The History of Outreach, Inc.

The Four Promises

Floyd Hammer wanted to enjoy retirement and sail the world with his wife, Kathy, then a friend invited them to go to Tanzania to remodel an old leprosy hospital and build an AIDS hospice. Since Floyd owned a construction company, among many other successful businesses, he was a perfect fit.

In 2003, Floyd and Kathy made their first trip to Tanzania to the remote Nkungi village in the Singida Region. Once there, Floyd and Kathy were shocked at the desperation and hunger. In 2004 when they saw the 5th little child die, Kathy cried to Floyd, “We have to do something; we can’t allow these children to die like this!”

Floyd purchased truckloads of maize (corn), and the people in the village were told that they could barter for the grain. Although Floyd and Kathy knew the villagers had almost nothing with which to trade, Floyd needed simple things people could easily get: sand and aggregate for the construction project, and charcoal for cooking.

Floyd and Kathy were stunned the next morning when they saw hundreds of women carrying beautiful hand-woven grass baskets. One by one, they traded baskets for maize. Since then, Outreach has purchased over 50,000 baskets!

Kathy asked the leaders and elders of each village in the ward what they needed most. They all said they needed four things: safe water, food, medical care, and education. These four needs have become the promises of Outreach.

Floyd and Kathy were invited to the White House to receive the 5,000th Daily Point of Light Award presented by Presidents Barack Obama and George H.W. Bush. Floyd and Kathy have also been inducted into the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame.

Outreach received the Global Empowerment Award by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Artist and Athletes Committee in 2013. Outreach has also received Charity Navigators Four Star rating for three consecutive years, and a GuideStar Silver Participant rating. Outreach is also a proud member of the Alliance to End Hunger and a partner to Universities Fighting World Hunger.

Floyd and Kathy didn’t retire; they repurposed.
The mission of Outreach is to provide safe water, food, medical care and education to children and those in need, both at home and abroad.

The Promise of Safe Water
- Water filtration units
  - Village scale: 10,000 liters per day
  - Individual point of use
- Drill and repair bore hole wells
- Chlorine generator
- Ultraviolet sterilization unit
- Solar powered components

The Promise of Food
- Engage businesses, schools, civic, and religious organizations
- Involve volunteers in meal-packaging events
- Meals designed in conjunction with Iowa State University’s Food Science Department
  - Rice and Bean Meal*
  - Macaroni and Cheese Meal*
  - International Meal
*Patent pending

The Promise of Medical Care
- 18 pediatric medical missions to Tanzania since 2004
- Over 1,200 volunteers have joined Outreach medical mission teams
- Assisting in developing the 1,000 bed Singida Regional Referral Hospital
- Port-a-Doc unit that treats 800-1,200 patients each month

The Promise of Education
- Gunda Secondary School and Tanzania children’s centers
  - Lunch daily during the school year
  - School uniforms and safe playground
  - After-school tutoring program
  - Library and computer lab
  - Singida and Manyoni Children’s Centers - capacity to provide for over 1,900 school children a day
- Shallom Farm
  - 8,000 acre research-based demonstration farm for livestock and agricultural business development
  - Long term goal - transfer modern farming practices to small

Over 260 million meals packaged since 2004!

Outreach, Inc.
301 Center Street • Union, IA 50258
Phone: 641-486-2550
7401 South Hwy 69 • Des Moines, IA 50320
Fax: 641-486-2570
www.outreachprogram.org • office@outreachprogram.org