



## Your gift helps make them healthier and happier.

Each dollar you donate to Mano a Mano buys a lot of health in Bolivia, where we build a clinic for just \$21,000. But your gift works even harder than you think. Your dollar, earmarked for our medical programs, releases another \$3 in matching funds from an anonymous donor. Your \$1 gift for community-based projects like schools and public baths releases another dollar.

### Here's what your donation (plus matching funds) buys:

- Medical care in rural areas that otherwise lack a doctor, nurse or clinic.
- New roads that improve health by opening up access to markets and education.
- Sanitation and reservoir projects that deliver one of life's basics: reliable water.

### Send your tax-deductible gift to:

Mano a Mano, 774 Sibley Memorial Highway, Mendota Heights, MN 55118  
Or call us at 651-457-3141 to learn about additional giving opportunities.

Donate on line at [www.manoamano.org](http://www.manoamano.org). Click on "Donate"



**About Us:** Mano a Mano Medical Resources is a non-sectarian 501©(3) non-profit organization with over 12 years' experience bringing health care into impoverished Bolivian communities. Mano a Mano, Spanish for "Hand in Hand," operates on principles of volunteerism, frugality, competence, accountability, empowerment, flexibility, respect and partnership with communities. Find out more by calling 651-457-3141 or at [www.manoamano.org](http://www.manoamano.org).

Need a gift for someone who's got everything? Consider an "alternative gift" from My Shopping List for the World, a catalog that includes a donation option to Mano a Mano! Visit the website at [www.alternativegifts.org](http://www.alternativegifts.org)

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# Boletín

SUMMER 2007

OUR 12<sup>TH</sup> YEAR!

## One Cause, Many Ways to Contribute

What comes to mind when you hear the word *contributor*? At the Mano a Mano office in Mendota Heights, contributions arrive in all shapes and sizes, from small envelopes bearing checks, to large SUVs filled with medical supplies. Some contributions—like the Herculean efforts of our warehouse volunteers loading shipping containers—are visible. Others—like the homemade brownies one volunteer brings to share with others—disappear in an instant. All are memorable and deeply appreciated. Here's a sampling of the many kinds of contributions made by Mano a Mano's supporters and friends.



Donors Joe and Charlotte Blitt

### A Family of Clinics

Deep in Bolivia's mountain country, there are two Mano a Mano clinics built with funds donated by Joe and Charlotte Blitt, honoring the Blitt's parents and their children.

The Blitts first learned about Mano a Mano through Charlotte's church. In 2005, they traveled to Cochabamba, a

grueling trip that strengthened their resolve to help out.

"We will never forget the adventure of a 7 hour ride on the rugged mountain roads to help put the finishing touches on a rural school. We were there the next day for the truly heart-warming dedication," Charlotte recalls. "What a memorable night. We slept in the brand new teachers' housing, and enjoyed meals provided by the villagers, delivered in wheelbarrows!"

In December, Joe and Charlotte will go back to Bolivia, along with 18 members of their family, to visit the clinics built with their support.

"We hope that by taking our children and grandchildren to see Mano a Mano at work, they will not only realize how fortunate they are, but will be inspired to help others who have so little," Charlotte says.

### Tax Dollars at Work

A Vietnam-era prisoner of war is the namesake of a US government program that Mano a Mano has used to ship more than 1,300,000 pounds of medical supplies to Bolivia over the past 12 years. The US Department of Defense's "Denton Program" (named after Vietnam POW and former US Senator Jeremiah Denton) permits defense aircraft to be used to transport

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Guardsmen load pallet for Bolivia

## From Dan's Desk

Exciting things are happening at Mano a Mano!

**New staff:** Amy Hawkins, a recent graduate of Metro State University, joined our team part-time as an



administrative assistant. Amy has an eye for detail, and is putting her skills to work helping us

(mostly me!) be better organized. She will work with current volunteers and recruit more folks to sort medical supplies. If you or someone you know wants to get involved, call Amy at 651-457-3141.

**New staff, part 2:** Gary Stoos also joins us part time as director of planned giving. Gary comes to Mano a Mano with an impressive background. He recently retired as Senior Gift Planner for Minnesota Community Foundation and The Saint Paul Foundation. Through planned giving, you design a way to provide long-term support for a charitable cause that you believe in. Call Gary to learn more about this way of supporting Mano a Mano.

**Successful fundraising:** Thanks to a group of intrepid Twin Citians who traveled to Bolivia in January, and who came back motivated to help Mano a Mano. They carried out an amazing fundraiser event, collecting over \$20,000 for a future clinic build. The fundraiser, hosted by Colleen Cooper and Richard Ihrig, included delicious food, drink, and Bolivian music.

# Find Your Way to Build Better Health in Bolivia

*There's room for everyone to contribute, and dozens of ways for you to help out*

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privately donated humanitarian aid to disaster sites and other needy areas in the world if space is available. "Such shipments—paid for with our tax dollar contributions—would otherwise cost Mano a Mano nearly \$6,000 apiece, greatly reducing the amount of supplies we would be able to send," reports Mano operations manager Nate Knatterud.

The result of Denton's legislation is visible at the Minneapolis-St Paul airport every couple of months, as Chief Master Sgt. Michael Dressen, who manages the Denton program in Minnesota, and his current crop of Air Force reservists receive, stack, palletize and load box after box of Bolivia-bound supplies on to Air Force cargo planes.

A few weeks after they are shipped out, the supplies arrive in Bolivia, where they are quickly transported to the Mano a

Mano warehouse in Cochabamba by Mano a Mano staff and volunteers.

For Sgt. Dressen, loading supplies is a win-win situation. He and his reservists get needed practice handling boxes and pallets and loading a variety of military aircraft. The fact that those boxes are filled with desperately needed gloves, syringes, drapes and other medical supplies is an added bonus. Although he has yet to visit Bolivia to see first hand the results of his efforts, "I sure would love to," he says.

## Corporate Giving Boosts Value of Volunteer Work

Best Buy Company may not have outlets in Bolivia, but the company's generosity is felt there, through the efforts of Best Buy employee Kristina Casper.

Casper, a video producer-director at the



**Kristina Casper, corporate volunteer.**

company's corporate office, stops by Mano a Mano's warehouse as often as she can to help sort and pack surplus donated by local health care organizations. She's working toward racking up 40 hours of volunteer time, because

when she does, her employer will donate \$1,000 to Mano a Mano. "This is a policy the company has for almost any kind of volunteer work," Casper reports.

Her interest in Bolivia was piqued by a trip to La Paz several years ago that began as a two-week visit, and stretched to a ten-month stay. "I love Bolivia," Casper says. "I'm from Wisconsin, and I had never seen such a variety of physical beauty—rainforests, snowcapped mountains—all in one country." Bolivia's vast disparities in wealth and poverty also shocked Casper, and galvanized her to act. Her workplace provided the venue.

"I'm trying to get a group from our communications department together to work at least once a month on sorting supplies," Casper reports. Similar Mano volunteer groups have been organized by local churches, scout troops and fraternal organizations like Rotary.

## This Just In...

**In Memory:** Joan and Segundo Velasquez join Mano a Mano staff and volunteers in noting with sadness the passing of two important friends, Millie McAdams and Dave Gonzales.

Long-time supporter and volunteer **Millie McAdams** died in late April. Millie helped sort medical supplies and manage craft sales for over 10 years, until she was no longer able due to physical limitations. We are very grateful for the time she spent with us; she will be missed.

Another old friend, **Dave Gonzales**, died in a car accident in early June. In the early years of Mano a Mano, Dave and Segundo did almost all of the pickups together. Dave helped with house and car maintenance, and collected items for donation from his workplace. He was named our first volunteer of the year in 1997. Recently, Dave was our on-call car mechanic, helped at the warehouse, and donated all of the boxes we used for packing supplies. Memorials can be sent to the family: 549 Van Buren, St. Paul MN 55103, or mailed to the office, which we will forward to the family.

**Mark Your Calendar:** Don't miss the annual La Semana Craft Sale August 1. La Semana is a craft sale held during a week-long summer program for children originally from Latin America. Mano a Mano will be selling crafts at this event, scheduled for August 1 at All Saints Catholic Church in Lakeville, from 8:30am-3:30pm. Sale volunteers are needed for 2-3 hour shifts. Please call Nate or Amy at Mano a Mano, 651-457-3141, if you have time to work a shift.

## Here's How Far Your Donated Dollar Stretches

A dollar buys a lot of health in Bolivia, especially given Mano a Mano's legendary thriftiness. Here are some examples of what your financial contribution to Mano a Mano can purchase.



**\$1** pays to collect, sort, pack and ship ten pounds of medical supplies to Bolivia.

**\$25** sends five wheelchairs to disabled villagers.

**\$60** pays a nurse's salary at a Mano a Mano clinic for one week.

**\$100** sends fourteen hospital-quality cribs to Bolivian clinics.

**\$600** pays a physician's salary for one month in one of the clinics we build.

**\$1,000** buys a pallet-weighing scale and heavy-duty shelving for our medical sorting and shipment program

**\$5,000** covers the cost of air rescue for ten critically ill or injured patients to bring them to a city hospital for treatment.



**\$10,000** pays for the construction materials and labor to build one duplex for teachers.

**\$12,000** clears a kilometer of impassable roadway to a rural village. The new road improves health by opening up transportation to markets, education and medical care.

**\$21,000** buys the construction materials and labor to build



a clinic in an area that lacks medical care.

**\$500,000** builds a clinic, sanitation facility, two classrooms, and a teacher duplex in five communities!



**Another Way of Giving:** Looking for a perfect gift for that family member who's got everything? Consider an "alternative gift" from *My Shopping List for the World*, a catalog that includes as an option a donation to Mano a Mano! Visit [www.alternativegifts.org](http://www.alternativegifts.org), or pick up a catalog at the Mano a Mano office.