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MAMA Project News

SUMMER 2023

BREAKING NEWS! Another war... another genocide... another earthquake... another flood...!

Another wave of families fleeing their homes in South Sudan in search of refuge only to be trapped without food and water, in a drought-stricken region with no way to go home and no safe destination in sight!

When they escape the war zone and can't walk any further, they stop. There is no one there to befriend and welcome them. They are not refugees since they have not crossed a border, so they are called "Internally Displaced People" and they collect themselves into a camp, like the children of Israel in the desert without a Moses. And not being actual refugees, they don't qualify for the kind of aid that they so desperately need.

They are mostly women and children. Often, the men have been killed or conscripted to fight. Long days are spent looking for water, foraging for food and caring for the weakest and sickest. The conditions in the camps are deplorable. Little children are succumbing from the lack of food and water. Diseases like malaria, measles, and pneumonia are raging through the crowded camps and taking lives in numbers that have not been seen in our part of the world for more than a century. It doesn't take long for the most vulnerable to get to the point of death. As their children are dying, some mothers try to walk to a hospital,





Community of refuge seekers comfort a grieving mother and visit the makeshift grave of the child she just lost, after walking for four days with no food or water.

knowing that their child's death would be preventable, but are turned away for lack of money to pay for basic medications. The word gets back to other mothers of dying children: "Don't even try to get help. It is hopeless." So, the grieving, crying mothers just hold their very sick children until they quietly die in their arms. Large international agencies have been unable to expand their programs to include these "IDP" camps of 20,000 people. Some visited, and explained to the people why they couldn't help. The war in Ukraine, and too many crises all over the world competing for resources, were some of their very logical reasons.

Then a glimmer of hope....

A small FBO ("Faith Based Organization") of their fellow citizens from South Sudan who have formed a non-profit called "Transformation of the World in Christ", led by Rev. Paul Lueth, witnessed their desperate situation and started reaching out to find help for them. MAMA Project got an email from Rev. Paul as he was reaching out on behalf of the suffering people in the camps. He then visited MAMA Kenya and met Evelina and Julia Christensen from MAMA. **He asked for help with the extreme needs in the camps for water, food, and medicine.**

The new refuge seekers appeal for plastic sheets to cover their shelters as the rainy season is beginning.



Of course, we had to say YES!

We will partner with you and the communities to find help!

When mothers of starving children ask us personally for help, we cannot say "Not now", or "Ask somebody else", or "We are too busy". With confidence that our network of friends and supporters will join us in meeting these needs, we have jumped in. We are sending systems to purify water, meds and treatments for malaria, diarrhea, intestinal parasites and, of course, malnutrition. We know that we

can't feed every starving child in the world. But if someone asks us to help them, we can find the strength and resources to help ease their suffering, and be their friends in need.

Right now, the women, who are life-long subsistence farmers are searching desperately for seeds and tools to grow their own food. The essential rains have just begun, but the window for planting is short. June and July are the planting months that they cannot afford to miss, or there will be no chance of growing food. For 20,000 people the supplies to grow



With support from MAMA, Rev. Paul and his team have begun a feeding program.

food for the coming year will cost about \$20,000. The need is huge, but working together even the smallest amount of support will help us to get these supplies to these suffering people. MAMA sent \$20,000 for seeds and supplies – which sounds like a huge amount but actually represents less than \$1 per person. And the need in the camps continue to grow!



Please help us to send more help!

Will you consider helping us today?

Please share about this crisis with your friends and contacts who might be interested in helping. Share this newsletter. Inform your congregation, family and friends. Be a voice for the voiceless! Ask for prayers, and support.

While South Sudan is "stealing the headlines" MAMA Project and partners are busy at work on the ground in rural villages and urban slums. We are expanding work with WATER, WORMS and MALNUTRITION in many new and innovative ways, reaching new communities.

We want to keep you all informed! Please send us your email address so we can keep you up to date with breaking news more often!

Visit us on Facebook! Like us and share our posts.

Donations may be sent to: MAMA Project, Inc. 2781A Geryville Pike Pennsburg, PA 18073

Or, Donate through PayPal www.mamaproject.org

New refuge seekers continue to arrive!

It is painful to be a victim or even a witness to the enormous suffering caused by cruelty, hatred, arrogance, hunger for power, war, injustice, famine and human greed! We want to look away. But we are asked to divide our bread with the hungry, give the thirsty something to drink, invite the homeless into the house, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and imprisoned. When we as individuals and as a group decide to act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God, then we WILL want to care for the poor. And where there is a WILL, there is a WAY! Let's continue to find the WAY together!

Thanks for being part of this work of love!



Thirsty children walk for hours to find and drink from muddy water holes.

TANZANIA The Uhuru Torch is one of the national symbols of Tanzania, symbolizing "a light that brings hope where there is despair, love where there is enmity, and respect where there is hatred". In a ceremony of much celebration, the Uhuru Torch Award was recently given to the Shirati Hospital Food Program. In particular, the award recognized excellence and innovation in the "Peanut Project," which MAMA Project helped to launch and continues to support, that has created a production unit at the hospital to prepare ready-to-use therapeutic food for children admitted with severe malnutrition.

www.reachshirati.org/uhuru-torch-awarded-to-hospital-food-program-by-tanzanian-government.html www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=421546090092968&set=pb.100067127409095.-2207520000



KENYA MAMA is expanding our work in urban slums and rural, drought-stricken areas, addressing Water, Worms and Malnutrition. We are grateful for our tireless workers in these communities, for partners such as the Worm Project and The Bucket Ministry, and for the dynamic new connections that God is weaving!



have gratefully taken part in delivering nutrition, medicine, shoes, eyeglasses, and contributing to the construction of a new kitchen for the Malda childrens' home.

HAITI The Tree of Life School community is buzzing with excitement and joy! For the first time in many years, they have the funds to provide for a ceremony to honor the accomplishments of their graduating students and those who have helped them to reach this wonderful milestone. This gift of education represents a future of possibilities, not only for the graduates but for their entire community.

BE A PART OF THE ACTION! Who doesn't like ice cream, baseball, and good food?

ICE CREAM Fundraising Nights Downtown Scoop Souderton, PA

Join us on Thursday, July 20 and/or August 17 from 6 to 9 PM with these wonderful folks who are donating a portion of their proceeds on those evenings to help MAMA Project. Bring your family and tell your friends!!



READING **Fightin'** Phils

All summer long, the Reading Phillies are providing discount

tickets to MAMA Project and donating a significant portion of the proceeds to help our work.

Round up a crowd and contact info@mamaproject.org for details and to purchase tickets!



SUPPORT OUR Fall Banquet & Silent Auction

Saturday, Sept 30 • 5:30 pm Finland Mennonite Church 1750 Ziegler Rd, Pennsburg, PA

Come to see and hear more about our work and how you are helping. Multiply your support by donating and/or soliciting items for our fun-and-fund-raising auction!

RSVP 2 weeks in advance. Drop off donations at MAMA Office, or call us!

NOT IN THE AREA? Not to worry – there are other ways to help!

Place a "Your change can change the world" coin collection canister in a local business.

school, church, or on your kitchen counter. Contact info@mamaproject.org for a cannister and instructions.



Read To Feed A Friend in Need

Support MAMA Project while relaxing with a good book! Or energize your children and their schoolmates with this opportunity to help others while feasting on a good read. Contact info@mamaproject.org or see our website for how to participate on your own schedule.

Spread the word!

Share our emails or mailings with your contact list.

Like and share our Facebook posts. www.facebook.com/mamaprojectorg

Hold a yard sale, bake sale, or lemonade stand to benefit MAMA Project.