

WINTER 2023-24

SAMARITAN

WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF, INC.

Serving the Sick and Poor, Locally, Nationally, and Internationally since 1953



World Medical Relief Board of Directors receiving Volunteer Excellence Certificates at the 70th Anniversary Gala, Photo: Paul Long

WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF 70TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

World Medical Relief celebrated the 70th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, November 4 at the Larsa Palace in Warren, MI. The event theme was "Angels of Mercy." At the event, we launched our first ever history book titled: "Angels of Mercy." The inspiration for the book title came from the founder of World Medical Relief, Irene Auberlin, who told us to call the volunteers: "Angels of Mercy." This year's program included Chairman Mike Baydoun's introduction, Dr. Ned Fawaz's speech about the history book, testimonials from Ambassadors of Health, Dr. Samson's CEO address, and a keynote message from Dr. Kim Eagle.

The EMCEE of the event was Charlie Langton from Fox 2 News. Although Charlie is known for being a news reporter, he also handles other roles including being an attorney, a weekend morning anchor, and a co-host of "Let It Rip," "Let It Rip Weekend" and "Let it Rip On the Road." Charlie enjoys speaking at charitable events and was very excited to be the EMCEE of the 70th Anniversary Gala. Charlie did a great job educating and providing excitement to the audience.

Dr. George Samson gave an inspiring message about World Medical Relief. Dr. Samson spoke about what a remarkable achievement it is to be able to launch the "Angels of Mercy" history book. He mentioned the importance of knowing the history of the organization so you can appreciate where it came from and be inspired to continue serving the sick and poor of the world.

After Dr. Samson's address, Dr. Stella Evangelista introduced the keynote speaker: Dr. Kim Eagle. Dr. Eagle is the Albion Walter Hewlett Professor of Internal Medicine, Professor of Health Management and Policy at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, and Director of the Frankel Cardiovascular Center at the University of Michigan.

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CEO NOTES

George V. Samson, Ph.D.

The 70th Gala was a success, and after seven decades, the "Angels of Mercy" book was finally launched. I was so delighted by the overwhelming support from all of you who att-

ended the Gala and to those who were not able to attend, you still supported our efforts. You are all keys to opening the doors of alleviating the suffering of humanity. Your help enables us to deliver that help to all we can.

Please share with your friends the importance of our history book which chronicles where we came from, and continually shows the compassion and love we extend in serving others.

We have to educate our younger generations to become involved with us in order to add positive growth to our mission. With your help, I see the opportunity of much growth in the coming years through increased volunteering.

My vision for the future is the expansion of our eastside warehouse. This will give additional space for our prepacked gaylords and bulk medical supplies waiting to be sorted. This plan will eliminate current time consuming operations and increase the efficiency of our International program.



Dr. George Samson receiving an Award at the 70th Anniversary Gala

This year it is not a coincidence that our goal is to ship out 70 international containers as compared to 46 completed last year.

I wish to conclude my comments by saying that we find ourselves at this time in a better position to honor the past and chart a new course in the direction of a brighter future.

Our "Angels of Mercy" are always at the forefront of our mission's work. They demonstrate the best ways to provide for the welfare of people less fortunate through the programs we offer both Local and International.

From the bottom of my heart, I salute you all – Board members, Advisory Board Members, Ambassadors, Staff, and Donors. May God continue to bless World Medical Relief.

George V. Samson, Ph.D., President/CEO

On Behalf of the World Medical Relief Board of Directors, I would like to thank the donors, sponsors, and attendees of 70th Anniversary Gala



CONTINUATION OF 70TH ANNIVERSARY GALA



Nanou Djiapo Drum and Dance Group providing entertainment

Dr. Kim Eagle gave a very inspirational talk about the World Medical Relief "Angels of Mercy." He spoke about the history of project "My Heart Your Heart," the importance of providing pacemakers to poor people around the world, and the importance of continuing to serve others through World Medical Relief.

Dr. Eagle talked about "3 Angels" who epitomize what World Medical Relief stands for: Irene Auberlin, Dr. George Samson, and the Anonymous Angel who donated the first Pacemaker. He quoted Martin Luther King Jr. saying, "Every man must decide whether he will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" Dr. Eagle provided admiration to the "3 Angels" and the army of World Medical Relief Angels who continue to serve others.

After the keynote speech, many awards were distributed. An "Appreciation Award" was given to Dr. Kim Eagle, Charlie Langton, and Peggy Julian. Dr. Eagle received the Appreciation Award for his commitments to project "My Heart Your Heart" and for giving the keynote speech. Charlie Langton received the Appreciation Award for his



Dr. Ned Fawaz (Honorary Gala Chair) with Mayor Bill Bazzi and Chairman Mike Baydoun



Dr. Kim Eagle giving his keynote address

service as the EMCEE of the event. Peggy Julian received the Appreciation Award for her service as the Chair of the Gala Committee.

The "Volunteer Excellence Certificates" were awarded to the Board of Directors, Advisory Board, Guardian Angels, and Ambassadors of Health. The Board of Directors were recognized for their generous contributions of time, efforts, and resources. The Advisory Board was recognized for providing World Medical Relief with expert advice. The Guardian Angels were recognized for their generous contributions that enabled World Medical Relief to launch our first history book. The Ambassadors of Health were recognized for their efforts towards helping with the delivery of international shipments all over the world.

The 70th Anniversary Gala was a fun and memorable event. If you would like to buy an "*Angels of Mercy*" history book, please visit <u>worldmedicalrelief.org/shop</u> or scan the QR Code on Page 5.



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. Volunteers are welcome to volunteer Monday through Friday from 9am -3pm or Saturday 9am - 12pm. If you have a group minimum of 10 and are interested in volunteering, please send an email to <u>volunteer@worldmedicalrelief.org</u> to schedule a day. Below, you will find pictures of Volunteer Groups at World Medical Relief from the last 6 months. For more information, please visit the volunteer page on our website: <u>worldmedicalrelief.org/volunteer</u>.

Thank you, Volunteer Groups!



Tigray Community



Downriver Filipino-American Association



Detroit Rotary Club



Oakland University Medical School Students



American Syrian Arab Cultural Association



Wayne State University Students

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

WAREHOUSE EXPANSION FUNDRAISER

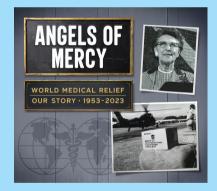




The World Medical Relief Warehouse has encountered a challenge: we ran out of space. We receive a lot of product donations and we need warehouse space to keep a reasonable amount of inventory in stock. It is important for us to keep inventory in stock for the people we serve. Our Local and International Programs have expanded a lot. This growth means we need to keep more inventory in stock and thus, we need to expand our warehouse. We estimate \$200,000 is needed for the expansion. Please consider helping us reach our goal. You can pay with Paypal or by sending us a check payable to: "World Medical Relief." If you donate \$50,000, we will display a commemorative plaque at our HQ with your name and special message for 25 years. If you donate \$100,000 or more, we will display a commemorative plaque at our HQ with your name and special message forever. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us. Any donation you make is saving the lives of others.

Donate now with the QR code above - or - call 313-866-5333 to talk about the donation!

"ANGELS OF MERCY" HISTORY BOOK



Available for purchase at our HQ or at www.worldmedicalrelief.org/shop

World Medical Relief was founded in 1953 by Irene Auberlin. At our 70th Anniversary Gala, we launched the "*Angles of Mercy*" history book. This book delves into the history, stories, and insights of World Medical Relief. There is a special section in the book where over 6,000 volunteers are listed. We tried our best to include as many volunteers as we could find from our historical records. If we missed your name, we sincerely apologize.

Find out if your name is in the book!



Buy the book!



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The International Team has been hard at work filling and shipping containers to countries in need. This year, some of the countries that have received containers include Yemen, Gambia, Ivory Coast, and Lebanon. Below, you will find pictures of the World Medical Relief International Development efforts. The International Team needs help to continue supporting the countries in need. Please visit <u>worldmedicalrelief.org/donate</u> to support the International Team.



WMR Ambassador of Health, Sammy Abdo, helping to facilitate a medical mission to Jordan



Recipient of a refurbished pacemaker in the Philippines



WMR Ambassador of Health, Dr. Irineo Alvaro, helping to facilitate a medical mission to the Philippines



WMR Ambassador of Health, Dr. Michael Pieh, helping to facilitate a medical mission to Sierra Leone



Medical Facility in Uganda who received a container shipment



Before and after picture of a Medical Facility in Samanyana, Mali

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

LOCAL NEWS

Community Health Fairs

For the third 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 Health Fair events at the World Medical Relief Headquarters in 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, there were many vendors providing information and resources to local community in need. The WMR Local Team provided information about affordable prescriptions, durable medical equipment, and medical supplies. We are very appreciative of the vendors who attend the Local Community Health Fairs. For more information about our Health Fairs, please visit worldmedicalrelief.org/health-fairs.

Thank you, Wayne Health Mobile Unit, volunteers, and vendors of the Community Health Fairs!

Blanket Relief & Hygiene Kits

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. This year, we are planning to

Wayne Health Mobile Unit helping at a World Medical Relief Community Health Fair

distribute more than 10,000 blankets. The blankets will be distributed to more than 60 nonprofit 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 by donating to the blanket and the hygiene kit projects.

Affordable Prescriptions

The World Medical Relief Affordable Prescriptions Program (APP) has been providing affordable prescriptions in the state of Michigan since 1966. We are very excited to announce that we won a grant to increase the available funding of our APP. The grant we won is called: "Impact100 Oakland County." The program we received funding for is called: "Oakland County Affordable Prescriptions."

We will be launching the "Oakland County Affordable Prescriptions" program in 2024. The program will be providing affordable prescriptions to low-income, uninsured, and underinsured people in Oakland County. For more information about the program, please visit worldmedicalrelief.org/local-programs.



World Medical Relief winning the Impact100 Grant to provide Affordable Prescriptions

The Local Team needs help to continue supporting the local community in need. Please visit <u>worldmedicalrelief.org/donate</u> - or - scan the QR code to support the Local Team.





Contact us!

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WORLD MEDICAL RELIEF

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VOLUNTEER SATURDAYS

DEC 2023: 2, 9, 16 JAN 2024: 6, 13, 20, 27 FEB 2024: 3, 10, 17, 24 MAR 2024: 2, 9, 16, 23 APR 2024: 6, 13, 20, 27 MAY 2024: 4, 11, 18, 25 JUN 2024: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 JUL 2024: 6, 13, 20, 27

