

Save the Date

For the

Annual Medical Bridges Gala
One People. One World.

Honoring Houston Legend
Dr. James "Red" Duke

Saturday, October 18, 2008

7:00 p.m. – Midnight

Hyatt Regency Downtown
1200 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Visit www.medicalbridges.org for
reservations and information

Volunteer Highlights Include New Partnerships and Record-breaking Volunteering

Medical Bridges' sort room is fortunate to have the support of many wonderful partners who are essential to the success of our mission. Our success is attributed to the generous donation of their time.

Highlights:

- The new Medical Bridges logo painted on the sort room wall was a gift by a young art student Sarah Liu
- We entered into a new work study contract with UT School of Nursing and Texas Chiropractic College
- Gateway Academy will partner with Medical Bridges for their bi-weekly community service
- Christ Church Cathedral selected Medical Bridges as one of only 9 organizations to participate in their Cathedral Urban Service Experience
- Medical Bridges hosted teens from over 20 local schools seeking to perform service
- Teen volunteers, Charlie Kochman and Andrew Schnieder, Strake Jesuit students, volunteered over 100 hours in the sort room this summer
- Almost \$80,000 worth of volunteer hours were donated in the sort room this summer

Visit us at www.medicalbridges.org and volunteer today!



Infant deaths remain high in developing countries; medical equipment and supplies out of reach for hospitals

Dr. Kanayo Ubesie and his medical team from Houston were only supposed to be observing a c-section at the hospital in Enugu, Nigeria. But when the baby was born blue, they joined the anesthetist in performing a newborn resuscitation as the attending surgeon and Dr. Mary VanSickle finished up the procedure. Had he been at one of his hospitals back in the U.S., Dr. Ubesie, a Houston based obstetrician/gynecologist, a native of Nigeria, and his resuscitation team, would have reached for the oxygen, infant bag and mask with other necessary equipment and medications to revive the infant.

But in Nigeria, such items are unfortunately out of reach of a lot of hospitals. "Without the necessary equipment and medications, we had

to revive the baby the old fashioned way: by grabbing the feet, holding the baby upside down and bumping the baby's bottom and back several times," explained Dr. Ubesie. The experience underlined the needs of the hospital for newer, more modern equipment. Today both mother and child are doing well.

Respiratory materials in the delivery room are just some of the needs administrators of the hospital are hoping to address in an ongoing relationship with Medical Bridges. This story had a happy ending.

Your support of Medical Bridges can ensure many more happy endings in Nigeria and across the world.

For information on making a donation visit our website www.medicalbridges.org

Suffering, Young Burn Victims Find Relief

Medic in Iraq Burn Unit Gets Help with Supplies from Medical Bridges, over 1000 Children Helped.

CBS Features Work on Nightly News

U.S. Army Medic Sgt. Joe Barzeski at Scania Base in Iraq was touched by the suffering of the Iraqi people who came to his clinic with burns.

"There was a boy who came in my son's age, and he had these painful keloids on his hips and that's when I decided I was going to try and do something," Sgt. Barzeski told CBS news. He investigated burn treatment techniques on the internet and created a concoction of steroids, antibiotics and creams that helps burn patients grow new skin.

He sent out a call to his friends and family in Iraq and the U.S. for the necessary supplies. One soldier who got the call, Staff Sgt. Bryan Sanderson, sent the email to his mother, C.J. Sanderson, a Houston realtor. Mrs. Sanderson contacted Medical Bridges and created a hand carried shipment which was then sent to Iraq. Mrs. Sanderson and the Women's Council of Realtors have funded two shipments so far, bringing relief to hundreds through their efforts and generosity. Even with the constant shortages, the clinic has treated over 1000 Iraqi children.

CBS News featured the work of Sgt. Barzeski on their nightly news on Thursday, July 31st. To view the video of Sgt. Barzeski and his work in the Iraq burn unit, go to our website @ www.medicalbridges.org/ver2/index.php?q=news/press&nid=14



2706 Magnet Street
Houston, Texas 77054

Bridging the Healthcare Gap WORLDwide

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TX
PERMIT #06516

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

CEO: Visit to Nigeria
Board of Directors, Founding Members

PAGE 3

MB Mourns Passing of Dr. DeBakey
Noble Energy Group Volunteers

PAGE 3

Thanks to Pamela Halverson
New Logo Embraces our Mission
Shipment Activity Report
New Regulations Force Changes at Medical Bridges

PAGE 4

Volunteer & Program Highlights

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Board of Directors

Chairman
Patricia A. Brock, M.D.

Vice Chairman
Michael Weill

Secretary
William G. Lowerre

Director
Hayne Blakely

Director
Margaret A. Goetz, M.D.

Director
The Honorable Marlene McClinton

Director
Amie Springmeyer

Director
Douglas J. Arvin

Director
John Connolly Sr.

Director
Denis DeBakey

Director
Michael Jhin

Director
Jeff Thomas

Director
David S. King

Director
The Honorable Geert C. Visser

Ex Officio
Dorothy A. Bolettieri

The Founding Members

Founding President
Patricia A. Brock, M.D.

Founding Treasurer
Hayne Blakely

Founding Secretary
David Wray, M.D.

Founding Director
Margaret Goetz, M.D.

Founding Director
Chris Vasquez

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 300245
Houston, Texas 77230-0245

Shipping and Physical Address:
2706 Magnet Street
Houston, Texas 77054

713.748.8131 Fax: 713.748.0118
www.medicalbridges.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO: DOROTHY BOLETTIERI

NIGERIAN VISIT REVEALS DESPERATE MEDICAL SITUATIONS



Firsthand look into make-shift ambulance in Nigeria



Villagers lined up for hours waiting for Dr. Ubesie and his team. Though hot and dusty, no one complained.

I was fortunate to see, first-hand, the conditions that healthcare providers face and the value that Medical Bridges brings to developing nations around the globe. Before traveling with Dr. Kanayo Ubesie to Enugu, Nigeria, this past April, he invited me to visit Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital to have a benchmark for comparing our healthcare system to what Nigerian women face when they go to the hospital.

I knew I wasn't going to see a hospital like Memorial Hermann in Nigeria, but I was not prepared to see women in active labor on beds without linens or any other supplies. I learned many that hospitals in Nigeria do not provide personal items, such as sheets and bed clothes; the patients or their families must provide those materials. Most cannot afford this luxury. The doctors lacked even basic supplies, such as laryngoscopes.

The outlying villages had even less than the city hospital. The villagers lined up for hours waiting for Dr. Ubesie and his team. Dr. Ubesie, Dr. Mary Van Sickle, Pat Montejo, Tina Camacho, Cindy Orbe, and Rosetta Parks and a group of Nigerian doctors and nurses worked tirelessly to meet the needs of each village.

- "I saw waiting areas that were dark and dingy with patients wrapped in sheets sitting on a bench outside the OR waiting their turn."
- "I saw very sick babies in cribs with chipped paint and in incubators that were not working properly."
- "I saw an ambulance that was nothing more than a rusted out van with no life-saving equipment on board."

The Nigerians were welcoming, accommodating, grateful, and joyful.

When I mentioned this to Dr. Ubesie at a party held for us, he said with a flourish, "This is Africa!"

I will be forever grateful to Dr. Ubesie for the opportunity to visit Enugu and see Africa through his eyes. There are definite healthcare delivery challenges in Enugu State and Medical Bridges can and will help. My African experience will never let me forget why Dr. Brock established Medical Bridges 11 years ago.

(View more photos of Nigeria on our Website www.medicalbridges.org)



Founder Dr. Patricia Brock with the late Dr. Michael DeBakey

Medical Bridges Mourns the Passing of a Friend: Dr. Michael DeBakey

World-famous cardiovascular surgeon, pioneer of surgical procedures now commonplace throughout the world, inventor of a host of devices to help heart patients, doctor to presidents, dignitaries, celebrities and people of no position, Dr. Michael DeBakey died on July 11, 2008, at the age of 99.

Dr. DeBakey was a friend to Medical Bridges. He served as the honoree at the 2005 annual gala, "MASH Bash," fittingly named as Dr. DeBakey participated in the development of the real MASH units. In his videotaped presentation, Dr. DeBakey acknowledged the value of Medical Bridges' work, locally and abroad. (View more on this story and his presentation on our Website www.medicalbridges.org)



Thank you to our hard-working volunteers from Noble Energy Group. You and all our generous volunteers are making a world of difference in bridging the healthcare gap!



Our thanks to Pamela Halverson, owner of Texas Tuscan

Furniture Designs, Inc. for hosting an evening at her beautiful home furnishings store in the Heights benefiting Medical Bridges in June. Pamela, a long time supporter, presented Medical Bridges with a check for \$1000.00 after the event.

If you would like to host an event, contact carol.lester@medicalbridges.org or call 713-748-8131

NEW LOGO EMBRACES OUR MISSION



People reaching out for a brighter world

Medical Bridges recently unveiled its new color logo to rave reviews by donors, staff, volunteers and partners. The new logo features vibrant colors representing our planet and the diverse cultures which inhabit our world. Two people from different sides of the world are reaching out and connecting to one another exemplifying our mission to bridge the healthcare gap worldwide.

Shipment Activity Report

As of August 31st, Medical Bridges has shipped millions of dollars in supplies to developing countries around the globe in containers and hand-carried shipments.

Sixteen 40' ocean-freight containers were sent to the following countries:

- Angola (2)
- Chile
- Ethiopia
- Peru (4)
- Indonesia (2)
- Mexico (3)
- Nigeria (2)
- Pakistan

(View more information on shipments at www.medicalbridges.org)

Regulations Force Changes

A single expired item can cause entire shipment to be confiscated

For years Medical Bridges has accepted expired medicines and medical supplies- but no longer. Now a single expired item can cause an entire shipment to be confiscated. Medical Bridges focus is on enhancing the quality of our inventory.

(View more information on new requirements at www.medicalbridges.org)

YOU CAN MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

DONATE ON-LINE TO MEDICAL BRIDGES

www.medicalbridges.org