

# The Worm Project

*Combating World Hunger Through Parasite Removal*

Newsletter

Issue No 5 Summer 2013

## Reserve your seat today!

Our 6th annual banquet will be held on **Friday September 13th, 6:00pm** at the Franconia Heritage Family Banquet and Conference Center in Telford, PA. Come hear the inspiring first-hand stories from our partners working all around the world and find out how your donations can transform the lives of malnourished children.

There is no cost for the meal although donations will be accepted. Reservations can be made online at

<http://wormproject.org/>

or send an e-mail to Carla Ferrier at

[cferrier@franconiaconference.org](mailto:cferrier@franconiaconference.org)

or phone at 267-932-6050 ext. 110

Just leave your name and number of guests attending including yourself.



**Special guests and partners of The Worm Project that will be attending the banquet:**

**Howard Schiffer**

Founder & President  
Vitamin Angels

**Andrew Crawford**

Director/Global Commodity Resourcing  
Food for the Hungry

**Marcella Ruch, PhD**

Founder & Executive Director  
Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia

**Dr. Priscilla Benner**

Founder and Director  
MAMA Project



**Together We Can!**



## Letters From Our Partners: Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia

Below is a story written by Marcella Ruch, one of the founders of Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia and a partner with The Worm Project. Marcella attended our annual banquet and meeting with partners of The Worm Project last year and shared her amazing story of how God had told her to spend the rest of her life helping the women of Liberia. She plans to build women's clinics throughout Liberia. Here is her story of their first trip to Liberia in January 2012.

### **Written by: Marcella Ruch, Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia**

Working in Kakata, Liberia, one learns about misery. Most of the 100,000 residents cannot afford to go to Monrovia for treatment or to pay for the treatment once they arrive. For two weeks the lines formed at our dental clinic and each person who came to the dentist received a worm pill as part of their loving care. We treated all we could, but we will go back. It is the work of the church to heal the sick in the name of Jesus. The church we partnered with provided loving volunteers to help us, who were also given their worm pills.

The medical/dental clinic treated 1,549 patients. All medical patients were given worm medication and vitamins. Common complaints from the patients were feeling worms moving around inside their bodies when they tried to sleep. Many patients complained of feeling itchy, and uncomfortable. There were those who were malnourished, and we knew they had worms. One baby died on the way from our clinic to the hospital, and our pediatrician, who tried to save her, cried with me.

We will buy land there and build a permanent clinic within the year. Our teams will go back, the people will be healthy

one day again. All 200,000 people of Marguibi County will get worm meds this year. The medicine is there and will be carefully distributed to all persons without charge.

All of our team hope to return to Kakata. Bathing from a pail in cold water did not deter them. Having a town of 100,000 without electricity was amazing. Having no drinking water safe except from bottles was expensive. Air fare is costly, yet, they long to help again where the need is so great, where the joy is contagious even when people are ill, and where a smile and a thank you are high payment indeed.



# 25,000 Children in Malawi Treated for Worms



When the Vitamin Angels team arrived at a vitamin A distribution in Mtogolo, Malawi, they received an effusive welcome from Glory, a young girl with a warm smile. Glory was nearly three years old, and as energetic and spirited as a healthy young girl should be. Her laughter rang out as she danced and played with their team.

But Glory was not always so lively. Mercy, her 23-year-old mother, told the team that it wasn't until the vitamin A program began in Mtogolo that Glory became stronger and more energetic. Before, Glory was lethargic and her stomach was distended due to intestinal parasites, a serious public health issue among young children in Malawi.

Mercy has five children, including Glory. Her wish is for her children to all stay in school and lead lives that have more opportunities than she was provided. She and her husband work as farmers, though due to recent droughts their crops have diminished to the point where they're barely able to provide for their family. Mercy hopes future seasons will generate greater harvests, allowing her to open a small

business. Mercy was incredibly thankful for the vitamin A program, stating she hoped her and Glory's story would inspire others and help to increase and sustain vitamin programs so many more children could also grow up strong and healthy.

Vitamin Angels' international vitamin A programs dramatically decrease child mortality rates in hard to reach areas around the world. Not only do these programs support children's proper mental and physical development through their first five years of life, but they also take a big step forward in making the hopes and dreams children and their families come true.

**Vitamin Angels sends a huge thank you to The Worm Project for your incredible support of children like Glory. Because of your generous donation, last year we were able to reach over 2 million children around the world with deworming treatments, including 25,000 children in Malawi.**



# You can help!

Tax-deductible donations can be made by check or through our website. PayPal option is available at

[www.wormproject.org](http://www.wormproject.org)

(click on the "Donate" button)

Checks should be made payable to  
"The Worm Project" and sent to:

## The Worm Project

Franconia Mennonite Conference Center

569 Yoder Rd.

Harleysville, PA 19438



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## Contact Us

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