



WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF, INC.

Serving the Sick & Poor Locally, Nationally, and Internationally Since 1953



The Heartstring Band
Photo: Paul Long



Hamazkayin Arax Armenian Dance
Ensemble of Detroit. Photo: Bernie Beutel

WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF 69TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

World Medical Relief Celebrated the 69th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, November 19 at the St. John Armenian Church in Southfield, MI. The event was held in-person for the first time since the COVID pandemic. The event theme was “Our Success is What We Have Done for Others.” Remarks were given by Chairman Mike Baydoun and there were testimonials from Mohamed El-Souri and Dr. Irineo Alvaro. Board Member Dr. Ned Fawaz spoke about the importance of the International Program.

The MC of the event was Toros Bardakjian. Toros is an Armenian-American and Michigander for the past 25 years. Toros has been a Manager at the Community Choice Credit Union for the last 10 years. Toros enjoys serving others and his community. Toros did a great job educating and providing excitement to the audience.

Dr. George Samson, President and CEO of World Medical Relief, gave an inspiring speech. Dr. Samson talked about the challenges of the COVID-pandemic. He was pleased to hold the Gala event in-person with the donors, sponsors, and attendees. He announced the news about the World Medical Relief history book that is being published by a National Geographic independent journalist and is projected to launch in the Fall of 2023. Dr. Samson encouraged the attendees to stay relentless in their service to sick and poor of the world.

The event gave Dr. Samson the opportunity to give special thanks to the Staff, Volunteers, and World Medical Relief Ambassadors of Health for their help to further the mission.

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CEO NOTES

George V. Samson, Ph.D.

Since the existence of WMR, it's always been a great pleasure serving the Sick, Poor and the Needy. Where else could

you find a patient getting lifetime medicine for chronic illnesses? Blankets for the homeless? Wheelchairs and walkers for the disabled? Diapers and blue pads for the elderly? Diabetic glucose strips for the diabetics? Medical supplies for hospital discharged patients who cannot afford to buy the same? How about equipment medical supplies for ill-equipped overseas hospitals?

I do surely believe in "Miracles of Mercy" and that's what we do at WMR. We are committed to serving the World's destitute sick poor. Donors, supporters, volunteers are the catalyst to this mission work.



It is not an easy task – it requires a lot of challenges, faith and love for the mission; and in spite of the challenges, the end result is knowing you have made a difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

We feel blessed and inspired with this new Southfield location which we hope will continue our mission work for the next 100 years. We will continue to educate and inspire the "new" generation of volunteers to come.

The works of charity and deeds of mercy are indeed God's mission work.

On Behalf of **World Medical Relief's Board of Directors,**

I would like to thank the Donors, Sponsors, and attendees of the 69th Anniversary Gala



Dr. Wassim Younes MD, Dr. George Samson, Mohamed Sohoubah (CEO, Biomed), and Chairman Mike Baydoun at the 69th Anniversary Gala



Dr. George Samson giving his CEO address

CONTINUATION OF 69TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

The Heartstring Band entertained us with their Ukuleles. The group included Board Member Dr. Ernestina Mac. Two groups from the Hamazkayin Arax Armenian Dance Ensemble provided dances representing Armenian folklore.

There were numerous awards and recognitions at the event.

The “Volunteer Excellence Award” was given to Mary Jo Dorsey, Michele Carrier, and Theresa Carrier. Mary Jo (Grandma), Michele (Mom), and Theresa (Granddaughter) are three-generation ladies who volunteer with World Medical Relief. The ladies each have interests in the medical field and enjoy volunteering at World Medical Relief.

The “Humanitarian Global Excellence Award” was given to St. John Armenian Church. St. John Armenian Church, has for 87 years been at the very heart and center of Armenian-American religious and cultural life in Metropolitan Detroit. Its parishioners demonstrate God’s love through service and have volunteered at World Medical Relief monthly since March, 2019, to sort medical supplies with macro and micro sorters.

The “Humanitarian Service Award” was given to David and Kathy Bazy. David is the CFO/Finance Director at World Medical Relief. Kathy is our Accountant and HR representative. The COVID-pandemic was a very challenging time for World Medical Relief. David and Kathy were able to secure funding to help World Medical Relief continue its operations. The funding was critically important to help World Medical Relief continue to support the local communities.



Dr. Ned Fawaz speech at the Gala



VOLUNTEER GROUPS

World Medical Relief needs volunteers to help sort medical supplies. New volunteers will receive an orientation with instructions about sorting the medical supplies. If there are any questions about sorting the supplies, the nurses and team leaders are there to help. No previous medical experience is necessary.

Individuals are invited to volunteer at their convenience. If you have a group minimum of 10 and are interested in volunteering, please send an email to volunteer@worldmedicalrelief.org to schedule a day. Below are pictures of Volunteer Groups at World Medical Relief from the last 6 months. Volunteers are needed Monday – Saturdays.

Thank you, Volunteer Groups!



Esquire Group of Southfield



Troy Rotary Club



Delta Sigma Theta



UM Dearborn Students



DTE Energy



Volunteers and Students



Eastern Michigan University
Nursing Students



Oakland University Student helping
with a medical mission to Sri Lanka



Wayne State University
Nursing Students



Theresa, Mary Jo, and Michele



Rev. Billy Ray Thompson Sr. with
Local Manager Sheila Anderson



Oakland University
Medical School Students

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The International Team has been hard at work filling and shipping containers to countries. Working together, we have shipped containers of medical equipment and supplies to medical facilities in Lebanon, Yemen, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Bangladesh, and Peru in 2022. Below are pictures of the International development efforts. The International Team needs help to continue supporting the countries in need. Please visit worldmedicalrelief.org/donate to support the International Team.



Heal Yemen Mission



Guatemala Container



Philippines Mission Trip



Bangladesh Containers



Philippines Masonic Mission



Lebanon Container

LOCAL NEWS

For the second year in a row, the WMR Local Team partnered with the Wayne Health Mobile Unit to provide medical help to the local community. The Local Team and the Wayne Health Mobile Unit hosted events in Dearborn Heights and Southfield. Some of the services provided include diabetes screening, cholesterol screening, and COVID vaccines.

In addition to the basic health screenings offered to the attendees, the WMR Local Team was present to share information about the local programs for prescriptions, durable medical equipment, and medical supplies.

Thank you, Wayne Health Mobile Unit!



Wayne Health Mobile Unit at the Dearborn Heights Health Event

Our blanket program is in full swing this year. Since 2010, World Medical Relief has been fulfilling requests from local homeless shelters and agencies assisting families in need with disaster blankets. By the time you read this newsletter, our supply of 10,000 will be exhausted. The blankets were distributed to 60 non-profit agencies. There are baby blankets on order for distribution. In addition to providing blankets, we help local agencies with personal hygiene kits throughout the year for their low income clients. Funds are solicited to purchase items for the kits, and the volunteers help assemble them for distribution. Over 1,000 have been given out so far this year with another 1,500 currently being assembled. You can help with the blanket and the hygiene kit projects.



Dr. George Samson with the Blanket donations to help the local community

**The Local Team needs help to continue supporting the local community in need.
Please visit worldmedicalrelief.org/donate to support the Local Team.**



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VOLUNTEER SATURDAYS

Jan 2023: 7, 14, 21, 28

Feb 2023: 4, 11, 18, 25

Mar 2023: 4, 11, 18, 25

Apr 2023: 1, 15, 22, 29

May 2023: 6, 13, 20, 27

Jun 2023: 3, 10, 17, 24

