

VOL. 10, NO. 4

VOICE & HANDS

FALL 2015

HOPE

FOR A BROKEN WORLD

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reach
beyond 

Wayne a word from



The news these days is focused on the horrific events taking place in virtually every corner of the globe—terrorism, refugee issues, unrest, conflict. All tell the sad story of the cruelty and hopelessness of humanity.

In this issue of *Voice & Hands*, you'll read how Reach Beyond is working with partners worldwide to bring hope out of despair and the impact it is having on individual lives.



Wayne at Moody's studio in Chicago.

You'll also read about people who pour out their lives to make an eternal difference. During my recent visit to Ecuador, I met one of our unsung heroes, missionary Florence Judd. Her life-giving ministry has brought hope and healing to both young and old for more than two decades.

The name of this magazine is not just a title. *Voice and Hands* is a global strategy using media, healthcare and mentoring to change people's lives by sharing the love of Jesus through our message and actions.

As a friend of Reach Beyond, you know about our ministries around the world. Your support for these projects has been remarkable. Now your gifts to the *Voice and Hands Initiative* will have an even greater reach.

Your gift to this initiative makes all that happens through Reach Beyond possible, including highly sensitive ministry in Central Asia, the work of people like Florence, planting radio stations around the world and so much more.

Thank you for making the *Voice and Hands Initiative* a priority in your giving.

Serving Him together,

Wayne Pederson
President, Reach Beyond

WHAT IS +?

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

—Matthew 9:35

Jesus used His voice to proclaim the good news of the kingdom. He used His hands to bring healing to the sick and oppressed. Now He uses us to do the same.

Amazingly, there are still more than 2 billion people who have never heard the name of Jesus. The vast majority of these people live in places consumed by poverty, spiritual darkness, conflict and suffering.

That's not news to any of us. But as Christ-followers, we have the opportunity to change this by serving as His voice and hands.

At Reach Beyond, the *Voice and Hands Initiative* is a global effort to introduce people to the love of Jesus through media ministry and compassionate healthcare.

As His “voice,” we work with partners to plant radio stations and do media outreach in some of the least-reached parts of the world. As His “hands,” we travel from country to country, village to village, bringing hope and healing in Jesus’ name.

Nearing the end of another year, we invite you to join us in reaching out to the ends of the earth. Your gifts toward the goal of \$4.4 million will help establish radio stations, mobilize healthcare teams in unreached communities, support our missionaries and partners and ultimately provide a chance for people around the world to meet Jesus.

Please, join us today and be His “voice and hands.”

BURKINA FASO



WELL RADIO IN BURKINA FASO



Bie'youdofi Woulou, a young widow with a pair of toddlers, had good reason to be upset.

The filthy water supply in Dossi, a remote village in the West African country of Burkina Faso, was causing her children to get sick, and she feared for their future.

The water she counted on for drinking, cooking and bathing came from a shallow, open, hand-dug well. With no protection from bird droppings, dirty buckets or mischievous children, the water was always contaminated.

That all changed in June with the dedication of a drilled borehole, installed with the help of Reach Beyond's community development staff. Now Woulou draws water from a hand pump just 1,000 feet from her home, providing safe drinking water, free of the contamination that's inevitable in open wells.

"This well will help my children get over their sicknesses," she said.

Working with partner *Radio Évangile Développement* (Gospel Radio for Development or RED), Reach Beyond built upon past involvement in Dossi, helping establish a partner radio station in nearby Houndé and providing healthcare training. The station is one of eight in the RED network, founded in 1993, that makes gospel programming available in two-thirds of the country.

In November 2013 a Reach Beyond medical team spent several days in the community of 5,000, treating patients and

sharing truths from God's Word. A year later, the Sub-Saharan Africa community development team did training regarding water and hygiene for RED staff members as well as two community leaders.

At the dedication ceremony, several local pastors prayed over the well and the people who will use it. But this isn't the end of the story. Citing an African proverb, RED's executive director, Etienne Kiemdé, proclaimed, "If we help you wash your back, you must wash your own face."

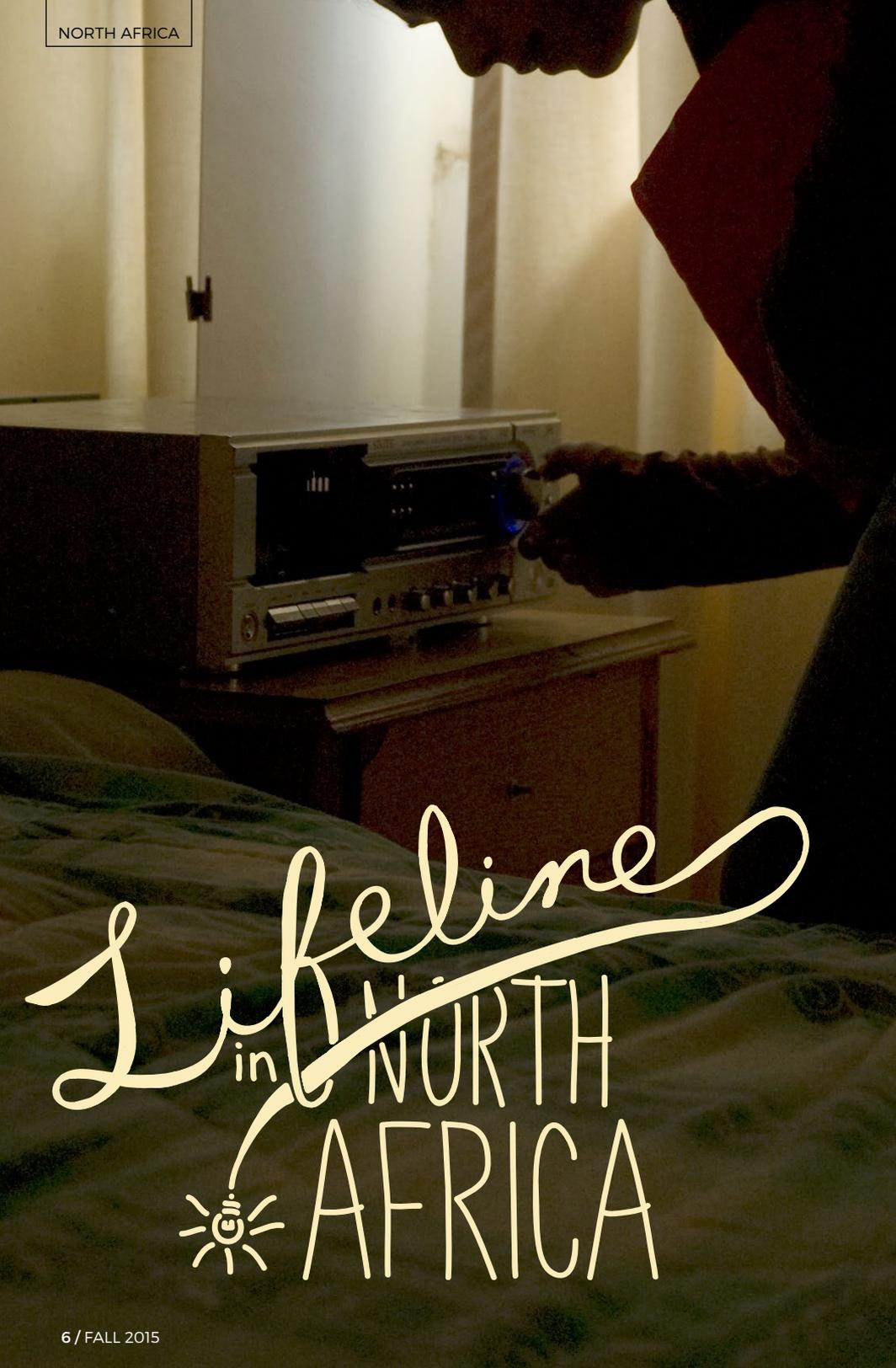
"My children get sick from time to time. This well will help them get over their sicknesses."

Caring for the well and improving residents' health is now in the hands of community members who have established a water and sanitation committee to spearhead these tasks. This committee plans to collect a small fee from users to ensure that funds are available for future repairs and maintenance.

While the new well puts a spotlight on people's physical health, it's also an opportunity to address their spiritual health. Residents have observed how RED and Reach Beyond care about their lives, and they've heard that it's out of love for Jesus Christ.

As they listen to the local RED outlet and interact with the staff, residents are hearing the gospel, motivating them to love others. ■

NORTH AFRICA

A person is seen from the side, adjusting a vintage stereo system on a wooden table. The room is dimly lit, with a warm glow from a window in the background. The person's hand is on a blue knob of the stereo. The overall mood is nostalgic and intimate.

Lifeline
in NORTH
AFRICA

For a family living in North Africa, Reach Beyond is a lifeline when it comes to growing in relationship with Christ.

“Recently we heard about a family of five—the parents and three children (two daughters and a son, all in their 20s)—who listen regularly to the programs,” explained the executive director of the North Africa/Middle East Region. “This is the only ‘church’ they know, and they don’t know of any other Christians in their area.”

In addition to listening to the programs, family members have been in conversation with staff from the regional office via social media. “These young people were driving the contact with us,” said the director. “They love the music.”

As a result, a relationship has developed, and one of Reach Beyond’s staff members recently arranged to travel to a town in the region to meet the two girls for the first time, overcoming numerous logistical and security challenges.

“When they had established a connection, there were several hours of sharing, teaching, tears and fellowship,” the director related. “Then the time came to say

goodbye, but that personal meeting was so rich and meaningful, and the relationship continues.”

Fellowship and discipleship are keys to any Christian’s spiritual growth, and being able to meet with new believers and discuss the difficult circumstances they’re facing is vital.

“This is the only ‘church’ they know, and they don’t know of any other Christians in their area.”

“These listeners were longing for a connection and fellowship,” the director added. “Pray for the young people in this family. They represent a larger need. They’re of marriageable age. But the options for Christians are very limited, and they’re under pressure by the culture to marry Muslims.”

All believers—especially young people—in the North Africa/Middle East Region face pressures from co-workers, family members or society in general to revert to Islam. Amid the challenges, opportunities are expanding to connect with listeners via media and even personal visits. For them, it’s a lifeline. 

Left: Listeners tune in to Christian broadcasts through various means throughout the North Africa/Middle East Region.

Right: Satellites dot an apartment complex in North Africa. Satellite radio is a popular way of listening to radio programs in this region.





“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” –John 8:36

In the remote islands of Indonesia, spiritism, witchdoctors and syncretistic religions are the norm. Blended versions of Islam and other animistic practices have deep roots in the cultures and communities of many of the people.

Aulia* was subject to this very kind of situation. One of Reach Beyond’s radio partners shared how she often feels the

oppression of evil spirits that cause her pain, torment and confusion. She didn’t understand why, nor did she know a way to get free.

But the good news for her and the millions of people in Indonesia is that the love of Jesus conquers even the deepest forms of spiritual darkness.

The partner’s radio pastor did two things. First, he presented Aulia and her son, Aditya*, with a SonSet® radio—a tiny solar-powered set that she could take



blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”

When someone seeks a witchdoctor, it's often out of fear, wanting to appease the spirits of their ancestors. When Aulia heard that she could be redeemed from those practices by the blood of Jesus, she turned to Christ.

“By providing ‘God spots,’ the radio station does what no human missionary can do.”

This is only the beginning of Aulia's journey. She still struggles with physical and spiritual issues. But because of the messages of hope she hears on her new fixed-tuned radio and from her friends, she is starting to understand that the greatest power in her life is Jesus—the power of love to break every chain.

Aulia is in the middle of a spiritual battle. She believes that Jesus can set her free, but in her life, belief is a process, not an event. As she draws closer to Christ, the chains will be broken and the darkness shattered. In the meantime, your prayers will help her in the journey. 

**Names changed for security reasons.*

with her anywhere to listen to the local community radio station. By providing “God spots” interspersed throughout the 24-hour-a-day programming, the radio does what no human missionary can do.

Second, he visited her family when he could. The pastor was able to share a Scripture that opened Aulia's heart to real freedom in Christ: “For you know it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious



Above: A group of Indonesian men gathers to look at recently distributed radios.

Top Left: An Indonesian woman in her village home.

When someone turns to Christ in Central Asia—a region dominated by Islam where less than 0.4 percent of the population is evangelical—the consequences can be dire. Being ostracized by your family, for

example, losing your livelihood or even having your life threatened.

“It can mean being an outlaw in your own society,” said Hamid (not his actual name), one of Reach Beyond’s Central





**THE VOICE
OF JESUS
MULTIPLIED
IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Asian partners who produces programs for his radio ministry.

Much of the programming content is made to support believers in difficult situations such as this. A new series has been developed for young believers to “help them show their families Christ and Christianity are not bad, but good,” Hamid explained. Included in the lineup is a show that specifically addresses relationships and being displaced from one’s family.

He recounted the story of a young man who had lived a life addicted to drugs even though his family had done all they

could to treat him—doctors, clinics, therapy and even “magic” healers. Nothing changed.

But the man’s life was transformed when he heard about Christ and made a decision to follow the Lord. He’s been free of drugs ever since.

“At first his parents were extremely anti-Christian,” noted Hamid. “They thought he had joined a cult ... and they felt like he had betrayed his family, his faith and his ancestry.”

However, they couldn’t deny the dramatic change in his life since he was able to hold a job and live a normal life.

One day he called the local radio show for advice on how to deal with his family

problems, and a staff member replied, “Do not do aggressive evangelism in your family.... Show them how your life has changed, and show them that Christ is the Lord of mercy, the Lord of love and the Lord of blessing.”

“At first his parents were extremely anti-Christian... They felt like he had betrayed his family, his faith and his ancestry.”

The approach worked. “When he showed his parents how he had really changed, everything became good,” Hamid said.

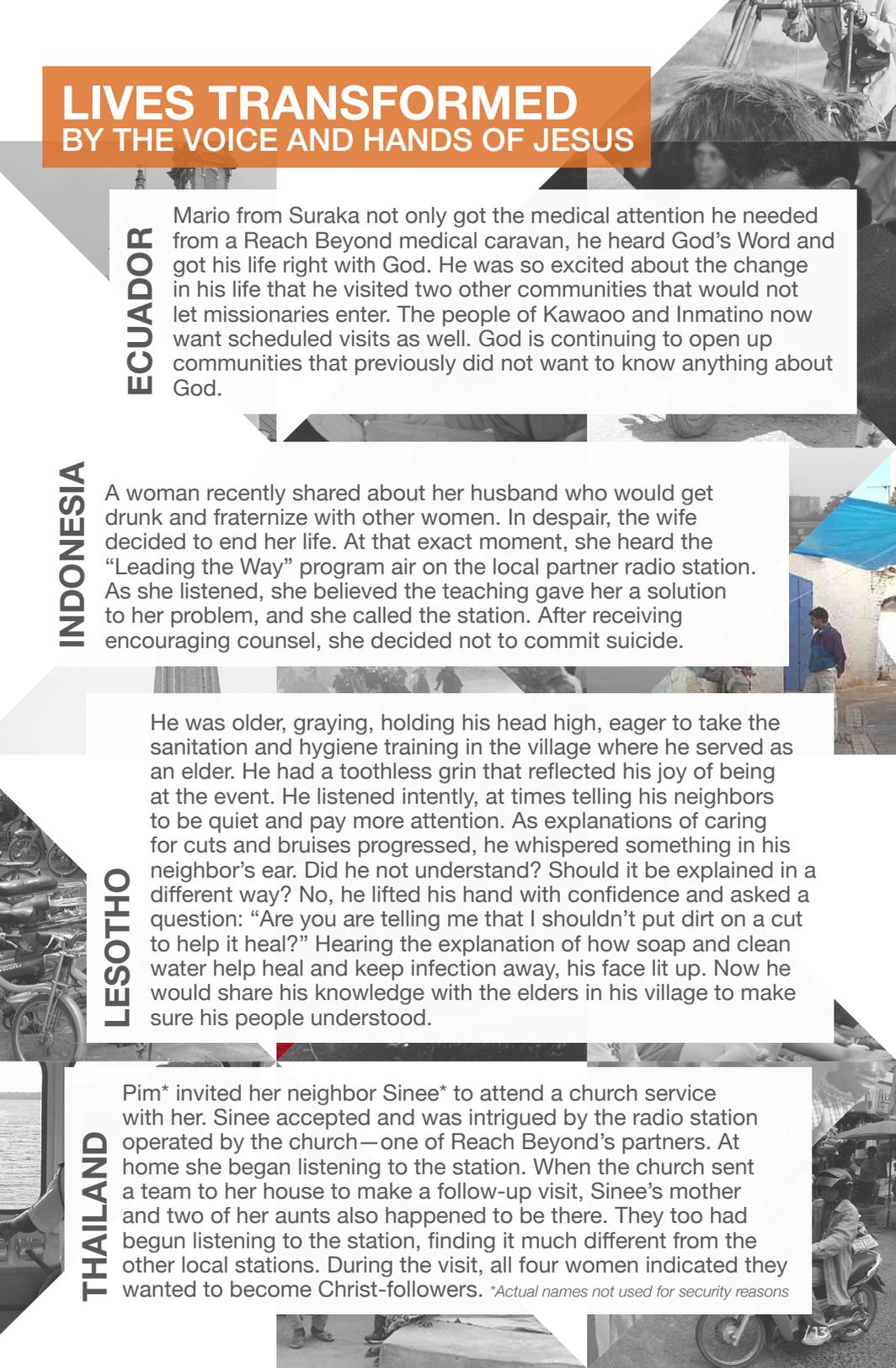
First his father—a man highly respected by governors and local authorities—became a believer. Then one by one the rest of his family members did the same.

Today his father is a faithful witness about the claims of Christ to his entire community, willing to risk everything for His Savior.

Reach Beyond is increasing its impact across Central Asia through its media and medical ministries. Radio programs continue to air from outside the region, broadcasting information of general interest along with a clear gospel message. Medical caravans have also been held in the area the last three years, the most recent in September 2015 when team members visited a remote area that they hadn’t been to before. 📌



LIVES TRANSFORMED BY THE VOICE AND HANDS OF JESUS



ECUADOR

Mario from Suraka not only got the medical attention he needed from a Reach Beyond medical caravan, he heard God's Word and got his life right with God. He was so excited about the change in his life that he visited two other communities that would not let missionaries enter. The people of Kawao and Inmatino now want scheduled visits as well. God is continuing to open up communities that previously did not want to know anything about God.

INDONESIA

A woman recently shared about her husband who would get drunk and fraternize with other women. In despair, the wife decided to end her life. At that exact moment, she heard the "Leading the Way" program air on the local partner radio station. As she listened, she believed the teaching gave her a solution to her problem, and she called the station. After receiving encouraging counsel, she decided not to commit suicide.

LESOTHO

He was older, graying, holding his head high, eager to take the sanitation and hygiene training in the village where he served as an elder. He had a toothless grin that reflected his joy of being at the event. He listened intently, at times telling his neighbors to be quiet and pay more attention. As explanations of caring for cuts and bruises progressed, he whispered something in his neighbor's ear. Did he not understand? Should it be explained in a different way? No, he lifted his hand with confidence and asked a question: "Are you are telling me that I shouldn't put dirt on a cut to help it heal?" Hearing the explanation of how soap and clean water help heal and keep infection away, his face lit up. Now he would share his knowledge with the elders in his village to make sure his people understood.

THAILAND

Pim* invited her neighbor Sinee* to attend a church service with her. Sinee accepted and was intrigued by the radio station operated by the church—one of Reach Beyond's partners. At home she began listening to the station. When the church sent a team to her house to make a follow-up visit, Sinee's mother and two of her aunts also happened to be there. They too had begun listening to the station, finding it much different from the other local stations. During the visit, all four women indicated they wanted to become Christ-followers. **Actual names not used for security reasons*



call at a

“My life was in ruins,” acknowledged Florence Judd, a community development nurse at Reach Beyond. Born in Wales, she left home at 17 and immigrated to Australia on her own at 21. That’s where she met her Russian husband, and they had three children. But when her children were still young, the marriage ended in divorce. She faced a life of despair—her dreams shattered.

When Florence was 35 someone shared “The Four Spiritual Laws” with her, and she gave her life to Jesus. “It was an

instant, dramatic conversion,” she said, adding that even then she sensed she’d be “working overseas for God” someday.

Five years later she began two years of Bible school in Sydney followed by a year at the Institute of Slavic Studies in Wheaton, Ill. She also took four years of nurses’ training in Sydney, graduating as a registered nurse in 1992.

“Nursing never would have entered my head in a million years, but it was impressed on me by God,” she shared. “It came to the



led age 53

point where I was so sure it was of God that I had to do something about it.”

At 53—an age when many are planning for retirement—Florencia began pursuing her missionary dream. She went to a presentation by former Russian radio hosts Wally and Natasha Kulakoff. “Natasha told me, ‘We need you in Ecuador. Call HCJB tomorrow and take it from there.’”

Florencia soon became a working visitor at Hospital Vozandes-Shell (known in Ecuador as *Hospital Vozandes del Oriente*

or HVO) before studying Spanish and returning as a full-time missionary in 1995.

She served in numerous areas at HVO until it closed at the end of 2013. Besides nursing, she worked in areas ranging from medical records to ophthalmology, but she most enjoyed working with jungle patients via medical caravans. This made for a smooth transition when she began working full-time in community development in 2014.

“Nursing never would have entered my head in a million years, but it was impressed on me by God.”

Now 76, Florence also continues to lead the mission’s cleft lip/palate program for children. But her greatest passion is seeing people come to Christ. She said it’s not unusual to come across former patients who found Christ at HVO and continue to follow the Lord.

Take Linda, for example. Twice she went to HVO seeking treatment for her sick child. Despite the staff’s best efforts, the baby died. Florence later happened upon Linda who had returned to live in her remote Shuar village. She then began visiting Linda in her home, often making the two-hour bus trip to the jungle community.

“At first Linda wasn’t interested in the gospel, and she said there was only one Christian (her brother-in-law) in her village,” Florence recounted. A few years later Florence organized a medical caravan to the village, and five people came to Christ. In time, Linda also gave her life to the Lord. Today the village has a thriving church, and Linda stays strong in her faith.

“I know firsthand how only the gospel of Jesus Christ saves now and forever,” Florence related. “He gives people life and purpose and makes them valuable members of society.”



Summer well spent

by Rachel Kunker,
2015 Reach Beyond Intern

This summer I spent 10 incredible weeks in Ecuador as an intern with Reach Beyond, helping the Shell-based community development staff with clean water projects.

While my major at Nyack College in New York is in intercultural studies, much of my work was related to engineering—everything from digging trenches to preparing a water tank, putting in solar panels and building a water tower. What I didn't realize was how these jobs would lead to building deep relationships with the Ecuadorian people.

During two of the weeks I lived in the remote Shuar village of Santa Rosa, spending a lot of time with the local women. The first day I met Fanny. She is the daughter of the community leader, Pedro, and his wife, Laura. They opened up her home to me—a *gringa* (white girl)—showing me hospitality and welcoming me to be a part of their life.

The next day as our group trudged through the jungle to help with the water project, it began to rain—a common occurrence in the region. During the downpour, I struck up a conversation with three sisters, Gladys, Loida and Margo, and learned all about their family.

After the rain stopped, Gladys showed me how to carry a heavy basket with a head strap and how to use a machete to cut *papachinas* (a type of potato) from the ground. With much laughter, she also demonstrated the steps involved in making *chicha* (a fermented beverage made from *yuca*) and showed how to plant *papachinas* and *yuca* (cassava).

Then she invited me and Jacque Zook (the only other female intern in our group) to walk to a nearby farm. She had questions about how the Bible instructs us to live, and I did my best to explain in my limited Spanish about my relationship with Christ. I explained how our actions are

a response to God's love, not a means of attaining salvation.

A highlight of my time in Santa Rosa was going fishing with Fanny and Loida. Together we chewed on *yuca*, the first step in preparing the bait. Then Fanny mixed in a powdered poison and threw the mixture into the river. Within minutes, dozens of tiny fish ranging in size from one to three inches floated to the surface as the poison took effect.

“Much of my work was related to engineering... What I didn't realize was how these jobs would lead to building deep relationships with the Ecuadorian people.”

Then they showed me how to gut and prepare the fish for that evening's *merienda* (dinner). What a joy it was to see the appreciation of the local people and guests from Reach Beyond as we served the fish we'd spent hours preparing, accompanied by *yuca* and *papachinas*.

Countless opportunities arose to better understand the local culture. To name a few, I learned how to do a Shuar dance, carry a bucket of *chicha* through the jungle and even make a popping noise with the leaf of a *yuca* plant. I also observed the beautiful supportive, submissive role of the women in Santa Rosa.

This summer I also saw the importance of relationships, spending time with the people whom God had placed in my life—missionaries in Shell, my fellow interns and women in the jungle. I learned the necessity of unplugging from everything to focus on the people around me. The women of Santa Rosa enabled me to see the beauty of intentional relationships, and that's something I know has changed me for the better. 📌

mission: mongolia accomplished



A total of 1.5 million Mongolians will have access to local Christian broadcasts, many for the first time, as the result of a campaign in July that combined the efforts of three organizations: Moody Radio, FEBC and Reach Beyond.

“The campaign to establish three new community stations in Mongolia was a clear, concise message that people could get on board with,” explained Ray Hashley, manager of Moody Radio’s north region. “Hitting the goal was great, but being able to surpass it and also fund the first year of broadcasts was very exciting.”

Hashley, together with co-worker Linda Yeager of Moody station WGNR in Indianapolis, Ind., joined Jon Fugler, Reach Beyond’s vice president of advancement, in Colorado Springs, Colo., for two days of live broadcasts Thursday-Friday, July 30-31. This culminated the month-long “Mission: Mongolia” campaign.

Hashley said it was “extremely helpful” to travel to Mongolia in early July to visit FEBC’s local station, Wind-FM, started with Reach Beyond’s help in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar in 2001. FEBC Mongolia has since added seven repeater stations.

“Giving live updates about the effectiveness of the existing stations made it a whole lot easier to tell about the impact that the three future stations will have,” Hashley noted. “And our listeners already know the benefits of Christian radio and realize how the Mongolia stations will impact listeners.”

“Now our Mongolian partner has the opportunity to expand and add more stations throughout Mongolia in an unreached portion of the world,” contributed Wayne Pederson, president of Reach Beyond. 📌



MAKE
EBOLA
KICK THE
BUCKET

PROJECT NEWS

HOPE
for HARMI

The “**Make Ebola Kick the Bucket**” campaign in Liberia and Sierra Leone was a “great success,” said Lee Sonius, executive director of the Sub-Saharan Africa Region. Thousands of people affected by Ebola—many who had been placed in quarantine—benefited from the outreach as they received food, soap, bleach, buckets and other supplies to help fight the disease. These were purchased through the gifts from donors to the campaign.

The outbreak in West Africa began in late 2013 and peaked early this year, sickening more than 28,000 people and killing over 11,000. Now these countries have been declared Ebola-free, although there have been reports of isolated cases in the region. “Please continue to pray that there will never be another Ebola outbreak like this again,” Sonius said.

As part of “**Hope for Harmi**,” Reach Beyond is gearing up to help with reconstruction projects in the remote village of Harmi, Nepal, following last

spring’s devastating earthquakes. Only two residents of the village were killed even though the temblor destroyed/damaged nearly every structure there except for the birthing center established with Reach Beyond’s help in 2013.

The partner community radio station in Harmi was also damaged but continues to broadcast from a temporary facility. Pray as Reach Beyond staff and volunteers work to fully restore this and three other partner radio stations in Nepal that need “serious help,” according to Ty Stakes, executive director of the Asia Pacific Region. They will also work to repair Harmi’s water system.

Two work teams are being organized now that the rainy season is over. One will be led by Nate Dell, coordinator of Reach Beyond’s short-term teams, the first two weeks in November. This will be followed by a team from Stakes’ home church in the U.S. “Pray as there are some concerns about political instability in the country and we are holding plans loosely,” Dell said. ▣

**“It’s exciting and fulfilling
to play a part in what you are
doing for His kingdom.”**



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