

ChildWorld

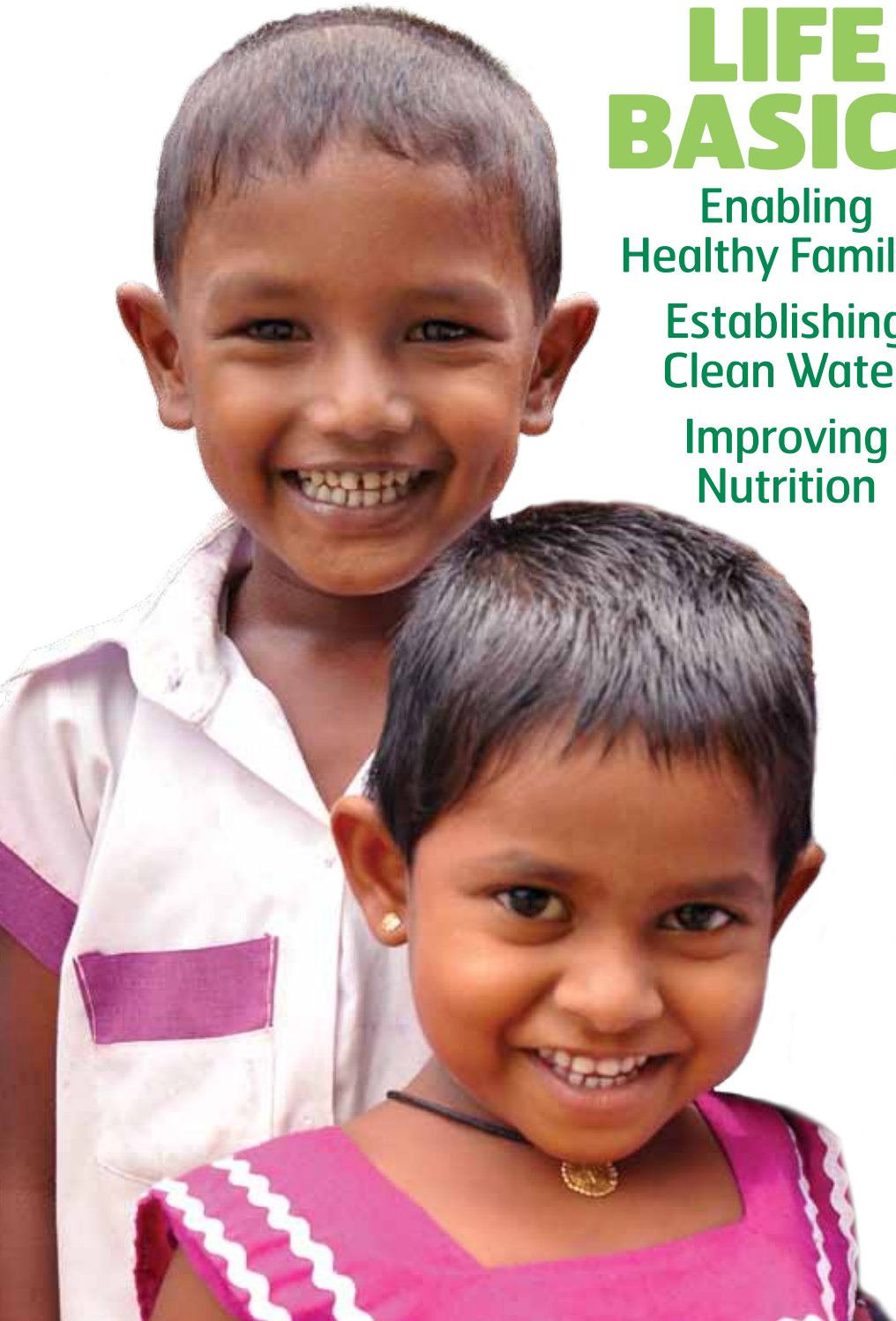
SUMMER 2011

LIFE BASICS

Enabling
Healthy Families

Establishing
Clean Water

Improving
Nutrition



ChildWorld

SUMMER 2011



BRAZIL STAFF



LIBERIA STAFF

- 1** In This Issue
- 2** Healthy Families Build Strong Communities
- 6** ChildFund Fights Malnutrition Through Innovative Programs
- 10** Water Watchers: Brazilian Communities Practice Vigilance
- 11** Water Wise: Test Your Water Knowledge
- 12** Clean Water Saves Lives
- 13** Ripple Effect: ChildFund India's First 60 Years
- 14** ChildFund Guided CEO's Path
- 15** Donors: One Person Does Make a Difference
- 16** World News
- 17** Creative Ways to Help

PADANG TIIMALYANTO

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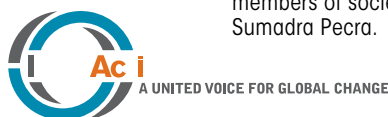
ChildFund exists to help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children have the capacity to improve their lives and the opportunity to become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change in their communities. We promote societies whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children.

Working in 31 countries, ChildFund assists 15.2 million children and family members, based on our 2007 survey. ChildFund is currently introducing a more rigorous methodology for counting children and families served, and this data will be shared in 2011.

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ChildWorld®

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ON THE COVER: ChildFund wants all children to be healthy and happy like this Sri Lankan boy and girl. We address children's essential needs, offering a solid foundation on which to grow, learn and become productive members of society. Photo by Sumadra Pecra.



IN THIS ISSUE

For more than 70 years, ChildFund has been helping vulnerable children around the world. We travel with children on their journey from infancy to adulthood, and along the way we work to ensure that they have the basics of life — food, water and health care. Because they are basic to survival, the lack of any of these three essentials brings obvious consequences.

We all know that water covers much of the earth, but what is needed is access to clean, life-supporting water. In this issue of *ChildWorld*, you'll read about how ChildFund helps bring clean water to communities.

We're also working to improve nutrition through growth monitoring, nutritional and vitamin supplements, as well as implement-

ing improved agricultural techniques. Our third feature focuses on maternal and child health.

With this issue, we've added a new section, "World News," which provides brief updates about the important work ChildFund is doing to help vulnerable children throughout the world.

How do we know these efforts are returning dividends? In "ChildFund Guided CEO's Path," you'll read the story of Joel John Roberts, who is CEO of PATH. He shares how his time in a ChildFund orphanage transformed his life. He told us, "I'm one of those kids [you] helped. There is hope when you invest in people."

We hope you will be inspired by his story and hearing about how ChildFund works to provide the essentials for survival. **CW**

HEALTHY FAMILIES

BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES

BY CHRISTINE ENNULAT, STAFF WRITER

WHITE RIBBON ALLIANCE



Dominga, 59 and illiterate, became a midwife 20 years ago so she could deliver her children's children — distance and bad roads around her rural Honduras village made it nearly impossible to get help whenever babies were born. Word soon spread, and other women in her community began to ask her to attend their births.

"The good part of being a midwife is that families love me," she says. "They ask for my help in their births, and I think they trust me, because many people in neighboring communities ask for my services."

But sometimes, love and trust are not enough to ensure a safe delivery. Dangerous complications occur with 15 percent of pregnant women, and as many as 585,000 women die each year from complications that could have been prevented — postpartum hemorrhage, miscarriage, infection, obstructed delivery or pregnancy-induced hypertension.

What village midwife is truly prepared for any of those?

Then again, what alternative do pregnant women have in the far

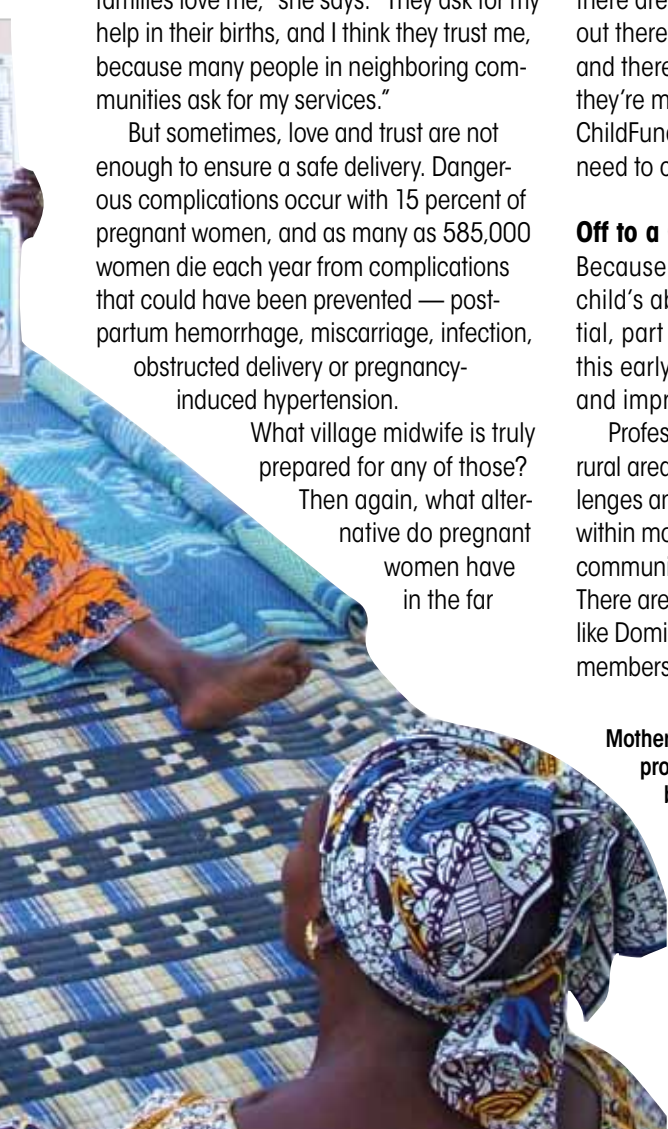
reaches of Honduras? "The problem is that there are not enough health professionals out there, there won't be for a long time, and there may never be in the places where they're most needed," says David Shanklin, ChildFund's senior health specialist. "So we need to come up with other solutions."

Off to a Good Start

Because health in infancy is integral to a child's ability to achieve his or her potential, part of ChildFund's work on behalf of this early life stage centers on supporting and improving maternal and child health.

Professional care is out of reach in most rural areas due to high cost, logistical challenges and clustering of trained caregivers within more-populated areas. But small communities are not without resources. There are traditional birth attendants (TBAs) like Dominga. And there are community members who care about their neighbors,

Mothers of children enrolled in ChildFund programs often serve as traditional birth attendants. With training they become part of the solution to reduce high maternal mortality rates and enable mothers and their children to get a good start in life.



Because health in infancy is integral to a child's ability to achieve his or her potential, part of ChildFund's work on behalf of this early life stage centers on supporting and improving maternal and child health.

who are willing to learn, who are willing to take as much responsibility as they can for their own health.

In a pilot program implemented from 2007 to 2009 in the poorest areas of Honduras, Guatemala and Bolivia, ChildFund helped communities set up volunteer-run health clinics, called Unidades Comunitarias de Salud (UCOS). The goal was to reduce child mortality through access to quality community-based health services. Twenty-five health clinics were established in Honduras, run by 230 trained volunteers and supported by dozens more local members of community health committees and emergency transport groups.

In addition to reducing health expenses for families, the program's successes included significant improvements in pregnancy-related outcomes. This success was due to a wider use of healthy practices such as tetanus-toxoid injections, new tools to cut umbilical cords, promotion of immediate breastfeeding and postpartum care within the first seven days after birth. One other goal was to increase the number of births referred to and attended by skilled health professionals rather than TBAs. That number doubled, and the number of births attended by TBAs decreased by 14 percent.

Upon completion of the UCOS pilot program, ChildFund implemented another effort that builds on and extends the UCOS program but with even greater focus on maternal and child health. The program serves 12 communities in south-central Honduras and in FY10 achieved a one-year

extension of its USAID Child Survival and Health grant. Work centers around building community-based capacity through the UCOS clinics to create a system that is proactive rather than reactive on behalf of children's health.

One component of the program is aligned with the Honduran Ministry of Health's effort to promote assisted delivery at health centers as the norm rather than the exception. This involves intensive training of TBAs. Facilitators ensure that TBAs are well-versed in sterilizing instruments, avoiding postpartum infection, preventing and responding to obstetrical emergencies and making swift decisions about referral and transfer of laboring women. ChildFund TBAs are paid a small stipend when they make appropriate referrals, encouraging a system that increases the numbers of women who get professional, safe care.

"Because they're in the communities where we work, TBAs identify the participants," says David Shanklin. "They open the door."

For women living long distances from a health center, a new facility was built to house them in the days just before delivery. One reason women often do not take advantage of obstetrical care is that it costs too much to stay near the health center. The new facility, a home away from home, can shelter up to 15 women at a time.

Another important piece of the USAID-funded program is the training of health monitors in a practice known as Community-Integrated Management of Childhood Illness. Modules include monitoring growth,



Monitoring children's development through regular height and weight measurements is helpful in detecting problems early. Often, the days these measurements are taken become festive as mothers gather for the occasion.

caring for the sick child, caring for pregnant women and newborns, feeding children under 2 and feeding pregnant women. The health monitors hold meetings in the communities and also perform home visits.

Continuing Education

In September 2010, Dominga participated in ChildFund's TBA training, her first formal instruction as a midwife. "I am very happy with what I have learned," she says. "Every weekend, I ask my grandson to read the handbook for me to remember what I learned and to always keep it in mind."

When her daughter Lesly was pregnant, Dominga referred her to the community-based health center for prenatal care and the subsequent community health monitor-

ing meetings. Lesly's baby, Estefany, is now a healthy 1-year-old. After the latest meeting, Lesly zips her little girl's jacket and smiles. Estefany's health chart has another of the blue marks that indicate satisfactory weight gain since the last checkup.

The good feeling comes from more than just the blue mark. Lesly knows that if Estefany is growing well, her health is solid. At every monthly meeting, the young mother learns more about how to maintain that progress: how to balance her baby's nutrition, what to watch for should illness arise and what vaccinations Estefany needs.

"I am very happy when the monitor tells me Estefany is growing well, because she doesn't get sick," says Lesly. "And she is also very pretty." **CW**



CHILDFUND FIGHTS MALNUTRITION

THROUGH INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

BY CHRISTINE ENNULAT, STAFF WRITER

Every day, parents make choices of what to feed their children for breakfast, lunch and dinner. In developing countries, parents' daily choices are often between feeding their children at all and paying for fuel, school or medicine.

With Global Hunger Index scores at their highest in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, many families where ChildFund works struggle with malnutrition. The solution is not simple, as malnutrition stems from food insecurity, inadequate clean water and sanitation, unemployment or a lack of education.

The youngest are the most vulnerable. Malnutrition does its worst damage within

Food is never taken for granted in developing societies. ChildFund fights malnutrition — a complicated issue — in many ways: teaching families about balanced diets, encouraging families to wash vegetables with potable water and offering small loans to improve crop irrigation or begin animal husbandry efforts.

the first thousand days of a child's life.

ChildFund has a long history of responding to malnutrition. Our approach has come to include helping communities build the capacity to support the nutritional needs of their own children and to teach children themselves about good nutrition.

Our Enhanced Growth Promotion programs ensure children's adequate nourishment until age 3. In Senegal, for example, we monitor children's weight on a monthly basis to identify undernutrition (lacking essential nutrients) before it sets in. Today, trained community-based health volunteers meet with mothers in groups and share ideas for infant stimulation and improved

About 171 million children globally are stunted, according to 2010 figures.

nutrition. When a child is failing to thrive, a community health volunteer visits the family to provide one-on-one counseling and support on feeding, hygiene and disease prevention.

We also join with other organizations in raising awareness around the issue of malnutrition. ChildFund is a co-signer of the Scaling Up Nutrition Road Map, a United Nations-led effort that helps guide the international aid community's efforts to combat undernutrition within the all-important 1,000-day window.

A healthy and secure baby is equipped for the important work of play, which prepares her for education, where she learns to understand the world around her. As she grows up in a healthy environment, her confidence, as well as skills she hones in youth, opens the way for her full involvement in the well-being of her community.

Afghanistan: Farkunda and Her Family

In her small northeastern Afghanistan village, Mumlakat tries to feed her five children every day. Sometimes she succeeds.

Mumlakat's 18-month-old daughter Farkunda has been sick often with fever, diarrhea and vomiting. The nearest health clinic is in another village, a donkey ride away. "I think she is ill because of the lack of nutritious food and clean water," says Mumlakat. "I try my best to feed Farkunda and her brothers and sisters daily. I can't often afford meat and vegetables, but I give rice, soup and bread when I can. I know it's not enough."

Water fits into the picture as well. Villagers rely on a communal faucet, which ChildFund helped install. However, many still use a nearby river to wash vegetables and bathe. Easy access to clean water remains a critical issue for the village.

ChildFund works to improve the situation by empowering the community to do so. Community health workers are trained to detect and treat children's illness. Families

Because waterborne illness can cause malnutrition, it follows that improved hygiene can strengthen nutritional status. "My children's health is improving," Mumlakat says.

themselves benefit from being educated about basic health and hygiene, such as washing hands before handling food and boiling water before cooking.

Because waterborne illness can cause malnutrition, it follows that improved hygiene can strengthen nutritional status. "My children's health is improving," Mumlakat says. "My hope is that Farkunda and her brothers and sisters grow up strong and healthy. I want them to go to school, get an education and be of good service to the community. I know ChildFund will help."

Kenya: Hope for Sophy

For a child in Kenya, HIV usually means a death sentence.

That's what Sophy's grandmother, Lucy, expected when she learned it was the reason that the little girl in her care had been so weak and listless. Sophy's HIV would be a double blow to her immune system, growth and IQ. She was only 5 years old.

Despite grinding poverty, the widowed 42-year-old mother of seven was doing her best to raise her own children as well as three grandchildren. The news of Sophy's condition hit hard, especially with the child having already lost both parents. Lucy says,



Establishing animal husbandry activities provides a sustainable food source and often additional income as well. This small family piggery in Vietnam leads to sustainable change.

"I lost hope in her life."

But hope found the family again, in the form of ChildFund's Pamoja Child Support Feeding Program. Lucy enrolled Sophy, and a transformation began. This feeding program in Sophy's village provides children with access to nutrition, education and playtime. ChildFund also made sure that Sophy was dewormed and was given the vitamin A supplements she needed. Monitoring continues.

When she started at Pamoja, Sophy weighed a meager 31 pounds. Within four months, she had gained seven. As her health improved, Sophy began to bloom, becoming more active at home and in school. She looks just as robust as any other girl her age, and her improved nutritional status helps her fight the deadly virus she carries, enhancing and prolonging her life.

"I can afford to smile when I glance at her," Lucy says now. "She is healthier and active, and I am relieved."

Vietnam: Food Security and Nam's Dream

Not long ago in Xuan Phong, high in the mountains of northern Vietnam, young Nam's family would suffer four to six months of food shortage annually. "We

had to mix cassava with rice for meals," says his father, Duong.

To keep the community's rice paddies irrigated, families had to chop down trees to dam streams — as often as seven times in a season — so that the water would collect. They carried the water to the field using leaky earthen jars. To help the community achieve food security, ChildFund provided support for the construction of a new irrigation canal.

"ChildFund has taught us to improve cultivation, lent us money and discussed with us how to generate and manage family income," says Duong. "Now we have enough rice for food." With microloans and training from ChildFund, Duong launched a pig-raising enterprise, which finally grew productive enough that he no longer needed the loans.

The family's increasing stability made it much easier for Nam and his older brother to attend school. Since then, Nam has eagerly made the transition from primary to secondary school. "If I hadn't gone to primary school," he says, "I would not have had the chance to continue studying and would not have the opportunity for high school."

Nam dreams of becoming a doctor. An irrigation canal for his community was a first step toward getting him there. **CW**

WATER WATCHERS

BRAZILIAN COMMUNITIES PRACTICE VIGILANCE

BY CHRISTINE ENNULAT, STAFF WRITER

When you don't have easy access to water, you find it wherever you can. In that situation, what water you do find is barely enough for household needs, never mind suitable for human consumption. Waterborne illness is a constant threat and frequent reality that keeps quality of life low.

That's how it has been in the many Brazilian communities with no public supply

of potable water. In 2001, ChildFund Brazil responded by creating a program called Water for Life. ChildFund partnered with communities and local organizations to build dams and domestic wells for rainwater catchment, and also set up management and conservation projects that are implemented by community members.

By 2010, 682 families could count on regular access to water in their homes. For others, it meant having water for their crops. More than 360 youths and adults had been trained to work as environmental educators in their communities. Overall, more than 1,700 families benefit from access to water.

Francisco is trained by Water for Life as a water watcher, to educate families in his community about the need for vigilance about water and to advocate for their engagement in water-related activities. "We show families the importance of their participation," he says.

Maria, a school director says, "We organize various activities to raise awareness in the students in classes on waste recycling and community mobilization for garbage collection. Students talk to teachers about the need to bring the project to other communities." Even schoolchildren are in on the act, and that leads to lasting, long-term impact. **CW**



BRAZIL STAFF

One in three people on every continent of the globe is affected by water scarcity.

Water Wise: Test Your Water Knowledge

Take this matching quiz and learn more about water and the issues surrounding it.

1. Current world population

2. Gallons of water used in taking a bath, in each run of a dishwasher, in a single flush of a toilet and in taking a shower, respectively

3. Amount of the world's freshwater readily accessible for human consumption

4. Percentage of the world's freshwater that goes to agriculture

5. Percentage of all waste that is untreated

6. Economic return on every \$1 invested in water and sanitation

7. People worldwide who lack access to safe water supplies

8. Number of people without access to adequate sanitation facilities

9. Number of viruses, bacteria and worm eggs (respectively) contained in 1 gram of fecal matter

10. Number of grams of fecal matter that can kill a child under 5

11. Percentage of the world's people living in poverty who are sick any given day from causes connected to water supply, hygiene or sanitation

12. Number of people each year who die from waterborne illnesses such as cholera, dysentery, diarrhea, dengue fever, typhoid and malaria

13. Number of children under 5 who die from diarrhea each year

14. Number of children under 5 who die from waterborne illness each day

A. 1

B. 1.5 million

C. 2.5 billion

D. 6.9 billion

E. 10 million,
1 million, 100

F. 3,575,000

G. 50

H. 80

I. 50, 20, 3, 2.5

J. 24,000

K. 1 in 8

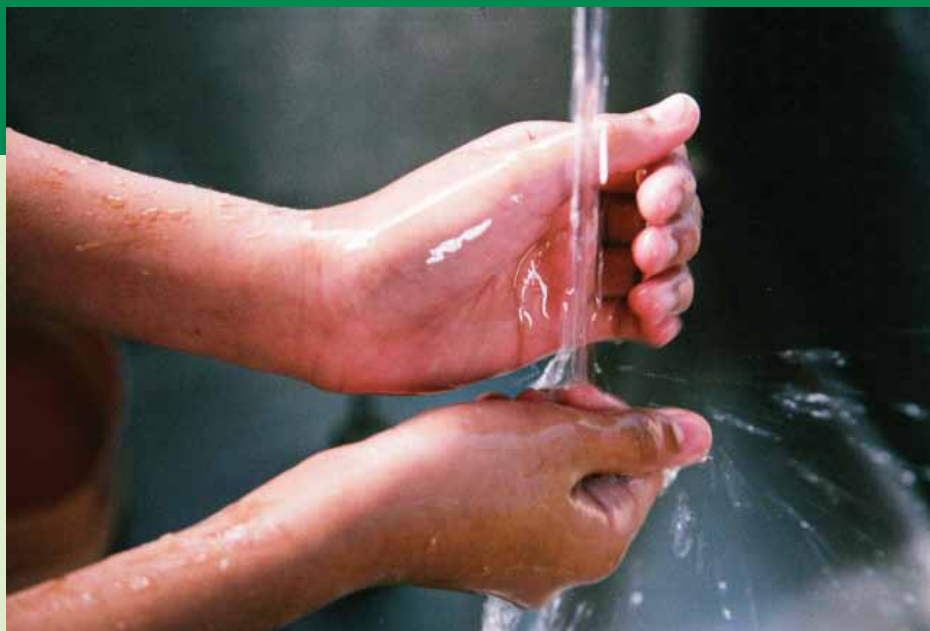
L. 70

M. \$3 to \$34

N. Less than
1 percent

For answers, visit www.ChildFund.org/wateranswers or take a picture of the QR code below with your smartphone.





CLEAN WATER SAVES LIVES

Access to clean water is not always possible for families in developing countries. Now, thanks to a partnership with Procter & Gamble, ChildFund is able to provide clean water to families in Uganda.

Procter & Gamble, developer of the PUR water filtration system, has partnered with ChildFund to provide a year's worth of PUR water purification sachets to 1,000 households in Uganda's Luwero district.

The distribution of PUR sachets (365 per household) and water purification sets will provide safe drinking water to families living with HIV/AIDS. Additionally, ChildFund, working through trained community health volunteers, is educating families on the importance of proper hygiene, steps they can take to prevent diarrhea and how to recognize the danger signs of diarrhea that require prompt medical attention.

Approximately 1,000 households (5,000 to 6,000 people) living with HIV/AIDS will now have a reliable source of clean water. The PUR water filtration system, developed in collaboration with the U.S. Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention, provides a simple means of purifying dirty water in an affordable and convenient way.

Greg Allgood, with Procter & Gamble, recently visited a ChildFund community in Uganda. While there, he reported, "PUR is being provided along with hygiene and sanitation training by a network of home-based care volunteers. I was honored to meet with a gathering of some volunteers who number 54 in total, each reaching about 20 to 25 households. We visited with several of the households receiving PUR, and it's clear that they are loyal, long-term users. Although they're getting PUR for free in this program, they clearly value the donation."

With the internationally unified name of ChildFund, more and more people recognize our work the world over. This is helping us grow our partnerships and touch the lives of even more children and communities.

It is through partnerships like this one with Procter & Gamble that ChildFund is able to bring more resources to helping vulnerable children worldwide. **CW**

RIPPLE EFFECT

ChildFund India's First 60 Years

BY CHRISTINE ENNULAT, WITH REPORTING BY SACHAL ANEJA, CHILDFUND INDIA

ChildFund India turned 60 in April. ChildFund's first project in India, a boarding school it took over in 1951, was an early example of ChildFund's focus on building future leaders from the most deprived children of all — orphaned children of low-caste known as "untouchables."

Today, ChildFund India works with 75 local partners to improve the lives of 1 million children and their family members. With an emphasis on youth participation, more than 1,000 children's clubs contribute to a better future

through activities such as raising awareness about education and child marriage.

"We have evolved over the six decades of our presence," says Dola Mohapatra, ChildFund's national director for India.

"We have successfully been able to move away from being seen as having a welfare mindset toward being known for building capacity as well as organizational strength at the community level. Ensuring program quality and implementing programs effectively, have been key to our journey." **CW**



GREAT NONPROFITS

ChildFund understands that our supporters are passionate about their sponsored children and the work that we do. We encourage supporters to share their passion and extend ChildFund's reach by posting a comment about their involvement with ChildFund on the Great Nonprofits website. Here is a direct link to the site: <http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/profile2/childfund-international>

TAX SUMMARIES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

You asked; we listened. ChildFund supporters have frequently requested that their year-end tax totals be available online — and now they are.

Tax totals have been added to the customer service side of the website. Once supporters are registered through ChildFund's secure website (using the Sign In button on the top right of the homepage), they may go to the Manage Your Account section. The page will list the previous and current year's taxable donations.

ChildFund Guided CEO's Path

BY CYNTHIA PRICE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

You just never know when you touch people's lives, says Joel John Roberts, CEO of People Assisting The Homeless (PATH). That's especially true for Roberts whose life was touched at an early age by a family that adopted him from Fanling Babies Home, a Hong Kong orphanage run by ChildFund International (then Christian Children's Fund).

In a soft, conversational tone, Roberts talks about his upbringing and how he always felt

special and always knew he would pass it on. He doesn't hesitate to share his story, describing it as both normal and special.

His adoptive grandparents, who were from the United States, were missionaries who started a ministry in China. His parents wanted to extend the ministry and decided to adopt a child, Joel.

"I was always told they searched all over China for me, so I always felt really special," he says "I could either look at it as I was rejected or that I was this special person that this family searched all over the world for. And they picked me."

Roberts didn't choose to be adopted from an orphanage and have his life transformed. He says, "Even as a kid I knew I was going to pass it on." Today he's the CEO of PATH, a national nonprofit organization that helps communities across the U.S. integrate homeless support services with permanent,



Joel John Roberts has dedicated his life to helping others. His life has come full circle, from a Hong Kong orphanage to helping the homeless in Los Angeles.

affordable housing.

Roberts says that in L.A., homelessness is "such a significant issue." With more than 50,000 people homeless in Los Angeles County, L.A. is considered the homeless capital of the world.

Roberts, a realist, knew that something different had to be done. Helping the homeless couldn't just be about providing food and shelter. The biggest issue was lack of affordable housing and today PATH has \$350 million in capital funding for affordable housing. "We wouldn't have done that if we hadn't have looked

at the problem differently," Roberts says.

He described it as similar to what ChildFund does. "It's not just about helping children," he says. "It's finding out why there is a problem and what can be done. Is it a lack of clean water that keeps children from going to school? That makes them sick? Is it war? What can be done to change the system?"

"We just have to help and plant seeds. You never know what can happen when you invest in these children," Roberts says of those who support ChildFund. "You just never know when you touch people's lives."

Roberts recently attended a conference of social entrepreneurs. People were speaking about changing the paradigm. When it was Roberts' turn to speak he said, "I'm one of those kids that was helped. There is hope when you invest in people."

And that's what ChildFund continues to do. **cw**

One Person Makes a Difference

BY ANIETRA HAMPER, CHILDFUND CORRESPONDENT

Pat Penrose decided a long time ago that she would build her legacy by touching young lives. But when Penrose and her late husband decided to become ChildFund International sponsors in 1983, they had no idea just how far their generosity would go. Today, Penrose sponsors 10 children around the world and she knows beyond a doubt that she has made an impact.

She says, "I have been blessed to be a blessing. And, it is so much fun."

Recently Penrose, accompanied by her grandson, visited her sponsored child in LaPaz, Bolivia. She has sponsored Suzana for 12 years and only knew her through letters and pictures. When Suzana turned 18 this year, Penrose, who had watched her grow into a lovely young woman from a distance, wanted to meet her.

When Penrose arrived, she had no idea what to expect. The years she spent as a sponsor helping to shape this young life all came down to this moment. Penrose said the language barrier made for an awkward introduction, but it was eclipsed by heartfelt compassion that required no translation.

"She has written such cute and loving notes all these years. We just held hands for two days. She referred to me in Spanish as her godmother," Penrose said.

It was not long before Penrose recognized the ripple effect of her contributions. Her connection with the young woman extended to the entire family. Sanchez's mother and sister also stayed close to Penrose the entire visit. We were family. There were lots of hugs and kisses," she said.

Penrose said she saw first-hand how



Pat Penrose (2nd from right) visited her sponsored child in Brazil, where she also met staff and saw program activities firsthand.

ChildFund transforms the lives of these children, their families and the community as a whole. She witnessed the mothers of children in the program helping with meals and learning parenting skills. She saw doctors administering inoculations to children in LaPaz. Seeing these moments of life change in progress convinced Penrose even more of the power of one person.

While interacting with children there, Penrose saw that some children were not sponsored. She was so touched to see them happy and thriving in the ChildFund environment that she reached out, on the spot, to sponsor two more children in the class she was visiting; two young girls, who both want to be doctors, and because of ChildFund, and Penrose, might have that chance.

Penrose has dedicated her life to sharing what she has to make a difference. She wants to leave a legacy for her own grandchildren and for those young lives in this world who can find comfort in knowing someone is reaching out for them. **CW**

WORLD NEWS

SOUTH AMERICA: YOUTH-RUN RADIO

ChildFund Bolivia has launched a radio program in several areas of the country to build awareness of the importance of child health care and early childhood development. ChildFund Guatemala also took to the airwaves, promoting its maternal mortality reduction program on local radio station broadcasts. Because the youth run these programs, their peers listen, increasing the effectiveness of the messages.

JAPAN: EARTHQUAKE

Thanks to supporters, ChildFund International has been able to give ChildFund Japan \$200,000 to help with its efforts in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami.



In recent weeks, ChildFund Japan has set up offices in cities in Iwate Prefecture to provide emergency goods and volunteer services. ChildFund Japan will con-

centrate its efforts in Iwate's Ofunato City and other areas that were devastated by the tsunami, continuing support into the reconstruction phase.

The Girl Scouts of Japan have joined in the effort to distribute ChildFund's manual for psychosocial care of children in emergency situations. Some 8,000 Girl Scout leaders now have the manual, which they intend to use in a grief camp they will hold jointly with the Boy Scouts of Japan.

SRI LANKA: EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Services to young children were provided in hundreds of early childhood development (ECD) centers, including 10 new ECD centers established in Sri Lanka with the assistance of ChildFund Alliance member ChildFund Korea. In addition, supplemental feeding programs were organized.

IVORY COAST: REFUGEES

As the conflict in Ivory Coast escalates, more than 120,000 refugees have crossed the border into Liberia. ChildFund Liberia is establishing child-friendly spaces for 500 children, while also protecting and tracing some 300 children to reunite them with their families and foster parents. ChildFund Liberia also is



working to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation and abuse among Ivorian refugees.

Our work to protect children whose lives have been disrupted is part of a wider process involving the Liberian government, international agencies and local nongovernmental organizations, associations and groups. ChildFund will work closely with UNICEF and take a leading child-protection role in designated areas.

PHILIPPINES: PEACE

A three-day peace camp was organized and facilitated by youth in the Philippines. The goal was to train a cadre of local youth, who would carry a message of peace in an effort to quell skirmishes impacting large populations. **CW**



CREATIVE WAYS TO HELP

BY CHRISTINE ENNULAT, STAFF WRITER

For decades, ChildFund's signature mechanism for giving has been its sponsorship program. Our sponsors cherish the ability to exchange letters with their sponsored children, to connect with them as they grow and fulfill their potential. Good feelings come from that personal relationship.

But the relationship part is not for everybody, and ChildFund understands that. Although many people want to have a direct connection to a particular child who benefits from ChildFund's work, some people just prefer to give more directly.

ChildFund has three monthly giving options besides sponsorship. One is through our Children's Greatest Needs program. This is ChildFund's general fund, which allows us the flexibility to apply resources where and when they are needed the most — and to plan for challenges that may arise.

Two newer monthly giving opportunities — Generation Give and Essentials for Survival — offer their own distinct levels of engagement. Generation Give, is a growing online community of people who care about children living in poverty. By joining together — whether at the \$20, \$30 or \$40 monthly level — Generation Give members help families to protect themselves from malaria with treated mosquito nets, or villagers to drill wells for freshwater. Through Generation Give, ChildFund is facilitating a social network where supporters can focus their attention on efforts that change lives.

Essentials for Survival, ChildFund's third

monthly giving mechanism, is focused on exactly what the name suggests: the basics — food, water and health care. Without these, children suffer.

But there are effects beyond the obvious, as well. Water, for instance, can make or break important opportunities such as education. In developing countries like Uganda, young children may spend hours on the journey to and from a local water source rather than attending school.

Supporters who choose to give through Essentials for Survival — at \$15, \$20 or \$25 monthly — can know that their generosity combines to provide children with the essentials that will make it possible for them to become young adults and parents who bring lasting change to their communities.

Monthly giving is both low-maintenance and high-impact, and it's easy to sign up at ChildFund.org. **CW**




WARREN JOHNSON



AFGHANISTAN STAFF

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