

# The Good Samaritan



World Medical Relief, Inc.

May 2013

## VOLUNTEERS HONORED AT BREAKFAST































Each year World Medical Relief closes its doors for part of a day to take the time to honor its volunteers. On May 6 neighboring New Mt. Zion Baptist Church hosted 75 volunteers, board- and staff members for a special breakfast and ceremony.

Board member Barbara Gates blessed the event with a touching invocation and everybody enjoyed the wonderful breakfast which was served to the volunteers by board and staff members.

CEO Samson presided over the ensuing ceremony with local program director and volunteer coordinator Carolyn Racklyeft calling up the honorees and board member Jay Ganatra presenting the service pins.

The lovely event was wrapped up with songs from Denise Dotson accompanied by pianist Polly Tan.

*"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

						
	<b><i>This year's recipients</i></b>					
	<b><i>20 year pin</i></b>					
	Jackie Davis, Mary Dinno and Ann McGuckin					
	<b><i>15 year pin</i></b>					
	Ida MacLeod and Marketa Smith (Marketa is phar- macy staff)					
	<b><i>10 year pin</i></b>					
	Joyce Joyce, Judy Szczesny, Karen Joyce.					
	<b><i>5 year pin</i></b>					
	Ruth Koerber, Jeanette Drean, Helen Johnston, Helen Morris, Ellen Miller, Doris Cooper, Van Ong.					
						

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## NEW BOARD CHAIR ELECTED

"I am very excited", says newly elected board chair Mike Baydoun, "It was totally unexpected but I am humbled and honored by the decision of the board of directors to elect me as their chair. I hope I will deservingly follow in the footsteps of our outgoing chairwoman Terri Pomfret. I learned from her leadership and I am taking this opportunity to thank her again. Terri, thank you for a great job and we are grateful that you are staying on the board even when your professional obligations took you to another state" (Ms. Pomfret recently moved to Milwaukee for her work at Johnson Controls).

Baydoun continues: "I have heard many stories where people around the globe advise their poor governments or non-profit entities to seek help from World Medical Relief. Every time I hear those stories, I am honored and glad to be a volunteer and board member of this wonderful organization.

We will continue to grow our international programs. And I am confident that CEO Samson and his wonderful team will also expand our local programs with more affordable prescription drugs for the uninsured and increased number of blankets and hygiene kits for the homeless."

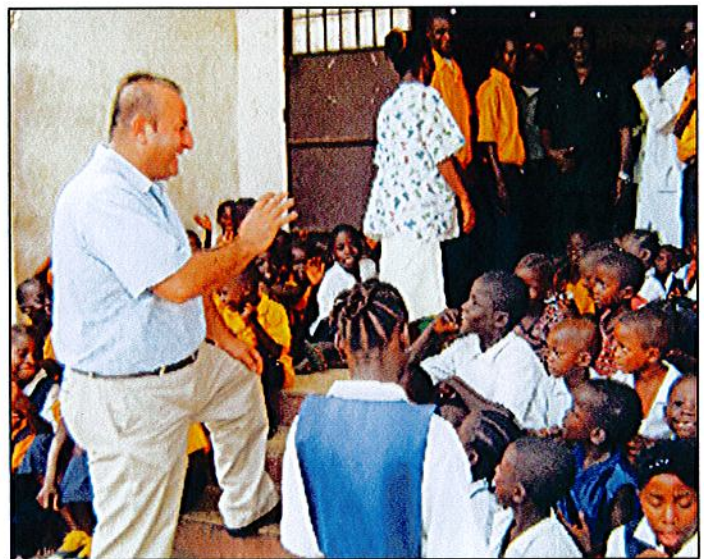
Mr. Baydoun has been involved with World Medical Relief for many years. He is currently serving his third three year term on the board. He is well known in Liberia for his support of

the sick and poor of that country. During its brutal civil wars from 1989 till 2003 board chair Baydoun sponsored 20 container shipments to the war torn country. Some of the donated beds can still be found in the JF Kennedy Medical Center in Monrovia.

He is a Liberian Honorary Consul and also received the prestigious Irene M. Auberlin Award in 2005 for his service to World Medical Relief and humanity.

His company Tri Star International Trading Company is conveniently located, close to World Medical Relief.

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Baydoun speaking to Liberian children

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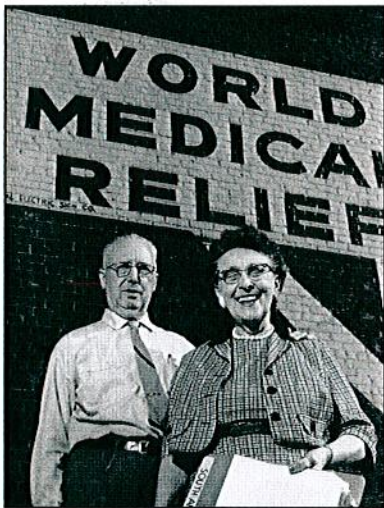
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## 60TH EVENT—TICKET SALES BEGIN!

On a November 1953 evening, a Detroit homemaker, Irene Auberlin and her husband, Les, flicked on the television and saw a military chaplain asking for help for a Korean orphanage that had been set up by GIs at Inchon. Irene cried out to her husband impulsively, "Oh Les, we must do something to help." Later, she would exclaim, "It was God's way of saying, 'Pull yourself together. Get busy. Help other people who are in worse shape than you are.'" It was on that night that World Medical Relief was born.

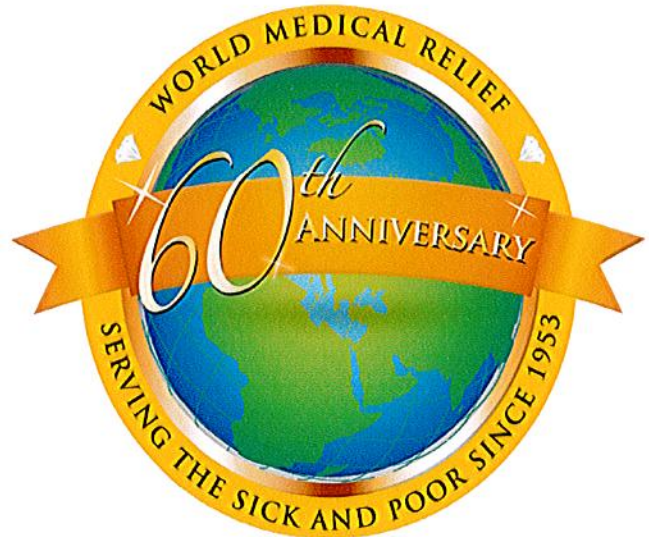
The next morning Mrs. Auberlin went to neighbors, begged three barrels of diapers and children's clothing and shipped them off to Korea. Later, learning that the orphanage was struggling to establish a clinic, she designed, with the help of a physi-



cian friend, a list of what was needed to equip such a clinic. Then, she borrowed a trailer, hitched it to her car and set out on a scrounging mission, telling doctors and hospitals officials about the Korean orphanage and that they needed to help.

Since these humble beginnings, at least 120 countries have received over 1 billion dollars in humanitarian aid while locally 1.3 million prescriptions have been dispensed to poor uninsured people in Michigan

On October 19, 2013 we will be celebrating the joyous occasion of this 60th anniversary with a spec-



tacular event at Laurel Manor in Livonia and we are inviting you to attend!

Renowned cardiologist at the University of Michigan, Dr. Kim Eagle, will give the keynote. A visionary himself: he will inspire and energize you with his speech. Dinner, auction and entertainment will be all part of the evening. Another exciting happening will be the drawing of the winning ambulance raffle ticket. The winner will receive an ambulance for their overseas charity complete with medical supplies and emergency equipment and a port-to-port container shipment sponsorship. Information about the raffle and the event can be found at [worldmedicalrelief.org](http://worldmedicalrelief.org).

Ticket prices for the event:

\$70/active volunteer

\$100/general ticket

Table \$900 (seats ten) Early bird rate till August 1

Tickets may be purchased through the internet at [www.worldmedicalrelief.org](http://www.worldmedicalrelief.org) or by check mailed to World Medical Relief.

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## DIGNITARIES VISITING WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

World Medical Relief was recently honored by a visit from the Minister of Health of the Republic of Macedonia Nikola Todorov, his cabinet and the Macedonian Ambassador to the United States Zoran Jolevski to discuss potential shipments to their country.

Dr. Ananias Diokno, M.D., Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Officer of the Beaumont Health System also took time out of his very busy schedule to tour World Medical Relief.

Dr. Diokno was very impressed with what he saw. Recognizing the need for more volunteers in the biomedical lab he connected World Medical Relief with Lawrence Tech. This college has a biomedical engineering department and is interested to explore internships.



From left to right: Barbara Gates (board member), George Samson (CEO), Macedonian Minister of Health Nikola Todorov, Zoran Jolevski (Ambassador), Mike Baydoun (Honorary Consul of Liberia and board member)



Dr. Diokno and CEO Samson

Other dignitaries hosted by World Medical Relief include the Somali Former Cabinet Minister of Planning and External Affairs Wali Gayre. The country of Somalia is recovering from turbulent times with droughts, famine and a civil war. Due to its US educated President, help with the rebuilding is sought in the United States.

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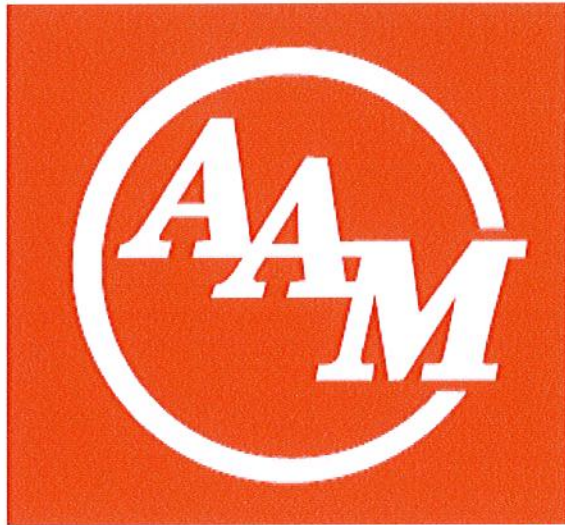


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## Jeans Day at American Axle brings donation



For the second year in a row, American Axle and Manufacturing, headquartered in Detroit designated the funds raised at a “Wear Your Jeans to Work” Friday to World Medical Relief.

Board member Ramesh Gandhi who works at this automotive supplier made the connection with the company executives and invited them for a tour at World Medical Relief. This visit eventually resulted in the first donation from the Jeans Day.

World Medical Relief is very grateful and pleased with the partnership with such an important corporation in Detroit.

## Honors for Program Director

Carolyn Racklyeft, the local program director and volunteer coordinator at World Medical Relief received a surprise visit from Justin Brox, operations manager of the Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic, the only free health clinic of its kind in Oakland County. He announced to her that she was nominated to be recognized as one of their Esteemed Women of Michigan.

The women receiving this honor made extraordinary contributions through personal, volunteer, and professional avenues improving the community and inspiring others in the State of Michigan. Mrs. Racklyeft has lead the local program for 25 years.

World Medical Relief receives letters and notes almost daily attesting the positive impact of her work.

### Some recent testimonials:

*Dear Folks at World Medical Relief,*

*Just a note to thank you for providing me with the medicines I need, and doing it promptly is a blessing. It is so nice to have your help. Not having to worry about affording them, being able to talk to you is certainly reassuring and relieving stress.*

*I just wanted to “thank” all of you at World Medical Relief for everything that you do for the Community! Your “Prescription Program” has saved me almost \$300 per month! Thank you so much and God bless!*

*I have asthma and COPD. I will never be as active as I used to be, but with this program I am able to afford the meds that get me through the day.*

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## SISTERS IN FAITH

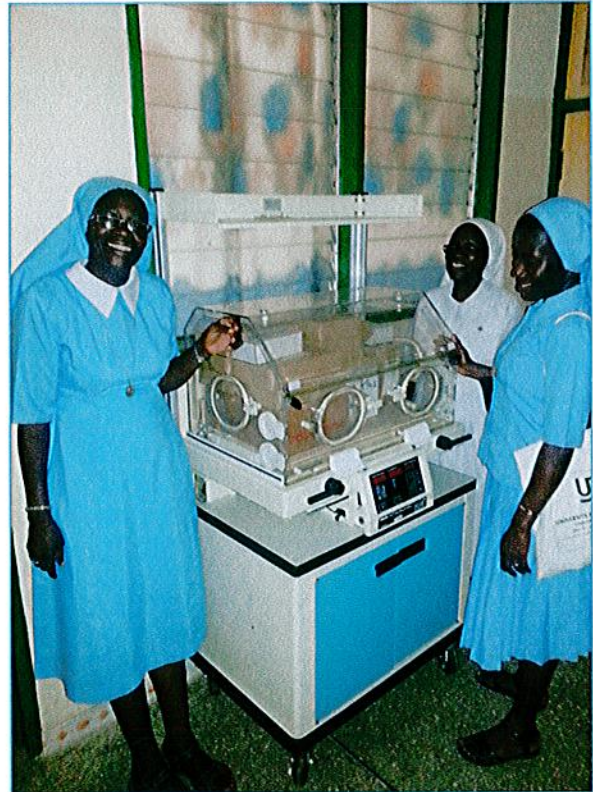
"I knew immediately that God had put us together for a purpose", said Cecile Jean about Sister Monica whom she met at a daily mass in Ann Arbor. Sister Monica had come from Ghana to stay with her cousin for some R+R. Unfortunately, her cousin left for Africa leaving her here alone.

Mrs. Jean sprang into action and found Sister Monica a place to stay with other nuns at the Felician Mother house in Livonia. The two stayed in touch because "Sister Monica has such a contagious smile and spirit", Mrs. Jean says. "You cannot help but to feel drawn to her".

She learned that the Sr. Monica's order travels to the outback in Ghana to take care of leprosy sufferers, AIDS patients and the elderly in rural communities without water or electricity. The nuns also work with a doctor in a hospital.

Cecile remembered that she called on World Medical Relief 20 years ago for a shipment to Belarus and asked Sr. Monica whether they could use medical supplies and equipment. Since Sister's stay was almost over, the two got in the car and rushed to World Medical Relief. The application information was faxed to the doctor and the shipping process was set in motion.

More miracles happened to Sister Monica when she was in Michigan. Back in Ghana the order had started to build a school but ran out of funding. While she was here she received the funding to complete the school. More good news came: Madonna University will accept



two nuns from Ghana in its nursing program. They will go back to Ghana and train others.

Cecile Jean's big wish was to build a well in Africa. A well was not possible though, but a cistern to collect rainwater was. Hopefully, in time for the next rainy season, Mrs. Jean will have her dream fulfilled. She wishes that the Ghanese will thank God for every cup of water.

Last February a delighted Sister Monica received the shipment. News also came that land for a clinic was donated.

Cecile Jean, who was a housewife all her life and never ventured too far from home says: "I am so humbled that God has picked little me. It is amazing how our Lord has brought people together".

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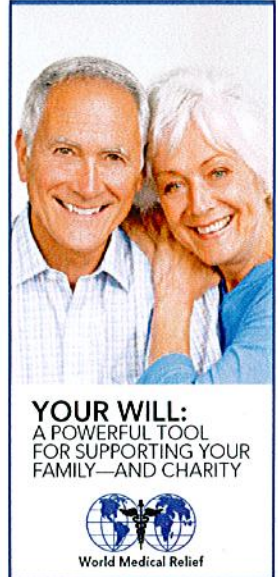
## Remember WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF in your WILL

A gift through your will is one of the most meaningful legacies you can provide for your family and to World Medical Relief. Your will allows you to provide for your loved ones after your death, and is also an opportunity to make a wonderful difference for the children to pursue their hopes and dreams for the future.

Your gift to World Medical Relief may be expressed in these words:

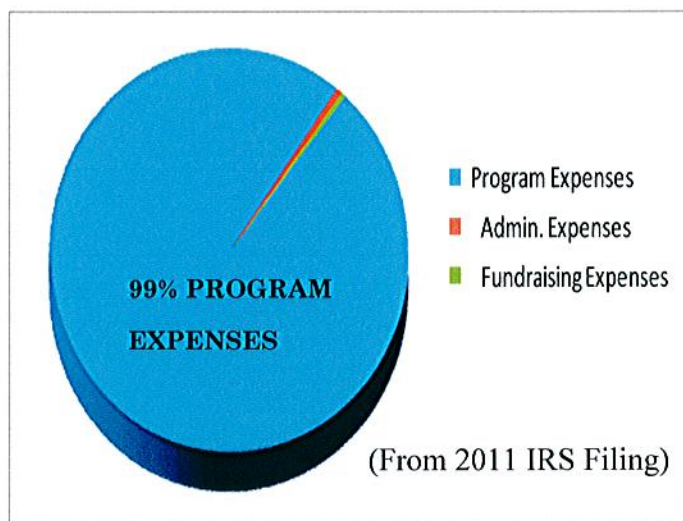
I give and bequeath the sum of  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate)  
to World Medical Relief.

A grant from Metro Health Foundation sponsored the printing of a booklet to help you to plan your will according to your wishes. The booklet is available in the volunteer room on the second floor. We are happy to mail it to you too! To order by phone: 313-866-5333 ext. 243 or by e-mail: [yourwill@worldmedicalrelief.org](mailto:yourwill@worldmedicalrelief.org)



## Good Stewardship

**World Medical Relief is  
Managing Resources  
Responsibly!**



## World Medical Relief



Meets all 20  
standards for  
Charity  
accountability

# World Medical Relief

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(313) 866-5588 FAX

E-mail: [info@worldmedicalrelief.org](mailto:info@worldmedicalrelief.org)  
[www.worldmedicalrelief.org](http://www.worldmedicalrelief.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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DETROIT, MI

PERMIT 1393

## **Board of Directors 2013-2014**

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*Chairman*  
Honorable Archie C. Brown,  
*Vice Chair*  
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DM  
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Robert Wright  
George V. Samson,  
*President and CEO*

## SAVE-THE-DATE!!

### 60TH ANNIVERSARY—OCTOBER 19

#### **TOUR World Medical Relief**

##### **Dates:**

**June 24**

**July 29**

**August 26**

**September 30**

**Tour starts at 11 a.m.**

Please register at 313-866-5333 ext. 243  
Or by e-mail: [tour@worldmedicalrelief.org](mailto:tour@worldmedicalrelief.org)  
Mondays do not work for you? Call us!

#### **VOLUNTEERING?**

##### **2013 Volunteer Saturdays**

**June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

**July 6, 13, 20, 27**

**August 3, 10, 17, 24**

**(Note change due to Labor Day**

**September 7, 14, 21, 28**

Call (313) 866-5333 ext. 222 to reserve your  
Saturday or if you would like to come  
during the week.

Newsletter editor: Josephine Jabara

[jjabara@worldmedicalrelief.org](mailto:jjabara@worldmedicalrelief.org) or 313-866-5333 ext. 243



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

*Founded in 1953, World Medical Relief's mission is to help the sick and poor both at home and abroad by collecting and distributing medicines, medical equipment, medical supplies and related materials.*