



Volume 2, Issue 2

# *Beauty for Ashes*

*Children's Medical Ministries*

## Blessings and Joy Abound

*To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion,*

*to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning,*

*the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;*

*that they might be called trees of righteousness,*

*the planting of the Lord,*

*that he might be glorified.*

*Isaiah 61:3*

**T**wo of the finest and most exciting days were experienced by **Bill & Erma Collins** thanks to **Judge John McMichen** and his dynamic ministry, **Christians in Alliance (CIA)** during their recent trip to the Chiang Rai area of Thailand.



The Margaret Coles Memorial Fund donated a motorcycle to Akha evangelist who travels to mountainous villages up rugged roads and paths.

The first day was filled with dedication and opening ceremonies of the **Youth Development Center and Hostel**. 200 people were invited, and more than 400 came. The governor of the province was the honored guest along with other official dignitaries. During the rainy season, the Youth Development Center and Hostel will house 100 Akha children while they attend a local Thai school. Many of the children are orphans and kids whose fathers are deceased or jailed for being involved in the local drug market.

The second day, Bill and Erma visited a village near the Burma border where approximately 16 of the villagers came to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. These conversions are the result of two brothers who previously came to know Christ while attending a Christian drug rehabilitation program.



Bill Collins enjoyed passing out ice cream treats to children from a local village.



Luka Chermui and Dan Mayes (right) bring the baptismal waters to an 86-year-old blind lady.

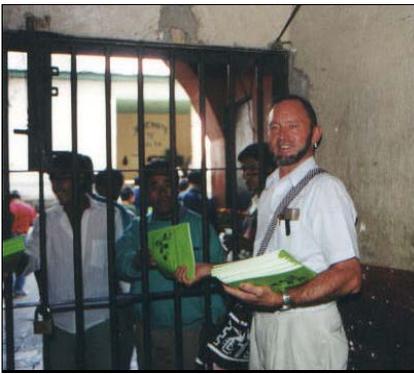
## Journey To The Volcano

**T**eam member, **Silvia Wetherbee**, writes about the experiences of her last day of her recent mission trip to Guatemala: “The people were loving, appreciative and in need. Many were accident victims and suffering from crippling diseases. They were of all ages and each had their story to tell. I am thankful for the evidence of God’s perfect timing regardless of human plans . . . . Many times they impressed us with their strong faith and hope eternal.”



Silvia Wetherbee

There had been a radio announcement earlier in the day that wheelchairs were going to be distributed in a tiny village. People were being brought up and down the mountain on stretchers, traveling 50 - 100 miles and waiting for hours to be examined and fitted. As the wheelchair distribution proceeded, more than 15 people among the parents, guardians and children present came to know the Lord. Amazing grace!



Alvin Miller gives **Good Life Guides** to prisoners in Guatemala.

At the base of the volcano, the combined **CMM** and **Hope Haven** team stopped at a gas station directly across from a prison. Having already distributed all of their New Testaments and Tracts, the team gave each prisoner a “**King’s Kids Good Life Guide**” that is used for children’s health-care/evangelism programs. Because these prisoners had no reading materials, they were happy for anything to read.

It should be noted that the **Good Life Guide** has a scripture verse with every primary healthcare illustration and the plan of salvation is presented at the end of the material. May God bless the sowing of this precious seed.

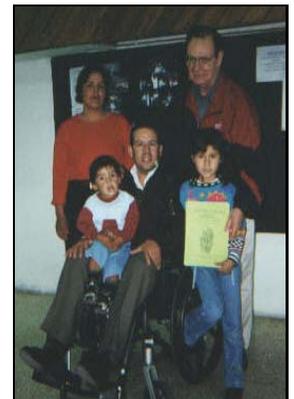
## Disabled Officers Stay On Active Duty



Bill Collins and Mark Richard in Quito, Ecuador Military Headquarters with Colonel Acosta.

**I**n Ecuador, when a soldier or an officer becomes disabled, they remain on active duty, unlike the United States where they may be discharged permanently. **Colonel Eduardo Acosta**, President of the Officers Christian Fellowship for the Disabled, has a fellowship of over 40 officers with hearts that want to serve their country, their fellow man, and the Lord. These men have organized a service to assist the military and their families with wheelchairs, a wheelchair repair shop, orthotics and prosthetics, crutches, and walkers all in Christian love.

**CMM**, in concert with **Hope Haven Int’l**, will play an active role in assisting with supplies and services to these men and their families. They can then fulfill their military commitment, go on to care for their families, and serve God as well.

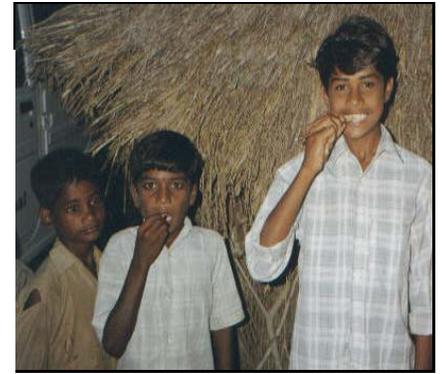


A new wheelchair for Sgt. Nelson Castillo pictured here with his family.

## Health Kits Help Kids in India

A special thanks to **Pastor Jacobson** and **Sam Gunti** for their commitment to the children’s ministry in Hyderabad, India. A primary health clinic is conducted prior to showing the **Jesus Film** in each village they visit.

Over 1,000 health kits were made available for the cost of \$500. Each health kit contains a toothbrush, toothpaste, and a **Good Life Guide**. The message that Jesus loves these little ones is free.



Children in India using sticks and their fingers to brush their teeth.

## Vitamins for Kids Program Grows In Bogotá

**Y**ou may take a daily vitamin for health, energy, or extra nutrition. But most kids around the world have never seen a vitamin in their young lives. **CMM** wants to take healthy action, so the kids in Haiti were the first. Now, some hearing impaired kids in Bogotá, Colombia are next. It’s all part of a controlled program to first educate kids about nutrition and good health, and to share the gospel.

While on a mission trip to Colombia, a driver took **Bill Collins** over for a cup of coffee in a nearby mall to meet his sister. She turned out to be acquainted with **Patti Jones**, the director of a hearing impaired missionary school, serving the poorest of the poor. The school is one of four affiliated with a church in Bogotá.



Patti Jones listens while the girl in the flower dress gives her testimony.

The kids were excited to be part of the program and share their testimony in sign language. The pictures tell the story. With faces like these, no words are necessary!

## More “Good News” in Colombia

**T**he First Lady of Colombia, **Nohra de Pastрана**, and her Special Assistant, **Mariela Ayala Perez**, have once again been a tremendous help to **CMM** and **Hope Haven Int’l** and the physically disabled children in Colombia.



Bill Collins, Alvin Miller and Mark Richard with Mariela Ayala Perez at the Presidential Palace.

During two days of liaison work, and visits to the Presidential Palace, all were discussing the difficult task of bringing in wheelchairs duty-free. The fruits of the meetings led to 3 containers being allowed into the country without the usual duty tax. Duty tax can be extremely costly – as much as \$68,000 per container in some countries – so this was a special blessing. Our thanks to the First Lady, her Assistant, and to our Lord for making it all possible.

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## Collins Comments

# Abandoned Baby Ministry – A Commitment of Love

The name brings to mind the most heartbreaking of images: the tiny innocent baby left alone. But to **Stacey Smith**, daughter of missionaries **Jim and Sharon Smith**, what started as disadvantage is turned into a loving opportunity to be cherished, nourished and raised in a Christian home.

**CMM** plans to assist Stacey in this new ministry for abandon babies in Quito, Ecuador called "**Precious Jewels**." Typically these babies are turned in to the police, left in a hospital or found in a trash can. They may have HIV disease, fetal alcohol syndrome or other disabilities. But they are precious jewels to Stacey, who has found a large home that has 6 bedrooms, each with a bath, and is anxiously waiting for her first abandon baby. Ecuadorian law requires that Stacey advertise for 3 months in the newspaper to give the parents a chance to claim the baby.

This developing ministry works with **Dillon Placement Services**, and assures that all of the infants will go to Christian homes. While they wait to be claimed, or placed with a new family, they are raised with many hearts praying for them. They are abandoned no more, but wrapped in God's everlasting arms.

## Mission Statement

**C**hildren's Medical Ministries is a non-denominational ministry of 700 evangelical health-care professionals who have the common objective of sharing God's love with those whose lives are in "ashes" and who only need the "Beauty of Christ" to make them whole again. Our primary objective is to exalt Jesus Christ through the God-given "gifts" that we each possess. CMM is predicated on the following concept.

- ◆ The essence of compassion is helping others help themselves.
- ◆ Every child has a right to know that God loves them.
- ◆ It shouldn't hurt to be a child.
- ◆ Restoring human dignity is paramount.

Compassion is Love in Action

OFFICE 1-877-261-3211    FAX 1-888-410-4647  
www.childmed.org

## Chiang Rai, Thailand



Bill with Nai Amphur Maeloa, manager of the Youth Development Center.



Akha villagers from surrounding mountainous areas in procession for the governor of the province.



*From this . . .*

Temporary hostel



*To this!*

The new Youth Development Center built by CMM work team and Akha laborers.



15 Akhas from local village near the Burma border being baptized by Pastors Dan Mayes and Chip Woodruff.



CMM's vitamin program makes these Haitian children happy and healthier.

**VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [WWW.CHILDMED.ORG](http://WWW.CHILDMED.ORG)**



Happy hearing-impaired children will be among the first to benefit from CMM's Vitamins For Kids Program.



Older children with a teacher at school for the hearing impaired.



Children listening to CMM's primary healthcare presentation prior to showing the **Jesus Film**.



The CMM ministry in India is currently having the **Good Life Guides** printed locally.



An abandon baby in need of medical care — waiting for a home.



A family accepting Christ in Quito, Ecuador during a wheelchair distribution.

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