

Final Report  
Burma Humanitarian Mission for Dining For Women

Project: [Field 12 Backpack Medic Teams](#)

Grant Amount: [\\$47,276 \(Over 2 years\)](#)

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Designed Project Outcomes:

This DFW-BHM partnership provided support to field and sustain for a two-year period 12 women backpack medic teams, allowing them to treat women and young girls living in Burma's conflict zones.

What was accomplished? (Address stated objectives):

With DFW, we successfully trained and supplied 12 all-women backpack medic teams in Burma's conflict zones. Fifty-one women comprised the 12 teams and supported a population of over 31,000 women and girls – 20% larger than anticipated. The backpack teams and women & girls they supported lived in Burma's conflict zones – in isolated villagers and internally displaced person camps where no options for health and medical care existed except for what the Backpack Medics brought. The United Nation's has labeled the violence inflicted by the Burma army onto these people as a "war crime" and "crimes against humanity".

The 12 backpack medic teams saved lives! Over the course of two years,

- The teams supported 860 births on average each year. Without the medics' presence, 116 newborns would not have been expected to survive their first month each year. In actuality – only 1 newborn died in the first month – still a tragedy; yet 115 other babies lived!
- Likewise, among the 31,560 women and girls supported by the teams, the historical malaria morbidity rate would have predicted that 7,748 females would be stricken with malaria. In reality, only 758 contracted malaria. 6,990 women and young girls were spared from malaria!

Has the number of beneficiaries changed? (Direct and indirect)

Yes, with the DFW support, the all-women medic teams supported a larger women/girl population and treated more female patients/year.

- Planned Population per year: 26,644
- Actual Population per year: 30,647
- Planned Patients per year: 11,832

- Actual Patients per year: 15,571

**What challenges did we face and how did we overcome them?**

The medic teams faced multiple challenges. First, the Burma army's violence has intensified against the country's ethnic minorities. In the summer of 2017, the world witnessed the violent onslaught against the Rohingya in western Burma. Over 11,000 people were murdered, and 700,000 people were displaced during a period of a few weeks. Meanwhile, in northern Burma, the Burma army continued assaults against the Kachin, Shan, Pa'laung and other minority groups. A number six of the DFW-funded teams operated in this area.

In fact, in January 2018, a Burmese fighter jet bombed a village in Kachin State, killing a DFW-supported Backpack Medic – Maran Seng Ra.

To overcome the Burma army's violence, we must remain committed to support the courageous and selfless backpack medics. Responding to violence with compassion and resolve is the best ethical way to assist those who marginalized by the world and have no hope other than our determination to never leave them.

A second obstacle is the distance and isolation where the women and girls live whom the backpack medics support. Many live in internally displaced person (IDP) camps because they are at risk of physical harm and rape from the Burma army if they remain in their villages. Each of the ethnic groups has their own language and culture – which creates barriers to Western-style relief efforts, such as Doctors without Borders, UNICEF, the Red Cross and similar well-intentioned, compassionate organizations.

To counter this obstacle, BHM partners with Backpack Health Worker Teams. With them, we recruit women from among the ethnic groups they will serve, providing training and outfitting them with medicine. Drawn from the populations they serve, these women know the language and culture, as well as the locations of isolated villages and IDP camps.

**Is the organization or project's situation different than what was presented?**

No. The Burma army's violence and oppression continue, far removed from the world's media spotlight. Hundreds of thousands of women and girls remain living in IDP camps or isolated villages without access to medical care.

**What were the most important lessons learned?**

The most important lesson learned has been to accentuate the role and value of women-led organizations. This is especially salient among a population where women have little education, training and leadership opportunities. By creating a modest training opportunity with follow-on service to their communities, we recognized the tremendous potential for

women's inherent skill, talent, commitment, compassion and leadership to bring positive and life-sustaining/life-saving changes to their community.

What has changed within your organization as a result of this project?

We have reinforced and heightened our advocacy on the positive role women can and do play as positive change agents for their communities. Their natural passion to help others and compassion for the underserved, weak and sick, as well as their leadership and determination empowers them to be the positive influence for peace and healing in the face of violence, cruelty and hardship.

Describe the unexpected events and outcomes to include unexpected benefits?

We have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of tremendously heart-felt and emotional support from the local DFW chapters we engaged with and with whom we shared the stories of the female backpack medics and people they serve!

Did we change our strategy as a result of obstacles? How will we address these obstacles in the future?

Perhaps the most significant change in face of the obstacles has been to articulate fuller the value of women-led organizations and to reach out to similarly minded women-centric organizations. In this manner, we invite them to partner with us to showcase and unleash the talent of women as positive change agents.

Approximately how many lives have been touched (directly and indirectly) by this project?

Our goal was to support 26,664 women and girls and treat 11,832 women and girls per year.

In reality, DFW-supported backpack medic teams:

- Supported a population of 30,647 women and girls per year
- Treated 15,571 women and girls per year (31,141 total over 2 years).

What are the measurements used to monitor success and how was this information obtained?

To monitor success, we visit the Backpack medics when they come to Mae Sot, Thailand for their semi-annual review and training – in February and August of each year. Mae Sot is a safe haven, removed from the violence in Burma's conflict zones. While meeting with the medics, we review team performance metrics, such as the number of patients, types of illnesses/injuries treated, medicines used, outputs and outcomes, lessons learned, future requirements and adjustments, etc.

In addition to this quantitative review of medics' performance, we have a series of conversations with the medics – learning about who they are, why they serve and some of the more challenging patients treated. Annex A to this report captures a few of the salient medic stories from the past 2 years. DFW's grant supported each of these female medics as they served their communities.

If the project is on-going, provide plans and expected results plus timelines.

Yes, our support for Backpack Medic teams continues. We are actively looking for additional funds to allow us to support additional backpack medics teams as the need for mobile health care increases. We have the personnel and supplies to support 10 additional female teams, once we secure funding.

Provide a detailed list of all expenses incurred which have been paid for by DFW grant.

Summary of expenses:

Cost 1 team	6 months	1 year	2 year
Medicine	\$714	\$1,428	\$2,856
Supply	\$131	\$262	\$524
Transportation	\$167	\$334	\$668
<b>Total 1 team cost</b>	<b>\$1,012</b>	<b>\$2,024</b>	<b>\$4,048</b>
Number of teams	12	12	12
<b>Total Costs 12 teams</b>	<b>\$12,144</b>	<b>\$24,288</b>	<b>\$48,576</b>

Note: BHM made up the difference between the \$47,267 grant and actual expenses of \$48,576.

Detailed Description of 6 months of support for 1 team: Medicine & Medical Supply items

Wara Zup Back Pack Team (Kachin Field Area)				
General Medicine for 6 months				
No	DESCRIPTION	PACKING	QTY	US \$
A.General Medicine Oral Group				
1	Aluminium Hydroxide 500 mg	Tab	2,000	\$11
2	Aspirin 300 mg	Tab	1,000	\$7
3	Atropine	Tab	50	\$0
4	Albendazole 200 mg	Tab	300	\$15
5	Amoxicillin 250 mg	Cap	3,000	\$80
6	Atenolol 1tab/dose	Tab	100	\$2
7	B1 100 mg	Tab	1,000	\$10
8	B1 10 mg	Tab	2,000	\$8
9	Ciprofloxacin 250 mg	Cap	500	\$20
10	Chlorpheniramine 4 mg	Tab	1,000	\$1
11	Co-trimoxazole 400/80 mg	Tab	1,000	\$13
12	Cloxacillin 250mg	cap	1,000	\$23
13	Ceftriaxone Vial/IV	Vial	20	\$28
14	Cimetidine 200 mg	Tab	1,000	\$8
15	Doxycycline 250 mg	Cap	500	\$10
16	Diazepam 5 mg	Tab	200	\$8
17	Erthomycine 250mg	Tab	500	\$28
18	Enalarpril 1tab/dose	Tab	100	\$3
19	Folic Acid 5 mg	tab	2,000	\$13
20	Folic C 500tab/bot	Tab	3,000	\$25
21	Hydrochlorotharazide 1tab/dose	Tab	200	\$1
22	Ibuprofen	Tab	1,000	\$8
23	Lasix 40 mg	Tab	50	\$1
24	Metoclopramide 10 mg	tab	100	\$1
25	Metronidazole 250 mg	Tab	1,000	\$8
26	Omephrazole	Cap	400	\$66
27	ORS	Packing	150	\$20
28	Paracetamol 500 mg	tab	4,000	\$22
29	Penicillin-V 250 mg	Tab	1,000	\$23
30	Prednisolone 5 mg	Tab	100	\$1
31	Salbutamol 100 mg	Tab	100	\$1
32	Vitamne C	Tab	1,000	\$4
33	Vitamin A (25000 IU.)	Caps	1,000	\$15
34	Zinc 20mg	Tab	200	\$6
35	Amoxicillin svrup	bots	60	\$24

General Medicine Injection Group				
37	Acetamenophen 2 ml	Amp	10	\$0
38	Adrenaline 1 ml	Amp	10	\$0
39	Ampicillin 1 g	Vial	50	\$20
40	Atropine 1 ml	Amp	10	\$1
41	B1 100 mg	Amp	20	\$1
42	Chlorpheniramine 1 cc	Amp	10	\$1
43	Diazepam 5 mg	Amp	10	\$9
44	Dexamethasone 1 ml	Amp	10	\$1
45	D5W (with infusion set) 500 ml	Bot	40	\$61
46	Gentamycin 2 ml 80 mg.	Amp	30	\$3
47	Glucose 20 ml. 50 %	Amp	20	\$5
48	Ringer Lactic 500ml (with Influid Set	Bot	40	\$70
49	Lasix 1 ml	Amp	10	\$1
50	Metoclopramide 10 mg	Amp	10	\$1
51	Oxytocine 10 unit	Amp	10	\$6
52	Tramadol	Amp	10	\$4
			Total	300
\$184				
Medical Supplies				
53	Cotri moxazone cream 20g	tub	15	\$10
54	Xylocain 2% 50 ml (Without Adrenali	Vial	1	\$1
55	Alcohol 450 ml	Bot	2	\$2
56	Butterfly needle 24 G	Set	10	\$2
57	Benzoil Benzoate Emulsion 450 ml	Bot	1	\$2
58	Cannula 24G	Set	10	\$5
59	Cannula 18 G	Set	2	\$1
60	Cotton woll roll 400gms	Roll	2	\$3
61	Chlorine powder	Pkt	1	\$3
62	Disposable Needle 23G	Pcs	120	\$2
63	Disposable Needle 24G	Pcs	120	\$2
64	Disposable syringe 3 ml	Pcs	100	\$5
65	Disposable syringe 5 ml	Pcs	50	\$3
66	Disposable syringe 10ml	Pcs	24	\$2
67	Disposable syringe 20 ml	Pcs	12	\$2
68	Elastic bandage 4" x 5 y roll	Roll	10	\$6
69	Examination glove Medium size	Box	2	\$8
70	Gauze 12" x 100 yds	Roll	3	\$23
71	Gentian violent 450 ml	Bot	1	\$3
72	Mask	Pcs	50	\$2
73	Plaster 1/2" x 5 yds (cotton type)	Roll	15	\$6

Did this grant and partnership with DFW assist you in gaining other funds, partnerships or public recognition?

It has not; however, we have been inspired by the compassion and kindness of DFW members who have expressed and shared their support for what we do.