



# Christian Friends of Korea

조선의 그리스도인 벗들

Bringing hope and healing in Christ's name to the people of North Korea

Winter 2009-2010

## PRIORITY NEEDS

### National TB Reference Laboratory Renovation Project - \$88,000 still needed

The DPRK is experiencing an alarming resurgence of tuberculosis in their general population. Lack of appropriate TB laboratory diagnostics is a major constraint on their ability to respond to this situation. In November 2009 we began extensive renovations and equipment delivery to bring into full operation the National TB Reference Lab in order to build a strong foundation for disease surveillance efforts, diagnosis and treatment of TB, and prevention and control of drug resistance. We are grateful to be working in close partnership with the Stanford University School of Medicine/Bay Area TB Consortium, and Mercy Corps to bring this lab to full operation. Your gift of any size will help us fully complete the renovations and establish a strong foundation for national TB control and treatment efforts.



### First Line TB Medicines – \$20-\$50/patient kit (cost depends on disease severity)

A 6-8 month TB treatment course includes up to 5 medicines, syringes, needles, sterile water for injection, and vitamins. For the past 8 years, the majority of first-line TB medicines have been provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) through a variety of international or emergency funding sources. The situation has changed, and there is presently no funding in place to provide more TB medicine after August 2010. Without TB medicine, an active TB patient not only becomes more difficult to successfully treat over time, but he can infect 10-15 others every year until drug therapy is started. TB medicine kits for up to 40,000 patients are needed as quickly as possible to treat those diagnosed with TB in order to help prevent an alarming spread of this deadly, but treatable disease.



### Nutritional Food/Medical Supplements for TB and Hepatitis Patients:

**Shipping costs: \$6,000-\$8,000** - Food shortages persist in DPRK and many patients are malnourished when they seek treatment. Nutritional food is essential to their full recovery. We have partners who are willing to donate container loads of nutritious food such as canned meat, vegetable soup mix and high-protein drinks to supplement what can be grown locally in CFK greenhouses or in their cultivated fields. But we need to secure shipping funds in order to deliver this nutritional food. There is a need for at least 6-8 containers to be sent each year.



### Service Fees for general medicines and medical supplies: \$5,000 - \$15,000 -

General medicines and medical supplies are also high priority needs for our supported facilities. Working in partnership with donation partners, we can generally send \$15 worth of medicine/product for each \$1 in service fees/shipping costs. We often combine medicines in with food shipments to maximize the weight and volume of each container. Your gift will help send essential food and medicine to recovering patients.



*Because of your service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. 2 Corinthians 9:13-14*

## OTHER PRIORITY NEEDS

### Motorized Cargo Tricycles - \$1,300

Many rest homes are located in very remote areas, miles from the main hospital where they receive their supplies. The roads are very narrow, and often in poor repair. Cargo motorcycles provide an efficient and practical means for local rest homes to carry goods and patients longer distances while keeping them protected from the weather.



### Tractors with trailers and accessories - \$ 2,500/set

Since 2005 we have sent to each of our supported facilities a tractor with trailer, accessories and toolkit. Most facilities have 2-5 hectares of land that they cultivate to raise food for their patients, and these tractors have proven to be an invaluable match for the conditions there. They have found them useful for plowing fields, hauling fertilizer, running irrigation pumps and threshers, and hauling supplies. We have been asked to expand our work to new TB facilities and also to hepatitis care facilities and need to send more tractor sets to help these new places grow more food for patients and staff. A tractor set includes: the tractor and trailer with spare tires for both, a plough, a tiller, paddy wheels, spare parts for the engine, extra belts and an irrigation pump.



### Doctor's Kit and Bicycle - \$150

Over the past six years we have sent over 630 doctor's kits to the physicians who serve in the hospitals and rest homes we support. These kits include the most basic diagnostic tools such as a stethoscope, blood pressure cuff, thermometers, otoscope, and other items in a bag marked with CFK's logo. They are greatly valued by each doctor because they help them provide better care to each patient. Please help us send more of these kits, together with a new bicycle to help doctors make house calls and care for patients.



### Greenhouses – \$1,600 (semi-permanent) or \$10,000 (permanent)

Greenhouses have proven to be a highly successful means to enhance local food security for health care facilities. We are sending both double-round styles (5m x 20m) and new quarter-round style greenhouses (8m x 23m) to enhance the capability to grow food year-round. We would like to send at least one more greenhouse to each location. The exact style sent will depend upon the local needs of each supported facility.



### Water Remediation \$3,500 - \$12,000 per site

Diarrhea is a leading cause of sickness and death in DPRK, especially among children. This is largely caused by poor water quality, lack of sanitary facilities, and the use of unprocessed human and animal waste on agricultural fields. Many places rely on natural springs, and these can easily be contaminated, or dry up seasonally. Various remediation efforts are possible, ranging from drilling new water wells, to installation of solar pumps and storage, to development and protection of existing springs. Your gift will help provide clean and plentiful water at hospitals and long-term care facilities, greatly enhancing the health and wellbeing of patients, staff and the local community.



### Facilities Improvements Fund - New Roofs, Windows and Doors

With the sharply rising numbers of registered TB and hepatitis patients, care facilities must expand in order to house and care for sick or contagious patients. They can generally build the buildings themselves, but they need help with minimal finish materials such as windows and doors, roofing materials, basic electrical wiring and fixtures, tile, etc. Other facilities have 30-50 year old roofs that need to be replaced; or windows that have large gaps, making it very difficult to heat the rooms in the cold of winter. Your help will enable us to respond quickly to the highest priority needs we find on our regular visits.



### Hospital Bed Sets: (Beds, Mattress, Blankets and Sheet Sets) \$240/set

### Rest Home Bed Sets: (Mattresses/Blankets/Sheets Sets): \$85/set

Patients who need more complex care are treated in **TB and hepatitis hospitals**. Often these patients are very sick, and it is difficult and painful for them to get up and down from mattresses on the floor. Simple hand-crank beds, with mattresses and sheets, will make their recovery more comfortable, and help the staff provide better care to them. Many **rest homes** do not have big enough rooms to provide beds for every patient, and most non-surgical patients prefer to sleep on the floor Korean style. A mattress will cushion them from floors that are often unheated due to shortages of fuel, and sheets and blankets will keep bedding clean and patients more comfortable.

