



# Healing and Hope

## MISSION DOCTORS ASSOCIATION

*“I remember this moment...”*

*...I thought of how life went on and on back in the States, and no one knew of this little baby. Will he become an orphan, will he become HIV positive, will he even remain nourished? I thought how little, how seemingly insignificant this little baby was to the whole world, to the world back home. And even as he grows up, as a boy chasing the goats or running after the rolling tire down the hill, who will know of him anywhere. **He is just another face, another child of Africa.** And if he grows up to become a man, he may not be a big name, but perhaps only a quiet father, or farmer struggling to provide for his family... and no one will know of him.*

*Who even knew of these lives that we care for here? Whether it was a 70 year old farmer, a wife widowed from HIV, or the newly born baby. Who knew of them? Who cared about them?*

*While I held this little boy, it was a gift in time that I felt the light of Christ in my arms, so pure and joyful. It was as if I was holding the baby Jesus himself. This is what He asked of me, this is what He asks of us. **When you have cared for the least of mine, you have cared for me.** Don't forget Me in the unknown, the forgotten, the faraway, those the world may see as insignificant. Because while they may seem insignificant to our everyday lives, they are a precious soul that is undeniable special to God.*

*As I reflect now, it is that gentle reminder, **“don't forget me, I'm here, and I need you”.**”*

*Maria H. Curlej RN, BSN, DNP*

Maria served with her son, Milan at St. Martin De Porres Hospital in Njinikom, Cameroon.

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Our annual print newsletter 'Heal the Sick' format has not changed for many, many years. We always strive to share the work of Mission Doctors with our friends, mindful of the costs to print and mail this once a year. I had to be convinced, and was really more than a little surprised to find out that we could print and send the newsletter in color for less.

We are proud to share with you the stories of faith and service, as well as how we have used our resources this year. **We hope you will enjoy this new format and share it with your friends and family.** I look forward to hearing from you!

Elise Frederick  
Executive Director

## Stewardship: Time, Talent & Treasure

The work of MDA is made possible with both the generous donation of time and talent of the doctors and their families, and the generous financial support of all our friends.

Together, their service and your financial support ensures that MDA can provide quality care to those most in need.

### Use of Resources in 2011

#### Program:

Value of professional time donated.....	\$946,685
Direct support of Mission Doctors.....	\$140,071
Mission site & project support.....	\$136,993
Program support.....	\$112,929
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,336,678</b>

#### Fundraising:

<b>Total funds.....</b>	<b>\$136,580</b>
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**TOGETHER, WE  
SUPPORT CATHOLIC  
DOCTORS AND  
THEIR FAMILIES  
WHO SERVE IN  
RESPONSE  
TO REQUESTS FROM  
MISSIONARY BISHOPS**



**OVER 42,000 PATIENTS  
SERVED IN 2011**



**TRAINED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS  
IN EIGHT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS**

**MISSION DOCTORS  
SERVED OVER  
5,750 HOURS  
IN 2011**

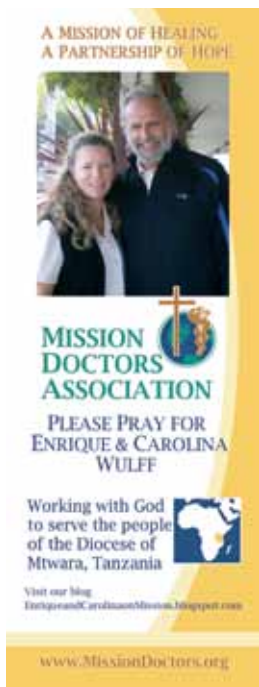
**MISSION DOCTORS ASSOCIATION  
2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

## Many Paths to Mission

Different roads bring doctors to the long-term formation program every year. A more divergent path would be hard to find than those commissioned on May 21, 2012. This year's class included four adults and three children for Mission Doctors and six adults and three children from Lay Mission-Helpers. From January through their Commissioning, this group lived in community at the Mission House adjacent to St. John the Evangelist in Los Angeles. While attending classes five days a week in Scripture, Theology, Mission Culture, Catholic Social Teaching, Cross-cultural issues, they also navigated the challenges of living and working as a community.



Fr. Damian Kabot with the Powers Family and Enrique and Carolina Wulff at their Commissioning.



### A Long and Winding Road...

To spend five minutes with Enrique and Carolina is to know that they have taken a long and winding road to what they have felt called to for a long time, medical missions. Born in Venezuela, Enrique trained in England, Canada and the U.S. and is certified in Pediatrics, Neurology, and Pediatric Neurology. Carolina's background is in education and she has also worked as a caseworker with Catholic Charities in Florida. They committed to join the formation program in November 2011 and were in Los Angeles by the end of January 2012. In Florida, they moved at lightning speed, placing a few possessions in storage, and taking their 'son' (a golden retriever named Ronnie) to live with their other son, Ricardo, in Manhattan. As soon as they received their assignment to St. Benedict's Hospital in Tanzania, Enrique and Carolina investigated ways to learn Swahili. Please keep them in your prayers and follow this couple's path on their blog, available in both English and Spanish.

Visit Enrique and Carolina's blog at  
[www.EnriqueandCarolinaonMission.blogspot.com](http://www.EnriqueandCarolinaonMission.blogspot.com)

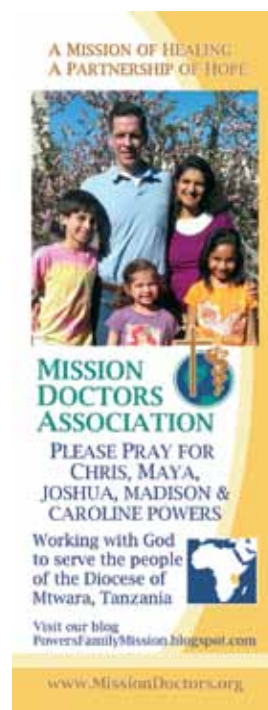


### A brief detour before the journey...

Dr. Chris and Dr. Maya Powers and their three children first attended a discernment weekend in 2010. Having just moved to South Carolina, Chris completed a tour with the US Army and discovered the option to serve with Mission Doctors Association. While Chris was ready to move the family to Los Angeles to begin the classes in January 2011, Maya believed the family needed time to settle in before the next big move. Chris admits that this path was the better choice for their family, and in January 2012, the Powers arrived to begin the four-month formation program. After leaving their jobs, and stopping in Louisiana to visit Maya's parents, they learned that this mission would not be as a family of five, but rather a family of six. Their newest family member is scheduled to arrive in August. So yet, another short detour before they head off to Tanzania with Joshua, Madison, Caroline and baby boy Powers! Please keep them in your prayers as their path leads first to Texas, where Chris will be working, acknowledging that God's plans are ever unfolding! On their blog, you can follow their unfolding path all the way to Tanzania!



Visit the Powers' blog at  
[www.PowersFamilyMission.blogspot.com](http://www.PowersFamilyMission.blogspot.com)





2012 Retreat Attendees

## “New Program” celebrates an Anniversary

Our program for short-term service turned 15 this year! **Doctors from around the country have served thousands of patients**, providing skilled, compassionate direct patient care and assisting in the training of local medical professionals.

Each year, MDA sponsors a Retreat/Seminar for those interested in serving one - three months. Presenters include faculty, authors, and ‘veteran’ mission doctors who share their insights and experience. Join us for the 2013 Retreat/Seminar.

## Making a Difference One Patient at a Time

In the past twelve months, surgeons, pediatricians, cardiologists, family practice specialists, and others have answered the call and freely given their time to share their skills and have **cared for over 20,000 patients** in Africa and Latin America. They have served in small rural clinics in Guatemala; cared for Maasai tribesman in Tanzania; performed surgeries in northwest Cameroon; provided ongoing oversight for a hospital in Zimbabwe; performed C-sections in Douala; and have also provided training for nurses, local doctors, and other health providers.

**Tim Cavanagh** *Scottsdale, AZ*  
Family Practice - Njinikom, Cameroon

**David and Heather Cooper** *Visalia, CA*  
Rehabilitation Specialist and Attorney - Njinikom, Cameroon

**Crystal Cunningham** *Kunkletown, PA*  
Surgeon - Njinikom, Cameroon

**Maria H. Curlej** *Windber, PA*  
Family Nurse Practitioner - Njinikom, Cameroon

**Mark and Molly Druffner and family** *Hudson, WI*  
Family Practice - Bwambo, Tanzania

**Rusty Exner** *Elizabeth City, NC*  
Family Practice - St. Theresa's, Zimbabwe

**Phil Hawley** *Los Angeles, CA*  
Pediatrics - Zamora-Chinchipe Province, Ecuador

**Richard Hourigan** *Moses Lake, WA*  
Family Practice - Njinikom, Cameroon

**Ed Malphus** *Santa Monica, CA*  
Pediatrics - Njinikom, Cameroon

**Stephen Peck** *Kalamazoo, MI*  
Cardiologist - Shisong, Cameroon

**William and Susan Stavinoha** *Austin, TX*  
Family Practice and RN - Tegucigalpa, Honduras

**Richard Stoughton** *Niceville, FL*  
Family Practice - St. Theresa's, Zimbabwe

**Jim and Rose Unger** *Shreveport, LA*  
Ob-Gyn and RN - Doula and Njinikom, Cameroon

*Without your continued support, none of this would be possible.*

## Another Way to Make a Difference

Trailblazer, Michael Hand recently shared his reason for supporting Mission Doctors. *“MDA has made me aware of the needs and given me an opportunity to help those who are under served internationally. I am impressed with how effective MDA is in using the resources available. I support several organizations, including a homeless shelter here in Los Angeles, but **Mission Doctors makes it possible for me to do something international, something that I am confident can, and will, make a difference.**”*



## Making New Friends and Celebrating with the Auxiliary

Our Mission Doctors Auxiliary in Los Angeles has, for more than 50 years, **made the work of Catholic Doctors and their families possible** – and they are continuing strong today! Their Annual Gala Benefit is the primary fundraising event for MDA and is the best party in town! The 2012 Mardi Gras honored Dr. Tim and Mrs. Sheila Cavanagh for their dedication with the Msgr. Brouwers Award, and raised the funds to ensure that MDA can continue to care for those most in need.

**Friends of Mission Doctors** in the Mid West, and the newest group in Santa Barbara, are bringing people together to make a world of difference. Interested in joining a 'Friends of MDA' or starting one in your area? Contact our office for more information.



Sheila and Tim Cavanagh with  
Ed and MaryLou Malphus



Auxiliary Presents a  
'Big Check' to MDA



Jane and Clare at the LA  
Cocktails for a Cause



Bobby and Margaret at  
the Auxiliary Card Party



Friends of MDA, Midwest  
Winter Ball



Friends of MDA, Santa Barbara  
Afternoon Tea

## No Routine Effort

Crystal Cunningham, as a new attending surgeon, spent several months last year in Njinikom and will be returning this summer for a month.

She shared the story of one little one she took care of, and, what I believe most would consider **heroic efforts on his behalf**. You can read the entire story on her blog *Stitch of Hope*.

*Baby Z is one month old and was on the operating table for routine hernia repair. Just prior to incision, I heard the nurse anesthetist rustling about. I asked if everything was ok and he said "No, doctor." I immediately tore down the sterile drapes to find the infant without an endotracheal tube, blue and pulseless.*

*I began chest compressions immediately. The child could not be bagged masked, so I reintubated him and continued with advanced cardiac life support as in the USA, giving epinephrine, atropine, etc...*

*We have no ventilators here, so I moved him to the ward with his endotracheal tube in place, connected him to a saturation monitor, an oxygen concentrator, taped my stethoscope to his chest and my ears and kept bagging every time his saturation fell below 90 percent.*

*My back-up was to have another concentrator should **this one quit, which it did**, needing to be restarted every 3 minutes! I also had people set up as "runners" should...*

*the power go out, which it did, to run immediately to the generators to make sure they would be turned on.*

***This went on for nearly ten hours.** After ten hours, little Z was maintaining his own respirations and saturations. ...by evening was suckling, looking about and neurologically intact.*

Dr. Cunningham returns to Cameroon this summer with the support of her friends and family making her mission possible, and more patients will benefit from her skill and care.

Visit Crystal's blog at  
[www.StitchofHope.blogspot.com](http://www.StitchofHope.blogspot.com)





## Blessings and Challenges

Jim and Terry Hake, from Moses Lake, WA are continuing their long-term mission to Cameroon. Here, Jim reflects on their two years and the challenges and blessings of service.

*It has been four years since Terry and I decided to commit to our three year mission to St. Martin de Porres Hospital here in Njinikom, Cameroon. I sometimes wonder where the time has gone as we complete the second year working alongside the Franciscan Sisters. Our two years here pale with the 40 plus years many of the Sisters have spent providing health care to the poor. The saying "time flies when you are having fun" best explains our situation. Our usual day begins with Mass at the Convent followed by greetings from all the Sisters. We truly have felt a part of their community doing The Lord's work here.*

*The work can be challenging with the limited resources at times. We are rewarded daily as we see children recover from malaria and HIV patients regain their health and their livelihoods. We have been blessed to have received the support from our family and friends at home. We would be unable to continue without your support. The prayers, words of encouragement, care packages, e-mails and financial support to MDA, allows us to provide care to the needy. It has been said, "some are able to serve and many others allow it to happen." As we begin our third year here, we want to say "Thank you!"*



Sr. Xaveria, Hospital Matron and  
Jim and Terry Hake



Visit Jim and Terry's blog at  
[www.HakesinCameroon.blogspot.com](http://www.HakesinCameroon.blogspot.com)

Since 1959, making the work of Mission Doctors possible has taken many hands, much love and we are now working to put an **important missing piece in place.**

**The doctors and their families make many sacrifices to give of their time and talent.** More doctors responding to more requests from mission bishops today means we need to ensure their support.

Our **Auxiliary and Friends of MDA support the work** through their dues and events, both fund and 'friend-raising' for the doctors and special projects.

Our **Annual Appeal** which goes out every year, now with the support of our Trailblazers Match, helps us provide the **funding necessary** to support our long-term Mission Doctors and their families serving today.

The **final piece, our Mission Possible Endowment,** will allow us to **double the number of long-term** Mission Doctors in service.

The goal of Five Million is now 60% met, with bequests and other future interest pledges. As we work to raise the final 40%, **everyone's help is needed!** Some are able to make a planned gift, others a five year pledge, and everything helps move us closer to realizing this goal.

Interested in making a gift to the Endowment? Contact the office to learn more or to receive a pledge card.

The first recipients of the **James C. Carey Memorial Fund**, Dr. Chris and Dr. Maya Powers will serve for three years in Tanzania. The Carey family, friends and supporters have made it possible for MDA to provide the medical school loan repayment for Chris while they are in service, in honor of Dr. Carey. The next goal is to ensure that this fund is in place as an endowment to remove this block to service for other young doctors and their families.



## We are the Body of Christ

*In our work at Hospitalito, we strive each day to bring the body of our patients back to health. I see the correlation between what we do and what these ministers of the Eucharist do every Sunday, at the end of Mass, as the group of men and women process out carrying the host to the men and women of the parish who are unable to attend Mass. It is a solemn process as they slowly walk down the aisle and out into the community carrying the host to those who desire so much to be a part of the body of Christ. I am always in awe of these people going to serve those in need, heads bowed but walking with a purpose that can be felt within. "Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." God came to us, not as a remote, detached, isolated, majestic God, but as a human being. The supreme example of mercy is the coming of God in Jesus Christ. As I witness this ministry, bringing Christ to our brothers, I am humbled. I think of these parishioners, and those who they come to serve, and feel blessed to be able to witness this each week, and to have the opportunity to serve this community.*



Jennifer, Brent, Nicholas,  
Christopher, Julianne & Elizabeth

Visit the Burket Thoene Family Mission blog at  
[www.BurketThoeneFamilyMission.blogspot.com](http://www.BurketThoeneFamilyMission.blogspot.com)



Above, Brent reflected on the solemn way that the community brings the body of Christ to those who are too ill to join the community. Brent Burket and Jennifer Thoene are family practice physicians, who along with their four children, are beginning their third year of service. They are working at Hospitalito, which cares for the Tzutujil Mayan community of Lake Atitlan in the highlands of Guatemala. *We thank you for helping to make their work possible.*

## Standing on the Shoulders of Giants



One hundred years ago, on September 5, 1912, **Msgr. Anthony Brouwers** was born in Lincoln Heights, a Los Angeles suburb. Ordained a priest for the Archdiocese, he served as the Director of the Propagation of the Faith. In 1954, after his visit to Africa, he said that he had expected to hear requests for funding, but he heard **'we need help!'** Returning to Los Angeles in 1955, he founded the Lay Mission-Helpers Association and working with the local Catholic Physician's Guild in 1959, founded Mission Doctors Association and Auxiliary.



**Msgr. Lawrence O'Leary**, his successor, served in the mission office for 25 years. He passed away this year in May. We are grateful for the generosity with which Msgr. O'Leary carried out his work with our early Mission Doctors and Auxiliary.



**Libby Goodwin Peacock**, one of the first leaders of our Mission Doctors Auxiliary also passed away this year. She wrote in our 50th Anniversary book *"I began calling my friends, who in turn called their friends, and the work began with enthusiasm."* Libby's enthusiasm was always contagious!

We are grateful to the giants, whose shoulders we stand upon, as we work to continue to make the mission of Catholic doctors and their families possible. We strive to continue this unique legacy.



## Catholic Doctor of the Year

### What makes a Catholic doctor special?

Is it their faith-filled service in their own practice, volunteer work in their community, or international mission service? **Or is it all of the above?** The 2011 honoree, Dr. Daly of St. Paul, Minnesota is one such doctor.

The 2012 honoree will be named August 15th and will be honored at the Los Angeles Archdiocese White Mass, October 21, 2012 at St. Jerome Parish in Westchester, CA.

## Wondering what to do with spare change?

### We've got a box for that!

We are sending these little boxes out to our friends and supporters, asking people to collect their spare change for the One Million Patients Project (OMPP). **It only takes \$3 to make it possible for a Mission Doctor to care for one patient** in Africa or Latin America! Our goal is to raise enough funds to send Mission Doctors to care for one million patients. Contact our office to receive a box and to learn more about the project, visit the OMPP web page, [www.OneMillionPatients.org](http://www.OneMillionPatients.org).



Pia and Anselm Varni



## Stock Donations

For some donors, making a gift of appreciated stock, that has been held for more than one year, can result in a substantial tax benefit over making a cash donation. If you are interested in making a stock gift to MDA, you may do so directly through Merrill Lynch.

Clearing number: DTC 5198  
Account number: 230-07N39  
MDA's Tax ID: 95-6110132  
MDA's Phone: (213) 368-1875

Please call our office with any questions you may have and to advise us of the transfer to ensure that your gift is properly acknowledged. Thank you!

## Upcoming Events

**August 1, 2012: Application Deadline for the 2013 long-term program** Doctors and their spouses considering serving need to submit an application by August 1st for the formation program that begins in January.

### September 14-16, 2012: Discernment Weekend

Candidates for the long-term program are invited to reflect on their call and learn more about this option.

### Fall 2012: Piano Concert

Enjoy an outdoor concert in beautiful surroundings, while enjoying hor d'oeuvres and desserts. Check our website for details.

### October 21, 2012: White Mass

Working with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, MDA is a sponsor of the annual White Mass celebrating Catholic medical professionals. This year's mass will be held at St. Jerome Parish in Westchester, with celebrant Archbishop Jose Gomez. MDA will present the Catholic Doctor of the Year Award at this Mass. All are welcome. [www.CatholicWM.org](http://www.CatholicWM.org)

### January 16, 2013: Card Party

Join members of the Los Angeles Auxiliary at the Wilshire Country Club for a day of bridge, kings in the corner or the game of your choice and a wonderful lunch.

### Spring 2013: Retreat/Seminar

Doctors and their spouses considering short-term service are invited to attend the annual Retreat / Seminar at Loyola Marymount University to hear from doctors who have served, to learn about current needs, discuss Mission Theology, and the practical aspects of service.

### Spring 2013: Annual Appreciation Mass and Brunch

Friends and members of the Mission Doctors Auxiliary are invited to join us to celebrate our annual Mass, followed by a brunch at St. Robert's Hall, and an opportunity to meet the doctors who have come together for the Retreat/Seminar.

### April 13, 2013: Auxiliary Annual Gala

Mark your calendars and plan to join us at the historic Jonathan Club for a lovely evening of dinner and dancing. MDA will also present the 2013 Msgr. Anthony Brouwers Award to Dr. Kate Bolton and Mr. John Ruley.

## MISSION DOCTORS ASSOCIATION

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