



# BRIDGING THE GAPS FOR TODAY



**Building Bridges to Self-reliance in the Future**

**Annual Report  
2020**



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## A MESSAGE OF HOPE FROM THE INMED FAMILY

NMED Partnerships for Children's mission for the past 35 years has been to build pathways for vulnerable children, families, and communities to achieve well-being and self-reliance. Through multi-sector partnerships, INMED creates sustainable systems that deliver innovative approaches to break complex cycles of poverty for current and future generations. The year 2020 was no exception. In fact, it was a year of broader impact than ever before.

We kicked off the year as a finalist for the prestigious Zayed Sustainability Prize in the Food category for our international INMED Aquaponics® program. Held in Abu Dhabi, the event elevated INMED as a key player on the global adaptive agriculture scene. It was fortuitous, as the COVID pandemic, which struck just weeks later, has highlighted the dire need for local food production to strengthen food security and sustainable livelihoods.

Indeed, throughout the unprecedented time of deadly

pandemic, INMED's organizational agility and the unwavering support of our funders and donors enabled our regional teams to help a growing number of children and families avoid hunger and poor health by focusing on:

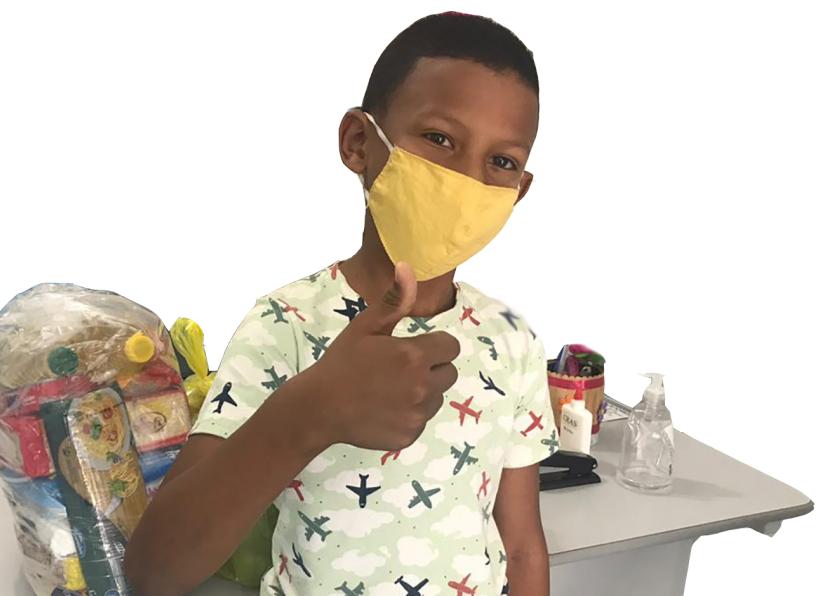
**1 Food security.** COVID has generated a greater focus on local food production and backyard gardening. All of our teams have used creative ways to address this issue.

**2 Access to healthcare and essential resources.** Our teams did a remarkable job of rallying their donors and communities to care for the growing number of families needing support for survival through physical outreach and links to COVID resources on our regional websites.

**3 Sustainable livelihoods.** For regions already hit hard by the effects of climate change, the pandemic escalated unemployment to record levels. Leveraging our expertise in adaptive agriculture and aquaponics, INMED secured funding to launch the INMED Aquaponics® Social Enterprise, a revolutionary agrobusiness incubator program to transform struggling communities into thriving climate-smart hubs of self-reliance.

**4 Education and skills development.** The virtual reality that COVID has fostered has actually enabled our teams to reach more children and families in need than ever before with vital business, technology and life skills training to adapt to the new normal.

Read on for regional summaries of our impact around the world in 2020.





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## BILIKIT™ PROJECT SHOWS IMPACT, DEWORMING CONTINUES

INMED Andes has been a champion for children's health as a registered nonprofit organization in Peru since 2004—with a steadfast mission of giving babies a healthy start in life and providing children and their families access to better health and nutrition to thrive.

### Neonatal Jaundice

Neonatal jaundice is the most common condition requiring medical treatment in newborns, with approximately 1 million annually requiring intervention. Left untreated, jaundice can lead to permanent neurological damage—and even death. In Peru, more than 90% of health facilities lack the equipment and training to adequately diagnose and treat neonatal jaundice, contributing to a rate of jaundice-linked brain damage 20 times greater than in developed countries.

In 2020, INMED Andes completed a two-year project to implement and evaluate the Bilikit™, a trio of portable technologies to quickly screen for, diagnose and treat neonatal jaundice—particularly in remote communities. In partnership with Bilikit™ technology developers Little Sparrows Technologies, Brigham and Women's Global Newborn Health Lab and Bilimetricx, INMED Andes trained more than 100 clinicians and community health agents how to use the technologies in a variety of settings. **The lives of nearly 5,500 newborns were protected** because of the screening, diagnosis and treatment that the Bilikit™ provided, even in the midst of the pandemic.

### STH Treatment Continues

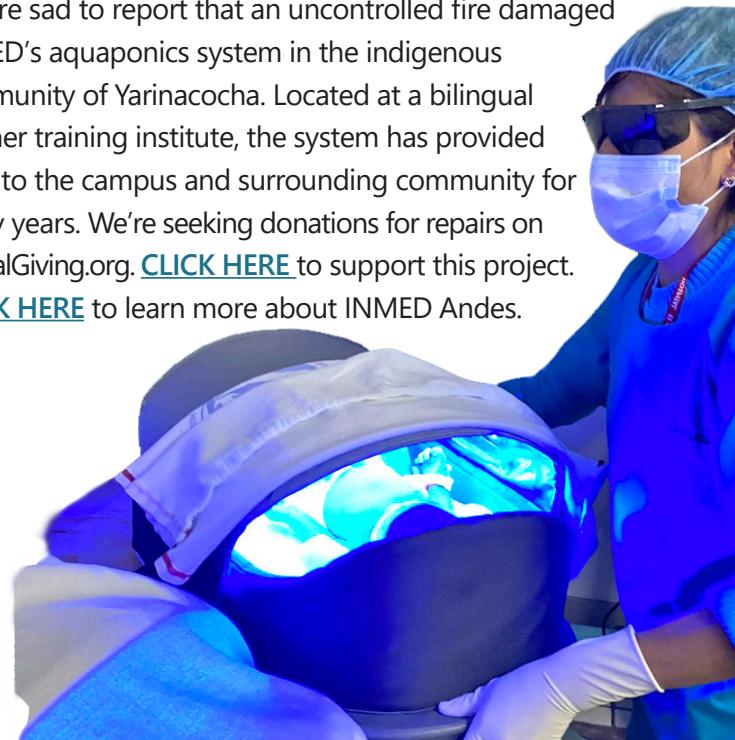
Over the past year, INMED Andes continued to manage and facilitate distribution of Johnson & Johnson's new

chewable tablet to treat soil transmitted helminths infection (known as STH or parasitic intestinal worms). Due to COVID restrictions, there were no national mass deworming campaigns as in years past; however, many regions utilized community health agents to administer door-to-door treatment, while others organized small COVID-safe events.

Johnson & Johnson also produced a video and article about its chewable tablet, which, when mixed with water, allows the treatment of children as young as one year old. The video features a 2019 INMED Andes deworming campaign in Pucallpa. INMED has partnered with J&J around the world for 30+ years. Click the image above to view the video.

### Aquaponics System Under Reconstruction

We are sad to report that an uncontrolled fire damaged INMED's aquaponics system in the indigenous community of Yarinacocha. Located at a bilingual teacher training institute, the system has provided food to the campus and surrounding community for many years. We're seeking donations for repairs on GlobalGiving.org. [CLICK HERE](#) to support this project. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about INMED Andes.





## TAKING NUTRITION TO FAMILIES, FIRST INMED AQUAPONICS® IN BRAZIL

In 2020, INMED Brasil did a masterful job of reaching vulnerable children and families during the long lockdown. From the beginning of the pandemic, our Health in Action team pivoted to help families whose children participate in the program, maintaining direct contact with them through WhatsApp and providing important health information.

Between March and December, the team ran campaigns to provide COVID relief resources, distributing 20,000 lbs. of food as well as hygiene and cleaning products for families and school workers in Pombos, Recife and Tucumã. During the distribution days, our nutritionists performed BMI evaluations on children to keep program reporting on track.

A photograph showing a woman in a white shirt and mask handing a small booklet to a young girl who is also wearing a mask. The girl is smiling and looking at the booklet.

The team also created and distributed a series of children's educational activity and reading booklets to continue delivering nutrition and healthy lifestyle education while schools were closed.

### SERTA and INMED Aquaponics® in the Amazon

INMED Brasil installed the first INMED Aquaponics® system in Brazil at SERTA, a technical school in Gloria do Goita, Pernambuco specializing in sustainable development. A new component of the Health in Action program, in partnership with the Mondelēz International Foundation, it will provide fresh produce and fish for participating Health in Action schools in low-resourced communities as well as a training environment for the next generation of farmers.

Despite a pause in construction during the spring COVID lockdown, the system was completed in the fall, followed by a two-day training workshop for the INMED Brasil and SERTA adaptive agriculture teams. A launch event is planned for early 2021 to celebrate the first harvest.

INMED also launched the Amazon Aquaponics campaign in collaboration with the Sustainable Amazon Foundation to build an INMED Aquaponics® Center of Excellence to provide food security, climate adaptation and sustainable incomes to indigenous communities of the Brazilian Amazon. Brazilian actor and TV host [Alex Slama](#) is already promoting the campaign to his followers. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about and support this exciting project.

Follow the great work of INMED Brasil on [@INMEDBrasil](#) on Facebook, [@inmed\\_brasil](#) on Instagram and on <https://inmed.org.br>.

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**INMED  
Caribbean**

## FOOD SECURITY FOR CLARENDON, AQUAPONICS STARTER KIT

Just two weeks before the first global pandemic lockdowns, INMED and INMED Caribbean held an official handover ceremony in Clarendon, Jamaica, where five communities became the proud owners of INMED Aquaponics® systems. It turned out to be a timely event.

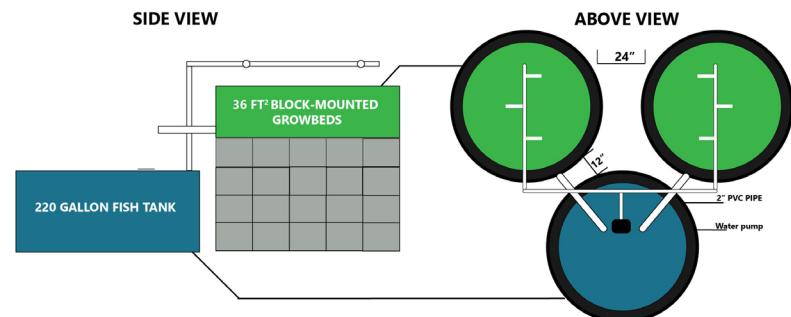
The systems were made possible by the Government's Adaptation Programme and Financing Mechanism (AP&FM) project, part of the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience with the Inter-American Development Bank, to reduce Jamaica's vulnerability to climate change. The island is experiencing increasingly destructive impacts, such as stronger hurricanes, severe flooding, prolonged droughts and sea level rise, which have led to food insecurity, unemployment and growing poverty—particularly in the deteriorated watershed region of Clarendon.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, INMED Caribbean has continued to provide online technical and business training to emerging aquaponics farmers, while the Clarendon systems have provided food security to hundreds of families, as well as sustainable income for the farmers. "This [aquaponics] system is the first of its kind in our community," said a James Hill farmer, who has been engaged in the project since its inception in 2019. "We're thankful for this gift and will take good care of it."

### INMED Aquaponics® Starter Kit Introduced

To address the needs of smallholder and backyard

farmers interested in testing out INMED Aquaponics® before investing in a commercial-sized system, INMED Caribbean introduced a small, modular 1 fish tank/2 growbed system in 2020. Hitting the market in early 2021, the system includes technical training and business coaching for those interested in earning revenue from their starter system.



Our team at INMED Caribbean continues to partner with the College of Agriculture Science and Education (CASE) and the Human Employment and Resource Training Trust/National Training Agency (HEART) to develop aquaponics curricula to train the next generation of adaptive agriculture farmers.

Follow INMED Caribbean on [@INMEDCaribbean](#) on Facebook, [@INMEDCaribbean](#) on Twitter and on <https://inmedcaribbean.org>





[\*\*CLICK HERE TO VIEW VIDEO\*\*](#)



## HEALTH IN ACTION EXPANDS, INMED AQUAPONICS® FEEDS FAMILIES

**A**fter years of improving the nutrition and health of children in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth, our school-based Health in Action program with the Mondelēz International Foundation (MIF) expanded its outreach deeper into distressed communities.

Our solution was to expand Health in Action beyond the schools to vulnerable households in the communities we serve via a pilot project called **Seeds for Life**. With funding from MIF and individual donors, Health in Action Break Time Buddies provided free seeds, planting guides and training to help hundreds of food-insecure families start backyard and container gardens.

These families now have access to fresh, nutritious food daily, and many are generating income by selling their excess produce to neighbors and at farmers' markets.

When schools closed during the lockdown, access to fresh produce for vulnerable children did not. Our team regularly distributed harvests from the school gardens as well as nutrient-dense food parcels to the families of children who attend the schools support to alleviate hunger and fill critical gaps for survival.

COVID could not stop our aquaponics systems from producing bountiful crops and fish in 2020. The three cooperatives of disabled farmers operating INMED Aquaponics® enterprises in Free State have kept their communities fed during the pandemic, with excess produce and fish donated to families in need or mourning the loss of loved ones from COVID-19.

Our work with cooperatives in Hennenman, Kroonstadt and Monyakeng in 2020 focused on improving access by people with disabilities, especially women and youth, to new adaptive technologies and financing to increase capacity and revenue, as well as overcome stigma in their communities. Special thanks to USAID for supporting this impactful project.

Like the Free State cooperatives, INMED's school- and community-based aquaponics systems in Eastern Cape, Gauteng and Northern Cape continued to produce high-quality vegetables and fish for community distribution during the pandemic.

### COVID Children's Book

Early in the pandemic, INMED South Africa Programs Director Unathi Sihlahla authored an engaging booklet to help children understand and avoid COVID-19—a popular download on the Health & Wellness page of INMED SA's website. Follow INMED South Africa on [@INMEDSA](#) on Facebook, [@inmed\\_southafrica](#) on Instagram and on <https://inmed.org.za>.





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INMED  
USA

## A COMMUNITY HUB OF COVID RELIEF & VITAL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

COVID-19 realities changed—and even improved—the way INMED USA delivers vital services and resources to children and families in need. With a lot of creativity and partnership development, our US team addressed a broader scope of need through distance learning, community education and essential supplies distribution. In fact, INMED's Family & Youth Opportunity Center is now recognized as a primary hub in the community for COVID relief resources. Following is a sampling of some of the new programs and initiatives making a transformational impact.

### Free Family Essentials

To address the urgent needs of vulnerable families hit hard by the pandemic, INMED USA pivoted quickly to fill the resource gaps in Loudoun County. Thanks to our generous community partners and individual donors, INMED's Opportunity Center became a one-stop source for weekly distributions of food packages, diapers, toilet paper, hygiene supplies, PPE, clothing, home goods and more.

Early in the pandemic, the Opportunity Center opened a portion of its space to serve as a satellite COVID testing site for HealthWorks of Northern Virginia. Hundreds of disadvantaged individuals received free tests as a result.

### Distance Learning & Community Education

INMED took its after-school tutoring, homework help and STEAM Club, as well as an adapted version of Summer Learning Camp, online for 2020. Parents lacking computer literacy were also provided with free basic computer skills training to help them assist their children with distance

learning—a new program that will continue into 2021. Other new initiatives included Babysitter Certification classes for teens who are caretakers of their siblings while their parents are at work, as well as CPR/First Aid/AED for adults.

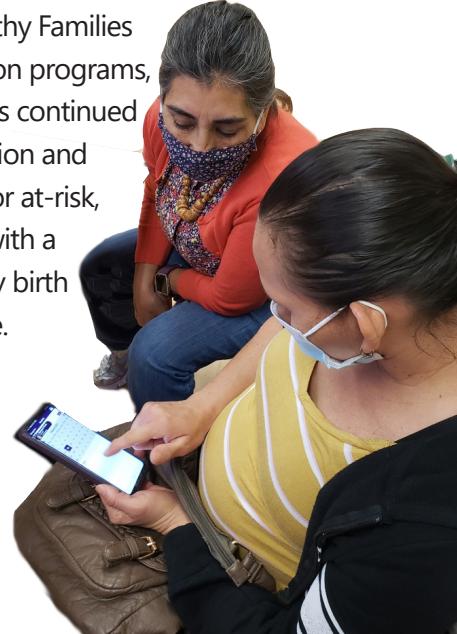
### Health & Wellness

With the support of Loudoun County government and Loudoun County Public Schools, INMED USA developed a program to help teens cope with COVID-related stressors. Called The Hangout, the program allows teens to practice socially distanced mindfulness, participate in arts and music activities and cook a meal together as a way to build strong support networks. Other offerings launched in 2020 included online workouts for teens, Zumba for moms and links to wellness resources on the INMED USA website.

### Healthy Families Loudoun Goes Virtual

Rated among the top 5 Healthy Families Virginia child abuse prevention programs, Healthy Families Loudoun has continued to provide free family education and case management services for at-risk, first-time and teen parents, with a 100% success rate for healthy birth outcomes and well baby care.

Follow INMED USA at  
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[@inmed\\_usa](https://www.instagram.com/inmed_usa/) on Instagram  
and <https://inmedusa.org>.



# INMED LEADERSHIP

INMED was pleased to welcome two new members to our Board of Directors at the end of 2020.

**Tracy Nazzaro** is the President & General Manager for Traders Hill Farm™, an innovative aquaponics greenhouse farming operation in Hilliard, Florida. The farm is the largest aquaponics enterprise in the Southeastern United States and is the first aquaponics operation to receive SQF (Safe Quality Food) Level 3 status. She will bring a wealth of expertise to our international INMED Aquaponics® program.



**Matthew Reddy** is a senior private sector specialist with the Global Environment Facility and former Director,



Forest Solutions Group, Climate-Smart Agriculture and the Global Agribusiness Alliance of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. He is at the forefront of global land and water management initiatives. leading multilateral partnerships and investments with a focus on food systems, land management, agriculture, renewable energy and biodiversity conservation finance.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Managing Partner, SmartPharma Consultants

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Retired Financial Executive

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### TRACY NAZZARO

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### MATTHEW REDDY

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### EUGENE H. ROTBERG

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### KATIE MACFARLANE, PHARM.D., CHAIR

Managing Partner, SmartPharma Consultants

### PAUL C. BOSLAND

Retired Financial Executive

### NEELAM SEKHRI FEACHEM, MS

Associate Professor, Comparative Health Systems & Financing, Institute for Global Health Sciences, University of California, San Francisco

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### HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Missele Vegas, SPHR

# INMED IN THE NEWS

Click on the links below to read some of the articles and view a sampling of news videos on INMED's impact on the world over the past year.

[Hope for the Holidays BENEFIT Concert for INMED USA and other Loudoun Nonprofits on FOX 5 News DC](#)

[At the Heart of Science: How a Small Chewable Tablet Is Helping Tackle a Disease That Impacts Nearly 1 Billion Children Globally](#)

[Campaign to help 2,500 struggling households plant home gardens](#)

[Agri training empowers disabled women and youth in the Free State](#)

[Earth Today | Climate-Smart Aquaponics Farming Appeals to Local Teacher](#)

[Township schools explore wonder of aquaponics](#)

[Farming communities get a helping hand through COVID](#)

[Herbal Bounty for Impoverished Communities](#)

[DOWNLOAD | Free e-book on Covid-19 safety and awareness for South African kids](#)

[Youth Harness the Power of Climate Smart Agriculture with Aquaponics](#)

[Making Hope Bloom in the Desert](#)

[A Children's Book to Help Parents Teach Their Kids About Covid-19](#)

[Sacramento Native Helps Parents Explain Coronavirus Pandemic Through Children's Book](#)

[Disabled Free State Farmers Feed Communities Through Aquaponics System](#)

[A Community Lifeline for Families in Need](#)

[Laerskool Kempton Park: A shining beacon of hope](#)

[Herndon ArtsCenter Still Serves Community During Coronavirus](#)

[Looking to Give Back? Here Are 32 Charities You Can Donate to for COVID-19 Relief](#)

[Disabled farmers receive innovative agricultural training](#)

[South Africa: Agricultural training empowers disabled women and youth in the Free State](#)

[Snacking company helps change obesity stats by investing in community gardens](#)

[Earth Today | Clarendon Communities Get Help To Face Down Climate Change](#)

[New aquaponics unit strengthens sustainable agriculture output at CASE](#)

[South Africa: How aquaponics benefits children and the community](#)



INMED Aquaponics® made headlines in Jamaica when INMED CEO Dr. Linda Pfeiffer handed over 5 new systems to help distressed communities of Clarendon strengthen their food security and climate adaptation as well as provide opportunities for residents to earn sustainable livelihoods.

# A TRUSTED PARTNER



INMED Partnerships for Children has been rated a Four Star Charity by Charity Navigator for 8 consecutive years—a rare distinction. Our funders and partners can trust that INMED follows best practices and the highest standard of accountability, that we're transparent with our financial disclosures and that all our programs truly serve individuals in need. Read our profile at <https://charitynavigator.org>.

Support our work!



Follow us



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