

Science with a Mission, Inc.
"Providing Diagnostics for the Developing World"
Apr/May/June 2010 Newsletter

Cassette Closing Machine

Good news: The malaria cassettes we ordered in June finally arrived!

Bad news: They are extremely difficult to close.

Good news: There is a cassette closing machine we can purchase to help us.

Bad news: It costs \$3,000.

Good news: The day after I received the quote for the cassette closing machine I was informed that Covenant Congregational Church would be giving us \$3,400 as a special gift (from bequest money) to further our ministry! Gotta love God's timing.

**Quilt Show Fundraiser for SMI
Saturday, April 17th**

Again this year we will be having a Quilt Show at the Covenant Congregational Church, 204 Center Street, North Easton, MA on April 17, 2010 from 9:30 to 3:30. Admission is \$5.00. Come and see all the beautiful quilts, both old and new, and read about each one in the booklet you will be given as you enter. A luncheon guaranteed to feed your hunger and your funny bone will be served by those Covenant chefs, Cudmore & Dyer. Lunch donation will be \$5.00. A table of homemade soaps, honey and lip balm will be available, made by Donna Halleran of the Community Covenant Church of East Bridgewater. Also, there will be vendor tables of sewing items for those who wish to shop. A door prize plus some raffle items will be available as well. All proceeds from this show will go to SMI.

News from the field

"Alyne, You are quite welcome and please know we appreciate you and Science with a Mission's efforts to aid our mission efforts along with so many others. We praise God for you and feel very blessed to be building the Kingdom with you and your ministry. Serving Him with you,
Donna, Global Health Outreach"

"On behalf of Children of the Americas I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support for our 2010 team. [COTA] is an all-volunteer organization that provides free medical and surgical services to indigent children and their families in Guatemala. Without the generosity of organizations like yours, we would be unable to continue our work on their behalf." [Photos below]



The group traveled seven hours by bus from the airport to the site, where hundreds of patients waited to be seen.

Clinic patients



We are 9!

Doesn't quite have the same ring as turning 10...but Science with a Mission was started in 2001. Since most of you have not been getting our updates for the full 9 years, I thought I'd take this opportunity to cover a few common questions and clarify some things.

First of all, I have not invented anything. (Well, unless you count some fairly creative food items I've eaten in the past. But I digress.) I did not invent immunoassays - the technology used for our diagnostics. The only unique things I am doing are 1) caring about diseases which are prevalent in the developing world instead of the US and 2) keeping our tests affordable - for folks in the poorest places around the globe. Speaking of which - our tests have now been used in 51 different countries:

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Kinshasa), Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Korea, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Pacific Islands, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Vietnam, Zambia.

This is my fulltime job and I do receive a salary from SMI. For the first 18 months, there was no money to draw from - I just went through my savings and lived as frugally as possible. After that I took an annual salary of \$25,000 for several years. However, my salary has increased and I am now living above the U.S. poverty line☺.

I have not produced all the antibodies and reagents we use in our tests. When SMI started, there was barely anything available commercially and we worked to make monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies for the tests we were interested in. However, things have changed and all the antibodies for the 9 tests we currently have are available commercially. The first step in the manufacturing process is completed by AZOG in New Jersey. We then receive uncut cards, which we cut, assemble into cassettes and package.

Missions Festival in North Carolina

I spent March 19th - 21st with members of Trinity Church in Greensboro, NC for their missions festival. I always come away feeling blessed after my time with these folks - meeting with other missionaries they support, sometimes meeting Covenant missionaries I have only known through the prayer calendar up to this point, hearing more about what God is doing around the world. Thanks for your support Trinity!

Auction

Have a sweet tooth? Would you like a different cake every month for a year? Want to see the Red Sox play at Fenway Park (June 30th)? How about a gift card to Starbucks, Best Buy or local restaurant? Come to this year's Auction on May 1st 6:30pm (Covenant Congregational Church in North Easton) and you can bid on these items and more. Entrance is just \$2.

Haiti

Do you remember when we hit 100,000 tests sent out? The milestone diagnostic was purchased by folks at Christianville Clinic in Haiti. Fortunately, nobody from the clinic was hurt during the earthquake. Unfortunately, the clinic itself was destroyed - crushing most of their equipment, medicine and the 1,000 diagnostics they had just purchased 2 months before. We have sent 200 tests to help replace some of those lost tests. If you would like to contribute to a fund to help us replace more tests, please send your donation to the address below and write "Haiti" in the memo line.

Thanks for joining with us in this unique ministry!

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