Heal Our World
Help vulnerable families access critical medical care

Life is a gift, but pregnancy is hard work — so young mothers deeply appreciate the support they receive from family, friends and the Church. Sadly, many mothers around the world lack this support — including access to even basic health care services. In Guatemala, for example, about 3 in every 10 births take place without the help of a skilled health attendant (UNICEF, 2018). The situation gets even more perilous when an outbreak of malaria or the flu arrives and families can’t afford medicine.

But there is hope, and you can help provide that blessing today.

Cross Catholic Outreach has ministry partners positioned in at-risk communities around the world to address the health care needs of the most poor and vulnerable in society. These partners, inspired by Christ's love, believe quality medical care should be available to all people, lest even minor illness and injuries escalate into life-altering incapacitation, pain and death. Last year, we provided more than $313 million in medical grants and material aid (medicine, etc.), equipping more than 500 hospitals and health centers to give care. This made it possible, for example, for our partners to provide maternal care to low-income mothers.

Your generous gift will fuel this critical work. Join us today to exemplify the spirit of the Corporal Works of Mercy, which call the Church to “visit the sick” and be a vessel of grace and healing to a broken world.

CrossCatholic.org/health
**Barriers to Life-Giving Care**

**A Mother’s Struggle**

Miguelina’s young daughter had diarrhea, and her forehead was burning up. Mom was sick too — maybe seriously — but what could she do? There is no health clinic in Batey 62 — a remote community of poor sugarcane laborers and their families in the Dominican Republic — and medicines of any sort are hard to come by.

But today, she was fortunate. The flu outbreak coincided with a visit from a mobile medical clinic from Good Samaritan Hospital, a Cross Catholic Outreach partner. Miguelina told the doctor she thought she might be pregnant again, so they did a test — the result was negative. The doctor gave her medicine and vitamins, and cleared up an apparent misunderstanding. She told her: You don’t have to be pregnant to be readmitted to the hospital; Go and get the care you need.

One question remained: How would Miguelina, who has no money and no insurance, be able to access private medical care?

The answer is friends like you.

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**Too Injured to Work**

Albert was hit by a truck while riding his motorcycle home from work. The public hospital could not provide the care he needed. So 21 days later, he was transferred to Good Samaritan Hospital with multiple fractures up and down both legs and suffering immense pain.

Unable to work and unable to afford private care, Albert had faced the grim prospect of spiraling into deep poverty and despair. His brother Josue was also unable to work while serving as his personal caretaker. But now, both men had smiles on their faces. Albert believed he would recover, thanks to the volunteer orthopedic surgical team from the United States. As he waited for his next surgery, Albert told us God was with him and “with God all things are possible.”

But the surgeons have a challenge: They can only bring as much equipment as they can fit in their suitcases. To fully serve patients like Albert, they depend on donated supplies and equipment shipped by Cross Catholic Outreach.

That, again, is where you come in.
Cross Catholic Outreach empowers Catholic and ecumenical ministries around the world to serve vulnerable people like Miguelina and Albert. One of our top priorities is ensuring that people on the margins of society receive quality health services, but to succeed in that mission of mercy, we need your support. We pray you will come alongside us as we team up with priests, sisters, diocesan ministries and also ecumenical aid organizations to tend the wounds of the poor, and to do so in a way that upholds human dignity, infuses hope and glorifies God.

When you join us in this effort, you can help provide life-giving aid such as:

- Prescription medications.
- Prosthetics.
- Hospital equipment.
- Health worker salaries.
- Clinic construction.
- Emergency first aid.

One way your gift to Cross Catholic Outreach can meet these needs is by sending critical supplies to Good Samaritan Hospital, which is committed to providing free care to the poor on location in La Romana, Dominican Republic, as well as through its vast network of clinics, churches and other partners throughout the country.

No one is turned away from Good Samaritan Hospital, and your support will ensure this continues to be the case. No matter a patient’s ability to pay, the sick receive treatment, women receive maternity care, and patients have access to life-changing surgery. And in the remote bateyes, families depend on this network to get even the most basic aid such as aspirin or cold medicine. Good Samaritan’s CEO, Moises Sifren, was himself born in a batey, and his mother’s preventable death from pregnancy complications during a public health worker strike was the inspiration for the hospital’s founding. Moises — like his predecessor, Reverend Jean Luc Phanord — wants to ensure that no mother is ever abandoned.

Cross Catholic Outreach believes in his cause and is rallying Catholics to support this and other medical partners around the world. We have access to large amounts of quality donated medicines, supplies and equipment our partners have urgently asked for, but we need your support to ship those goods to where they are most needed. 

For every $1 you donate, we are able to ship about $255 worth of medicine and medical supplies. We also need your support to send strategic grants that empower our partners to effectively serve the vulnerable. Your generosity can literally save lives.
Be Christ’s Hands and Feet to the Sick

St. Teresa of Avila said, “Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

With global poverty again on the rise, you can be God’s vessel to answer the prayers of the vulnerable. Your generous gift to Cross Catholic Outreach will empower priests, sisters, lay missionaries and other ministry partners around the world to respond to medical emergencies and other health care needs of those who cannot afford even the most basic services. You will give the poor the assurance that when a health concern arises, they can get medicine and quality care, and that even serious illnesses and injuries do not have to be a death sentence.

Your gift today will address serious health gaps and make Christ’s love more visible to our struggling brothers and sisters around the globe. Our Lord once said, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). Stand with us so the power of the Church’s love will be recognized by the watching world and Jesus Christ will be glorified!

Serve Christ today by answering the cries of the poor in the Dominican Republic and around the world for essential health care. The aid you send could even save a life!

Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2024, the close of our ministry’s fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.