

Donations Crucial for Typhoon Survivors



Three months after Super Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines, AmeriCares has provided \$8 million in crucial medicines, supplies and funding for restoration of health services in badly damaged communities.

The November 8 typhoon was the strongest ever to make landfall, packing wind gusts of more than 200 mph and producing a deadly 15-foot storm surge. Its destructive sweep killed more than 6,000 people and destroyed thousands of homes and businesses. Eight weeks later, more than 4 million people were still displaced.

Before the storm, AmeriCares had pre-positioned emergency medicines and



AmeriCares emergency responders surveyed damage and managed shipments (top and far right). Using AmeriCares medicines, teams of volunteer medics provided critical care in remote areas (above). Photos by Matthew McDermott/AmeriCares

relief supplies so our Filipino partners could immediately begin delivering crucial relief. Within two days, AmeriCares emergency response team members were in the Philippines assessing needs; a week later, customized shipments of essential medicines arrived in the battered islands.

“Hundreds of health care facilities throughout the region were knocked out of service, putting medical care beyond the reach of survivors,” says AmeriCares Vice President of Emergency Response Garrett Ingoglia. “Shipments of donated medicines and supplies are helping to ensure that medical professionals can treat disaster-related illnesses and provide continuity of care for survivors with chronic diseases.”

Working with the Philippines Department of Health and other health partners, AmeriCares delivered medicines to hospitals and clinics, including Divine Word, the only hospital left functioning in hard-hit Tacloban.

To further restore and strengthen health services, AmeriCares is funding projects including the rebuilding of clinics and training for mental health counselors.

AmeriCares has pledged to remain in the affected area until 2015.

Henry Schein Donations Make a Difference

Among AmeriCares emergency relief for survivors of Typhoon Haiyan were generous donations from Henry Schein, Inc. of 4,000 packages of premium Velcro bandages and Curad cloth tape.

This donation has been critical to AmeriCares ability to help survivors of Typhoon Haiyan by meeting their immediate health needs and restoring health services in affected communities.

We thank Henry Schein for its commitment to this critical relief effort, yet another example of the strong partnership we have built since 1986. Already, Henry Schein has donated product that has been shipped to 72 countries, including more than 416,000 packages of product similar to those donated for Typhoon Haiyan relief.

Together, we are helping more people live longer, healthier lives.



Typhoon Haiyan's Path of Destruction

With sustained winds of 150 mph and higher, wind gusts of 200 mph and a storm surge of more than 15 feet, the strength of Typhoon Haiyan was unprecedented in the Philippines, where typhoons are an annual occurrence.



Voices from the Field: Listening to Survivors

By Kate Dischino, AmeriCares Emergency Response Manager

A week after Typhoon Haiyan, I was on a plane to hard-hit Leyte to meet a shipment of our emergency medicines going to one of the few functioning hospitals in Tacloban. Then I drove through the city to see the situation firsthand — to assess needs, personal contact is critically important. Even a week after the disaster, bodies were still being pulled from wreckage. I've seen destruction before, but never so much loss of life: I felt intensely how vulnerable we all are and how quickly our lives can change.

Outside the city, amid rain showers and smoke from burning debris, I found that while some survivors were sheltering in churches and schools, others were living under dripping tarps in the shells of soaked and battered homes. I asked survivors what they needed and if they could access medical care. In damaged hospitals and rural health centers in Samar and Leyte, I met doctors and nurses working through their own

trauma: One doctor had lost 11 family members who had been gathered for a family party when the storm hit. I was glad to direct medicines and supplies to these struggling hospitals.

Back in my office, I know AmeriCares contributions will help many for years to come. I'd love to return to the islands to visit the brave survivors I was privileged to help.



We thank Henry Schein, Inc. and look forward to continuing a successful partnership.

AmeriCares is a nonprofit global health and disaster relief organization that delivers medicines, medical supplies and aid to people in crisis across the United States and around the world. Since our founding in 1982, AmeriCares has distributed more than \$11 billion in humanitarian aid to 164 countries.

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After surveying damage and meeting with Filipino government health officials, Emergency Response Manager Kate Dischino spoke with survivors to learn their needs.

