



# International Medical Health Organization (IMHO)

Issue: #47

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## Rebuilding Efforts- Ongoing Projects in Sri Lanka

The greatest strength of IMHO is in our local partners who are at the forefront and are the backbone of creating innovative and thoughtful solutions to complex issues. IMHO supports our local partners performing the exceptional work developing sustainable healthcare systems while responding to humanitarian issues including livelihood for the needy. IMHO has continued its vital support for various projects since the beginning of 2015 and undertaken new ones including but not limited to the following:

1. Work on refurbishment of the Oral & Maxillofacial (OMF) Unit at the Jaffna Teaching Hospital (JTH) renovating corridors and the adjoining rooms thus enhancing the service facilities for doctors and patients is in progress. Currently there is no separate OMF Unit and the patients need to stand for long hours. More than 500,000 people reportedly need maxillofacial treatment and should benefit with a proper OMF Unit with basic facilities. The cost is expected to be about \$15-20000



2. Education and Empowerment Center is being constructed at Viswamadu in the Killinochchi District implemented by our local partner, Killinochchi Education and Development Trust (KEDT) benefitting more than 500 vulnerable and poor students and their families from some of the remote and disadvantaged areas to meet their educational requirements. The construction is expected to include installation of a permanent shed and two temporary sheds, furniture, male and female toilet facilities, electricity etc. The estimated cost allocation is about \$15,000.

[2013 Annual Souvenir Program](#)

[IMHO Annual Update: Leading the Way Forward](#)

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3. Livelihood Support for Women Headed Households and Affected Vulnerable Families: In the Kopay, Kayts, Sandilipay, and Uduvil Divisions, about 695 families living under poverty are identified by our local partner, Centre for Child and Youth Empowerment. This project supported by IMHO will benefit 12 women headed households to earn a sufficient income for their daily needs and for the education of their children. Some of the activities include agriculture, small business, cottage industries, poultry and goat rearing. IMHO will provide the requested support for a year (about \$3,000).
4. Tellipalai Base Hospital Canteen Project to help and meet the increased patient load and food service requirements (\$13,000).
5. Staff Salary Support throughout the North and Eastern Districts: Additional staff support is being provided to help needy areas at the request of hospital physicians for patient care and Mahadeva Achchirama in Killinochchi. (~\$25,000)
6. Senior Care at the Grace Care Center , Trincomalee: The support has been extended for another year to help meet cost for doctor visits, medicines etc. (\$6,000)

## IMHO Responds to International Disaster

### The Devastation in Nepal



As the humanitarian crisis in Nepal continues to unfold, the world is responding in remarkable ways. In response to this tragedy of incredible proportions following the magnitude 7.8 earth quake on April 25, 2015 in the Kathmandu area and the unfathomable devastation inflicted on this already impoverished nation killing more than 7,000 people, IMHO acted quickly to contribute \$5,000 to the relief efforts through Save the Children and Americares. Save the Children has worked in Nepal since 1976 and has extensive programs throughout the country. Americares emergency response team is in Nepal with critical medical care, medicine, and medical supplies for survivors.

## The Cyclone Pam Disaster Relief in the Small Pacific Island Country Vanuatu

In Vanuatu, the worst hit country, assessment reports by UNICEF confirmed widespread destruction of houses, schools, clinics, and crops after Cyclone Pam hit the island in March. Reports indicated that UNICEF dispatched water, sanitation, and hygiene, health education, and child protection supplies. The serious nature of the destruction prompted IMHO to donate \$2,500 to UNICEF to help with the ongoing relief efforts.

## Empowering Deaf Children in Ethiopia

IMHO continues to help the deaf children in Bahir Dahr, Ethiopia to build competency in Ethiopia Sign Language (EthSL) amongst youth, teachers, and families with Deaf members by providing regular instruction by qualified teachers. Having access to a Deaf teacher has made a tremendous difference in the lives of Deaf students. IMHO is supporting the one year salary renewal for the EthSL instructor (\$3,600) to continue the successful program.

## State Chapter Activities/Fund Raising

### Kudos to Kids- Contribution to IMHO

Compassionate and caring children have been active completing home based projects contributing in their own ways to IMHO. Recent examples were Iniyaal and Venthan Raguraj and Mithynan, Nayani, and Ivan Angelo from Maryland who used their community's yard sale day, April 25, 2015 to raise funds, \$175 and \$220 respectively from the bake sale for IMHO. Thanks to all the children for their great efforts and time. Their initiative is creditable and should set an example to other children.



## IMHO Texas Dinner Fund Raising Program, Saturday, March 14, 2015

Over 65 supporters, volunteers, and donors from all over Texas attended the 2015 IMHO Texas Annual Dinner Fund Raising Program at the Ashiana Restaurant in Houston, Texas on

Saturday, March 14, 2015. The program included presentations on Sleep Apnea, IMHO's Role in Building Health Systems & Addressing Vital Humanitarian Needs- Progress Report 2014-2015, Grace Care Center, health forum, an interactive discussion of health issues between the medical panel and the attendees, auction and dinner.

The event itself raised about \$13,000 with a total of about \$21,000 including contributions before and after the program. This year's goal of \$25,000 is expected to be reached with additional contributions in the coming months including the DFW BBQ Event in May. The contributions will help accomplish the 2015 goal to provide support for livelihood programs, maternal and child nutrition programs, poor children educational assistance, and senior care and stroke rehab centers.

On behalf of IMHO and IMHO Texas, we sincerely thank all the attendees, donors, volunteers, well-wishers who made the program a success.

## IMHO 12th Annual Convention

### IMHO 12th Annual Convention

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 30, 2015 - 17:00

**WHERE:** St. Michael Parish Center, 90 Concord Road, Bedford MA 01730, United States

#### Featuring:

- Distinguished guests from Sri Lanka
- Social hour, cultural performances, and delicious buffet dinner
- Enjoy an evening with family and friends
- Support various development initiatives for under-served communities in need in Sri Lanka and elsewhere around the world.

**Be the  
Difference.  
Save a Life  
with just  
\$1/day!**

**DONATE  
TODAY!**

With just \$1/day (or \$30/month) you can help save and improve the lives of persons in need in Sri Lanka and elsewhere around the globe. 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  
P.O. Box 341466  
Columbus, OH 43234  
U.S.A.

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