



Mission of Love News

"You are not here to save the world,
but to touch the hands
that are
within your reach."

Catch the Spirit of Good News!

Mission of Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope.

ESTABLISHED 1989

I would like to Thank you for your time, talent, monetary donations, and support that you have given to our Mission of Love this year. Via our yearly newsletter, I would like to share the letters of gratitude that the recipients have given to you for your help, and words from many of the volunteers who have traveled with us this year. Our Mission of Love has accomplished bringing hope, love and compassion to the earthquake victims of Haiti, including hundreds of quilts of love for the orphans, that were made from eQuilter.com customers, ~ the homeless of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota. ~ we airlifted via the Denton Program 47,500 pounds of medical ~ educational and humanitarian aid to the children of Honduras, ~ supplied the 250 orphans of Casa Guatemala School with bathroom facilities and repainted their Village, ~ brought our Mission of Love Medical team to Guatemala City to perform eighteen cleft palate surgeries in four days, bringing thousands of dollars worth of surgery supplies with us in order to perform the operations for the Mayan children, and we as volunteers completed an addition for our friend Felix Riveria, Youngstown, Ohio ~ who had a freak accident that left him paralyzed. We have transported over 100,000 pounds of AID this year from our Mission of Love warehouse in Ravenna, Ohio. The list goes on and WE have been able to do all of this work without any type of government funding or grants. WE have done these acts of kindness because of you and your support for our Mission of Love which is everyone's Mission in life, to be of service.

Truly your gifts to our Mission of Love International makes dreams come true around the world. Together, we are able to share with those who are lacking the basics, with our surplus. I hope that you enjoy our 2010 newsletter and pass it forward. Check out our website, which includes updates monthly and many years of our history, via our Mission of Love. (Missionoflove.org)

We can only continue on with your support and donations. This Grandmother is asking for your help so that our mission can continue to save lives, give hope, make smiles, build homes, hospices, and extend our hand of peace to the so-called outcasts of our society. We are not here to save the world, but you and I are here to touch the hands and hearts that are within our reach. Make every day a holiday via the eyes of the children who need our Mission of Love. Make a difference! Today!

With love and gratitude,
Kathleen Price, Founder/Director
kathy@missionoflove.org
Youngstown, Ohio 44515 U.S.A.
330-793-2388



Written by Mission of Love Volunteers • Winter • 2010



"Let us always meet each other with a smile, for a smile is the beginning of Love."

Smile



Love



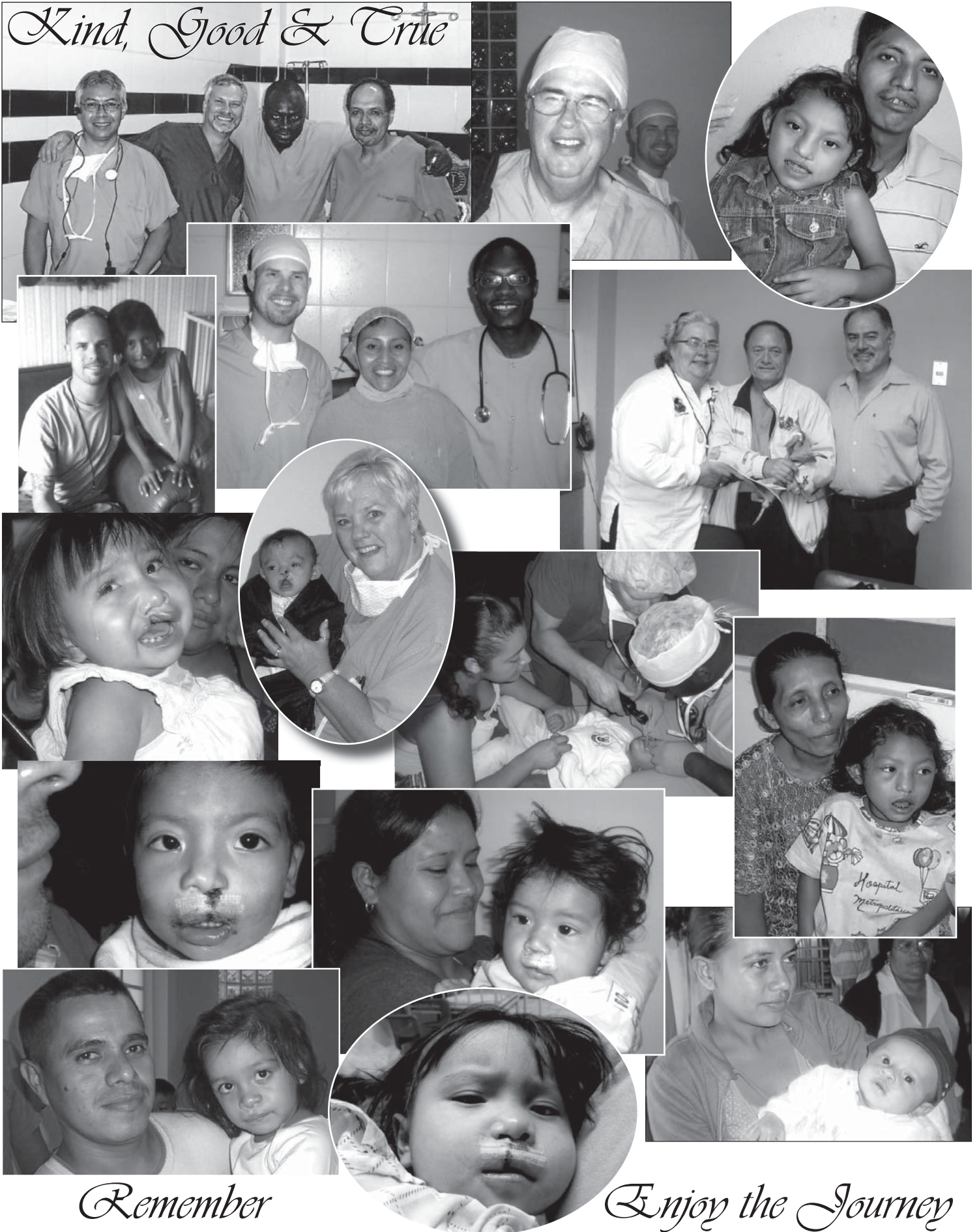
Hope

**Your donations
made this Mission of
Love medical
cleft palate repair
possible for
18 patients
in 4 days in
Guatemala City,
August 22, 2010.**



**Mission of Love medical team is
returning August 2011 to help
these children.
Do YOU want to join us?**

Kind, Good & True



Enjoy the Journey

METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL • GUATEMALA CITY, GUATEMALA

August 25, 2010

Mrs. Kathleen Price Mission of Love Foundation /Founder and Director

Respectable Mrs. Kathleen Price

In my name, Doctor Arturo Cazali, Pediatrician and on behalf of all medical and paramedical staff of Metropolitan Hospital in Guatemala, we would like to extend our appreciation for the valuable and selfless assistance given to Guatemalan children and young people with congenital defects aesthetic problems of the type Labis Cleft Palate. It was an honor for the Metropolitan Hospital to provide the infrastructure facilities for Dr. Michael Obeng, Reconstructive & Plastic Surgeon and Dr. Todd Bolitan, Emergency Doctor, both of Saint Elizabeth Hospital, Youngstown, Ohio U.S.A. who performed the eighteen surgeries for these patients successfully, and for the valuable cooperation of the Mission of Love team, Mr. Bob Elston, Mrs. Peg Elston, Sean Amos.

Once again, thank you Kathleen.

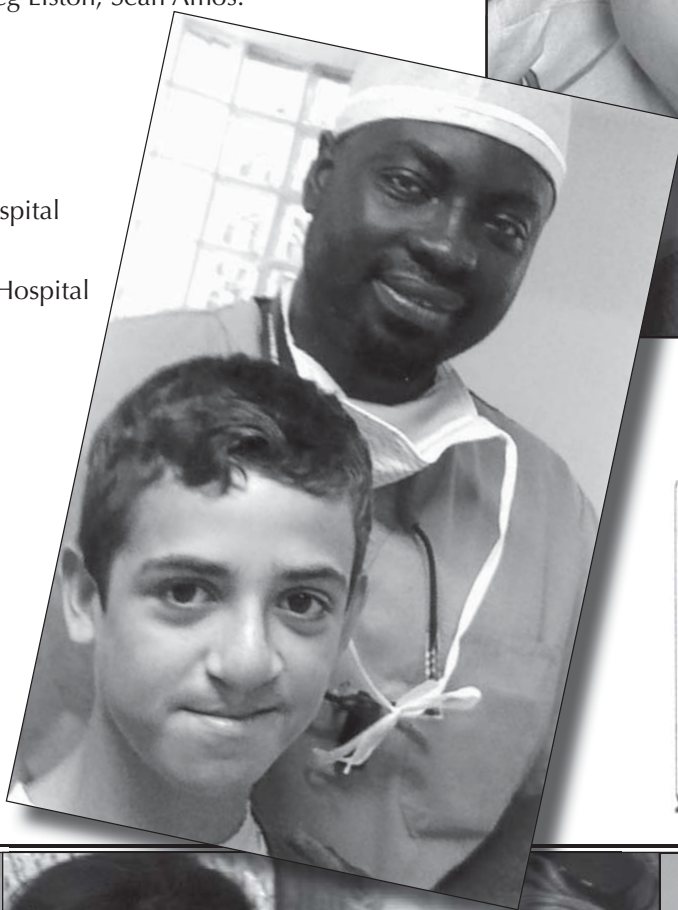
Dr. Arturo Cazali
Pediatrics Metropolitan Hospital

Dr. Edgar Ocana
Director of Surgery, Metropolitan Hospital

Dr. Bayron Gonzalez
Chief Anesthesiologist Metropolitan Hospital



A cleft palate happens when the roof of the mouth or the top lip (or both) doesn't close properly during pregnancy. The result is a hole that is both unsightly and very harmful to the child's development.



August 30, 2010

Guatemala City Guatemala

Hello everyone,

My name is Axel Giovani Satuye Mena and I was born in Guatemala. I am 22 years old and am currently studying medicine in Cuba. My brother and I were abandoned by our family as small children. All of our lives we have lived in orphanages and we have gone to school based on grants that paid for our schooling. For the last several years we have lived in Casa Guatemala. It is an orphanage for mistreated children who have been abandoned by their families. God has provided me the opportunity to meet many good hearted people; people who have left their countries to help the forgotten, the sick, the mistreated, the abandoned, and those with physical defects.



On this particular occasion the Lord has given me the privilege to meet the Mission of Love and to become a brother to some of the members of this organization. It has been a marvelous blessing. I could see that this is not just any group, but it is a family—a family in which each member is very important. I could see with my own eyes how much each member truly celebrated each day of surgical repair of the cleft lips and palates of the little children who had been rejected by their communities. Children rejected due to their physical deformities and unable to be cured due to their economic inability to pay for their operations. Now, thanks to God, and the Mission of Love, these children can eat, laugh, play and share with the other children in their communities. I could also see the dedication that each person put into every one of the

surgeries for each child. I could see the love and dedication of every person in the operating room during the long hard hours of work, but the thing that made us happiest was to see how the children were contented and full of smiles from the time that they spent with the Mission of Love, from now on nothing was going to be the same.

On a personal note, I was very pleased and thankful to become part of this large family. Mission of Love, I hope to someday be of more service to you in the future for many people are still in need. *I think that all those who hold sensitivity and love in their hearts need to be the voice of all the mistreated and abandoned people in all of the world. I believe that continuing to help these people to make their way is part of the commandment from God to love one another.* Thank you God, thank you Mission of Love for allowing me to be part of this family. I believe that there are no words to describe how thankful I feel for all that you have done in my country.

Thank you for everything and may God bless you.
Axel Giovani Satuye Mena



Dr. Todd Bolitan, Dr. Michael Obeng with some of the children after surgery in Guatemala.

The Mission of Love Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides humanitarian aid to those in need worldwide, especially children. Backed by individuals, local businesses and the U.S. Military's Denton Program, the Mission of Love airlifts clothing, medicine and food and building supplies to third world countries, including the poorest community in the U.S.— Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota and to Hurricane Katrina victims in Louisiana. Once the supplies arrive, groups of people, both young and old, from all walks of life, are there to utilize the supplies by building medical clinics, repairing orphanages, administering medical treatment to the ill and serving those who need help.



"You are not here to save the world,
but to touch the hands that are within your reach."

Mission of Love Foundation

2054 Hemlock Ct. Austintown, Ohio 44515
amissionoflove@sbcglobal.net • www.missionoflove.org
Kathleen Price, Founder/Director • (330) 793-2388

2011 Mission of Love Plans

- **Transport Medical** supplies for a maternity hospital in Nebbi, Uganda
- **Transport Medical** supplies & AID to the Lepers of Yemen
- **March 6**
Avion on the Water ~ Mission of Love FunRaiser and yearly update
- **April 9**
Guatemala to build Mary Beth Eckberg Hospice for the Mayans
- **May 12**
Build two homes for the Spirit Lake Dakota Nation, North Dakota
- **June 20**
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to build homes
- **August 11**
Dr. Michael Obeng and Dr. Todd Bolitan taking medical team to perform surgery for repair cleft palates in Guatemala
- **October 9**
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to build homes & hope

MILAHANSKA TASUNKE ICU TIOSPAYE

P.O. Box 88 • Batesland, SD 57716 • 605.867.5242



Vern American Horse
David American Horse
Scott American Horse
Emmett American Horse
Director – Joe American Horse

September 30. 2010

TO: It May Concern:

Subj: Mission of Love Foundation
Kathleen M. Price (Founder & Director)
2054 Hemlock Court
Austintown, Ohio 44515

There is no word to describe how appreciative we are to The Mission of Love Foundation in building Homes in our reservation and elsewhere.

The Mission of Love Foundation help the Under-privilege and not only building homes, but other issues, such as Health, etc.

If we have more people like Mission of Love Foundation, there will be no conflicts, no wars. Everyone will live in Peace.

The Mission of Love Foundation build a house for me within five days.

"Wopila Tonka"

Sincerely Yours


Joe American Horse
grandson of The Chief

Curator:
Mike Porlides

Consultants:
Christina Voormann
Tom Cook
Victor Glover



Mission of Love building volunteers with Joe American Horse.



Cankdeska Cikana Community College

Cynthia Lindquist, PhD, President

PO Box 269

Fort Totten, ND 58335

Phone: (701) 766-4055

October 20, 2010

Kathleen Price, Founder & Director
Mission of Love Foundation
2054 Hemlock Court
Austintown, OH 44515

Dear Mrs Price – Kathleen,

This letter is to express our appreciation in partnering to build a home for an elder (Joe American Horse) on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota during the last week of September!

In bringing the seven students, staff and faculty member from Cankdeska Cikana Community College (CCCC) to the Pine Ridge community to participate in the work and effort of the Mission of Love Foundation, ***we have been inspired and hopeful that your model can be replicated for our community*** 500 miles to the north! It was a great experience for the students and staff of CCCC.

We like the concept of 'sweat equity' and engaging the respective family who will get the home in the construction of that home. Our community, Spirit Lake Dakota, has over 350 families on a wait list for housing and student housing has been on CCCC's needs list for years. We plan to implement a home building component of our Carpentry/Finish Carpentry vocational program. The idea is to provide training/education that compliments experiential learning and addresses a community need.

You and the volunteers from the Mission of Love are to be commended for your generous spirit and work ethic in 'giving back' to people! The Mission of Love Foundation is a role model that I hope to follow for our community. Thank you for all the many good works and providing a unique learning experience for CCCC students!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Lindquist, PhD, President
Ta'sunka Wicahpi Winyan – Star Horse Woman
Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Spirit Lake Dakota Nation



"Sweat equity is a term used to describe the contribution made to a project by people who contribute their time and effort."



"Awesome-town" Fall Festival

October 28, 2010

Dear Kathy,

On behalf of our fall festival planning team and the entire community of Austintown, we want to thank you and the Mission of Love for participating in the "Awesome-town" Fall Festival. The Mission of Love organization was a vital part of what made the community-wide gathering a special event!

The festival was created with three goals in mind -

1. to build relationships and goodwill throughout our community,
2. to celebrate all things good about Austintown,
3. to connect people with the resources that they need that are available in our area.

The Mission of Love has helped us to reach each of these three goals. Our individual lives have been enriched in the relationship that we now have with you. Our community is now more aware of your organization and it's work, as we celebrated the Mission of Love, which is definitely among the good things about Austintown that should be celebrated! And we have, hopefully, encouraged people throughout our community to connect with the resource that you are to people in need around the world.

It is our pleasure to present to you the enclosed check in the amount of \$750.00, representing the proceeds from the "Awesome-town" Fall Festival. Along with the financial donations made directly to you at your booth on October 9th, 2010, the festival has generated \$1030.00 toward helping the Mission of Love in its mission to build another home on the Indian reservation out west.

Please receive these gifts as an expression of the best of the Austintown community. Together, we can make a difference.

We thank you again, for you and your organization have been an inspiration to our whole community. May God continue to bless you and the work of the Mission of Love.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

A-town is Awesometown



Yum! Kaitlin Burch (left), Riley Bierardi and Emerson Bierardi enjoyed the snacks that the Mission of Love provided for the crowd in exchange for donations.

The "Awesome-town" Fall Festival— celebrating our community!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brad E. Bloomster".

Brad E. Bloomster

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elmarie Parker".

Rev. Elmarie Parker

Co-Leaders of the
"Awesome-town" Fall festival



"The most perfect political community is one in which the middle class is in control, and outnumbers both of the other classes."



MISSION OF LOVE HAS UTILIZED THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DENTON PROGRAM MORE THAN ANY OTHER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN THE U.S.

"Ms. Kathy Price", through her non-profit organization, Mission of Love, has utilized the Department of Defense Denton Program, a humanitarian military airlift transportation program, more than any other non-profit organization in the United States. During the last eleven years, the Mission of Love has donated and transported humanitarian aid from Youngstown AFB, OH to Honduras, Belize, Guatemala, Peru, and Afghanistan. During this time period, Kathy provided donated medical supplies and equipment, school supplies, food, clothing, educational materials, firetrucks and two ambulances to needy people in these developing countries. Our company, Joint Relief International, is responsible for managing the Denton Program for the Department of Defense from Charleston AFB, SC. During this time period the United States Air Force through the Denton Program has airlifted more than 380,000 pounds of donated humanitarian aid for the Mission of Love. This donated humanitarian aid from the Mission of Love was distributed to many indigenous peoples in each of these countries. *These humanitarian donations were provided to the forgotten families in these underprivileged societies, and the Mission of Love's donations have been vital in providing hope.* It has been an honor to work with Kathy and her Mission of Love through the Denton Program. I look forward to our continued association in years to come.

Mr. James C. Ward
Vice President
Joint Relief International, Inc. (Denton Operations)
Charleston, South Carolina



Michael K. Obeng, chief of plastic surgery at St. Elizabeth Boardman Health Center, and Kathleen M. Price, founder and director of Mission of Love, stand beneath the nose art on a C-130 Hercules cargo plane unveiled Wednesday. The 910th has transported 380,000 pounds of humanitarian aid for the Mission of Love over the last 11 years. R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Worldwide Inc., founded by Dr. Obeng, is planning a humanitarian mission to Ghana in the near future.

Plane-nose art honors good deeds

By WILLIAM K. ALCORN
alcorn@vindy.com

VIENNA

One of the missions of the 910th Airlift Wing here is to help bring much-needed supplies to those impacted by disasters.

"No one can deliver school books



McGregor

and pencils to children who don't have them and not be touched," said Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th.

He spoke Wednesday at the unveiling of plane-nose art titled "Global Humanitarian Support" on one of the unit's C-130 Hercules cargo planes.

The unveiling ceremony at Youngstown Air Reserve Station was attended by numerous Air Force personnel and civilians from the Mis-

sion of Love and others who have collaborated with the 910th to send donated aid to people in need around the world.

The nose art, a long-standing tradition in the Air Force, was designed by Staff Sgt. Michele Kennedy and created by Tech. Sgt. Scott Obermyer.

The decal reads "Global Humanitarian Support," which is placed above a full-color graphic of a globe surrounded by locations of

many of the humanitarian missions flown by the 910th over the past few years.

Kennedy, an aerospace maintenance specialist, and Obermyer, a fabrications specialist, are assigned to the 910th Maintenance Squadron.

"The humanitarian program is one of the most

See 910TH, A5



Video on
Vindy.com

(cont'd on page 10)



R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Worldwide Inc.

P.O. Box 14640 • Poland, Ohio 44514 • 1-888-399-0794 phone & fax
www.restoreworldwideinc.org • restoreworldwideinc@gmail.com



July 12, 2010

Mission of Love Foundation
c/o Kathleen M. Price
2054 Hemlock Court
Youngstown, Ohio 44515

Dear Friends,

On behalf of R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Worldwide, Inc., I want to express my appreciation for your generosity in support of our organization. Our 2010 medical mission to Kumasi, Ghana was a huge success partly due to the overwhelming generosity of the local community and organizations like Mission of Love. Your donation of medicine, medical supplies, toys and clothing to the people of Ghana was greatly appreciated by all. Your commitment to help others in need allowed us to make an immediate difference in the lives of 24 Ghanaian women who were desperately in need of breast surgery.

Thank you again for your generosity and support! Together, we R.E.S.T.O.R.E. hope function and aesthetic form.

Best regards,

*Axel Mena - Guatemalan patient and dad -
Dr. Michael Obeng*



(cont'd from page 9)

910TH

Continued from A3

important things we do. We're able to move things to people in need. It's our tight connection to the community," McGregor said.

And members of the community say they appreciate the connection.

"It's a great partnership," said Kathleen M. Price, founder and director of Mis-

sion of Love, a nonprofit organization that collects and sends supplies to all kinds of places around the world via the U.S. government's Denton Program.

The Denton Program permits the Department of Defense to transport privately donated humanitarian cargo to foreign countries using military transportation on a space-available basis.

Mission of Love has used the Denton Program more than any other nongovernmental organization in

the country, according to a 910th spokesman.

During the last 11 years, it has donated and transported 380,000 pounds of humanitarian aid from the air base aboard Air Force planes to Honduras, Belize, Guatemala, Peru and Afghanistan. The aid has included medical supplies and equipment, school supplies, food, clothing, educational materials, firetrucks and two ambulances.

"In the early years, I used to show up at a commercial airport and hope someone would transport what I had collected," Price said.

Then, through the Rev. Richard Madden, former chaplain at the 910th, she learned of the Denton Program.

"I was sitting in a C-130 drooling" at the thought of how much could be sent, she added.

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TO LAKOTA PRAIRIE RANCH - Pine Ridge, S.D.

President Obama's Council On Service and Civic Participation Award was given to Rusty Puckett, owner of Lakota Prairie Ranch Motel and Restaurant in Kyle, South Dakota. President Obama reiterated his Inaugural Address in his congratulatory letter to Rusty Puckett "that we need a new era of responsibility—recognizing on the part of every American that we have duties to ourselves, to our Nation, and to our world." In his award letter, he continued to write, "these duties of service that we do, not grudgingly accept, but rather seize gladly, firm in the belief that there is nothing so gratifying to our spirit than giving our ALL to a difficult task."

Family, friends and co-workers all gathered at the Lakota Prairie Ranch conference room on Sunday morning as Bob Elston, Kathleen Price, Director/founder of Mission of Love (former recipient of this award also) and Patricia Catches The Enemy presented the awards to Puckett.



Randy, Patricia, Kathy, Rusty, Mom & Dad Puckett & Jeff

Family and friends commented about Rusty as he received his award. "We are really fortunate to have good kids" says his mother, "He was always working, doing something for somebody, he loved little people, animals and most of all his children as well as helping others in need." Rusty attended Little Wound School and graduated from there. The oldest of five sons of Phil & Vinney, Rusty set the pace for his siblings. He helped his parents at the ranch while growing up and went into the construction business after high school and simply self-taught many skills he has. When he goes hunting with his brothers, he shoots pictures instead of game, continues his mother.

Rusty Puckett built and manages the only one-of-a-kind thriving motel and restaurant on the Pine Ridge Reservation called Lakota Prairie Ranch. He not only employs local workers but his establishment has an RV Park/Campgrounds, Cabins, guided hunts and is open all year round. Stop by next time you're in the vicinity and you may see Rusty in action, either cooking something delicious, working behind the register, securing homes for the homeless, driving a truck or fixing somebody's roof., that's Rusty.

Writer/interviewer: Patricia Catches The Enemy
Lakota
Pine Ridge, South Dakota



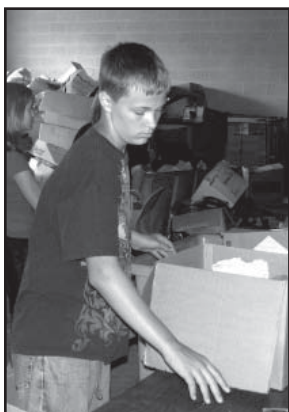
Trailer on it's way to Pine Ridge with 45,000 lbs. of lumber, windows, doors, washers, dryers, furnishings, mattresses, etc, etc.



Kathy & Grandson Edward loading at MOL Warehouse



Kathy, Edward, Jim, Harvey, Cathy, Eric, Michelle, Ron, Andrea



June 16, 2010

Editorial Contact: Jack Acri
Council Chairman, First Federated Church

Youth Work Day at Mission of Love Ravenna - It is summer and you're a teen. On your list of priorities, volunteer work may fall way below sleeping in and playing video games. But on June 16, 2010, two dozen teens volunteered their time in the normally unoccupied Mission of Love warehouse in Ravenna, Ohio. The youth and adult leaders from Lordstown

Lutheran Church, in addition to First Federated Church and Girl Scout Troop 640, both located in North Jackson, were busy sorting, packing and staging items for shipment to less fortunate children in Haiti, Ghana, Guatemala, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota and other far-flung parts of the world.

Fourteen-year-old Tommy Gallison was among the teens from Lordstown Lutheran Church. Following an episode of dizziness and headaches on Easter morning 2009, Tommy was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Despite his ailment and five surgeries since he last volunteered at the warehouse, he was enthusiastic about the work and about Mission of Love founder Kathleen Price. "I love to come here because Kathy treats us so nice. I like helping kids in need and I've gotten a lot of help from others, so I know how it feels. It's the right thing to do to give back."

(cont'd pg 17)



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Congratulations on receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award, and thank you for helping to address the most pressing needs in your community and our country.

In my Inaugural Address, I stated that we need a new era of responsibility—a recognition on the part of every American that we have duties to ourselves, our Nation, and the world. These are duties that we do not grudgingly accept, but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit than giving our all to a difficult task. Your volunteer service demonstrates the kind of commitment to your community that moves America a step closer to its great promise.

Our Nation faces the most challenging economic crisis in a lifetime. We will only renew America if we all work together. Individuals, the private sector, and government must combine efforts to make real and lasting change so that each person has the opportunity to fulfill his or her potential.

While government can open more opportunities for us to serve our communities, it is up to each of us to seize those opportunities. Thank you for your devotion to service and for doing all you can to shape a better tomorrow for our great Nation.



**Recipients of the President's Volunteer Service Award
Mission of Love and**

Dr. Rashid Abdu ~ Canfield, Ohio
Catherine Crawford ~ Austintown, Ohio
Robert Elston ~ New Middletown, Ohio
Louie Fostuedt ~ Vermillion, South Dakota
Jeff Housel ~ Lordstown, Ohio
Marion Jocola ~ Warren, Ohio
Rusty Puckett ~ Kyle, South Dakota
Kristen Maag ~ Carrollton, Ohio
Teddy Pantelas ~ Youngstown, Ohio
Kathleen Price ~ Austintown, Ohio
Andrea Reedy ~ Medina, Ohio
Luana Rubin ~ Boulder, Colorado
Sophie Rubin ~ Boulder, Colorado
JT Whitehouse ~ Austintown, Ohio
Sieglinde Warren ~ Poland, Ohio
Tom Wilson ~ Filmore, California

ANGELS DO EXIST ~ written by Sandra Byrd, Martin, South Dakota



The Mission of Love came into my life at a time when I needed them the most. Out of resources, hope, courage, strength and resolve that this is the thing that needs to happen and my dream was worthy of finding existence in this world. Crawling out of poverty through education, going beyond survival mode and wanting to create a place where people can come and feel welcome, eat a good meal at a fair price, learn to do bead-work, receive help with homework, write a resume, conduct a job search, receive help with career planning, along with fostering a sense of community and belonging seems insane at times.

Sometimes I thought, all I need is a little help encouragement or support just to help me get over the current stumbling block, in whatever form it took at the time (lack of skill, knowledge to accomplish the task, or it is too heavy or big for one person), that would paralyze progress toward a goal.

When I reached the point of being broken-hearted and broken-spirited to the point of despair, a friend, Jason Schoch, shared my story with Kathleen Price. While he was animate that there would be no promise of help, just something else to try and he said, "If this doesn't work, we will keep trying other things." That is all a person needs to hear sometimes to help keep them on track and keep hope alive. An indeed, the idea that "someone may try to help you" was all it took for me to start getting

The Mission of Love came into my life at a time when I needed them the most. Out of re

(CONT'D. on page 14)



Mission of Love Volunteers at Wounded Knee Memorial Site.

APRIL 17, 2009 - PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION

My name is Harry Yazzie Jr, and I have a family on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation of six. We all have been living in a two bedroom trailer house since 2002. Every year things have been falling apart from the floor giving out, leaking ceiling, walls caving in and the list goes on. I felt I have been a very unfortunate person my entire life. I have struggles financially, physically, emotionally, and became very depressed.

About four years ago, my good friend Rusty Puckett had introduced me to Kathleen Price, who is the founder of the Mission of Love. I have never heard of this mission of love before. At first I didn't care and had negative feelings about it. I was thinking what can they do for me so I felt sour about it.

I soon began to work with them and I saw a glow in everyone eyes as they worked together and how they were happy all the time and hugged one another. I soon didn't know how to react and secluded myself and I felt I didn't fit in. I was anti-social, kept my conversations short and brief and never made eye contact.

Rusty Pucket soon asked me if I asked Kathy Price for a house and I said no. He then told me you need to ask her and was angry and walked away. I felt so selfish because I wanted Rusty to ask for me. I soon braved up and seen Kathy Price. I felt scared, nervous, angry, and then hurt. I finally asked her. Kathy, I have a family, I live in two bedroom house, no furnace, no running water, and I want to give my babies a better place to live.

Kathy looked at me with a smile, gave me a hug, a kiss on a cheek and said YES, I'll give you a home.

At this time I felt so weak, I wanted to cry, but held it in. I said thank you in a shaky voice, and took a break in my truck and cried till my eyes got swollen. I felt a heavy burden leave my body and felt their is hope after all. I now look at my life in a positive way. I now can walk in public with my head high, and now smile which I haven't done in so many years!

My heart is so overwhelmed with JOY and I owe all this to Kathy Price and the Mission of Love. I now work with the Mission of Love and this is the most wonderful organization I have ever worked with.

I have a house south of Kyle which I completed with the Mission of Love and know that my family and I won't freeze this winter ~ because Kathy Price made this all happen. I want to thank her, all of the Mission of Love workers and all the local people who helped me. Thank you Kathy, for not only getting me a home, but giving back my self-esteem. I guarantee you that you will see me along with Kathy Price and the Mission of Love helping other families.

Sincerely,
Harry Yazzie Jr., Kyle, South Dakota
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation



ANGELS DO EXIST ~ written by Sandra Byrd, Martin, South Dakota

(CONT'D. from page 13)

sources, hope, courage, strength and resolve that this is the thing that needs to happen and my dream was worthy of finding existence in this world. Crawling out of poverty through education, going beyond survival mode and wanting to create a place where people can come and feel welcome, eat a good meal at a fair price, learn to do bead-work, receive help with homework, write a resume, conduct a job search, receive help with career planning, along with fostering a sense of community and belonging seems insane at times.

Sometimes I thought, all I need is a little help encouragement or support just to help me get over the current stumbling block, in whatever form it took at the time (lack of skill, knowledge to accomplish the task, or it is too heavy or big for one person), that would paralyze progress toward a goal. When I reached the point of being broken-hearted and broken-spirited to the point of despair, a friend, Jason Schoch, shared my story with Kathleen Price. While he was animate that there would be no promise of help, just something else to try and he said, "If this doesn't work, we will keep trying other things." That is all a person needs to hear sometimes to help keep them on track and keep hope alive. An indeed, the idea that "someone may try to help you" was all it took for me to start getting ready and working on the place again to be ready for whatever help may come. Had to take a leap of faith that it, or, something would happen.

My story is a little different than most of the people who are served by the volunteers of the Mission of Love. At first glance it seems like I am a person of means, but in reality I had to struggle and sacrifice for everything. Resourcefulness is part of my being and how I survived since I was nine years old – help others, maybe someone will help you when you need it – pay it forward and expect nothing in return. The first three things that I learned early on was that 1) I was special to no one, 2) there was no one to call me to come home and 3) no one was going to take care of me. But there should be more to life than just survival.

Although it isn't apparent at first, I am someone who just barely makes it from journey to journey. The one key that I learned early in life was that an education was the way out of poverty. Although at the time of realization, I couldn't do much about it. The educational track came later in life for me. The more education, the more choice you have, so for someone like me who just barely crawled out of survival mode, to put off the next stage of an education to build a dream, in itself is another choice to do what is right. Going a few steps beyond survival and actually being able to dare to have a desire to build a dream is a big risk. Going beyond personal, physical, and financial limitations and trying to seek a better life and, in the meantime, trying to help as many people along the way as possible is always an idea that I walk with daily.

Unconditional service to others is an integral part of some people – it is a calling that can't be ignored or taken for granted. Sharing your unique gifts with the world is innate to some and a struggle for others. Choosing to continue serving in this manner has many opportunity costs as well as intrinsic rewards. Sometimes it gets to a point where it would have been easier to not make this journey or choice to serve the community in which I live – but there is a need for these services.

But just like Kathleen Price, who may be criticized for helping someone like me, sometimes you have to do what you know in your heart is the right thing to do – take a chance and hope that it comes out the way that it was meant to be.

Kathleen is a person who knows how to move the human spirit along with vast amounts of materials, human resources and spiritual aid to those who need it the most. I asked her why she does what she does, she stated "For the children of the world." As I sat with her contemplating that I am over 40 years old and how I fit into the equation, she looked at me and said, "We are all children." She sees the need in people finds a way to help them to help themselves. For those who would attempt to criticize her, I have the following words, sometimes you have to look a little deeper, not only at those you are trying to help but within yourself as well and the people trying to make it all happen.

Kathleen understands people. Some people have no idea of how many lives she and her volunteers have changed. So, for those who don't understand that you can't visit a place or a person for a few moments and have it all figured out, nor can you take your ideas, values and beliefs to these places and expect the people you meet to fit in the box that you brought for them. There is an old Native American saying that sums it all up. "Don't criticize your neighbor until you have walked a thousand miles in their moccasins." In Kathleen's case of service to humanity – you would have to walk billions of miles in her moccasins to even begin to attempt to fathom the impact that she has made on countless lives.

This experience has changed my reality and the course of my life because people showed up. A Navajo electrician, Yazzie was the first electrician in two years who showed up, came back, and actually got some re-wiring done the same day. It was amazing because he was injured and had a cast on his foot and he still was able to accomplish in one day what I couldn't get done in two years. More amazing, it was revealed to me that Yazzie was the step father of one of my former students. I realize how critical connections are formed through these types of volunteer efforts. Yazzie only lives 40 miles away from me and I know I wouldn't have met him, if it weren't for the Mission of Love.

"Never give up" are the words of wisdom that seasoned volunteer, Bob, revealed to me. I will always remember the words of wisdom that Bob told me, as he relayed a story about the message that was given to Joseph Marshall by his grandfather. Keep going and never give up, you must keep going through times of difficulty. Bob, Tom, and Kathy were the voice of reason and experience and people that I learned from throughout this experience. Each one of them gives of themselves freely without complaints nor voicing their own needs or wants. They are role models of how service to humanity can be a true labor of love and how sharing words and experience can help rebuild the human spirit.

(CONT'D. on page 15)

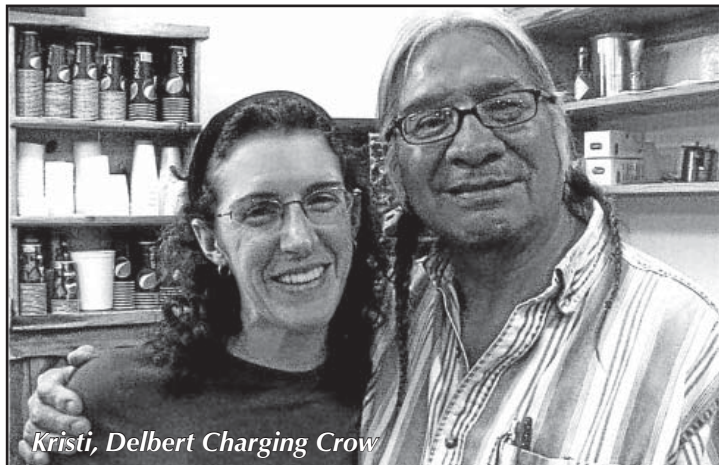


The truth is "WE" have a story to be told. . . .
and it is one that needs to be HEARD.



KRISTIE WALKER - CHICAGO, ILL.

Pine Ridge, South Dakota



It has been over a month since I physically returned from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. I emphasize "physically," because I still find my thoughts wandering, recalling the people I met, the experiences I had, and the work that we accomplished. As I finish writing this, another group from Mission of Love is at the Reservation attending Rose Spotted Bear's Headstone Memorial. I never met Rose, but was blessed to have spent some time with Hobart Spotted Bear, her husband.

Ironically, I began this passage sitting on a very high floor of a building in Chicago with a view of the entire city. As far as you can see, in three directions (the lake is toward the east) are buildings, houses, roads and highways. Contrast that to the Pine Ridge Reservation in which you can drive for an hour or two and not see a single home. The houses that were present seemed to be in small clusters. This vast difference in landscape, however, was not what captivated me during the week.

It was the Lakota people: Harry Yazzie, Delbert Charging Crow, Kevin Poor Bear, Josephine Standing Soldier, Leonard Little Finger, Rusty Pucket, Patricia Catches the Enemy; each with a different personality and different story.

After a two hour drive from Rapid City, our group arrived at

the Lakota Prairie Ranch Resort in Kyle, managed by Rusty Pucket. After dinner in the restaurant, we went to our rooms or cabins to sleep. I later discovered that the Mission of Love had built the separate building in which I was staying, that was originally created for a different purpose and was later converted into additional motel rooms. As the week progressed, it was very obvious that Kathy and the Mission of Love had created very tangible gifts of buildings and homes, but had also created lasting relationships with the Lakota people.

The next morning started with a short introduction to the Lakota language and thus a glimpse into their culture. Bob Elston led this portion. He and his wife, Peg, and Tom Wilson who were present had been on multiple trips to Pine Ridge Reservation with Kathy and the Mission of Love and were a pivotal part of our volunteer team. Again, at the end of the week, I found myself in a van with Bob, Peg and Kathy as we traversed the reservation heading toward the Black Hills. The spirituality and richness of Lakota culture were an inherent part of the conversations, and my learning.

During the week, we met Sandy, an entrepreneur and incredible cook, who requested a helping hand to assist her in taking one more step forward toward making her dream a reality. She had a home that she wanted to make into an internet café. While she was a student working on her advanced degree, she didn't have a place to study later in the evening, so she wanted to offer that, combined with her cooking, to others. The first day when we arrived at her home she had prepared an extravagant lunch for our group of over 20 people! Never have I witnessed such an outpouring of graciousness to people she didn't yet know. The next morning, she had prepared a full breakfast, with just as incredible food! To paraphrase what she stated much more eloquently, "It is what I can give and I am happy when people enjoy my food." A lot of hard work was done that day and the next by our group of volunteers. When it is all completed, I will certainly be one of her customers. Sandy is a teacher at the local college, and I also had the unique opportunity to watch her in action in the classroom. She cares so much for her students, and has instilled confidence and respect in them. As a visitor, Sandy had them teach me a Lakota greeting, demonstrating patience with me as I spoke new words and phrases. Sandy is a true selfless individual who I feel incredibly blessed to have met.

I met Kevin Poor Bear on the phone while we were driving from Rapid City. Kathy handed me the phone after saying what

(CONT'D. from page 16)

ANGELS DO EXIST

(CONT'D. from page 14)

This is to express my gratitude and thanks to The Mission of Love, Kathleen Price and all of the volunteers. Your efforts gave me hope and courage that one day, I too, will be able to walk the impossible dream and find a place to where unique talents can find expression in the world. Inner peace, focus, strength and belief that it one day will happen were gifts of restoration. One person can make a difference but people working together toward a common goal can produce miracles.

The real education of this experience is about belief, faith and my personal struggle with "being alone in the world" and finding people who do amazing things with their energy and talent, who chose to walk with me on my journey for a time. The spirit of Kathleen price is phenomenal with a "can do" and "let's make it happen" attitude. Her sense of immediacy is contagious. Connections were made between people who could help each other and did by choice.

Presence means taking the time to be there in the moment and choosing to make a difference. Not all gifts are tangible, ones that you can touch with your hands, live in, put in your pocket nor place on a shelf. In the short time they were here with me, they altered the course of my destiny and changed how I view the world. The Mission of Love is a group of life changers at the most basic sense of the words. The idea that someone may come to help and their consideration was just enough to spark the hope that it would happen. This is to thank Kathleen Price and her "priceless" spirit, "can do" attitude and her volunteers. The Mission of Love restored faith, hope, strength and courage.



"I believe that God has placed the Mission of Love on earth to help those in need. Thank You, our Lakota angels. You have no idea how many lifes you have touched."

Donna Looks Twice



KRISTIE WALKER - CHICAGO, ILL.

Pine Ridge, South Dakota (CONT'D. from page 15)

Kathy only can (as she will actually accomplish it), "I'd like you to meet Kristi. She is going to help get you a wheelchair and some legs." As both an individual and as a physical therapist, I felt both overwhelmed and empowered by Kathy's confidence. I spoke with Kevin on the phone, later met him and his wife, Josephine, at their home, and traveled with Kathy, Peg and the two of them to Rapid City on one of the last days we were there to witness Kevin getting measured for the sockets for his new prostheses. Kevin's eyes were beaming. Also, Kevin had been using a standard hospital-style wheelchair throughout the winter, because his lighter sporty chair was being fixed and the cost was too much for them at the time. The hospital-style chair with bilateral amputations is incredible unstable, especially having to

traverse deep ruts and the steepness of his driveway. Kathy got Kevin back his wheelchair and the sparkle in his eyes as he popped an extended wheelie was contagious. Both Kevin and Josephine support themselves with their artwork; Kevin with his drawings and Josephine with her intricate beadwork. Also, a ride for four hours in a van with Kevin would not be complete without a stomachache because of laughing as Kevin rattled off zinger one-liners such as, "Why does an Indian not have to wait in line? He has a reservation." Though acutely aware of how the Indians, the term that is used freely with the Lakota people, were treated throughout history and how they still are treated, it is impossible to not laugh along with Kevin as he pokes fun at the situation. It is also made me want to work harder to increase awareness.

I met Harry Yazzie, or "Yazzie", as we all called him, when we drove up to his trailer to pick him up the third morning we were on the reservation on our way to work on Sandy's home. Yazzie came out when we pulled up, and what I immediately noticed, besides his stature, was that he had a cast on one leg and he was half-limping towards our van. After he got in the front seat of the van, Kathy asked him what happened. He explained that he had broken his leg a number of months ago during the winter. Kathy then proceeded to ask if he still wanted to come. He paused for a second, and then said quietly, "yes." I'm glad that he did, because, though I didn't know it at the time, I was going to have the opportunity to meet an amazing soul. From the time he got into our van until we left the reservation, Yazzie's gracious, humble, kind, giving and gentle spirit was present, but in a very understated way. As we drove, Kathy asked him about the past winter and Yazzie began to relate his experiences. When he broke his leg, the ambulance could only come part way up the road because of the snow, so a police car had to come to pick him up to bring him to the ambulance. He was taken to Rapid City and had to stay for a week, because the van only runs twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays between Rapid City and Pine Ridge. In January, he and his wife had a baby boy, named Kennedy Benally Yazzie, making the total number of children three, from newborn to seven years old. It became very clear how much he cares for his family as he spoke about his life and children throughout the week.

Yazzie's trailer has no running water, so Yazzie used crutches in the snow to get to the outhouse. It also has no heat and sometimes the winds could get up to 60 mph which scared him, because it felt like the trailer home would come off of its frame. With all of these challenges, Yazzie joined our group to lend his skill set, particularly his electrical skills to work on Sandy's house, without any expectation. As we all worked on Sandy's house that day, Yazzie was in a small area standing almost all day fixing her electric wiring, working through the pain. Later

in the day, after convincing him to sit down and elevate his foot (the physical therapist in me emerged); he taught me how to wire electrical boxes with some assistance. The next day I watched as he instructed one of the guys on the trip in how to wire two overhead lights for the hallway. That evening over dinner with the entire group at our motel, I got a chance to learn more about Yazzie. He was from Ship Rock, NM and earned his Associates in Applied Science from the Univ. of New Mexico in plumbing, electrical, concrete and carpentry. He was also a firefighter, and met his wife through a course on firefighting in California. Eventually, they settled on Pine Ridge Reservation and had three children, Derek (7), Kasey (3) and Kennedy Benally (3 months). His father, a retired police officer, still lives in New Mexico. As Yazzie talked about his entire family, you could tell how proud he was of them and how much he wanted to protect and provide for them. I was soon to see that relationship with two of his children.

As we were driving, Kathy also asked Yazzie about his house. He related with pride that he had a house, and he had a piece of land staked out. Kathy then asked Yazzie what he still needed to get done on his house, and then responded with, "so, let's just get it done while we're here." When we left, the foundation was completed, the inside of the house was cleaned, with walls spackled and painted, and the roof was repaired. Yazzie had taken the van to Rapid City to have his cast removed and brought his children to the house on Thursday to see it. As he walked them into a room, he crouched down beside them and stated, "This is your room. You won't be cold anymore." What a simple statement, but how incredibly moving to witness. On Friday, as we swung by the house before we headed toward the Black Hills, again it brought tears to my eyes and a smile to my face to see Yazzie up on a ladder with his tool belt on working on his own home. It was then that I realized what the Mission of Love did for this family. All Yazzie needed was the house and some helping hands and he now had a home for his family that would be equipped with everything that one would expect in a house in this country.

Delbert Charging Crow was featured in a film that our group of volunteers watched at the Chamber of Commerce, a beautiful structure also built by the Mission of Love and decorated by local artwork including Kevin Poor Bear's. Delbert carves beautiful fine stone fetishes, animal figures out of rock that are incredibly smooth and beautiful. The video highlights the specifics of his work that takes many days. We had a chance to meet him, another gentle spirit, full of love and compassion and I have a stone horse that he made that sits on my nightstand. Delbert engaged a small group of us in a short ceremony in which he blessed us individually and the Mission of Love as a whole. Delbert is a full blooded Oglala Lakota Sioux Indian.

Patricia Catches the Enemy journeyed with us when we went to the Black Hills, Crazy Horse Monument and the Native American Museum. In addition to being a remarkable woman, she is a cancer survivor and is very committed to increasing awareness of cancer on the reservation. She has been to several conferences out-of-state, including the Mayo Clinic.

The people and the culture were brought fully to light by Leonard Little Finger who took time to speak to us for two hours in the Sacred Hoop School, a school that was built by the Mission of Love specifically to teach the Lakota language, and through that the culture.

What touched me the most; outside of visiting Wounded Knee, an incredibly sacred and heart-wrenching memorial to incredible atrocities; were the Lakota people. I highlighted a few in this passage, but every one of them has a beautiful and unique

(CONT'D. on page 17)

KRISTIE WALKER - CHICAGO, ILL.

Pine Ridge, South Dakota

(CONT'D. from page 16)

story. The Mission of Love has accomplished what is seemingly impossible on this reservation that is in the poorest county in the country. Kathy has spent over a decade building relationships and standing by her word, something that the Lakotas are not used to. From the government to the other groups either on or off the reservation, the Lakotas have been promised many things over recent years and throughout the past century, of which most never occur. As was related to me, when one family saw their house appear on a truck, they were both shocked

and joyous as Kathy made true to her promise of getting them a home.

I was both proud and humbled to be a part of the Mission of Love volunteer team on the Pine Ridge Reservation. I arrived in South Dakota with no expectations, but trust in Kathy and what the Mission of Love does, as I had been on two trips with her over ten years ago to Guatemala. I witnessed the number of homes and other structures that have been built, the incredible network of relationships and goodwill that has been created, and the mutual respect that exists between the Lakota people we met and Kathy and the Mission of Love. There is so much more good work to be done! The Lakota people are forever in my heart.

KEVIN POOR BEAR - WOPILA TANKA

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota

April 15, 2010

First of all, I want to thank the GREAT SPIRIT, for bringing Kathleen Price and the Mission of Love, to our family here in Pine Ridge. I dreamed of walking, but thought it was just wishful thinking, but NOW, I know it is a reality and I am now the most happiest person in the World. I can finally wake up and not feel so down and depressed about being in a wheelchair and not have legs to walk.



I got a chair today and I am finally free from being so down. I am in the process of getting my prosthetic legs and very anxious and happy ~ my prayers have been answered, thanks to Kathy and the Mission of Love. Know that without these things happening this week, I do not know where I would be today. I just want to take this time to really, really thank the Great Spirit and Kathy Price and the Mission of Love for everything that they have done for my family and me.

(Wopila Tanka), A big thank you from the Kevin Poor Bear and Jo and family.

Picture of Kevin Poor Bear painting our Mission of Love sign for the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in Kyle, South Dakota. Kevin designed and painted this piece of art for us. Kevin has no legs.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Youth Work Day at Mission of Love

(CONT'D. from page 10)

Appreciation and giving back were common themes among the volunteers. Two of the volunteers had recently received help from Family Promise, a program that helps homeless families by providing temporary lodging in houses of worship and engaging faith communities to help. Volunteers were unanimous in voicing plans to return to Mission of Love's warehouse to help again in the future.

The job got done with lots of boisterous laughter and fun for all. Kathy Price was pleased with the amount of work that was completed. "I'm so glad to see these young people learning that there's a big world out there and so many children who need their help." She stressed with the teens her mantra, "You are not here to save the world, but to touch the hands that are within your reach."

First Federated Church pastor Jeff Davis gave this advice to others who are considering bringing their youth organization; "Make the time to volunteer with Mission of Love - you won't regret it. Kathy Price is a force of nature when it comes to making things happen for those in the world who most need our help."

DAN'S MESSAGE

December 27, 2009 - WKBN NEWS

For more than 20 years, Kathy Price has been on a Mission of Love. Helping to deliver basic human rights—everything from wheelchairs to windows—to the ones Price said society has forgot.

"It's not just my Mission of Love, but it's everybody's mission in life, to be able to be of service and give to others who are in need," said Price, Director and Founder of the Mission of Love Foundation.

Price and her non-profit foundation have been able to airlift more than 35 million pounds of aid to five continents in our world. This is made possible because of the Denton Program, which is a Congressional law that lets private citizens use space on military cargo planes to transport donated goods and services.

"The Mission of Love is the largest user of the Denton Program in the world, right here in Austintown, Ohio," Price said with a smile.

Price has volunteers all over the globe, who are ready to travel wherever they're needed at a moment's notice, delivering medical supplies, building tools or even educational materials we take for granted, to areas which need them the most.

This year, they helped build homes for the Lakota people

of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, using paint and supplies donated from several local companies.

"It's a very good cause. I have other causes but this is the one I really lean toward because I think it's really down in the grassroots. That's how I feel about it," said Roland Brothers, Owner of All Coatings and Sentco Paint in Youngstown.

"Charity begins at home," Scott Brothers, Roland Brothers' son, added. "And Kathy's story, all you gotta do is meet her and talk to her, and you'd want to help too."

In just a couple weeks, 75,000 pounds of aid, food and supplies will be loaded up from the Mission of Love warehouse, and taken to the 910th Airlift Wing in Vienna, where it will be put on a plane and flown to the orphans of Casa, Guatemala, and the surrounding Mayan villages.

The mission is ongoing, not for recognition, and not because it's Christmas, but simply because it's the right thing to do, Price said.

"Our intent is strictly a Mission of Love," Price said. "That's all you come in with, that's all you leave with, is what you've done with your life, and if we could facilitate that as one's journey, we've accomplished what we needed to do."

She said for every dollar donated, they're able to provide \$122 worth of goods and services.

Cancun, Mexico Dear Kathleen,



I am so grateful to God that you have offered to help in our battle of the terrible disease of acute lymphoblastic leukemia. My son has suffered since 2005. He was diagnosed when he was only 3 years old. He relapsed in August of 2008. Since then it has been a life or death struggle to get the treatment and care he so urgently needs. His doctor says continued care is critical to my son's survival, but in this country, it is very difficult to get proper attention. The chemotherapy and bone marrow studies (marrow aspirate), coupled with his weakened condition subsequent to these tests, makes life a nightmare of concern for me and a torturous battle for my brave young son. We must travel by bus for hours each way. My son is exposed to dangerous germs in those travels which make the treatments even more dangerous. The cost of treatments is way beyond our means. The idea that God has sent someone to answer our prayers is a miracle. So many mothers like me feel we are shouting for help in the desert – all alone in our trials. God bless them all, and God bless you for reaching out to help us in any way possible.

Mariela

"While we are living in the present, we must celebrate life every day, knowing that we are becoming history with every word, every action, every deed."



Mattie Stepanek



MISSION OF LOVE HELPS HAITI

By JOE GORMAN Tribune Chronicle
Tribune Chronicle / Joe Gorman 1-10



Jeremy Bower passes a piece of lumber Saturday to Seth Colbentz that will be taken to Haiti by the Mission of Love group for earthquake relief. They were among several volunteers loading supplies at the Mission of Love warehouse in Paris Township.

PARIS TOWNSHIP - Kathy Price knows her disasters.

From tsunamis to hurricanes, the founder and director of the Mission of Love Foundation in Austintown has seen her share of calamity over the last 20 years.

On Saturday, she and a group of volunteers braved the bitter cold to sort through donations to send to Haiti, which was ravaged by a massive earthquake Jan. 12.

Although bundled against the cold, Price said things could be worse: Temperatures were about 15 below zero in 2004 as the group gathered supplies to send to victims of the tsunami in Thailand.

"In a way we are kind of blessed," Price said.

She was blessed in another way as well. The group found someone with contacts on the island, which can help ensure that the aid they are sending gets to the people who need it.

Zach Colbentz of Hartville owns a John Deere dealership there and wanted to get involved in relief efforts because he has a brother who lives in Haiti and he has visited the island several times.

Through his connections, Colbentz arranged for trucks in St. Marc, Haiti, to pick up supplies brought in on barges from Florida.

"We were going to go anyway, but with his help, it's a win-win scenario," Price said.

Colbentz said he was guided by a higher power when trying to work out the logistics and timing of his role in the effort.

"It was all God's will," he said.

Price had just returned from Guatemala when the earthquake struck and was making plans the next day to ship aid when Colbentz heard her plea for help through a friend's e-mail. Price said the earthquake is especially bad because the country did not have much to start with.

"How can you be any poorer when you're the poorest of the poor?" she asked.

Price has been collecting everything, from diapers to food to bottles of water to building materials. She even has collected walkers and crutches. She said the effort of those who want to help is awesome to see.

"This is from the community for the community of Haiti," Price said.

Helping people is nothing new for Price, who pitched in for tsunami relief as well as Hurricane Katrina, among others.

"For 20 years, this has been our life," she said.

Stu Hitchcock has been with Price since 2006 and said she deserves the credit for making sure aid gets to the people who need it.

"She gets a big outpouring no matter what," Hitchcock said. "I've never known anyone who can make so much happen with so little money."

God's will is
not an
itinerary,
but an
attitude.



HOPE FOR HAITI - January 2010

Dear Kathy,

This letter is written to you as an active participant in Christian Fellowship Mission that we need your help with supplies and humanitarian AID going to Haiti. After Haiti's destructive earthquake the people in Haiti are in need of a lot of supplies which your Mission of Love has access to. The love that you have shown has been an inspiration to me and so many others. I want to thank you in advance for the love you have shown to the Haitian people. The leadership, support and the goods you have provided has been instrumental in getting these two containers of food, medical supplies, and other miscellaneous supplies to the people of Haiti that need the most.



I know that it was our GOD. and my savior Jesus Christ that brought us together to accomplish this goal together because nobody would have put the two of us together except for Him. Kathy, you and your organization, The Mission of Love, can never know how much this means to my brother and his wife, Jolaine, who are in Haiti and have orphanages, and all the other people that these goods will help. Your outpouring of Love is shown by what you have been able to accomplish (although I know that this is not why you do what you do) and all the people that you are able to help. May God bless you the same way that you have blessed others. We could never say how much we love and appreciate what you have done.



Zach, Kathy, Seth, Bob, Eric

As it says
by God
them a
of glad-
of praise
you do for
with, you give
row. You show
and loves them
say enough how
make this hap-
continue to work
in order to use the



Photos special to the Town Crier
A group of eager young boys at the Haitian orphanage unload shipping containers from Mission of Love. The containers were later converted to permanent housing for those affected by the earthquake.

**Mission of Love seeing
results of work in Haiti**

in Isaiah 61 that we (humans) are called to provide for those who grieve, bestow on crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil ness instead of mourning, and a garment instead of a spirit of despair. That is what all the people that you come in contact them joy and hope for a brighter tomor- them that there is someone that cares just like Jesus loves us. Again, I cannot great it is teaming up with you to pen for the people of Haiti. We will at getting the needed duty free letter Denton program.

Sincerely yours,
Zach Coblentz
Hartville, Ohio



Kathy Price and her Mission of Love

Story & Photos by J.T.
Whitehouse, Town Crier

The volunteers of the Mission of Love, based in Austintown, have been hard at work preparing for delivering aid to Haiti's children. Mission founder Kathy Price said everything is falls in place.

"Right now it is all geared up for the government to move in and help the people by delivering rice and water," Price said. "But down the road, when everyone else forgets about the disaster, we will be going in to help the children."

Price and her army of volunteers never stop. They just returned from the orphanage in Casa Guatemala where they installed the first toilets for the children. They also took a medical crew to help bring care where there is none to be found.

"We just returned from the Casa Guatemala Orphanage, to find out that Haiti is in need and is within

our reach," Price said.

Wasting no time, Price contacted the air base in Vienna and spoke with the commander. She also contacted the Denton Program that permits humanitarian aid to be transported by military aircraft. The program is a win-win situation with aid reaching anywhere in the world while military aircraft crews get some real-life training.

"Everyone is waiting," Price said. "All we have to do is send in the Denton application."

Send your monetary donations to:
Mission of Love
2054 Hemlock Court
Austintown, Ohio, 44515.

Above: Mission of Love founder/director Kathy Price gives third-grader Ashley Lara a special gift from the children of Haiti that are being helped by the organization. The gift is a hand-made worry doll that Haitian children take to bed and leave all their worries with.

Mahoning Valley Woman / Winter 2010



CASA GUATEMALA

1-11-2010
Dear Kathy and Mission of Love volunteers,

I am writing to express my gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful team of volunteers who traveled to Guatemala in January of 2010 for the sole purpose of serving the children living in Casa Guatemala. When I met the group at the hotel for a working dinner to discuss the project plans for this special mission, I could see how anxious everyone was to help the children. The next morning we met at the hardware store and picking out supplies felt like Christmas to me. The group of volunteers was so big they needed two buses for transport. People were patient waiting for hours while Kathy and I and a few others were busy purchasing the precious building materials and plumbing fixtures. At long last, purchases were completed and the long ride to Rio Dulce began. Many hours later the busses arrived and off we went to buy the lumber needed for our big project. This lumber had to be loaded onto boats along with all the other supplies, volunteers, and their luggage. The next day, materials had to be carried off the boats and into the jungle where construction would begin. Mission of Love volunteers worked tirelessly day after day to complete their projects in one week. Classrooms, the teacher's house, and both the boys and the girls houses were painted, and a beautiful new bathroom facility for the whole school was finished in time for the first day of school. The children were so happy people came to help. Everyone helped tear down the dangerous old building with holes in the floor and a rotten roof. No more worries about a child breaking their leg or even falling through the huge holes in the old floor.

We thank all those who were involved on this wonderful mission and all those you contributed generously to make all the purchases possible. Your contributions helped make this project a reality. Some of the volunteers in the group were facing serious health challenges of their own - yet they gave all they had to help the children. This truly is a Mission of Love.

Now Kathy is getting ready to come back. The next mission will be to demolish the last damaged house from the 1999 earthquake. It is time to build a new one. The old house is still standing - but it is a disaster waiting to happen. It is in such terrible condition - going near it could be life threatening. Children are not allowed to go near it the way it is right now.

When this old house comes down, we want to build a gymnasium for the children. This would be a place for children to build muscles and partake in health building activities. This building will also include dormitories for the kitchen staff. Kathy will need to gather a strong group of volunteers for this construction team. People who can do plumbing, electrical work and all the manual labor that goes with building a big house. The completion of this project is our dream. It will sit on a lovely spot right in front of the river. The view is beautiful. We hope our dream of having a nice house again in that place with will come true with your help.

We also have a plan to help children who were born with hare lips and clef palates. Kathy is gathering a team of doctors who will perform the much needed surgeries. We already have the hospital. The next big task is gathering the 20 children and getting them ready for surgery. The medical team consists of plastic surgeons, anesthesiologists, surgical and intensive care nurses, a lab technician to conduct all the lab testing, a social worker to coordinate the transportation, accommodations of the families who will come with their children. This is a huge undertaking because these families live far from civilization. Most of them do not know that surgery can make their children

look normal. In our search for these cases, we found adults that never had surgery. In many cases it is not an easy task to convince them to let the children have the procedure. These families live in extreme poverty. We must cover all the expenses for transportation. We must provide escorts because these people are very fearful. Two adults will accompany each child. Much help is needed. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.

May God bless you!



Angie
Casa Guatemala



What I do you cannot do; but what you do, I cannot do.
The needs are GREAT, and none of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with love, and together we can do something wonderful.

Mother Theresa



CASA GUATEMALA ORPHANAGE REVISITED

Rashid A. Abdu, M.D.

On January 5, 2010, fourteen Mission of Love volunteers drove from Ohio to Detroit Airport, on a mission to Casa Guatemala, an orphanage with 250 children, ranging in age from 3 months to 18 years. Other volunteers came from Pennsylvania, Florida, and as far as Iowa, a total of 22, including Attorney Robert Price, Kathy Prices husband. I was the only physician.



Doctor Rashid Abdu with girls from the orphanage

Ages of volunteers ranged from 21 years to 77, with different background, and each with special talent—carpenters, plumbers, electricians, farmers, artists, health care, and business. But Kathleen Price, the founder and director of the Mission of Love, made sure that regardless of background diversity or expertise, we all had only one mission and one goal: to serve the orphans, those beautiful children, and to show them that someone cares. Many of us were repeaters with the Mission of Love, the first timers thanked Kathy for the opportunity and hoped they would be asked again.

The 6 hour flight, with one stop at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was uneventful, notwithstanding the usual hassle at the airports. Also, Kathy got the cheapest airfare for us with Spirit Airlines. However, if you needed a bottle of water or a cup of coffee on board, you had to pay \$2.00 for it. I was afraid to ask the price of a small bag of peanuts!

Upon arrival to Guatemala City, we went through customs without any problems. I think they know Kathy, who had been through that airport many times in the past, starting in 1992, when Mission of Love built the school at the orphanage. Since then, Kathy and Angelina Galdemez (Angie), who founded the orphanage 30 years ago, have become good friends, with common purpose—to help and care for those children. Over the years, Mission of Love has repaired torn buildings, furnished some, and last year, built a greenhouse.

Miguel, the bus owner, and his drivers, met us at the airport with two buses, and drove us to an elegant former governors mansion, converted into a hotel, next door to the American Embassy, where we spent the night. The following day, our buses rolled across mountains for about 6 hours, in a north easterly direction for the approximately 200 miles, to the shore of Rio Dulce (Sweet River). We took a boat to Hotel Catamaran, consisting of several small cabins, some built on posts in the water, each with its own deck facing the river. The small island was developed by an American veteran, Kevin, many years ago. He has a home on the island, but always visible, making sure that his guests were well cared for.

The following morning we took the 20 minute boat ride to Casa Guatemala orphanage. Immediately upon arrival, and within 20 minutes, volunteers were on their ladders painting. Kathy had stopped on the way out of Guatemala City, and bought 36 gallons of paint. She also arranged the purchase of building material from a local vendor for a latrine construction for the school.

The volunteer orphanage manager, Beatrice said that she had never seen volunteers come and start their work so rapidly. Since I was the only physician, I went to the clinic manned by one volunteer nurse, Alisa, a lovely and caring young lady from Vancouver. She spoke Spanish well, which made work easier. Although one of our volunteers, Elizabeth Rapalee, a 21 year old college student at Miami University, from Medina, Ohio, spoke Spanish fluently. When Alisa was out of the clinic, I had no problems seeing patients. Elizabeth and Joan Gallitto, my office assistant for many years, did a great job.

The clinic is on the water. It has one room for the nurses' quarters, one utility room, one "pharmacy room", and one examining room and one room with 2 beds for any one who may feel sick, or tired. The reception room, with a few chairs in a row and one flat examining table, was where we saw and treated patients. Since electricity was available only 2 hours a day, there was no refrigeration. Most of the patients were children, with upper respiratory, and gastrointestinal problems. We treated intestinal parasites, lice, and scabies. Families came from villages on foot, or in little canoes. Some traveled for hours.

We saw a 9 year old village girl, who had knee injury, days earlier. Her father carried her for four hours on his

(CONT'D. on page 24)

(CONT'D. from page 23)

back. She had fever, and her knee was red, swollen, and infected. We opened the wound for drainage, put her on antibiotics, and warm compresses. She slept on a little mattress on the floor in the girls' dormitory, with a young French volunteer as her bed side nurse. After 4 days, she was able to walk and looked well. Her father, who had walked for 4 hours from the village, came and took her home. I often wondered what would have happened to that little girl had we not been there.

Kathy took me, Joan, and Elizabeth, to a village near by. I had never seen poverty of that magnitude. People don't have enough to eat. I saw an 80 year old blind woman, who looked malnourished. Like many villagers, she lived on one tortilla in the morning and one in the evening, or the equivalent in beans. I asked the family if they could give her more food. "We don't have enough to go around" said a family member. I saw at least six of the family all living in one smoke filled hut. A young lady was boiling corn on wooden fire in one corner of the hut. It brought sad memories. It was an environment not much different from my home in the village in Yemen 70 years ago.

We saw dilapidated old "outhouses" here and there, not easily accessible to the old or handicap. We came from the land of plenty, the United States of America, where we have much; now we are witnessing and touching those who have none. Perhaps to alleviate our guilt, some would reach into their pockets and give a few quetzals (Q8=\$1.00) here, and there. They will buy a little something for the moment, but the recipient will remain poor and hungry. The one common denominator that all poor and hungry people share, regardless of country, is lack of education.

I met a lovely 20 some years old lovely Mayan (she was not sure of her age), She was raised in this orphanage until age 12 when she was adopted by a lady from New York. She subsequently lived in foster homes, but managed to go to school on scholarships. Now she is a 3rd year student in a New York college. During her vacation, she returned to visit her "home", the orphanage,. I asked her about her plans after graduation, she said she would like to work in the Peace Corp. As I looked and listened to this young lady, I thought of the folks we saw a day earlier in the village. What difference an education makes!

Then I thought of the billions of dollars affluent nations give in the form of foreign aid to the leaders of underdeveloped countries. The leaders of these countries spend it for arms, for palaces, or put it in Swiss banks, and very little if any, goes to uplift the standards of the poor. If the givers could only designate a portion of this aid to go specifically for primary and secondary education, with stipulation that 50% of the students must be girls. This will be a giant step in breaking the cycle of poverty.

After a week, many buildings were painted, the latrine with three stalls for boys and three for girls, and its septic tanks, was completed, we said our sad goodbyes to those beautiful, happy and grateful children. On our way back home, we stopped to inspect a small "hospital" up in the mountains. Actually it was an ambulatory facility. No accommodations for inpatients. However, they had two small operating rooms where they did minor surgery. An adjacent room cramped with beds, used as a recovery room, and next to it another room crammed with cribs.

There was one operating table, three anesthesia machines, and two floor standing operating lights. Maritza, the manager, a delightful lady, showed us around and was happy to see us, because Kathy had contacted them before, and raised the possibility, that the Mission of Love would try to bring a plastic surgery team to operate on children with cleft palates. Kathy always thinks of projects to do for poor and under served children.

While still on the plane coming home, Kathy was already organizing collections for the earthquake victims in Haiti. Within a week, she shipped 4 large containers full of supplies, including water, tents, medicine, hospital beds, and a large shipment of surgical supplies and instruments, food, and construction material, etc. etc.etc. All shipments went by truck to Florida, and then by barge to Haiti. Of course, she had contact in Haiti who would meet the shipment and then distribute them to the proper hands.

Kathy said the containers could be used for permanent housing. She never stops. If not collecting, she is sorting and packing at the unheated warehouse, sometimes in below zero weather, or getting ready for another trip to some impoverished area. All those missions are filled with hope, gratitude and love.

Like the rest of the volunteers, I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in this mission of true love.

"If the givers could only designate a portion of this aid to go specifically for primary and secondary education, with stipulation that 50% of the students must be girls. This will be a giant step in breaking the cycle of poverty."



Rashid A. Abdu, M.D.



MY EXPERIENCE OF GOING TO GUATEMALA:

**One Trip - One Mission • Twenty-two Hearts - Forty-four Hands
One Orphanage – One Goal**

To tell you the truth, I didn't have one expectation of going to Guatemala, except to serve.

The weeks prior to the trip I had plenty of time to pray about the opportunity ahead. And because of that time, I felt I was able to make the pledge with one attitude in mind – “willingness”. I was willing to be used in whatever way I could, no matter what.

When I first arrived to Guatemala, as I had never been to a third world country before, I was in disbelief of the culture. It was so very different from ours here in the United States. I was eager to get to our destination with anticipation, hope and love.

At breakfast our very first day Angie got up and spoke of the inception of the orphanage, what has transpired since and yet all the work that still needs accomplished – setting one goal at a time.

At first sight of the orphanage (in the middle of the jungle) my heart began to beat to a faster drum and my stomach right then and there, began exercising with flip flops. The dock was lined with kids and adults alike.

Departure off the boat we were not only greeted with handshakes, but heartfelt smiles and hugs. You could just see the hope on their faces and depth of love in their eyes. We all felt like family within the first ten minutes of our arrival.

Our group of twenty-two people just naturally split into three groups; based on experience and ability:

Administrative: They took care of all the “not so neat stuff”. Obviously being the backdrop of all the planning and organizing, along with transportation and safety. It certainly wasn't easy traveling as a group of twenty-two.

Construction: They had the monumental task of building a six-stall bathroom on a swampy 30x50 plot of land, providing a safe facility for both school and orphanage use.

Painting: This was the crew I volunteered for. We painted the outside of buildings and shacks, really anything that didn't move until we ran out of paint.

Putting aside all the hard and exhausting work, nightly we gathered around sharing stories of enthusiasm, sadness and hope. Deep relationships were developed throughout the week, not only among us, but with the orphans (from all ages), people from the surrounding villages and the volunteers and teachers from all over the world.

“Willingly”, I left behind part of my heart at the orphanage.

One Trip –
One Mission.
MaryBeth Eckberg



Lars, Giovanni, Mary Beth

*Mary Beth passed away in September.
In honor fo Mary Beth our, Mission of Love will
be going to Guatemala in April to build a
Hospice for the Mayan people.*

“GOOD TO GREAT: Think GREAT thoughts ~ Read GREAT books ~ Pursue GREAT people
Dream GREAT dreams ~ Pray GREAT prayers ~ Take GREAT risks ~ Make GREAT sacrifices
Enjoy GREAT moments ~ Empower GREAT people ~ Develop GREAT habits.”

(Devotion by Lars Eckberg while in Guatemala with Mission of Love Volunteer Team 1-10-10.)

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AT ITS FULLEST!

“MISSION OF LOVE”

THAT’S WHAT I AM A WITNESS TO, AS I HAVE SEEN KATHY PRICE AND HER GANG WORKING DILIGENTLY TO MAKE LIFE A LITTLE EASIER FOR THE RIVERA FAMILY ON THE EAST SIDE OF YOUNGSTOWN.

THEY TOOK ON A PROJECT OF CONSTRUCTION AN ADDITION TO THE RIVERIA’S FAMILY DWELLING TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR FELIX, WHO HAS BEEN BED RIDDEN FOR A FEW YEARS, AND FOR LOURDES, HIS WIFE WHO CONTINUES TO STRUGGLE TO NURSE AND CARE FOR HER HUSBAND.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT AND COMFORTING TO SEE THAT ALTHOUGH THE MISSION OF LOVE DEVOTES SO MUCH TIME AND ENERGY TO SO MUCH NEED THAT EXISTS IN COUNTRIES OUTSIDE IF THE UNITED STATES, THEY WILL ALSO TAKE ON LOCAL PROJECTS, THEREFORE WALKING THEIR TALK NOT ONLY ABROAD, BUT ALSO IN THEIR BACK YARD. I PRAISE GOD FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTING THEIR GRAIN OF SALT TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

THE ADDITION THAT MISSION OF LOVE VOLUNTEERS ADDED TO THE RIVERIA’S HOUSE (WHICH IS ALMOST COMPLETE AT THIS WRITING,) IS VERY LARGE AND HAS A SHOWER AREA ATTACHED TO IT. WHAT A BLESSING! LOURDES WILL ACTUALLY BE BE ABLE TO GIVE HER HUSBAND A SHOWER, AND NOT HAVE TO GO THROUGH SO MUCH OF A STRUGGLE TO BATHE HIM IN BED.

FELIX’S BED WILL FIT COMFORTABLE IN HIS NEW ROOM AND WILL NO LONGER BE CRAMPED UP IN A CORNER OF WHAT IS NOW HIS LIVING ROOM, AS IT HAS BEEN FOR A LONG TIME.THE SUN WILL SHINE BRIGHTLY INTO HIS NEW ROOM TO GIVE HIM SOME ENERGY HE DOESN’T GET NOW.

I WAS SO IMPRESSED BY ALL OF THE MISSION OF LOVE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE MADE THIS POSSIBLE. JEFF HOUSEL SPENT MANY A WEEKEND AND BROUGHT HIS WHOLE FAMILY TO DIG THE FOUNDATION, LAY THE BLOCK, BUILD THE ADDITION ETC. WHEN I WATCHED BILL MAAG, THE PLUMBER, CRAWLING ON HIS BACK ON TOP OF THE ROCKS UNDER THE FLOOR OF THE NEW ADDITION, TO RUN THE WATER LINE FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER AND UP TO THE SHOWER AREA. HIS SMILE AND HIS JOYFUL ATTITUDE REMINDED ME OF THE ATTITUDE THAT JESUS CHRIST WOULD HAVE HAD AS HE WALKED THE FACE OF THE EARTH WHILE SHARING HIS LOVE.

I NEVER IMAGINED THAT KATHY AND HER GANG FROM THE MISSION OF LOVE WOULD END UP WORKING ON A LOCAL PROJECT THAT HAS COST MORE THAN \$20,000, TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR THE RIVERIA FAMILY. WHAT STARTED OUT AS A REQUEST TO HELP FIND A VEHICLE SUITABLE FOR A HANDICAP PERSON, TURNED OUT TO BE A COMMITMENT TO PROVE KATHY’S COMPASSION FOR THE RIVERIA FAMILY.

THE LOVE CONSTANTLY DEMONSTRATED BY THE MISSION OF LOVE CREW HAS NOT STOPPED SINCE THE ORGANIZATION WAS ESTABLISHED TWENTY ONE YEARS AGO. ON THE CONTRARY IT CONTINUES TO GROW WITH NO END IN SIGHT!

DEEP IN MY HEART I COMPARE THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY KATHY’S MISSION OF LOVE TO THE GREAT WORK OF MERCY ACCOMPLISHED BY MOTHER THERESA OF CALCUTTA FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF SO MANY PEOPLE ON THIS EARTH, I REFER TO KATHY AS MOTHER THERESA NO.2 ~ HER CREW THEN PERHAPS CAN BE REFERRED TO HER AS HER DISCIPLE’S.

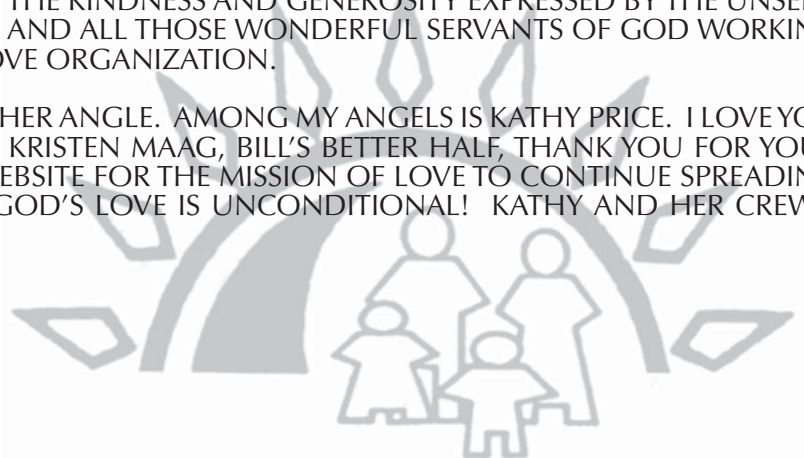
BEFORE I CONCLUDE THIS REFLECTION, I THINK I CAN SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE RIVERIA FAMILY AND ON BEHALF OF ALL PEOPLES THAT HAVE EXPERIENCED THE KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY EXPRESSED BY THE UNSELFISH SACRIFICES OF KATHY, HER HUSBAND BOB, AND ALL THOSE WONDERFUL SERVANTS OF GOD WORKING FOR HIS GLORY THROUGH THE MISSION OF LOVE ORGANIZATION.

KATHY HAS TOLD ME THAT LOURDES RIVERA IS HER ANGLE. AMONG MY ANGELS IS KATHY PRICE. I LOVE YOU KATHY MORE THAT WORDS CAN SAY! AND TO KRISTEN MAAG, BILL’S BETTER HALF, THANK YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA GRAIN OF SAND IN DEVELOPING THE WEBSITE FOR THE MISSION OF LOVE TO CONTINUE SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD TO THE WORLD. GOD’S LOVE IS UNCONDITIONAL! KATHY AND HER CREW’S LOVE IS AT ITS FULLEST!

CON CARINO (WITH LOVE)

PHIL GONZALEZ , YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

11-11-10



Youngstown nonprofit organization helps answer couple's prayers

MISSION *of* LOVE

By KRISTINE GILL
kgill@vindy.com

YOUNGSTOWN
FELIX RIVERA LAY IN BED AS A PRIEST recited the communion rite in the cramped, makeshift bedroom of his East Side home.

Rivera, 71, has been in bed since a golf-cart accident left him paralyzed in 2005. He cannot walk. He can barely move his arms. His hands are forever balled into weak fists that rest on top of his blankets.

"Sometimes I think I can work," said the former GM employee who retired in 2001. "Late at night, I remember I can do nothing."

On Wednesday, Felix and his wife, Lourdes, 64, received communion amid the buzz of a power saw. A few paces from their bedroom, past piles of bedding and neglected chores, a crew worked to finish an addition to their home.

The Mission of Love, a nonprofit based in Youngstown, raised money to pay for the labor and supplies needed for Felix's new bedroom, which will include a handicapped-accessible shower. Lourdes usually fetches water from the basement to bathe her husband in bed.

Her caregiver responsibilities fell to one of her daughters recently when Lourdes spent two weeks in the hospital after a heart attack. She points to the scar along the right side of her neck where doctors cleared a blocked artery.

"Welcome to the house of the cripples," Lourdes said, laughing as a family friend, Phil Gonzalez, translated.

The Riveras originally are from Puerto Rico, and Gonzalez met them 30 years ago through their church, St. Rosa de Lima on Tenney Avenue in Campbell. Gonzalez asked Kathy Price, founder and director of Mission of Love, for a vehicle to help transport Felix to doctor's appointments.

But after meeting with the Riveras and presenting them with a free van, Price knew her work wasn't done.

"I looked around and said, 'We need to do something,'" Price said.

A Cleveland company donated the wheelchair ramp that leads from the Riveras' front door, and Price raised funds through the mission to pay for the addition to the home.

"I feel happy," Felix said. "I have to wait and see when I move in there. It's like living another life."



WILLIAM D. LEWIS | THE VINDICATOR
The Rev. Gerardo Hernandez, a visiting priest to St. Rosa de Lima Church in Campbell, prays with paraplegic Felix Rivera and his wife, Lourdes, in their home. Mission of Love is helping to build an addition to their house.

HOW TO HELP

◆ **To donate** or volunteer with Mission of Love, visit its website at www.missionof-love.org.

◆ **The mission** accepts cash and supply donations year-round including bedding, clothing and medical supplies among other items.

◆ **To inquire** about volunteer opportunities, e-mail director Kathy Price at amission-oflove@sbcglobal.net.



Construction workers, who did not wish to be identified, added trim to the door frames in the new addition. Mission of Love paid for the materials and labor.

See MISSION, A4

MISSION

Continued from A1

Gonzalez said the accident five years ago did have some positive impact on Felix, who used to drink and smoke. When asked how he dealt with the shock of learning he was paralyzed, Felix shrugged and smiled.

"This is God telling him that part of his life is over with," Gonzalez said. "This got him away from that vice. He's accepting things as they are."

Felix's daughter, Monica,

was learning to drive the golf cart in the backyard of their Early Road home when she hit the wrong pedal and the cart lurched forward, hit a rock and tipped, pinning Felix beneath it.

She was a teenager at that time, but Monica also had suffered burns on most of her body as a child when she threw a bad report card into the fireplace.

"Somehow that stirred the fire out of control," Gonzalez said.

Price is working to fund reconstructive surgeries

for Monica through the mission.

"There are so many things going on," Gonzalez said of the family's woes.

In 2004, one of their sons, a cab driver, was assaulted by a passenger. When he drew his own weapon to defend himself, the man turned the gun on the Riveras' son. He nearly died from the bullet that entered above his left shoulder and is still lodged there.

Mission of Love, which began in 1989, has an international focus and does not primarily aid area resi-

dents.

"Most people in our area are so blessed, and the needs in our area are nowhere near the needs of the indigenous," Price said. "Felix is within our reach, and that's the bottom line."

Many of the group's missions have led to an American Indian reservation in South Dakota where volunteers from across the country have met to build homes for the people there.

A group visited the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in September, and in August, volunteers and area

surgeons traveled to Guatemala to perform cleft-palate surgeries on 18 children.

The group is sending a package to Honduras today that includes 32,000 pounds of medical supplies, school supplies, weaving looms, Christmas gifts and corn donated from a local farmer.

The package will be airlifted via the Denton Program, in which the Department of Defense transports donated cargo to those in need using military transportation.

In the meantime, humor and religion sustain Felix and Lourdes, who have been married for 44 years.

Just Wednesday, Lourdes jokingly complained to her husband, begging him to get out of bed to help her clean the house.

"He said to her, 'How can a dead man help one who is dying?'" Gonzalez said.

But when jokes don't cut it, the Riveras turn to a higher power.

"God first," Lourdes said, pointing a finger toward her bedroom ceiling. "Jesus."

News Release - UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

910TH Airlift Wing (AFRC) Youngstown Air Reserve Station

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DATE: December 10, 2010

"910th Airlift Wing to conduct 47th Mission of Love Saturday"

YOUNGSTOWN AIR RESERVE STATION, OHIO – Air Force Reservists from the 910th Airlift Wing have been busy preparing 18 pallets of humanitarian cargo that will be flown from here Saturday, December 11, 2010.

A massive effort is making this Mission of Love possible so that people who have lost everything due to mudslides and flooding, will also have Christmas in Santa Rita, Yora ~ Honduras.

An Air Force KC-10 aircraft will arrive here to pick up 47,500 pounds ~ (18 Air Force Pallets) of supplies from the Mission of Love (based in Austintown), for the communities of Santa Rita, Yora, Honduras.

Included in this airlift is, 8,000 lbs of corn for tortillas, hospital beds, medical equipment and supplies, wheel chairs, school supplies, school desks, Christmas presents for the children, shoes, computers and a piano.

A Mission of Love Humanitarian Airlift will take place Saturday December 11, 2010 at the 910TH AIR FORCE BASE ~ Vienna, Ohio ~ 11 AM.

Everyone is making this Mission of Love possible so that our friends who have lost everything due to mudslides and flooding, will also have Christmas in Santa Rita, Yora ~ Honduras.

An Air Force KC-10 aircraft will arrive here to pick up 47,500 pounds ~ (18 Air Force Pallets) of supplies from the Mission of Love (based in Austintown), for the communities of Santa Rita, Yora, Honduras.

Included in this airlift is, 8,000 lbs of corn for tortillas, hospital beds, medical equipment and supplies, wheel chairs, school supplies, school desks, Christmas presents for the children, shoes, computers, pianos etc. etc. etc.

The Mission of Love Foundation is a non - profit organization that provides humanitarian aid to those in need worldwide, especially children. Backed by individuals, local businesses and the United States Military Denton Program, the Mission of Love airlifts clothing, food and medical and construction materials to our world in need. Once the supplies arrive, groups of people, both young and old, from all walks of life, are there to utilize the supplies by building medical clinics, orphanages, administering medical treatment to the ill and serving those who need help.

According to Kathleen Price, Founder and Director of the Mission of Love, this will be the 47th Mission of Love that the 910th Airlift Wing has participated in.

"It doesn't get much better than to be able to be of service to those in need," said Kathleen Price, founder and director of "The Mission of Love."

The Denton Program allows private U.S. citizens and organizations to use space available on U.S. military cargo planes to transport humanitarian goods, such as clothing, food, medical and educational supplies, and agricultural equipment and vehicles, to countries in need. The program is jointly administered by a government agency known as USAID, the Department of State (DOS), and the Department of Defense (DOD). In FY 2006, 576,000 pounds of humanitarian goods were sent to 12 different countries through this program.

For more information about the "Mission of Love Foundation," please visit www.missionoflove.org or about the Denton Program, please visit www.usaid.gov.

For more information contact:

Kathleen Price Mission of Love Founder/Director
kathy@missionoflove.org • 330-720-0278 • missionoflove.org

