

The Worm Project

Combating World Hunger Through Parasite Removal

Newsletter

Issue No 11 Winter 2016/2017

In 2016, Donors Make it Possible for The Worm Project to Purchase Enough Medicine to Deworm 17 Million Children

Thank you to all our donors who made it possible for The Worm Project to help this amazing number of children! Purchasing 17 million deworming tablets in 2016 is a significant increase over the 10 million tablets we purchased last year. But there is still plenty more to do. The World Health Organization estimates that over 800 million children need treatment for parasitic worms each year and only half of these children are being treated.

When people learn how much the health and development of children in other countries suffers due to parasitic worms and that a pill costing only two cents per child will kill these worms, they are eager to help.

Vitamin Angels



New Churches Supporting The Worm Project

By Gary Delp, Board President



The Worm Project continues to reach out to individual donors, businesses, as well as churches and their members for support in our mission to purchase and distribute de-worming medicine at no cost to those who need it most. We believe that God calls each one of us to help those who are less fortunate and need our help. Although much of our support has historically come from members of Mennonite churches and local businesses in southeastern Pennsylvania, other churches are joining our mission. God is opening doors and inviting other churches to help His children suffering from parasitic worms. In just the last month, two local churches, St. Paul's Lutheran and St. John's U.C.C., have invited The Worm Project to come speak to them and are sponsoring offering projects to support our mission. It's exciting and reassuring to see people from different Christian denominations working together to help these children. To me, Christianity is a bit like ice cream. Like ice cream, there are many different flavors, but we can all agree on our love for God and the call to follow the teachings of Jesus. May we continue to work together to help those in need.

160 People Attend our Annual Banquet on October 7th

Thanks to all who attended our banquet at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant. After a free international meal of rice and beans as the main course, they heard stories from our partners of how this one little pill is transforming the lives of malnourished children. Key partners including Vitamin Angels, Heart to Heart International – Haiti, and Healthy Women Healthy Liberia all spoke about the importance of the fight against parasitic worms.

Hope for Haiti in the Eye of Hurricane Matthew

Hope for Haiti is a key partner for The Worm Project. Their medical infirmary is located in the southwestern city of Les Cayes, **the region where 145 mph winds from Hurricane Matthew caused the most severe damage.** With almost all the crops in this area destroyed, malnourishment is sure to be an issue in the coming months. Hope for Haiti's service area extends to the isolated, hard-to-reach rural areas that dominate the rugged countryside in the Greater South of Haiti and includes 21 partner organizations to reach as many children as possible. Last year, The Worm Project donated one million deworming tablets to Hope for Haiti.

According to the head nurse at Gris Gris Health Center, deworming tablets are among the most valuable medications that the center distributes, especially to children.

"Albendazole is a good medication that kills worms in the children. The children used to have stomachaches all the time to the point they could not attend school. Since taking the albendazole tablets it's rare that they miss school. The albendazole (deworming medicine) is a medication that is very, very important. Thank You!!"





Vitamin Angels

A Life-Changing Difference in a Year

By Vitamin Angels Staff

In only a year's time, Santa and Kimberly's lives changed for the better. Vitamins and deworming tablets helped put them on the path to a brighter future.

Aside from the difference in height, young Kimberly was the spitting image of her mother, Santa. When we visited them in Guatemala earlier this year, both donned blue traje (the traditional attire for women) and broad, matching smiles.

They had changed, yet remained the same. Compared to when we met them for the first time, back in 2015, both mother and daughter were notably more alert, vivacious, and happy. Their clothing style hadn't changed, but the quality of their lives had, thanks to improved work opportunities for Santa and the accessibility of vitamins and deworming medicine (albendazole) for Kimberly. Both were very different, in the best ways possible.

Back in September 2015, Santa shared her worries and concerns for the future with us. Many of them concerned Kimberly, who fell sick frequently. Parasitic worms were a particularly troubling and recurring problem; Santa recalled that Kimberly's belly was often swollen, and she suffered from stomach pains and diarrhea.

Since Santa's husband was the only source of income, there was rarely enough food to go around. Although Santa often gave her portions to Kimberly, her small daughter still lacked

the nutrients she needed to help her body fight off illness and infections, making her more susceptible to the effects of the parasitic worms.

Luckily, around the time we visited, Kimberly had begun receiving vitamins and deworming tablets. Before we left, Santa told us that she was grateful that her daughter would have the opportunity to start on the path towards a healthy future.

Only a year later, Santa's insecurities about Kimberly's health are distant memories. With her daughter by her side, she told us that Kimberly is now in excellent health, as evidenced by Kimberly's eagerness to run around and play while we talked to her mother.

"I have big dreams for my family," Santa said, as Kimberly hugged her close. Thanks to her daughter's improved health, she is now well on her way to achieving them.

Vitamin Angels



Uganda Mother-Child Health Week – Two Million Tablets

The Worm Project donated two million tablets of de-worming medicine to Food for the Hungry for the 2016 Ugandan Mother-Child Health Week. Below is a picture of a clinician treating children with de-worming medicine.

Food for the Hungry



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Tax-deductible donations can be made by check or through our website. PayPal option is available at 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
1000 Forty Foot Road
Lansdale, PA 19446

Email: Info@wormproject.org



Vitamin Angels



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