

MEDWISH

MedWish International is a not-for-profit organization that saves lives and the environment by repurposing discarded medical supplies and equipment to provide humanitarian aid to people in need.

2020 FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER

MORE ESSENTIAL THAN EVER



MedWish supplies ready to leave our warehouse as part of the COVID-19 response efforts.

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Listed as of December 2020.

To see a full staff list, visit
www.medwish.org

DEAR FRIENDS,

This year has been tough on all of us, but we have no doubt that together we can overcome these challenges.

MedWish served thousands of people worldwide. We distributed more than 400,000 lbs. of critically needed medical supplies and equipment locally and internationally. Our mission is more essential than ever.

We are grateful that we have been able to maintain our full workforce, who we have kept safe through diligent adherence to safety protocols.

As we were unable to host our annual event – which raises critically needed funds – we are instead hosting a 2020 Year-End **No-Show Gala**. Your gift means more this year than ever and will ensure we can continue to remain focused on our mission and provide much needed aid to those in need. We hope you'll consider giving generously so we can continue to make a difference locally and globally.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve our community during this unprecedented time. Your commitment and support will make an impact on humanity, our community and our global society.



Lee Ponsky
Founder and
Board President



Carolina Masri
Executive Director

COVID-19 RESPONSE

113
Agencies
Served



133K
Pounds Donated
Locally

273K
Masks

154K
Gloves

34K
General PPE

2
Ventilators

94K
Pounds of Hygiene
Supplies, Laundry Kits,
Cleaning Products

17K
Adult and Pediatric
Respiratory
Supplies



MedWish International
Warehouse: 1625 E. 31st Street | Cleveland, OH 44114
Phone: 216.692.1685 | Website: www.medwish.org

IT'S BEEN AN HONOR TO SERVE OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY



Essential equipment to protect front line healthcare workers and vulnerable populations in our community has been in critically short supply amid the outbreak. MedWish has worked closely with local healthcare and county leaders to support our communities by providing donations of masks, gowns, goggles, face shields, respiratory supplies, and hygiene supplies.

To continue serving local communities, MedWish has partnered with Neighborhood Connections as part of the Greater Cleveland COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund. Through this partnership, MedWish receives, stores and distributes supplies needed by local social service agencies and nonprofits. These efforts provide continued support to those who need it most.



MedWish supplies ready to leave our warehouse as part of the COVID-19 response efforts.

"When the community needed to band together to work towards the goal of reducing the spread of COVID-19, MedWish was there. MedWish facilitated the supply chain logistics of supply donations, working tirelessly to be a community partner to help meet the needs of the local community. We are so thankful for MedWish International."

- Greater Cleveland Rapid Response Fund Team

"I'm lucky enough to know many of those who work and support MedWish International. When the pandemic hit home, the hardworking staff of MedWish answered the call. From supporting public hospitals like MetroHealth to first responders for Cuyahoga County, the MedWish staff went above and beyond."

**- Rafid Fadul, MD
Director of Critical Care at Blanchard
Valley Medical Center, Chief Medical
Officer of Wheel Health**



Last spring, MedWish sent the Cuyahoga County Board of Health 15,891 masks, 2,340 gowns, 25,879 gloves, 2,231 eye shields, and 30 tubs of wipes that were distributed to those on the front lines of the COVID-19 outbreak. We are grateful for this opportunity to serve our local community! Here is a behind the scenes photo from the CCBH fit testing for PPE provided by MedWish.

AGENCIES SERVED DURING THE PANDEMIC

A Vision of Change, Inc.	FrontLine Service	Paragon of Virtue Foundation
Akron Children's Hospital	Greater Cleveland Food Bank	Peace by Piece Cleveland
All Faiths Pantry	Greater Cleveland Rapid Response Fund	Police Pictures / Frontline United
American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter	Harvard Community Services Center	Portage / Geauga Juvenile Detention Facility
Another Chance of Ohio	Hospice of the Western Reserve	Positive Education Program
Asian Services In Action, Inc.	Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility	Ravenwood Health Recovery Resources
Bellefaire JCB	Jewish Family Service	Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland, Inc.
Bhutanese Response Assistance Volunteer Effort - Akron	Association of Cleveland Jewish Federation of Cleveland	Salvation Army Greater Cleveland
Boys Hope Girls Hope Northeast Ohio	Joseph's Home	Semach Sedek R.I.A.S. Kosher Food Pantry
Care Alliance Health Center	Kent State University Research Center for Educational Technology	SEWA International
Caretenders	Lake Health Foundation	Smart Development Inc.
Catholic Charities Diocese of Cleveland	Lifeworks	Society of St. Vincent De Paul
Citizens Academy Southeast	Light of Hearts Villa	St. Augustine Health Ministries
City of Brecksville	Lisette Quinones Ministries, Inc.	St. Herman House - FOCUS Cleveland
City of Cleveland	Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry	St. Vincent Charity Medical Center
City of Kent	Malachi Center	Starting Point
City of Lyndhurst	Masks4Community	Stella Marris
Cleveland Christian Home	May Dugan Center	Stone Soup CLE Inc.
Cleveland Clinic	Meals on Wheels of Shaker Heights, Beachwood, and University Heights	The Centers for Families and Children
Cleveland Clinic Clinical Engineering	MedWorks	The Cleveland Foundation
Cleveland Clinic Primary Care Social Workers	Menorah Park	The Diaper Bank of Greater Cleveland
Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center	MetroHealth	Thea Bowman Center
Cleveland Metropolitan School District	MetroHealth Autism Assessment Clinic	Union Miles Development Corporation
Cleveland Pandemic Response	Milestones Autism Resources	United Black Fund of Greater Cleveland
Cleveland Rape Crisis Center	Monarch Boarding Academy	United Way of Geauga County
Community Partnership on Aging	Monarch Center for Autism	United Way of Greater Cleveland
Cuyahoga County Board of Health	Montefiore Home	University Hospitals
Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility	Murtis Taylor Human Services System	Urban League of Greater Cleveland
CWRU Geriatric Dental Program	MyCom Cleveland	Village at Marymount
Devon Oaks Assisted Living - An Eliza Jennings Community	Neighborhood Connections	Vocational Guidance Services
Domestic Violence & Child Advocacy Center	Neighborhood Leadership Institute	Welcome House
East End Neighborhood House	North Coast Community Homes	West Side Catholic Center
EDEN, Inc.	Northern Ohio Recovery Association	West Side Community House
Eliza Bryant Village	Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center	Wingspan Care Group
Family Promise of Greater Cleveland	Ohio Living Home Health and Hospice, Greater Cleveland	WomenSafe Inc.
Friendly Inn Settlement		YWCA Greater Cleveland

DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS

BEIRUT

The devastating explosion in Beirut on August 4, 2020 put a massive strain on the local healthcare system. Medical professionals have been struggling to provide care to the thousands who were injured as a result of the blast. MedWish responded to the aftermath of the explosion by deploying six 40' containers and airlifting shipments of urgently needed medical supplies and equipment for healthcare institutions affected by this emergency.

"We are very grateful for Medwish International for rushing to extend its humanitarian hand to the AUBMC and its patients. Supplies arrived at a time when we were suffering from major shortages of PPE due to the COVID pandemic. I applaud the efforts in securing this generous donation and for the magnanimity of this giving to help the people of Lebanon under these most strenuous conditions." - **Ghazi Zaatari, MD American University of Beirut Medical Center - Faculty of Medicine Interim Dean**

Recipients:

- American University of Beirut Medical Center
- Beirut Governmental Hospital Karantina
- Bikhazi Hospital
- Children's Cancer Center in Lebanon (CCCL)
- French Hospital of the Levant
- Hospital Wardieh
- LAU Medical Center - Rizk Hospital
- Lebanese Geitaoui Medical Center
- Rafik Hariri University Hospital
- St. George Hospital University Medical Center

Special thanks to Anera, Airlink, LIFE for Relief and Development and our incredible donors and in-kind donors for making these efforts possible.



CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA



MedWish is responding to the emergency needs resulting from the devastation created by Hurricanes Eta & Iota in Central and South America. We are currently in contact with lead healthcare volunteers, as well as local healthcare facilities in the affected areas that are caring for and treating the victims of these catastrophic hurricanes.

Nineteen military pallets filled with supplies from MedWish have already arrived in Honduras, and our in-country partners have already requested additional containers of medical aid to be deployed in the upcoming weeks.

To support these efforts, please visit www.medwish.org.

From now until December 31st, all donations up to \$5,000 will be matched by a generous donor.



MEDWISH NO SHOW Gala

DECEMBER
5-31
2020

JOIN US BY NOT ATTENDING OUR ANNUAL MEDWISH GALA

Instead of attending our live in-person event this year, you can show your support and contribute in a meaningful way by donating in honor of our No-Show Gala. All contributions received from December 5th until December 31st will be eligible to win 1 of 3 incredible prizes.

YOUR ABSENCE IS REQUESTED

THE MUST-NOT ATTEND EVENT OF 2020! Donation opportunities listed below

Please detach this portion of the page, fold it in half and insert it in the enclosed envelope to send your tax deductible gift today. Thank you for your generosity!

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FROM A DISTANCE:

- ☐ \$10,000 **MAJOR IMPACT GIFT** (Covers the receipt, storage and distribution of 52 pallets of PPE and hygiene products to support vulnerable populations)
- ☐ \$5,000 **MAJOR IMPACT GIFT** (Helps us receive, warehouse and distribute a semi-truck load of PPE and hygiene products)
- ☐ \$2,500 (Covers half the cost of a 20' container of supplies and equipment)
- ☐ \$1,000 (Delivers two pallets of medical supplies and PPE)
- ☐ \$500 (Delivers one pallet of lifesaving respiratory supplies)
- ☐ \$250 (Supplies healthcare workers with 550 isolation gowns)
- ☐ \$100 (Covers a case of gloves for healthcare givers and first responders)
- ☐ \$50 (Provides more than 1,250 surgical masks to hospitals and social service agencies)
- ☐ \$25 (Provides 250 protective face shields for doctors and nurses)
- ☐ Other \$ _____

My gift is: ☐ In Memory of ☐ In Honor of _____

The above are representative services and supplies that are part of the different programs we offer. The cost of each item or service is an approximation and will vary based on actual costs incurred and needed. Your donation will be used for the general operating needs of MedWish International.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



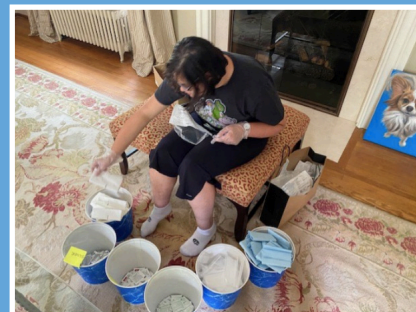
Shout out to our **All-Star** Volunteers for their hard work over the past few months! These amazing individuals have devoted time each week to help us sort, bulk, and pack supplies since our volunteer program has been limited due to COVID-19.

It was an honor to partner with our friends at the **Greater Cleveland Food Bank** (GCFB) last August at their drive-thru meal distribution to hand out hygiene kits to families picking up lunches for their children. Each kit contained hand soap, laundry kits, face masks, deodorant, and shampoo/conditioner.



We are so honored to partner with nurses Diana & Onias Mabgwe from Canton, Ohio who have worked tirelessly to build a clinic in their hometown of Gweru, **Zimbabwe**. A stop at MedWish was their last step prior to the grand opening in January 2021. The pair dropped by a few weeks ago to pack supplies and select equipment that will be used to stock and furnish the West Side Health Care Center, a 40-bed clinic that aims to bring quality healthcare to Gweru.

MedWish Skill Building participants have been unable to volunteer on-site, but MedWish has been providing supplies for ambassadors to sort at home. Maya is a Community Ambassador with the **Horvitz YouthAbility program of the Jewish Family Service Association**. Maya is hopeful that someday soon her team can return to MedWish safely, but in the meantime she truly appreciates the opportunity to continue volunteering from home!



Please detach this portion of the page, fold it in half and insert it in the enclosed envelope to send your tax deductible gift today. Thank you for your generosity!

Donor's Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Credit Card Payment Authorization

Cardholder Name: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____ CVV: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Authorized Amount: \$ _____ Cardholder Signature: _____

Enclosed checks should be made payable to MedWish International.
For online donations, go to www.medwish.org/donate

***Your donation is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.**