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Committed to a present that ensures the future.

# HumanTouch

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION



## PROVIDING MUCH-NEEDED CARE

IN A COUNTRY WHERE MOST PEOPLE HAVE NO ACCESS TO BASIC HEALTH CARE



In January 2009, Robert Crook, DO, Michele Adamcak, DO, and a team consisting of 10 others left Chattanooga, Tenn., for La Joya, Ecuador, to help those in need. They quickly saw firsthand the need to help.

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### SAVE THE DATE

**60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**November 1, 2009  
New Orleans**

The meager exam rooms in the little clinic contained a desk, an exam table, chairs and lighting. The pharmacy had empty shelving with no medicine. The Ready Relief Box the team received from the AOF contained enough pharmaceuticals to fill those shelves. They worked as a team from dawn to dusk, seeing and treating nearly 300 patients during their stay.

Traveling more than two miles, an 88-year-old man walked to the clinic just to see one of the visiting doctors. Of his multiple ailments, the one that was of most concern was leg pain due to a dog bite, which was sutured one month earlier. He had not returned for any treatment because it was so painful. The team took the time to listen to him and treated his acute conditions. The next day, he arrived back at the clinic with a small plastic sack full of eggs from his chickens. This was his parting gift to the team; a thank you for caring for him and his community.

The less fortunate in La Joya are a little better off today than they were yesterday thanks to the volunteer efforts of Dr. Crook, Dr. Adamcak and their team.

To learn about ways to receive support for missions such as this one, please visit [www.aof-foundation.org](http://www.aof-foundation.org).



Seeing a doctor for the first time can be scary for children

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"I have never seen such devastation, but I have also never seen such resilience. People were helping each other. Some people even offered us their bottled water. It taught me how the simplest of gifts can make such a difference."  
—Dr. Royce Keilers

## > ONE YEAR LATER, OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS REMEMBER THE DEVASTATION IN CHINA

ON MAY 12, 2008, IN THE SICHUAN PROVINCE OF CHINA, A MAGNITUDE-8 EARTHQUAKE KILLED AN ESTIMATED 69,000 PEOPLE, INJURED 375,000 AND LEFT MILLIONS HOMELESS. WITHIN JUST DAYS OF THE QUAKE, TWO AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS, DR. ROYCE KEILERS AND DR. WILLIAM BURKE, JOINED MEMBERS OF HEART TO HEART INTERNATIONAL IN THE MEDICAL RELIEF EFFORT.

Before the quake occurred, the pair already had plane reservations to make their third trip in 13 months to China to continue a long-term project to help the Sichuan government build a family physician medical education partnership with health officials from the Sichuan Provincial Government. The mission changed when the quake hit.

Traveling on perilous, washed-out roads through sagging tunnels and shaky bridges where mountain sides had shifted and rock slides consumed the roads, Dr. Keilers was reminded of the total destruction he saw in World War II and the bombing of British cities.

The pair quickly dove into the task of caring for long lines of people. Their osteopathic skills dealing with neck and back injuries were immediately called upon, often by rescue workers who were moving huge piles of rubble.

Crossing cultural and language barriers was easily accomplished. "Just the power of touch, one of the basic principles of osteopathy, can transcend language and cultural barriers," Dr. Burke explains. "We knew that our patients were benefiting from our concern and care. We could see it in their eyes."

A long road of grief and emotional recovery awaits the people of the region, and the osteopathic physicians plan to go back to help prepare the medical students to deal with these symptoms as well as other potential health consequences of the earthquake. "Everything that I've done in my professional life working as a practicing osteopathic physician prepared me to deal with the medical problems we encountered. Nothing in my life could have prepared me for the devastation. With so many dead, so many affected, their tragedy becomes part of you. I will never forget it," Dr. Keilers says.

The bonds forged with China over the past three years have allowed Dr. Keilers and Dr. Burke to develop tremendous friendships with the people and medical officials of the Sichuan Province—ties that were only strengthened through their unselfish call to action. Their selfless service in the earthquake's recovery effort is not only an inspiration to all, but also an example of the osteopathic philosophy in its truest form.



### TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY

Would you give more if you could? You can. Find out how in our **FREE brochure, *Your Personal Guide to Gift Planning***, by completing and returning the enclosed reply card.

### YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by helping us through your tax deductible donation.

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## ➤ START A FAMILY TRADITION OF PHILANTHROPY TODAY

WHETHER IT'S MAKING A SPECIAL DINNER, CELEBRATING AN ANNUAL EVENT OR SINGING A CERTAIN SONG, EACH FAMILY HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE TRADITIONS THAT YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN LOOK FORWARD TO EACH YEAR. CONSIDER STARTING A NEW TRADITION THIS YEAR: MAKING AN ANNUAL DONATION TO SUPPORT OUR CAUSE.

### Why Annual Gifts Are Special

- **They are for current use.** Your gift provides for our ongoing operating expenses. It allows us to continue to pursue our mission on a daily basis.
- **They're usually unrestricted.** This means your annual contribution gives us more flexibility to address immediate needs and opportunities.
- **The size of the gift is less relevant.** Naturally, the larger your donation, the more it accomplishes. But the critical nature of annual support is your capacity and willingness to continue giving.

### Upholding Your Annual Gift Tradition

Donors to our annual fund are among our most loyal supporters. By means of repeated gifts, you demonstrate a strong commitment to our mission.

## ➤ DID YOU KNOW?

- Despite bad economic times, the AOF gave \$482,268 back to the osteopathic profession during Fiscal Year 2008. These funds were distributed between osteopathic student (28 percent), research (26 percent), physician (24 percent) and promotional (22 percent) initiatives.
- The Rossnick Humanitarian Grant was named as a tribute to the late Julian Rossnick and his wife, Esther, who named the AOF as a beneficiary of the Rossnick Trust to honor the memory of their deceased daughter, Joni B. Rossnick, DO (1955–1992). The gift is the largest donation received in the AOF's 60-year history.
- Starting June 1st, the AOF will be offering a new opportunity to support osteopathic students, the "AOF Student Initiatives Grant." Thirty Grants up to \$1,000 will be given to support student administered projects and programs that promote osteopathic medicine. Check the AOF Web site in May to download an application.

### LET US KNOW

Have you named the AOF as a beneficiary in your will, trust, life insurance policy or other estate planning vehicle? If so, we want to hear from you. You have an opportunity to become a member of the A.T. Still Legacy Circle.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Your gifts, large or small, make a big difference to the people we serve.

For more information on making a gift, visit our Web site or contact Maggie Burton at (312) 202-8231 or [mburton@aof-foundation.org](mailto:mburton@aof-foundation.org)

[www.aof-foundation.org](http://www.aof-foundation.org)

## OUR MISSION

is to ensure the ideals of osteopathic medicine by initiating and supporting programs that enhance the profession, advance the quality of peoples health, and recognize excellence in the areas of education and research.

## OUR VISION

is to enrich global health by serving as the osteopathic profession's philanthropic leader, by embracing the unique principles of osteopathic medicine and promoting those tenets to improve health worldwide.



The 2008 AOF Honors: Celebrating Excellence within the Osteopathic Profession

## > OUR SUPPORTERS HELP US CREATE OPPORTUNITIES AND BUILD MEMORIES

### OUR APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING ANNUAL DONORS:

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*FY 2008/2009 data as of March 31, 2009*

The AOF would also like to thank our many donors who have contributed in amounts less than \$250.



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Visit [www.aof-foundation.org](http://www.aof-foundation.org) to learn more about the AOF.

## CORPORATE PARTNERS

The old saying "there is strength in numbers" rings true when describing the support the AOF receives from its corporate partners. It's with deep appreciation that we recognize and thank the following corporations for investing in the future of the osteopathic profession by supporting the AOF and its mission.

### PINNACLE PARTNER \$30,000



### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE PARTNER \$20,000



We would also like to thank those who have contributed in amounts less than \$20,000.

If you are interested in corporate membership, please contact Steve Downey, CAE, at (312) 202-8230 or [sdowney@aof-foundation.org](mailto:sdowney@aof-foundation.org)

