

# LIMM LINK

Linking Health Professionals with Mission Needs



## LIMM Consults with Lutheran Hour Ministries in Vietnam

**B**obbie Lautenschlager, CEO of Lutherans in Medical Missions, assessed the feasibility of LHM health care volunteer teams to assist in health care delivery in Tra On District in the Mekong Delta. Lautenschlager noted that Vietnam is rushing into the modern world. Water and electricity seem to be available throughout the delta area, yet poverty still causes the marginalization of some people, especially children, that prevents utilization of the health care system. Lutheran Hour Ministries staff based in Ho Chi Minh City are supporting children with supplemental feeding of milk in six kindergartens in the Tra On District to support their nutritional status. A positive meeting con-

ducted with the local People's Committee suggested future opportunities for friendship projects that would involve volunteer health care professionals.



John Lautenschlager, M.D. and Bobbie Lautenschlager, CEO of LIMM meet with the People's Committee of Tra On District accompanied by Lutheran Hour Ministries staff, Doan Thanh Truc (extreme left).

## Lautenschlagers visit National Institute of Nutrition in Hanoi

**T**he NIN, the result of recommendations of LIMM's 1995 research team of Apryl Brand, R. N. and Ruth Goehle, M. D., continues to function as an active LCMS World Mission project in Vietnam. John Lautenschlager, M. D. states, "Dr. Tu Ngu impressed me with his knowledge, compassion, and enthusiasm as he works with the LCMS World Mission team which is an integral part of Vietnam's government public health program." Dr. Ngu has served as director of the project for over 10 years.

## LIMM Supports Two Cambodian Public Health Students

**L**IMM is funding an additional month of training for two Cambodian students finishing studies for a Master of Public Health degree at the National Institute of Nutrition in Hanoi, Vietnam. "We met with Lima, one of the students, and was quite impressed with this fine young man and his vision for work in Cambodia. He will be a key contact for LCMS missionaries working in Cambodia to improve health in communities where there are Lutheran congregations," reports Lautenschlager.

Bobbie Lautenschlager will attend the Partners Consultation for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sudan in December. Board member Carli Zygowicz volunteers in Kyrgyzstan in October.

## Thrivent GivingPlus™

LIMM needs your financial support for all projects. Your gifts can now be more valuable when using Thrivent Financial GivingPlus forms to obtain supplemental gifts when you donate to LIMM. Donors 16 years and older who are Thrivent members are invited to photocopy and enclose a completed form *with each donation to LIMM*. A form is enclosed in the Fall mailing. The PDF form can also be downloaded at the LIMM website.

Donations now possible online at:  
[www.limm.org](http://www.limm.org)

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For more mission opportunities, see the LIMM web page at:  
[www.limm.org](http://www.limm.org)

## Fourth Annual LIMM Forum March 7 - 8, 2008

*Focus on Disasters and Crises*

The Fourth Annual LIMM Forum will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, MO. Rev. Glenn Merritt, Director of Disaster Response of LCMS World Relief and Human Care, will act as chaplain for the two day event. Rev. Keith Kohlmeier, Kansas District President, will

moderate a panel of volunteers and mission leaders that will discuss the issues involved. The world-wide problem of malaria will be addressed by David Wesche, M.D., PhD and by Lisa Bonds, PhD of Lutheran World Relief's Malaria Initiative. Plan to attend this stimulating weekend.

## LIMM Board of Directors Support the Training of Community Health Educators

The training of CHEs in LCMS World Mission Fields will be a new focus for LIMM projects. Rev. Ron Rall, a member of the Board and Pastor at Timothy Lutheran Church in St. Louis, MO states, "This focus allows LIMM to get the most bang for its buck, supports people in the communities served by Lutheran Congregations, and allows for close coordination with field missionaries." Initial pilot projects funded by LIMM include support of CHE training in Kyrgyzstan and Cambodia in the last quarter of 2007. Funding includes travel, food, and accommodations for CHEs to attend the training courses. Betty Roon, R. N. will be LIMM's partner on the Kyrgyzstan training team. As a former MOST

Ministries team leader, Betty has had hands-on experiences in many countries of the world. Former African LCMS medical missionary John Lautenschlager, M.D. and current medical missionary to Kyrgyzstan Rita Nickel, R. N. have received special grants from LCMS World Mission sources to travel to Cambodia to assist in CHE training events.



## Lutheran World Relief Plans Malaria Initiative

Bobbie Lautenschlager, LIMM CEO, traveled to Baltimore, MD to be briefed by LWR Director Rev. John Nunes and other key staff members regarding plans for a Lutheran response to the world-wide malaria crisis that kills millions each year.

LIMM is committed to partner with LWR in their vision to raise resources and awareness of the Malaria problem and invest those resources in proven strategies to contain malaria, reduce poverty, and reduce deaths.