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June 2011

Floods Hit Brazil Communities - Major Damage Brings Major Needs



A flooded carnival in the city of Vitória de Santo Antão

Hundreds have died. Hundreds are missing. Tens of thousands have been displaced.

In May, the city of Vitoria de Santo Antão, in Pernambuco State (northeast Brazil) was flooded when the Tapacurá River overflowed following very heavy rains. Residents were forced to flee their homes and gather in shelters set up in schools that were not damaged by the water. There was simply no other place that could accommodate the number of people who had been displaced. Some of the families that had opted to stay behind even after the flooding eventually had to be removed from their homes which were now at risk of collapse.

The water levels have since receded, allowing affected residents to return to their homes, but residents of the Beco do Rancho community, for example, now face new problems such as the imminent arrival of winter and a lack of food and potable water. Nine municipalities in Pernambuco State have been declared disaster areas, and 26 have declared a <u>state of emergency</u>. In total, 55 cities have suffered the effects of floods.

Three schools that are part of INMED Brasil's <u>Health in Action</u> program took in men, women and children who escaped the floods and provided them with shelter until they were able to return to their homes. INMED also provided them with basic essentials such as food, hygiene items and more.

There is still a major need, and you can help. Your donation will provide children and their families with food, shelter and medicine. Please, donate today!

INMED's Health in Action program, implemented in partnership with the Kraft Foods Foundation, improves the health and quality of life of children, their families and communities. Launched in April 2010, this phase of the program will reach 150,000 children and 600,000 people in the cities of Vitória de Santo Antão, Recife, Jabotão dos Guararapes, Moreno and Chā de Alegria (Pernambuco State), Curitiba (Paraná State), and Piracicaba and Bauru (São Paulo State).

Save the Date: October 27, 2011

Celebrating 25 Years: Re-Charting the Future for Children and Youth. Stay tuned for more information.



The more people we can reach with our mission, the more children we can rescue. When you wear one of INMED's colorful lapel pins you are telling others about INMED and you are saying, "I support INMED and rescue children from harm." Please honor all the children in INMED's programs by buying an INMED Partnerships for Children lapel pin for just \$10.

Volunteer in Peru Help Save Lives of Women and Babies in the Amazon

INMED Partnerships for Children is working to save the lives of mothers and their infants by building "casas de espera," or maternity waiting homes, in the remote Amazon jungle regions of Peru. These maternity waiting houses, built near health posts, allow expectant mothers and their families to reside there in the last stages of their pregnancies or during a high-risk pregnancy to ensure they are close to obstetrical care.

INMED Partnerships for Children is excited to announce a volunteer opportunity in the town of Atalaya, located in the Ucayali Province of Peru. INMED Andes and the municipality of Atalaya are constructing a new maternity waiting home and are in need of a certified nurse midwife who speaks Spanish and can stay in Atalaya for at least six months. The midwife's main responsibilities will include:

- Visiting the communities surrounding the casa and educating women and other members of the community on the importance of prenatal care
- Educating women of childbearing age on the importance of well woman exams
- Educating pregnant women on the dangers of birthing at home and encouraging them to come instead to the maternity waiting home
- Assisting with delivery for women who come to the casa, including vertical birthing
- Performing STD exams and various other minor medical procedures



This is a volunteer position, but INMED Andes and the municipality are offering a stipend of \$200 per month, plus food and lodging. The volunteer will be responsible for round trip international air fare, health insurance, and visa and vaccination fees.

For more information, or to apply for the volunteer position, please send your resume and cover letter to contact@inmed.org. Recent graduates are encouraged to apply. Please include in your letter why you are interested in volunteering, what you hope to gain from the experience, and what you hope to accomplish while you are in Peru.





About INMED Partnerships for Children

INMED Partnerships for Children is an international humanitarian development organization. Since 1986, INMED has built alliances with publicand private-sector partners in more than 100 countries to rescue children from the immediate and irreversible harm of disease, hunger, abuse, neglect or violence, and to prepare them to shape a brighter future for themselves and the next generation.

Together with our partners, INMED is transforming the future for hundreds of thousands of children and their family and community members in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean, and southern Africa by:

- · Securing children's health, development and safety
- Developing skills, knowledge and opportunities for children and youth
- Building family and community capacity to support and sustain positive change

For more information or to submit questions and comments, please contact Doris Girgis, Development and Communications Specialist at 703-729-4951 ext 238, or dgirgis@inmed.org.

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