



Malteser International

Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

1011 First Ave., Suite 1322, New York, NY 10022

Mr. and Mrs. Donor Name
1234 Main Street
Suite 1010
Anytown, US 12345-6789



Hope lives on, thanks to YOU...
See why in your newsletter inside!



Malteser International

Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

January X, 2021

Dear [Personalized],

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic made 2020 among the most challenging years almost anyone alive has faced. Panic. Fear. Loved ones lost. Jobs and livelihoods lost. Unending uncertainty.

For the poor of the developing world, it was toughest of all.

But *thanks to you*, we made it through – and *because of you* we were able to lighten the crosses carried by our poorest sisters and brothers.

Please know how grateful I am for your concern and your concrete actions to help them.

I'm hoping and praying for a lighter burden for all in 2021, but come what may, with God's grace and guidance, and caring people like you behind us, I believe we'll prevail in our good works.

I know you are well aware of the tremendous need all around us as we continue our mission of serving the poor, the forgotten, and the most vulnerable across the Americas and worldwide.

But even as we recognize and respond to the ongoing needs of struggling children and families, I believe it's important to begin the year by sharing some good news.

I want to be crystal clear that your help matters. It saves lives. It kindles faith and it spreads hope everywhere.

(over, please)

Malteser International Americas • 1011 First Avenue, Suite 1322, New York, NY 10022 • www.orderofmaltarelief.org

My Gift to Help the Poor & Suffering in 2021!



Malteser International

Order of Malta Worldwide Relief

[ID] [Appeal Code]

Mr. and Mrs. Donor Name
1234 Main Street
Suite 1010
Anytown, US 12345-6789



YES! I know my help is making a difference and I want to continue supporting your work to help children and families in need.

\$[XX] \$[YY] \$[ZZ] **My best gift of \$** _____

- I want to support your good works all year long. Make my gift monthly. *(See reverse.)*
- I want to learn more about estate planning.
- I would like for Malteser International Americas to share additional information about your work with my friend. Here is his or her contact info:
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Email: _____

1011 First Avenue, Suite 1322, New York, NY 10022 • www.orderofmaltarelief.org

Wherever the eight-pointed cross is present, in Latin America, in the Caribbean, here in the United States, and across the world, seeds of hope for a better day are being sown.

Thanks to you, we are on the ground when disaster strikes and urgent relief is needed. And our long-term projects are reason for hope in places where poor communities are striving for transformation.

You'll read about these things in the enclosed *Journal of Hope*. And I pray – and believe – that you'll be inspired.

The stories herein are just a taste of the difference YOU make through Malteser International Americas.

But much remains to be done. Please, will you make a gift right now to continue this good work that you're making possible?

I and those we serve are more grateful for your kindness than words could ever express.

May God bless and keep you in the year ahead,



MG (Ret.) Thomas A. Wessels, KMOB
President, Malteser International Americas

P.S. Please read your copy of the *Journal of Hope* newsletter to learn about some of the lives you're touching. Thank you – we couldn't do this work without you!

Please charge my gift to my credit card:

MasterCard Visa AMEX Discover Gift Amount \$ _____ Single Gift Monthly Gift

Name _____

CSV Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Acct. Number _____

Email _____

Signature _____

**Thank you for giving people in need the chance
to live a life in good health and with dignity.**

Supporter Spotlight

Rick Jones, KM, and Patty Jones

"Patty and I were reflecting on when I became a Knight of the Order in October of 2013 – it was during the Formation and Investiture that we learned of the great work of Malteser International, the global humanitarian relief arm of the Order of Malta.

We were excited to discover that they focus on the most vulnerable and underserved in the world and are the voice for the voiceless. This is what attracted us to the organization and why we support Malteser International every year.

Knowing that there are experienced individuals at Malteser International who devote their lives to serving the sick and the poor fills me with great pride. I am proud to be part of such a committed and serving organization. I have deep trust that Malteser International shares the same charism and motivation that led us to join the Order.

"I think Malteser International makes the work of the Order – assistance to the poor and the suffering – REAL."

where Malteser International works. On our many retreats together, I was inspired to hear his goals for the organization and how they help hundreds of thousands of women, children, and families out of poverty through sustainable long-term programming.

Since I don't have the time or temperament to serve in developing countries, I have deep trust knowing that Malteser International has the resources and expertise to help build sustainable communities. I continue to be inspired hearing about their programs and I think Malteser International makes the work of the Order – assistance to the poor and the suffering – REAL.

I urge others to generously support the work of Malteser International because by supporting them, it adds a dimension of substance to who we are and spiritually to what we do."

-As told to Ellen Powers

You Can Bless Us Today – and Tomorrow – through Planned Giving

You are a gift to children and families who turn to Malteser International Americas for help today. But what about tomorrow? Throughout the years, generous supporters who love Malteser International Americas' work have shown their support by including us in their estate plans. Indeed, our many programs depend not only on current giving but on estate contributions of previous generations. There are many ways to support our work in your planned giving, including through wills and gifts of life insurance. Please contact Ravi Tripptrap at **646-794-3457** or at **ellen.powers@malteser-international.org** to learn more.



JOURNAL

OF HOPE

Winter 2021

ON THE FRONT LINES



YOU Helped Bring Baby Thiannys Safely into the World

At 9 a.m. on September 25, Zuleidys, a Venezuelan Amigrant living in Colombia's underserved Milagros 2 neighborhood, unexpectedly went into labor with her second child. In shock, Zuleidys' neighbors ran to the one place they knew they could get safe and reliable care: Malteser International Americas' (MI Americas) Santa Marta mobile medical brigade .

Our MI Americas team, going about their daily appointments in general medicine and prenatal care, immediately knew what to do. Proceeding with caution, and accompanied by their medical and psychosocial professionals, they approached the house where Zuleidys was giving birth.

While we've implemented major safety protocols as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have never lost sight of the needs of our beneficiaries: **there is no**

one-size-fits-all approach. Thanks to your support, we're able to give every patient the care they deserve.

In Zuleidys' case, our initial plan was to transport her rapidly to our medical facilities. But Zuleidys wanted to remain at her mother's house. Even though the zinc-tiled house was in poor condition, this was where Zuleidys felt safe. Our team respected her wishes, and delivered a healthy baby boy named Thiannys without any complications. Later, our team followed up with postnatal care, including registration of the newborn.

Enabling MI Americas to assist at Thiannys' birth is just one example of the difference your support makes. By working through MI Americas you're contributing to **a community-based care approach that is not only effective, but essential during these times of the pandemic.**

(See related Maternity story inside)

Thanks to YOU, Haiti's Hungriest Have Food

With your help, Malteser International Americas (MI Americas) is hard at work in Cité Soleil, Haiti, focusing on increasing food security and awareness about the benefits of nutrition and balanced diets.

Located in Port-au-Prince, Cité Soleil, one of largest slums in the Northern Hemisphere, has swollen to more than a quarter million residents. Many live on less than \$2 per day, and 66% are food insecure. The consequences of resulting malnutrition are severe, particularly for children. Living amid political instability gang violence, and rampant inflation takes an extra-heavy toll on residents of Cité Soleil. Covid-19 has further strained the community.

But in 2019, well before the pandemic hit, Malteser International Americas with your support set out to identify and help in the slum's six poorest areas. Our effort to increase community members' ability to sustain themselves included distributing goats to 645 families and chickens to 150 families, and building 1,000 household gardens and 20 larger community gardens. To date, we

estimate that more than 4,000 individuals have directly benefited – and continue to benefit – from these efforts.

In July 2020, with your help and the support of Germany's Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, we were able to renew and expand this project. Working closely with community leaders, we coordinated trainings on planting, harvesting, and developing seedlings. Recently, the same community members who planted their seeds last year reaped their first harvest of cassava, spinach, and other vegetables.

Even as these gains bring hope, food systems in Haiti remain precarious for the poor. But with your help, we'll continue our efforts to reduce food insecurity in Cité Soleil as well as working to improve healthcare and hygiene. Thank you for caring and helping!



In a World of Covid-19, Your Help Is a Blessing

by Ravi Tripptrap

In 2020 we faced a global humanitarian crisis together. With your assistance, we expanded our programs to reach people in need across the world. Grounded in the conviction that all life is precious, we responded quickly to the pandemic and nearly doubled the volume of our programs.

At home in the U.S., we witnessed suffering and hunger in our communities and responded with donations of food and personal protective equipment to parishes and pantries across the Eastern Seaboard. As a second wave of COVID-19 threatened New York City, we launched a flu vaccination clinic for the homeless and the

elderly. Through a partnership with the Archdiocese of New York and volunteers from the Order of Malta American Association, we reached hundreds in need and plan to expand the program.

Vaccination campaigns are one of the oldest and most effective humanitarian activities. From smallpox to polio, vaccines are a fundamental tool of public health, and Catholic organizations like Malteser International Americas have a long history of working with governments and communities to provide vaccines to the vulnerable. Our experience with the flu shot clinic laid the foundation for MI Americas to help in the massive

COVID-19 vaccination efforts that will be needed in 2021.

With your help, we reached more than 250,000 people in the Americas last year. We are grateful to know that we can overcome great tragedies with your support, and we look forward to continuing to be ambassadors of hope where hope is so urgently needed. Thank you for making our good work possible!

Ravi

Ravi Tripptrap is the Executive Director of Malteser International Americas.

Thank You for Making Safe Maternity Care Possible

Many Venezuelan women arrive in Colombia seeking a safe place to give birth. Years of neglect and the erosion of the Venezuelan health system has resulted in a lack of trust in local public hospitals. Shortages of qualified personnel, medication and equipment are made worse by chronic power outages. While Colombia provides emergency care for migrants and refugees, comprehensive maternity care – both prenatal and postnatal – is extremely difficult to secure. To make matters worse, many hospitals do not accept patients without the proper documents. Many fleeing Venezuela have lost their identification documents during the perilous journey to Colombia.



Malteser International Americas (MI Americas) has been committed to safe and equitable maternity care in Colombia for several years, including supporting midwife training programs for indigenous Wayuu women. With the arrival of the new immigrant population, it seemed natural and necessary to expand our initiatives. Your support has made that possible. While the maternity program was housed in a clinic in Riohacha, we expanded the program in 2020 to Santa Marta. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we adapted the program by making mobile visits.

In fact, MI Americas is the only humanitarian organization currently operating mobile clinics. Our medical team does evaluations, screenings, and vaccinations in hard-to-reach poor neighborhoods. Thank YOU for making this important program possible!

2020 BY THE NUMBERS



270,000
Venezuelan migrants and refugees in La Guajira and Magdalena



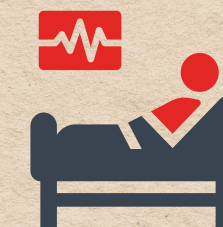
86%
of people living in rural areas have little to no access to medical care



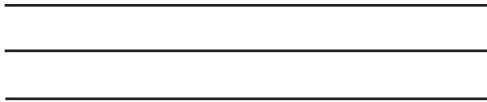
1,500
pregnant women have received prenatal and postnatal care



341
newly enrolled in prenatal program



597
babies born in MI Americas' program



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Please process immediately!

MALTESER INTERNATIONAL AMERICAS
1011 FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 1322
NEW YORK, NY 10022

MAL21D01



MAL 2101 MAL21D01 January Journal of Hope Newsletter
CRE

#9 Envelope
1/0