

## **Medicine Box: Literally Lifesaving**



*Paul Jeffrey/ACT*

**“Without this assistance, we would not be able to accomplish our ministry in Port-au-Prince. Drugs are very expensive and definitely beyond the economic capacity of those we serve.”**

– Words of thanks from Haiti for Medicine Boxes received

“The drugs that you have sent us are literally lifesaving.” This praise from a hospital staff member in Malawi sums up the effectiveness of the Medicine Box program.

A typical Medicine Box<sup>®</sup> contains 18 essential drugs and medical supplies-- enough to treat illnesses and injuries in a population of about a thousand people for three months. These are basic medicines and supplies needed for day-to-day care of the common ailments that plague babies, children, their mothers, and adults of all ages.

## **From A to Z: Medicine Boxes Make a Big Difference**

Many clinics and hospitals do not have basic medicines available on a regular basis. Since 1994 United Methodists have provided more than 3,000 of the boxes in an A-to-Z list of 42 countries– from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. Working with Interchurch Medical Assistance, UMCOR coordinates church participation.

UMCOR's dispensaries in Azerbaijan supply hundreds of clinics with medicines that heal children, women and men... When Ganta United Methodist Hospital reopened in 2004, UMCOR made plans to send a steady supply of Medicine Boxes to assure that the 450,000 people in the hospital's treatment area could receive the medicines they need....

**"This Medicine Box will serve many people who would not be able to get medicine otherwise. The antibiotic and parasitic medication will be of great use." – Angola**

### **Get Involved!**

With the help of your congregation or service club, Medicine Boxes will be shipped to community health clinics and emergency medical response programs overseas. Recently a candidate for Eagle Scout selected the Medicine Box as a project and provided enough cash and supplies for 17 boxes.

You can assist in a meaningful way:

1. Become a partner of health care providers by assembling the seven over-the-counter products for a Medicine Box. Specs are online at <http://gbgm-umc.org/health/medbox/> . Your cash donation of \$375 will cover the prescription medications and shipment of the finished box to its final destination.
2. Do some creative fundraising! For a \$425 donation you can ask IMA to assemble the supplies on your behalf.

Make your checks payable to UMCOR, and write Medicine Box, Advance #982630 in the memo line.

<b>By Offering</b>	For local church and Annual Conference credit, put your gift in the offering plate on Sunday.	
<b>By Check</b>	Make your check to UMCOR and send to UMCOR, 475 Riverside Dr., Room 330, New York, NY 10115.	
<b>By Credit Card</b>	Call toll-free (800) 554-8583	
<b>UMCOR. Multiplying Hope.</b>	The United Methodist Committee on Relief delivers hope and enhances human dignity through food, shelter, health and peace projects.	UMCOR 475 Riverside Drive Room 330 New York, NY 10115 <a href="http://www.umcor.org">http://www.umcor.org</a>
<i>Date: April 2005</i>		