tools.



We are so thankful to you for sending us to those that we serve; not only in the jungles of Honduras but to other projects your support accomplishes: Some big, some big only to those being helped...

Santiago, about 22 years old, was in a horrible car accident. Santiago is the son of one of our Honduras volunteers who has done much for the work and has never asked for anything. Dr. Claudio, our coordinator of many years, was able to get the needed surgery performed but sent out a call for help... He needed an endomedular nail and Lizaourus pack. I do not know what they are, but Claudio. We were able to send the needed \$650 for this special orthopedic equipment. Santiago has begun six months of physical therapy with great prognosis – thanks to the RTF family.

Cambodia: This summer two containers totaling 52,000 pairs of shoes were shipped and personally delivered to orphans and rural farm families.





Another container of the shoes went to our project in El Salvador... Cristina, our local coordinator, included this note with her Distribution Report - One of her 26,000 pair of the shoes.

"A little boy was by himself looking at the line with a lot of children waiting for a new pair of shoes and I saw him he wasn't in the line.

I asked what is your name he say Jose Cruz and I asked why you are out the line? He said he never have a shoes and the people won't give shoes I asked do you believe in God he said yes I do

I went to the line and took his pair of sandal and put on his sandals and he smile and say god bless you señora and I say love you little Jose.

He is living with his grandmother and the old lady is blind and he is looking for food and bring to her.

I give him some Rescue Task Force money and he say we will have a good dinner tonight and bless you a lot.

He is a good boy and he was playing with his pair of shoes was so funny because he wants a little biggest pair of sandals you can see in the picture of him. Also is a picture of other little kids with their shoes."

*Cristina
El Salvador*

Benyapa is in Thailand and while there is helping with a feeding project at an orphanage - A couple of hundred dollars buys a lot of rice!!! Hopefully this Christmas we will be able to buy a TV set and DVD player for these kids and yet more for another center we have helped in the past (after Tsunami) that cares for severely disabled children and adults.



* * *

The very urgent need, though, is the upcoming jungle medical and dental team to Honduras...

These are just some of the upcoming mission's specific expenses that need your help:

Mosquito tents and netting	\$120
Canoes and paddlers (7) round trip Baikon / Lacunca	70
Rain Gear for local doctor and dentists	36
Boat Fuel (In 2002 the same amount of fuel was \$400)	900
2 cycle outboard motor oil	90
Boat engine repair parts	38
In Country air cargo	500
Tegucigalpa to jungle dirt landing airstrip	
Novocain ampoule cartridges for dental patients \$2.35 ea)	1,410
Pre injection numbing spray	600
Oral Gauze	22
Post op antibiotics	300
Surgical Masks and Latex gloves (6 box gloves)	326
Flash lights (Head lamps for dentists)	36
Medicines for jungle clinics (our 3 RTF clinics)	900
Anti fungal ointment	80
Bulk de-worming med	60
Copper Sulfate ointment 50 doses at +/- \$1.00 ea	50
A local spider burrows into their skin to lay its eggs	
Snake Bite Kit	32
Another complete and operating full service jungle clinic	60,000
Another container of shoes (Donated-we only pay freight)+/-	4,500

Our volunteer teams are their ONLY help. YOU are our only help.



Once again, thank you for caring, thank you for sharing. (In Miskito Language: “Tinki Pali”) and please know how great your donations leverage... Every \$100 is worth \$500 in delivered services and goods, this is a 400% ‘return on investment’!!! And, with these ‘investments’ you are touching hearts and lives of many very appreciative people!!!

The US team members depart from Los Angeles and Atlanta on the night of Wednesday October 24. We will rendezvous with our local Honduran volunteer team Doctors and Dentists in Tegucigalpa, the capital, and then work our way out to the villages. If all goes well we will arrive in the first village at mid-day Sunday the 28th. Four days of hard travel to get there.

Via short-wave radio and the jungle ‘grape-vine’ the word of our coming is already going out. The local Ministry of Health is spreading the news that another RTF team is coming.

Even before we leave the USA, while still at home packing and getting all of the gear ready, villagers from throughout the jungle, and even northern Nicaragua, will begin walking and paddling canoes to the clinic sites.

Sometimes they travel for as much as six days to get to us – to get to your help.



Your help will make this a very special birthday party for RTF – lives are at stake.

On a personal note... remember to pause and thank and compliment yourself for what you do through RTF. Sleep well my friends, knowing in your heart that you are the instrument of God’s blessings in making a marvelous difference in someone’s life...

Around the World, Around the Clock

Yours In Service,

Gary

Gary

*Your spirit of giving can continue
for many years by simply
remembering RTF when you write
or next update your will.*



Villagers carrying our gear into the village



“Home” for the week – Time opportunities are available



Malaria patient being carried into the clinic. Three days later he walked out.



This is why you send us... to make sick babies well



This baby died during our first trip 25 years ago.



Today, thanks to you, the RTF family, kids are well, have clinics and safe water - and a Non-OSHA approved teeter-totter