Mother and baby receive care at the Direct Relief-sponsored Health Mission at Barangay Asgad, Salcedo, Eastern Samar, Philippines in April 2014.
Super Typhoon Haiyan battered the Philippines on November 8, 2013 with torrential rains and winds reaching nearly 200 mph—equivalent to a Category 5 hurricane. The UN estimated that more than 11.3 million Filipinos were affected, with 673,000 made homeless by Haiyan—one of the most powerful typhoons ever. With many of the country’s hospitals and medical facilities destroyed or out of operation, valuable stocks of medicine damaged in the storm, hundreds of thousands of people needing urgent medical care, and increased risk of waterborne diseases from flooding, Direct Relief continues six months later to fill needs and help people access the health care they need.

Consistent with the Direct Relief policy, 100 percent of contributions received for Typhoon Haiyan have been and will be used to assist people affected by the typhoon in the Philippines. Direct Relief recognizes that both the generous contributors and the Filipino people for whose benefit the contributions were made deserve to know in detail how such contributions have been used.

The outpouring of generosity, has enabled Direct Relief to furnish over 200 tons of essential medical and relief supplies, including medications to treat over 500,000 people, since the typhoon struck.
Direct Relief is delivering a world of good to people affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

On November 23, 2013, FedEx provided an MD-11 cargo plane to ship the largest single donation of medicines and supplies in Direct Relief’s history. A large portion of this donation was consigned to the Philippine Red Cross, who distributed the essential medicines and supplies to 62 health centers on Leyte, Samar, and Palawan. This consignment contained enough antibiotics to treat over 100,000 people.

Direct Relief has been working closely with Department of Health Directors, Provincial Health Officers, and The Philippine Red Cross to ensure support is being provided to the facilities under their direct guidance. At the request of these local health officials, Direct Relief has provided 200 tons of medicines and medical material support to 100 hospitals, clinics, and medical teams in Samar, Leyte, Cebu, Panay, and Palawan. Valued at over $13.2 million, these shipments have included antibiotics, nutritional supplements, anti-fungal medications, wound dressings, and chronic disease medicines.

PROVIDING MEDICAL MATERIAL RESOURCES to Underserved Areas

REBUILDING, Repairing, AND Re-Equipping Health Centers

In the Concepcion Islands, a chain of 11 islands hit hard by the typhoon, Direct Relief is working with the Provincial Health Office and Access Aid International to rebuild and re-equip Macatunao and Bagongon Health Centers, and to provide Community Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (CIMCI) training for 50 Barangay Health Workers. The clinics have been re-built to proper weather specifications and equipped with new birthing beds, cribs, and essential medications and supplies.

Working with Health Futures Foundation (HFI) and former Secretary of Health Dr. Jamie Galvez Tan, Direct Relief is ensuring that highly exposed and poorly resourced barangays on southeastern Samar are fully prepared and equipped to provide a wide range of medical services. Direct Relief is sponsoring the construction of three new health stations to serve 50,000 residents in Marabut, Quinapondan, and Salcedo, Samar as well as a three-year continuing education course for barangay health workers and providing psychosocial support for the victims.

1,000 families turn out for a Direct Relief sponsored health mission in Barangay Sillon on Bantayan Island.

1000 families turn out for a Direct Relief sponsored health mission in Barangay Sillon on Bantayan Island.
Direct Relief is expanding its signature Hurricane Preparedness Program to send modules to the typhoon-prone Philippines in 2014. These modules will have enough supplies to treat 15,000 people for a variety of conditions, from traumatic injuries to chronic needs, in the aftermath of a disaster. Pre-positioning the modules before a storm strikes eliminates delivery delays and equips medical professionals with the materials to treat injured patients on-site. Direct Relief plans to position modules with the Regional and Provincial Health Offices in Panay, Cebu, and Leyte.

In collaboration with the Integrated Midwives Association of the Philippines (IMAP), Direct Relief has placed Midwife Kits at birthing centers throughout the Visayas that were directly affected by Typhoon Haiyan and are providing free MCH services to pregnant women in need. Direct Relief Midwife Kits were created in partnership with the International Confederation of Midwives and contain everything a midwife needs to deliver 50 babies safely.

Fifteen of these midwife kits were supplied to IMAP, two kits were hand-delivered to midwife Robin Lim at Bumi Wadah in Dulag (who oversee almost 100 childbirths a month) and another three will be sent to the hard-hit area of Concepcion where Direct Relief has completed the reconstruction of two health centers.
Robin Lim is an internationally recognized midwife known for the life-saving work of her Indonesian-based nonprofit, Yayasan Bumi Sehat (Healthy Mother Earth Foundation). Robin and her organization’s provision of free prenatal care, birthing services, and emergency medical aid became front page news when she won the CNN “Hero of the Year” award in 2011.

Direct Relief’s partnership with Bumi Sehat began after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and has developed over the years into a longstanding commitment to support Bumi Sehat’s relentless efforts to improve the health of mothers and children in Indonesia and now the Philippines.

When Typhoon Haiyan hit the island nation in November, the need for prenatal, birthing, and specifically midwife services increased exponentially. Recognizing the dire need for essential maternal and child health services in the wake of the devastation, Robin—with the support of Direct Relief—brought a team of skilled and equipped healthcare professionals to the heart of the Typhoon Haiyan disaster zone to provide emergency medical relief and birthing services.

For many people in this area who are earning roughly $2.00 a day, the 1,000 pesos ($22.00) needed to pay for a delivery in a medical facility is unthinkable. For some pregnant women in this region, the decision comes down to food for their families or a safe birth in a medical facility, with many choosing to give birth at home without a skilled and equipped provider present.

Mirasol Belleza is one of those women who would have been unable to access prenatal and delivery services had it not been for the free care provided at Bumi Sehat and sponsored by Direct Relief. She was six months pregnant when the typhoon hit, destroying her home and leaving her without the ability to pay for skilled medical care.

Over the past six months, Robin has built out a comprehensive medical relief camp that provides prenatal, delivery, postpartum, and primary health care for mothers and their children. Nearly 400 babies have been delivered safely at the camp, all of whom were born to mothers who experienced the devastation of the typhoon in their communities.

When Direct Relief’s Emergency Response Team visited the camp in April, it was buzzing with activity—from moms getting prenatal checkups, to getting vaccinations for their babies, to one who was in active labor.

Direct Relief continues to support the camp with thousands of nutritional supplements, antibiotics, exam gloves, pain relievers, and I.V. solutions. Additionally, two Direct Relief Midwife Kits were provided to Robin and her team of midwives, to ensure these providers have the right medicines, supplies, and equipment to continue the life-saving work.

Direct Relief is honored to partner with Ibu (Mother) Robin and her dedicated team as they work tirelessly to provide care for mothers who need it most.
Keeping Kids Healthy at Summer Camp

Providing medicines and supplies to camps helping youth manage their medical conditions

**Allergy**

Allergy camps provide a safe space for children with severe allergic reactions that can be potentially fatal while educating them on how to best manage their medical conditions. In partnering with the Sanofi Foundation for North America, Direct Relief is making available 90,000 Auvi-Q epinephrine auto-injectors - the foundation’s largest single donation of the product ever - to Direct Relief’s network of more than 1,100 partners across all 50 states. The distribution focuses on school-based centers and allergy camps.

**Diabetes**

Working with BD, Direct Relief provides donated medical supplies to diabetes camps across 45 states where children with Type 1 diabetes learn how to live with and manage their diabetes conditions with the support of their peers. Direct Relief facilitates the shipment of donated items such as insulin syringes, pen needles, and other needed supplies. This helps reduce the cost of the camp, allowing more children to attend and learn how to better manage their diabetes in a fun environment.

**Hemophilia**

Direct Relief is implementing a new program with Pfizer designed to assist children with the rare genetic disease, hemophilia. Medicine for the disease will be sent to 20 summer camps across the U.S. The goal of the program is to provide children access to this unique and specialized medicine so that they can have a normal summer camp experience.

**Insights to Women with Breast Cancer**

**HOLLYE JACOBS** was a healthy 39-year-old mother and health care professional with no family history of breast cancer when her diagnosis shattered her world. Shortly after being told she had breast cancer, she looked for a guide that would support and inform not only her but also her family and friends throughout the cancer experience. However, the book simply did not exist. So she created and wrote *The Silver Lining: A Supportive and Insightful Guide to Breast Cancer*, along with her friend and award-winning photographer, Elizabeth Messina.

Direct Relief is helping Hollye get the newly-released book – already a *New York Times* best seller – into the hands of women in need who would otherwise not be able to afford it. Many women living with breast cancer have little resources or support, and more questions than answers, causing them to feel lost and overwhelmed.

To help these women access her informative, hopeful, and clinically-credible guide, Direct Relief is making the book available for its U.S. nonprofit health center and clinic partners to provide to their patients. In addition, proceeds from the book sales will help fund more books to give to people in underserved communities.

"Cancer does not discriminate. It does not care if you are young or old, wealthy or poor. That’s why I’m excited to partner with Direct Relief to share my knowledge and experience with women in need.”

– Hollye Jacobs

See video + learn more: Watch Hollye’s appearances on the websites of Dr. Phil and Good Morning America
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“[Direct Relief’s] fundamental insight—to take the best in private-sector technology and uniquely adapt it for the social sector—has greatly strengthened a weak link in the medical supply chain...Its efforts demonstrate that social-sector organizations can achieve the very highest levels of efficiency.”

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A bequest or planned gift to Direct Relief can extend your generosity beyond your lifetime. Your commitment and dedication will help people in the U.S. and around the world live better, healthier lives far into the future. With such a gift, you will be included in the Legacy Society, which recognizes visionary and caring individuals who have included Direct Relief in their estate plans.

For more information on planned giving, contact Hayley Jessup at hjessup@DirectRelief.org or (805) 964-4767.

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