



International Children's Fund

MISSION UPDATE



Tune to WEMI (91.9) every Sunday, 8:55 A.M. & P.M. for weekly mission updates.

\$20 Million Medical Shipment Arrives Safely in Cameroon

One of the 21 cargo containers of relief aid you helped us ship during 2008 landed in Douala, Cameroon in early November. That container was loaded with nearly \$20 million worth of medicine—enough to treat over 500,000 individuals.

I recently returned from Cameroon, where I traveled to help Dr. Clementine Dackam of the Siloe medical clinic get this precious cargo released from Cameroon's customs and transported to her hospital and warehouse.

Like so many other African nations where we ship assistance, Cameroon faces the despair and destruction that comes with hunger, poverty, and disease. Dr. Clementine has put her skills and compassion to work



Dr. Clementine Dackam (left) and the people of Cameroon have been blessed by the \$20 million shipment of medicine sent by ICF.

addressing the many treatable illnesses that have caused so much misery in Cameroon's urban areas, as well as in the remote villages where she travels on a regular basis.

Several months ago, when we heard about the tremendous shortage of medical supplies and equipment that Dr. Clementine and her committed staff have faced, we went to work on raising the funds and finding the specific medicines the Siloe clinic needed. And as has happened countless times in ICF's three decades of outreach, when we made the

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need known to friends like you across the nation, you responded with enormous kindness and generosity.

As I met Dr. Clementine and the dedicated people who assist her, I was overjoyed by the passion they showed not only to provide medical care to the children and families in her area, but to actively show Christian compassion to everyone they meet.

That compassion is one of the hallmarks of the African people ICF has partnered with for over thirty years. I never cease to be impressed by the kindness shown day in and day out by the pastors, medical workers, and Christian leaders for the unending stream of starving and sick children and families that come to them for help.

While in Cameroon I had the opportunity to meet a very compassionate pastor by the name of Ngassa Moses, who is reaching out to a community of several thousand forgotten inmates of a prison in Douala. Unlike inmates in American prisons, those incarcerated in Cameroon receive

“We believe strongly that any vision the Lord gives us, He will provide the provision to meet that vision.”

no food, clothing, medicine, or other care unless it is brought to them by their families or others. God has given Pastor Moses a deep burden for these forgotten men, and several times a week he comes with food and other necessities, along with the hope of the gospel.

It was when Pastor Moses was himself wrongly sent to prison that God began speaking to him about ministering to these forgotten souls. He recalls how it happened:

In 1991 I had been a Christian only six months when I was arrested and sent to jail for a crime I had not committed. A day before my arrest, I had a dream in which the Lord gave me a specific scripture out of the Bible which I was to preach to men in prison. The next



Volunteers in Cameroon help unload the shipment of medicines for Siloe clinic. Hundreds of thousands will benefit from your generosity.

day I found myself in prison, and while I was there—a new Christian—the Lord opened my eyes to the great suffering of the prisoners. He then told me, “My son, I have brought you to this place to take care of My people who are dying without knowing me.”

After three months, I was released, and with my release I received authorization from the prison warden to come and share the good news with the prisoners.

Pastor Moses is going into the prison three days a week to fellowship one-on-one with the prisoners. His wife takes what food they can get to the prisoners twice a week. And once a month, as God’s people provide, they take food and clothing to more than 400 prisoners.

“We have held many crusades and medical campaigns with the help of Dr. Clementine and her team,” said Pastor Moses. “We are grateful to the Lord, who always provides for us. We believe strongly that any vision the Lord gives us, He will provide the provision to meet that vision.”

Friends, Pastor Moses took me personally to meet some of these prisoners, and I can only say that the conditions of these thousands of men is heart-rending and desperate. Will you help us fulfill the vision that God has given Pastor Moses, Dr. Clementine, and the staff of the Siloe clinic?

This Christmas, Give the Gift of Food to Starving Children



We are pleased to report that a very generous group has donated a 40-foot cargo container filled with nearly 44,000 pounds of high-protein meals specially formulated to help starving children. That's almost 271,000 meals locked, loaded, and ready to be shipped to needy children in Liberia.

But your help is desperately needed to deliver this valuable care package to those who need it. Without it we simply can't pay the steep shipping costs—from \$8,000 to \$10,000—required to get this cargo to its destination. Your compassion is key!

Last year ICF shipped more than \$25 million in food, medicine, clothing, and aid to children and families throughout Africa. **Your gift of \$25 dollars will provide meals to nearly 750 starving children. That's less than four cents a meal!**

This Christmas, Liberian children aren't looking for an X-Box or an I-Pod. All they want is a meal. Sadly, their parents can't give them this gift. To help us speed this food to the hungry children, please include a check, made out to the International Children's Fund, when you mail back the enclosed envelope. You can also donate with your credit or debit card by calling us at 920-729-5721 or logging on to our website at www.icfaid.org.



Your help ensures that children and their families in Liberia—and throughout Africa—receive the food, medicine, and relief they desperately need to survive.

A Gift to a Child in a Manger

A little over two thousand years ago a child was born in a manger—a place of destitution, dishonor, rejection, shame, hunger, and hopelessness. In the midst of this something spectacular happened! Three wise men came from the East to see this Baby Christ, to worship Him, and to give Him costly gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. I believe these gifts gave joy and hope to Joseph and Mary.

Have you considered that there are countless children today born into situations like that of our Lord? Many innocent children in Africa are living under horrible conditions of hunger, nakedness, and rejection. They have no hope of participating in the joy of celebration like you and I do.

Would you consider a small gift to bring hope and joy to a child? You are the “wise men” of today. Your tax deductible gift of \$25 can provide a pair of shoes, clothing, and a full meal. Please do not let this great opportunity pass you by. Send your check or money order made out to **International Children's Fund, P.O. Box 583, Neenah, WI 54957**. And remember to pray for all the children of Africa.

Thank you for your past support and your continued interest in what the Lord is doing in Africa.



You Helped Us Ship Over \$25 Million in Life-Saving Relief Aid During 2008

Thanks to the contributions of our generous partners, the International Children's Fund shipped over \$25 million in life-saving relief aid to outreach missions in five different African nations during the fiscal year that ended September 31, 2008.

Throughout our years of outreach to those in need all over the world, we have always relied on a broad base of generous donors and volunteers. We thank God for each and every one who did his and her part to make this possible.

The nearly 368 tons of relief aid, all of it packed and shipped in a total of 21 forty-foot ocean shipping containers, was sent to the orphanages, schools, churches, and other outreach agencies we work with in Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, and Sudan. That aid included approximately 126,000 pounds of food, along with clothing, shoes, building materials, educational resources, and medical equipment. All of it was donated by people like you with a heart to help desperately needy children.

In addition, through the financial contributions of our partners, ICF purchased millions of dollars in crucial medicines and pharmaceuticals which our clinics and hospitals throughout Africa are using to treat malaria, yellow fever, cholera, AIDS, and many other deadly diseases.

The cost to send these containers is significant. Each of the 21 containers, holding as much as 40,000 pounds of relief aid, requires an additional \$8,000 and \$10,000 to ship to its destination. In fact, when all is said and done we can have upwards of \$15,000 invested in getting a contain-



Thanks for helping me and ICF help African Children through your regular financial contributions.

er to those who desperately need its contents. And if that container is filled with medicines and costly pharmaceuticals, the costs are tens of thousands of dollars more.

The key to ICF's success has been the ongoing support from those who partner with us with regular financial contributions. As we look ahead to 2009, there are some potential challenges on the horizon because of the tightening economy, as well as the rising costs of shipping these containers to Africa. I ask that you continue to prayerfully consider your part in our ongoing mission of mercy to some of the neediest children and families in the world.

Thanks again for all your help over the past year. And may God bless you and your family in the year to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. David Bruenning'.

Dr. David Bruenning

We Take Stewardship Seriously!

The key to ICF's success is the ongoing financial support from caring partners like you. We consider each dollar you donate as a mandate for good stewardship. That's why we've been awarded a four-star approval rating by Charity Navigator, America's premier charity watch-dog group. That means 96 cents of every dollar you send to ICF goes directly to the point of need.

