

# The Worm Project

*Combating World Hunger Through Parasite Removal*

Newsletter

Issue No 6 Winter 2014

## An Unexpected Christmas Blessing

---Joanne Nice (Board Member, The Worm Project)

It is Friday, December 13th. I'm on my way to the mall with my son to do some Christmas shopping. But first, we will stop by Altec Services. I received a call from Karen, saying that she has a contribution to The Worm Project that I should pick up.

As I parked the car, I said to Andy, "Come in with me. You have to see what happens here."

Altec Services is a "sheltered workshop" in Colmar, PA where you might see as many as 40 or so mentally and physically challenged persons of various ages working on assembling parts for recreational boats. They also do other things such as learning about organizations like The Worm Project.

One of them, Jan, whose parents come to my church, was excited about telling her co-workers of The Worm Project organization and how it helps children around the world to get rid of intestinal worms.

A few weeks ago, I agreed to share some information with her friends at Altec. After their lunch break that day, I shared very briefly how Claude Good, founder of The Worm Project, discovered that one very inexpensive pill, Albendazole, would rid a child of intestinal parasites for 6 months. (Claude and his wife, Alice, had spent 25 years as missionaries in Mexico and saw this problem a lot.) After returning to the States, Claude sought donations and was instrumental in getting millions of Albendazole



manufactured in the Netherlands and shipped directly to places around the globe where Worm Project partners distribute them to children and some adults as well. One pill costs only 1.4 cents. I also gave each of them a tiny handmade cardboard box with a dime inside. I told them it was a gift from me and they could shake it to remind themselves of The Worm Project and how a little money goes a long way!

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Well.... Jan and her friends thought it would be great to save their pennies to help children with worms. Their leader, Karen, even took them on an excursion to a bank where their coins were turned into bills.

Now, she handed me an envelope with \$139.01 inside, that's roughly enough money for 14,000 pills. I guess it was the best donation to The Worm Project that I had ever received!

It might be Friday, the 13th, but it is not an unlucky day, it is a blessed day. God's blessings are incredible. Andy and I left with tears in our eyes.

## Letters From Our Partners: WOW NOW

--Bradley Ballin MAF Papua New Guinea



**Note the bloated bellies in the children, a likely sign of malnutrition**

A couple of weekends ago our family had the opportunity to travel an hour and a half upriver from where we live in Kawito, to a remote community for an outreach. We traveled by boat up to a village called Makapa on the Saturday, showed the Jesus Film that night and then my wife preached a message the following morning at church. At the end of the service we had organized to distribute the WOWNOW Albendazole tablets to everyone from the community who attended church that morning -- which totaled approximately 1,000

men women and children! It was great to see the kids run to the back doors at the end of church to make certain they did not miss out on a tablet, though I suspect some of the parents had told them we were handing out PK (a brand of chewing gum)! Quite a few people took extra tablets to give to family members who weren't at Church that morning. As a rough estimate I figure we would have treated about 2/3 - to 3/4 of the community.

The weekend was great for our family as we really felt we were helping treat others with love in a holistic way -- meeting both physical and spiritual needs in the community of Makapa.

We will be finishing up our term of service in PNG at the end of November, but hope to be able to distribute the rest of the tablets to a number of remote villages through some of the village aid posts that have volunteer Community Health Workers.

# Club 56 Fundraiser for The Worm Project

-- Chari Moyer, Souderton Mennonite Church

Club 56 has been doing a car wash and bake sale every 1-2 years for the last 10 years during the summer. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders start planning about a month in advance, and one of the first things we do is brainstorm about organizations that we would like to donate the money we raise to. The Worm Project is an organization that has been well known at SMC because of the relationship we have with Claude Good. The kids have grown up hearing about Claude and his work with The Worm Project – at Bible School, during Children’s Stories at church, and from hearing him talk during the service. It was always a really neat way for the kids to see their money making a real difference in the life of other children just like them.....and every penny they earned literally helped a child!

When we start brainstorming, The Worm Project is always at the top of the list. The kids enjoy knowing that the money is being put to great use, and when you see how many children you can help, it is truly amazing! The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders start planning about a month in advance, and one of the first things we do is brainstorm about organizations to which we would like to donate the money we raise."

The day of the car wash, the kids come about an hour early to set up the hoses, the tables for the bake sale and get everything ready. We normally are blessed with good weather, and spend the next two to three hours washing cars, selling hamburgers and hot dogs, and baked goods. It is a long time for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to work at a project like this, and they are usually really tired when it is over.....but they do a great job and have a wonderful attitude. We stress that none of the money we raise is for “us”, but it is all a love gift to the organizations we had chosen.

When the car wash is over, we like to prepare large “checks” to give to the organizations.....and a highlight was always having Claude come into class and talk with the passion he has for the Worm Project. He would take time to calculate exactly how many children would be helped with the donation, and how many pounds of food it would save for them. It always brought comments of “wow” and “that’s huge” when they could hear what their few hours of work would be doing in the lives of so many. Now that Claude has passed the torch on to others, we have enjoyed visits from Diana Gehman who is keeping Claude’s passion alive, and even shared with the kids a bowl of pasta, which represented the amount of worms that could come from a child helped by The Worm Project. Teachable moments like this impress the lesson on the kids, and they often continue to raise money for The Worm Project on their own throughout the year by taking home Worm Project banks and filling them with spare change and then bringing it back in. We hope to continue to support The Worm Project for years to come!





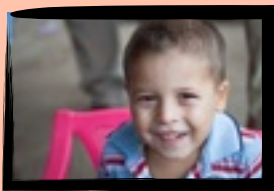
# You can help!

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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