

## Taking Action

### Membership: \$10. Value: Priceless.



Adam Roberts, pictured in Costa Rica, has funded projects throughout Latin America, including a water well in Nicaragua, school lunches and a community garden in Belize, and books and a photocopier for three schools in Guatemala.

Adam Roberts

**WANT TO TELL YOU** about an organization my husband, Adam Roberts, started to help the world community. Adam attended the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, in the summer of 2002 and was terribly distraught at the sad state of affairs under which literally billions of people are forced to live: no sanitation, no running water or electricity; and a salary of less than one dollar a day. He found it equally deplorable that leaders of the richest nations were unwilling to make substantial commitments to eradicating global poverty. So he decided to do something himself.

In December 2002, he started The \$10 Club. Each month he solicits a modest \$10 from anyone he can think of—friends, family, co-workers—pools that money together, and uses it to fund a poverty alleviation project somewhere in the world. By the end of 2003 he had funded twelve projects in eleven different countries totaling more than \$10,000. He assumes all expenses and does all the research himself.

#### Here are the results of this modest yet ambitious idea:

- Solar cookers were bought and distributed to refugees in Kenya.
- A water well in Nicaragua was refurbished.
- Mattresses, blankets, pillows, and sheets were provided to the elderly in Tibet.

- School lunches and a school garden were funded in Belize.
- Medicines were paid for at Bansang Hospital in The Gambia.
- Annual health care was purchased for children and staff at a Vietnamese orphanage.
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste were distributed to underprivileged children in Romania.
- A rainwater catchment tank was erected in Kenya.
- First-aid kits were supplied to organizations that take in street children in South Africa.
- A generator and two cribs were bought for an orphanage in Sierra Leone.
- Anti-malaria insecticide-treated bed nets were provided to nearly 200 families in Ghana.

The \$10 Club provides all of its participants with an invaluable opportunity to make a significant, direct contribution toward alleviating the suffering of others. For the price of a couple of soy lattes each month, comfort can be provided to some of the neediest people on earth.

—Stephanie Shain

#### More Information:

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\*Stewardship: The careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care; financial supervision and management; overseeing nourishment.