# PATH IOCIOY

A Newsletter for Friends and Supporters

Spring 2008

## Journey to Asia

# Witnessing PATH's mission in action

Fifteen-year-old Morgan Burdick is already a savvy world traveler. Now, after joining PATH for a trip to Asia, she can add global health witness to her list.

In January, the high school freshman from Mercer Island, Washington, spent two weeks at PATH project sites in Thailand and Cambodia on the inaugural PATH Journeys trip. With her mother, Mary Kay, a longtime PATH volunteer and supporter, Morgan saw up close how our work is touching communities, families, and even teenagers who share her concerns and hopes.

Like the rural community that now has access to clean water. Or the father who proudly displayed PATH vaccination cards to show that all of his children have been immunized. Or the high school students who, inside their open-air school, are learning about condom use and protection from HIV.

Morgan was familiar with PATH's mission before traveling to Asia, "but it's so different to actually see it," she says.

"There's nothing that can substitute actually visiting with the people about the projects and seeing how it impacts their lives," adds Mary Kay.

PATH staff joined Morgan, Mary Kay, and other travelers, guiding



PATH Journeys traveler Morgan Burdick greets children in Phnom Penh. The January tour took 12 supporters to Cambodia and Thailand for a firsthand look at PATH's work.

them through villages where PATH is making a difference. In Thailand, Morgan spoke with fellow teenagers who are learning about reproductive health through PATH's innovative Teenpath project. In Cambodia, Mary Kay met a woman who struggles to care for her son, disabled by Japanese encephalitis.

The travelers talked with migrant workers from Cambodia who left home to seek higher wages in Thailand—and heard about PATH programs that support the families left behind. They saw how Cambodian pharmacies are improving diagnosis and treatment for people with critical diseases with help from PATH. Many of these efforts have received support through crucial flexible funds from individual donors.

"The work that we saw is so fundamental to basic human health that it's somewhat shocking that it's not already been taken care of," says Mary Kay. "We saw vaccine programs that are dealing with diseases that should have been eradicated a long time ago. I'm thankful that the PATH staff are there, working and continuing to press on the health care system to get those vaccines implemented."

Continued inside

#### **Travel with PATH**

PATH Journeys offers you a chance to see your contributions in action. Read more about our donor travel program on page 2.

## **PATH Journeys:**

# Change your surroundings. Change the world.

Have you wondered how much impact your support to PATH can have? Are you curious about the people whose lives are changed by PATH and our partners?

PATH Journeys, our donor travel program, opens the door to a world where families and communities are helped every day by projects funded by people like you. Please join us!



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We are currently planning trips to Vietnam, India, and Kenya. Participants will visit the remote villages where PATH works—areas few tourists ever see—and talk one-on-one with local health experts and people who have been affected by our efforts.

Don't miss this chance to see our mission in action—and explore some of the world's most magical and mysterious places. We hope you'll travel with us. Change your surroundings—and change the world!

For more information, contact Aly Vander Stoep, senior donor relations manager, at avanderstoep@path.org or 206.788.2472.

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Morgan says witnessing people's essential needs in Asia brings her own life into perspective. It also helps her explain how saving a life can be as basic as teaching other young people about safe sex—giving people everywhere the tools to be healthy and witness the world for themselves. •



Clockwise from top: In Cambodia, a child receives vaccine from a community health worker; Mary Kay and Morgan Burdick; mother and child wait in immunization line.

Photos: Courtesy of Mary Kay and Morgan Burdick.

## New hope for mothers and newborns in India

The first few days of life should be joyful. But in the poorest regions in India, babies face overwhelming obstacles to survival. With help from our supporters, PATH is working to improve the odds for India's children.

In 2004, flexible funding from individual donors helped us strengthen our India program, hiring expert leadership to support key new initiatives—among them, Sure Start. Through Sure Start, PATH is helping communities protect newborns and their mothers through simple, effective measures: guiding pregnant women to necessary health services, helping new mothers learn to care for their babies.

Sure Start will reach more than a million mothers and children in the coming years. And your support is helping to make it possible. •

# Thank you to the sponsors of our 2008 Breakfast for Global Health

Each year, PATH welcomes our supporters to the Breakfast for Global Health, an annual fundraising event that fuels our most innovative work. Guests join us in the transformed parking garage of our Seattle headquarters for breakfast and a brief presentation from the field—this year, from India, where the Sure Start project brings better health to mothers and babies.

We are grateful to the generous sponsors listed below, who, by underwriting the event, will make it possible to send every dollar raised directly to the Catalyst Fund.



#### Lead sponsor









# Event sponsors **Bank of America**









## Additional support provided by:

Children's Hospital & Regional Medical Center, ExOfficio, Insect Shield, Symetra Financial, and TEMPTIME Corporation—among the many who made this event possible.

## Charity Navigator awards PATH four stars—again!

PATH recently received the highest possible rating for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator for the fourth consecutive year. Only 5 percent of the organizations rated by the nation's premier charity evaluator have received at least four consecutive four-star ratings, indicating PATH's commitment to fiscally sound operations and management. You can access the evaluation at www.charitynavigator.org.

## Thank you for meeting the challenge

Your gifts during the recent Gates Partnership Challenge added \$400,000 to the Catalyst Fund, our best resource for groundbreaking new work. Only with your help can we continue to respond effectively to urgent global health needs—AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis; unnecessary deaths among mothers and babies in poor countries; inequities that make women the most vulnerable among us. Thank you, again, for your support. •

is to improve
the health of people
around the world by
advancing technologies,
strengthening systems,
and encouraging
healthy behaviors.



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#### Sign up for Bridging the Gap

To receive regular updates on PATH's projects, the impact of your support, and the latest and best ideas in global health, send an email request to development@path.org.

#### Contact us

For additional information about upcoming lectures, special events, or the Breakfast for Global Health, contact events@path.org. Contact Jan Jacobs, director of donor relations, with questions about giving opportunities or other feedback, at jajacobs@path.org or 206.788.2492.

## Making a Difference

# Add your voice to help women

Every woman deserves to be protected from disease and violence. PATH is supporting initiatives that will do just that.

#### Stopping cervical cancer

PATH and our partners believe new technologies for preventing and treating



cervical cancer should be available to all women and girls, without delay. That's why we're co-sponsoring the Global Call to Stop Cervical Cancer, together with a coalition of civil society and global health organizations. The Call is mobilizing action to put an end to cervical cancer, which unnecessarily kills more than 250,000 women each year, mostly in poor countries.

PATH is working on affordable new tests, effective screening, and strategies to expand access to cervical cancer vaccines in the developing world. Join us—add your voice to the Global Call to Stop Cervical Cancer at www.cervicalcanceraction.org.

## Preventing gender-based violence

Violence against women and girls is widespread and demands a public

health response, according to a 2005 study co-authored by PATH, the World Health Organization, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. PATH is proud to support the International Violence Against Women Act, which builds on the evidence presented in this groundbreaking study three years ago.

This bill, now in the US Senate, would integrate violence-prevention activities into US foreign assistance programs and work toward alleviating this international problem. This legislation was spearheaded by the Family Violence Prevention Fund, the Women's Edge Coalition, and Amnesty International USA. Senators Joseph Biden (D-DE) and Richard Lugar (R-IN) introduced the act into the Senate in October. Add your support by calling your own senators today (check www.senate.gov for contact information).

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