

CONCERN AMERICA

SUMMER 2016

Dear Friend of Concern America,

For nonprofits like us, the highest percentage of support typically comes between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve – while summer tends to be the lowest season of giving. Though Concern America's diversity of income enables us to support our programs throughout the year, we, like other charitable organizations, experience a reduction of giving in the summer.

To offset this, we are launching our first ever **Grow a Global Heart Summer Campaign!** As part of this effort, our staff and board will expand outreach to first-time donors and groups through special gatherings and events, funding proposals, crowd-source challenges, and exposure in various media markets (all donated!) in California and nationally.

We also turn to you, our faithful donors and friends, to take part in this summer campaign. Here's how:

- Join us for our first ever Summer Celebration fundraiser event, on August 20 in Santa Ana.
- Consider a summertime gift, or if you are a regular donor, an additional gift at this time of particular need.
- Share your love of our work with others to expand the family of Concern America Global Hearts.

What does your support make possible this summer? A phrase that is being used more in nonprofit circles is "return on investment." When you give to Concern America, you invest in our mission and our programs. Your return is measured in the tangible impact your support has on the people with whom we work: the family that now has a local health care provider, the child that has clean water, the mother who can now provide for her family.

Whether you choose to give at one of the levels below or join with friends and family to make even more possible, know that your generosity, at any amount, transforms lives.

Thank you for Growing a Global Heart with us this summer!

With gratitude and in peace,


John Straw
Executive Director

Grow a Global Heart this Summer!

Suggested summertime gifting options:

\$50	Health Practitioner Medical Kit, the essential tools for patient care
\$100	Fuel-Efficient Improved Stove for a family
\$250	Medical Training for a year for a Health Practitioner, bringing care to 250 people
\$500	Clean Water for a family for 20 years through a village water system
\$1,000	HIV Prevention and Support of those with AIDS in a region of 22,000 people for two months
\$2,000	Training for 25 Midwives who care for 100 mothers and their newborns each year
\$5,000	Local Health Practitioner Leader annual salary (in place of a Concern America field volunteer)
\$12,000	Concern America nurse, doctor, engineer, teacher, each improving the lives of 35,000 people (stipend, health insurance, trip home, and more)

Growing a Global Heart since 1972

Stories from the Field



“Spirit in the community is high and people are energized to have their hands in action. Comments on how this will change their lives float around the air and excitement shines in their eyes, especially among the women, who, proud and feisty, remind men that it’s them, the women, who carry the weight of their water.”

This summer, the appropriate technology team in Chiapas, Mexico will be working in five communities to build water systems, bringing clean water into the homes of 150 families and in the public spaces in their villages. In communities without water systems, families must carry all of the water they use from ponds, rivers, or springs. According to a recent survey in the region, the average family spends four hours each day collecting water to meet its needs.

“In this collegial environment that is the teaching clinic, we comfortably study together and grow the group knowledge. Recently, we furthered our techniques to cover the skin defect left by the removal of skin cancer. A man had an ulcerated basal skin cancer near the inner corner of his eye. We cut it out, leaving a scary hole in the skin of his face, about 2 cm by 3 cm. Macaria, the advanced Health Practitioner that helps run the clinic, led our team effort, and the surgery lasted over three hours. We made extra incisions to free the surrounding skin and then closed it beautifully in a kind of jigsaw pattern. The task was cocooned inside a spirit of care for the patient, whose face healed quickly and normally.



“The clinic sees many skin cancers of the face, and this skill set will help dozens of patients a year. The case illustrates how the Practitioners continually update themselves and stay abreast based on local medical need.” – Julie Kiser, MD

An important component to Concern America’s health work is the teaching clinics. Located in central towns, the clinics provide both quality and affordable care for the surrounding villages as well as a high-level teaching environment where advanced Health Promoter Practitioners and Concern America field team members mentor newer Practitioners.

Save the Date

August 20, 2016

**Concern America’s First Annual
Summer Celebration Fundraiser Event**

Spend the evening in good company to raise support for a great cause.

October 1, 2016

**Concern America’s 9th Annual
Grow a Global Heart Auction**

Join us for a delightful evening of delicious food and bidding on more than 80 items from around the world.

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