



MEDICAL TEAMS

THERE ARE MANY, MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD THAT ARE UNDER HISTORICALLY GREAT DISTRESS, DISTRESS STEMMING FROM POVERTY FROM DISASTER AND FROM CONFLICT, AND IT'S THOSE PEOPLE THAT MEDICAL TEAMS IS COMMITTED TO SERVING THROUGH OUR MISSION. THE NEWBORNS, THE PREGNANT, THE ELDERLIES, THE ORPHANED, THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE SHELTER, THE HUNGRY, ALL THESE WE ARE CARING FOR, THESE VULNERABLES. I'VE SEEN IN THEIR EYES THE FEAR AND THE HORROR THAT THEY EXPERIENCED AND I ALSO SEE IN THEIR EYES A PLEA FOR HELP, A PLEA FOR HEALTH, A PLEA FOR SAFETY AND A PLEA FOR HOPE. WHAT WE DO MATTERS. IT'S THE THING THAT MAKES EVERYTHING ELSE MAKE SENSE, KNOWING THAT WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE WILL TRANSFORM WHOLE COMMUNITIES. WHEN WE TALK ABOUT URGENCY, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MAY BE NATURAL IN THEIR ORIGINS OR MAN-MADE IN THEIR ORIGINS AND THEIR NEED IS IMMEDIATE, THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIRE, THEIR SURVIVAL IS NOT ASSURED. THEY NEED HELP NOT IN TERMS ONLY OF RESOURCES BUT THE EDUCATION, THE EMPATHY, LEARN TO ALSO FEEL WHAT THEY FEEL, IN THAT WAY WE CAN HELP THEM. IN HAITI, BIRTH ATTENDANTS RECEIVE THE TRAINING AND SUPPLIES TO SAFELY DELIVER BABIES. IN GUATEMALA, MOTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY ARE RECEIVING EDUCATION ON NUTRITION AND HOW TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN HEALTHY. AND IN CAMBODIA, WE HAVE THE ANTI-SHOCK GARMENT THAT IS PROTECTING WOMEN IF THEY'RE HEMORRHAGING AFTER BIRTH. ALL OF THESE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES OF THE LASTING IMPACT THAT WE'RE MAKING. WE CAN PREVENT THIS, WE CAN REDUCE MALNUTRITION, IF WE ONLY HAVE THE RESOURCES, IF WE HAVE THE PEOPLE THAT WOULD WORK. I'VE TALKED TO SO MANY OF THESE PEOPLE, YOUNG MOMS AND OTHERS WHO REMIND ME OF MY VERY OWN DAUGHTER AND I FEEL LIKE I'M JUST SITTING ACROSS FROM HER AND CAN'T IMAGINE HER BEING IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND HOW COULD I DO ANYTHING LESS THAN SHOW UP?