

Hundreds of Syrian children treated at camp in Iraq

She could have been my baby. This is what Dr. Saren Azer thought when he saw one of his younger patients at Domiz Camp for refugees fleeing the Syrian civil war in the Kurdish part of Iraq.

"She looked just like my baby girl who is six months old," he told HPIC in a telephone interview following his return to Canada in November 2012. "I took her picture to show my wife. They are people just like us except they have lost everything through no fault of their own."

Dr. Azer, an internal medicine specialist based in Comox, British Columbia and a father of four, was in Iraq for a month and spent two weeks caring for the Syrian refugees. There were more than 30,000 refugees when he was there.

Dr. Azer's arrival in the camp doubled the number of doctors. "I wouldn't be able to do anything without the medicines provided by HPIC. The gift of these medicines is a message of hope. There was a woman who came to me with her sick baby. She didn't stop crying the whole



time she was with me. Her husband had gone to buy bread and then the bombing started. She fled with her baby, who is her only child and all she has. To have the medicine to save this baby meant everything to this woman."

Dr. Azer treated hundreds of children with a Physician Travel Pack and about \$30,000 worth of medicines provided by HPIC.



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Health Partners International
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2012 YEAR IN REVIEW

HPIC tops \$400 Million in Medicines in 2012

Glen Shepherd, President of HPIC, with Melodie Hicks of Vanier College's Nursing Program at an event at IMS Health in October 2012 to mark the milestone of HPIC having provided \$400 million in donated medicines and supplies. Melodie is a partner in the Physician Travel Pack program and pioneered a project that brings Vanier nursing students to Malawi every year to do a sustainable health development project.

"When we first arrived in Malawi with students in 2011," Melodie said, "we were stunned by the lack of resources, human and physical, lack of medication and lack of equipment. I took one PTP that first year. The second time I took two. Next time, I plan on taking six. When we arrive with PTPs, the excitement is palpable. ...People should not be suffering from preventable illnesses. I just say keep donating."



HPIC's brand new website:
www.hpicanada.ca

HPIC gratefully acknowledges the top donors of medicine in 2012:
Pfizer • Pharmascience • AstraZeneca • Allergan • Pharmaceutical Partners of Canada • GlaxoSmithKline
Johnson & Johnson Inc. • Covidien • Fresenius • Teva • Paladin

Check out some new videos on

- ▶ Pharmaceutical Management
- ▶ Healing and Hope: a brief overview of HPIC

And coming soon to HPIC's YouTube channel:

- ▶ HPIC brings health & hope to Afghanistan
- ▶ Melodie Hicks talks about "Carrying Hope"
- ▶ Emergency obstetrical training for healthcare workers in Zimbabwe



HPIC in Numbers

28 twenty-foot equivalent containers

54 countries impacted by HPIC's work

1,070,000 treatments provided

597 skids

42 healthcare companies donated medicines and hospital supplies

More than **\$400 million** in donated medicines and supplies provided since 1990

Thank you

A heartfelt thank you to all our partners for helping HPIC to continue spreading hope and health around the world in 2012. More than 40 companies donated medicines and hospital supplies. Hundreds of individual donors, foundations and companies gave the necessary funding to provide 1,070,000 treatments in 54 countries.

And we celebrated the major milestone of providing \$400 million in donated medicines and supplies since our first project in 1990. Last year we also made great progress in some new directions. In September, we partnered with the Zimbabwe Association of Church-related Hospitals and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada to offer the ALARM International Program to a group of 40 doctors, midwives and nurses in Harare. Coming from across the country, these frontline health workers learned techniques and skills that are saving mothers and babies today.

We also secured a longstanding partnership with The Salvation Army to advance the cause of Mother-Child Health through a grassroots program to provide Mother-Child Health Kits to rural health-care workers in Africa.

Our Afghanistan project continued to advance its goals of increasing access to medicine and improving systems and procedures at our seven partner hospitals and the Ministry of Public Health.

Street children in Dakar, Senegal, desperately poor people living in an isolated part of Haiti and mountaintop villagers in Ecuador were just some of the people touched by the generosity of our donors and the special people and organizations we partner with in our Physician Travel Pack program and other projects.

Glen Shepherd, President

Physician Travel Pack

Long suffering mother finally healed

One can get quite sick from routine accidents and illnesses when the nearest health care is 45 minutes away by motorbike and there's only one motorbike in town.

This is the everyday reality for 7,000 people living in Olaro in Burkina Faso. Nurse Andrée Bamforth of Vancouver brought healing and hope to the community in late 2012 when she arrived with a Physician Travel Pack. Overall, she was able to see 881 patients.

One of her patients was a mother of five who had come into the clinic for her children to be seen. "But the smell coming from her forced me to ask questions," Bamforth reported. "A large amount of green discharge was pouring out of 2 holes of +/-3 cm round, the muscle mass around it was eaten up." The wound dated back four years!

"I gave antibiotics and vitamins and after cleansing, dressed the wound first with application of antibiotic ointment and informed her about nutrition, care and rest. The next day she came for a dressing change (soaked with green discharge) accompanied by her husband. As I changed the dressing, I explained to the husband the care his wife needed to heal and he agreed to seek help from his family so that his wife would be fed twice a day and would only have to care for herself and the infant."

Bamforth trained the husband to dress the wound. By the time she left, one of the holes had completely closed up and the healing was well underway. She was confident that with the two weeks' worth of supplies and medicine she left the patient with, the wound would get better.

"They were overwhelmingly appreciative of the Canadian medicines, which they found to be effective," Bamforth wrote in her report to HPIC.

