



International Medical Health Organization (IMHO)

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IMHO Contributes to Relief Efforts in Indonesia & the Philippines

Battered by a series of natural disasters in the latter part of 2009, massive humanitarian needs arose in many countries in South and Southeast Asia, including the Philippines and Indonesia. IMHO contributed \$5,000 to [Giving Children Hope](#), a California-based relief NGO, to help send medicines and supplies to affected communities in these two countries. IMHO remains committed to easing the suffering of those devastated by natural or man-made disasters wherever the need is greatest. To view more photos or to learn more about our other emergency relief efforts, please visit our website:

<http://www.theimho.org/projects/emergency-relief>

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Post-Anesthetic Care Unit Opens in Jaffna

The Jaffna Teaching Hospital opened a Post Anesthetic Care Unit sponsored by IMHO on October 19, 2009. The ceremonial inauguration was attended by the Director of the Jaffna Teaching Hospital, the hospital's senior anesthesiologist, and several other staff and supporters. To view more photos of the unit, please visit our website: <http://www.theimho.org/projects/specialty-care/anesthesiology>



Women's Hospital in Pakistan Gets Help from IMHO

IMHO donated \$5,000 to the Koochi Goth Hospital in Karachi, Pakistan through the National Health Forum, a registered nonprofit in the U.S. that is committed to serving those in need in Pakistan through medical and health initiatives. This hospital serves a population of about one million persons, most of whom are living in poverty. The funds were given to support OBGYN care and fistula repair for women, addressing a serious condition affecting many women who typically find themselves living with a stigma, without any options for care.

Pledges for Sivan Arul Illam Sponsorship

Since our last e-newsletter (September 2009) and appeal that we sent out earlier this month on behalf of Sivan Arul Illam, an orphanage in Mannar, Sri Lanka that has taken on 70 children recently orphaned by the conflict there, a number of donors have come forward as sponsors. IMHO made a commitment for sponsoring 30 of these orphans for a period of 1 year. So far we have received pledges of sponsorship for almost 20 children, but we are **still seeking more commitments**. And the home is expected to take on another batch of IDP orphans in the coming weeks that will similarly need support. Sivan Arul Illam has plans for further development of the home to better serve the children, as well. You can view our appeal with more details here: <http://www.theimho.org/field-news/reports/207-sivan-arul->

appeal with more details here: <http://www.theimho.org/field-news/reports/207-sivan-arul-illam-appeal>. Please consider sponsoring a child today!



IMHO Supports Mental Health Services in Negombo, Kalmunai & Jaffna

IMHO recently committed financial support to local partners in Sri Lanka for various projects concerned with mental health services. One such effort is to support the development of an **acute in-patient psychiatric unit at Negombo Hospital** with a dozen beds to serve both men and women in need of care, towards which IMHO has committed **\$10,000**.

IMHO also sponsored a **micro-credit project** through the **Kalmunai Mental Health Society**, giving **\$10,000** to create a welfare fund to benefit 600 patients in rotation. Support in the amount of **\$1,500** was also given to sponsor the **World Mental Health Day** celebration on October 10, 2009, in which 300 patients and their families participated. These efforts are significant in serving the people of Kalmunai who suffered greatly after the tsunami disaster of December 2004.

An additional two projects to improve mental health services in the **Jaffna** region are also being supported by IMHO. The first project is to maintain 11 members of an existing **multi-disciplinary team** working closely with the government mental health services in the Jaffna District. These team members work in two psychiatric in-patient units and five clinics in the area, providing general counseling, child counseling, family counseling and support, alcohol counseling, psycho-social interventions, vocational training, play activities, and relaxation therapy. Counselors regularly visit the IDP camps in the area, as well. IMHO has approved **\$11,000** for these valuable services over the next 6 months.

The final project is concerned with maintaining an existing, successful **mobile community mental health team** operated under the Ministry of Health staff, which provides support to mentally ill clients and their families across Sri Lanka's Jaffna District. The team consists of 1 nursing officer, 1 social worker, and 2 counselors. Over the next 6 months, IMHO has committed **\$6,000** to support this vitally important work.

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Semi-Annual Meeting in Baltimore Held

IMHO held its 6th Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 3rd, 2009 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Baltimore, Maryland. The event featured presentations by several esteemed individuals representing 3 different nonprofit humanitarian organizations, including Global Partners United, EMERGENCY USA, and MSF. You can access the GPU presentation here: <http://www.theimho.org/publications/presentations/203-intro-gpu-brain-gain-presentation>



The video presentation by EMERGENCY USA, which provided an overview of their organization, can be found on YouTube using the following link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPpMP2YdoGs>

The audience also heard from IMHO Treasurer, Dr. Rajam Theventhiran, who provided an update on IMHO's effort this year. Her presentation can be accessed here:

<http://www.theimho.org/publications/presentations/201-imho-semi-annual-efforts>

We are very grateful to the 23 pharmaceutical representatives who supported this event and put up their displays in the adjacent room. We are also thankful to the event organizers and volunteers who helped make this meeting a success. And finally, we are extremely grateful to all our speakers for sharing their insights, experiences, and knowledge with us. For a full report on the meeting and to view a photo gallery of images from the event, please visit our website: <http://www.theimho.org/blog/18-event-category-in-blog/205-semi-annual-2009>

Upcoming IMHO Events

*****Indiana Dinner & Presentation*****

IMHO is holding a dinner and presentation in Indiana on Saturday, November 21st in Carmel, Indiana at the Club House at Bayhill Subdivision. Please RSVP to Jo at rajoe@hotmail.com or 317.903.9841 as soon as possible, and visit our website for more information and the

or 317.903.9841 as soon as possible, and visit our website for more information and the event flyer: <http://www.theimho.org/events/upcoming-events/details/30-indiana-dinner-present>

*****Arizona IMHO Presentation*****

The first IMHO event in Arizona will take place on Saturday, November 21st. Please check back with our website for more details.

*****Michigan Dinner & Presentation*****

WHEN: Saturday, December 5th, 2009 at 7:00pm

WHERE: Ruchi Indian Cuisine, 29555 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, Michigan, 48034

WHAT: 7:00-7:45pm Presentation on IMHO Efforts

7:45-9:00pm Question & Answer Session and Buffet Dinner

Cost is \$11 per person for dinner buffet. Children are welcome; ages 3-8 are half price. Please RSVP to Bala at bala.anushia@gmail.com or 248.538.4369.

*****2nd Annual IMHO Ohio Golf Tournament*****

WHEN: Monday, May 17th, 2010 at 12:30pm

WHERE: New Albany Country Club, 1 Club Lane, New Albany, OH, 43054

WHAT: 18-hole scramble at the Jack Nicklaus Championship Golf Course

HOW MUCH: \$300/player or \$1,000/team of 4

Please register yourself or your team early to ensure your spot in the tournament. You will have the chance to win a car at the hole-in-one hole sponsored by Liberty--Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep. For more information or to view the event flyer, please visit our website:

<http://www.theimho.org/events/upcoming-events/details/27-ohio-2nd-golf-tourney>

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Difference.
Save a Life
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\$15/month.**

**[DONATE
TODAY!](#)**

During this crucial time in Sri Lanka and around the world, as we face monumental challenges in providing better access to quality medical and health care for those most at-risk populations, we need YOUR HELP now more than ever. With **just \$15/month** you can meet the nutritional needs of 1 IDP (internal refugee). Please consider making a donation to IMHO today. You can **donate online via PayPal as a one-time or recurring donation** (the amount & frequency of which are up to you).

You can also **donate via mail** by sending a check made out to "IMHO" to the following address:

**IMHO Treasurer
PO Box 61265
Staten Island, New York 10306
United States**

All donations are tax-deductible (tax ID code #59-3779465)

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