

**NEWSLETTER**  
**VOLUME 34 NUMBER 1**  
**SPRING/SUMMER 2026**

**SUPPORT**  
**GLOBAL LINKS**



Donate Money



Donate Materials



Volunteer



Tour/Visit



Partner/Sponsor



#4319

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Check GlobalLinks.org  
& social media for updates!**

**June 2 Come Connect:  
A Benefit Dinner at  
Alta Via Pizzeria**

**June 4 & June 10 Community  
Partners Program  
presentation: Bigger, Better,  
Expanded**

**June 18 Golf Outing Fundraiser**

All photo credits Global Links unless otherwise noted.

The Pregnant Women Clubs (Mom-to-Be Clubs) serve as supportive spaces where expectant mothers receive essential information, guidance, and encouragement throughout their pregnancy.



**MEDICAL AID PROGRAMS**

## Together, Expanding Access to Care in Honduras and Beyond

During a time when many global health programs have had to decrease services or close, Global Links was able to benefit more patients with our international aid. We supported 74 health institutions and networks last year, many of them larger regional ones, covering broader geographic areas and denser populations, especially in Honduras.

In Honduras, strengthening primary care services has been the public health goal that our recent projects have supported. For example, Global Links provided supplies to a Primary Health Care Center in the Atlántida region

in Honduras, benefiting over 500,000 people annually. The medical materials we provided are strengthening primary care services, the maternal-infant program, teen services, and the tuberculosis care program. Healthcare workers can improve existing services and offer new ones using materials provided by Global Links, ensuring better care for residents.

Feedback is very positive for the Global Links staff, volunteers, and supporters who make the projects possible. Dr. Candida Maria Cruz Diaz shared in a video, *"I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone*

involved from Global Links and all the individuals who make such important contributions that allow us to receive these donations. These donations have not only benefited pregnant women, but the entire healthcare system. They have improved the work environment for professionals, created a better environment for patients in every health facility, and benefited the entire population served by our health centers.”

In many regions of Honduras, there is a great need for primary care equipment. Dr. Ana Paris explained to Angela J. Garcia, our Executive Director, when she visited, that the blood pressure cuff and stethoscope she showed her “...got damaged from so much use, because they are used from Monday to Sunday from 7 [am] to 7 [pm].” Dr. Ana Paris went on to explain how they see 150 patients a day, but only have one oto-ophthalmoscope for the entire health center. Additionally, their center’s nebulizers for respiratory medications burn out from overuse. “We have four [nebulizers], but they spend all day very busy... and we can’t keep up. We have to wait...they get damaged by overuse.”

The doctor continued to explain how bedding and linens are also needed for treatment wards, and she showed Angela, “This is where we put the little patients with dengue right now and hydrate them.” Honduras

has been grappling with a significant dengue outbreak in recent years. The epidemic is largely driven by the spread of the Aedes mosquito and is exacerbated by heavy rains and poor sanitation, leading to increased public health concerns and pressure on the healthcare system. Patients have symptoms like high fever, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, joint and muscle pain, rash, and mild bleeding. Severe cases can be life-threatening without prompt medical attention.

In another project last fall, Angela joined a medical brigade of second-year medical students from Duquesne University’s College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pittsburgh, introducing them to our healthcare partners in Roatán, Honduras. After providing care to Hondurans alongside the team, she shared, “As a student... I participated in an international service trip at a refugee camp in rural Mexico and was assigned to help the pharmacy and medical clinic... It was a full circle moment, almost 30 years later, but it reinvigorated my passion for working IN and WITH community, building partnerships and addressing basic needs. I am forever grateful for that first experience that introduced me to public health and international development! Service learning matters!” ●



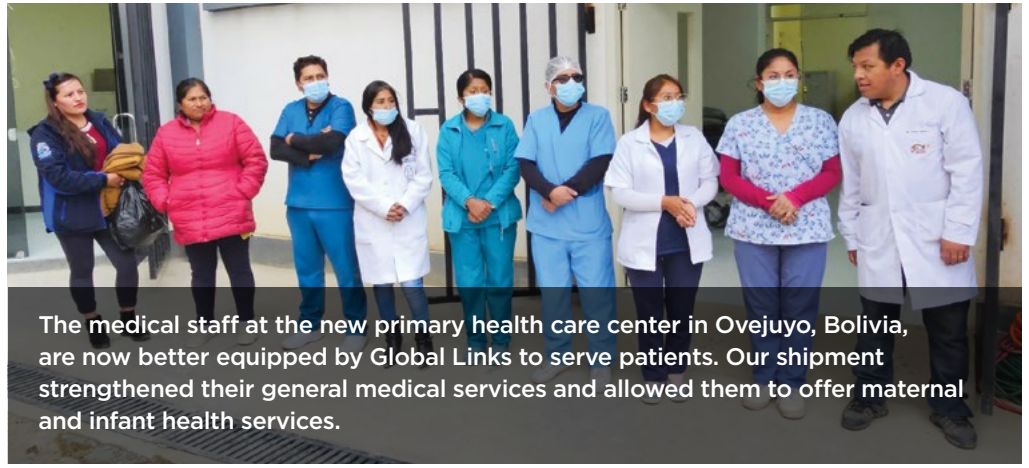
Global Links provided donations to the Duquesne University School of Nursing and School of Pharmacy to hand carry to a health clinic in Roatán, Honduras



Older adults participate in “dance therapy” to mitigate memory loss at the “Brain Gym” in Matanzas, Cuba, Pittsburgh’s Sister City, where supplies were hand-delivered via our Global Medical Partnership Program. Global Links is one of a handful of nonprofit organizations licensed by the US government to deliver humanitarian aid to the island nation.



Supplies from Global Links right after arrival at a facility in Honduras. Volunteers, do you see a box you helped to pack?



The medical staff at the new primary health care center in Ovejuyo, Bolivia, are now better equipped by Global Links to serve patients. Our shipment strengthened their general medical services and allowed them to offer maternal and infant health services.

## Community Health in Action: Expanding Access Where It Matters Most

Wendy, who was visiting from Matanzas, Cuba, shared that when she was suffering from hemorrhagic dengue fever, she was only able to recover because of donations from Global Links that had arrived just days before she fell gravely ill. *“A nurse told me that three or four days ago they had no supplies at all, but the supplies from Global Links [were] just received...Thanks to the resources you sent to Cuba, I was treated, and that’s why I am here with you today...”*

Since our last newsletter, there has been a significant increase in demand for Global Links’ local Community Partner Programs, shaped by shifts in federal policies that affected both our community partner organizations and the people we all serve. Because of supporters like you, Global Links continues uninterrupted services despite the challenges, ensuring timely support for community partner organizations

that rely on us. We are currently expanding our services to support the health of our local neighbors through initiatives in **basic needs, healthy aging, respiratory health, maternal and infant health, and community health**. We’ll highlight two of these programs in this issue.

The **Basic Needs/Personal Care Kit project** serves low-income neighbors living in many areas of Western PA, reaching over forty zip codes. Our project aims to improve the health and dignity of low-income neighbors who qualify for SNAP benefits/food assistance. Our partner organizations consistently report that Personal Care Kits allow families to redirect limited resources toward food, medication, and rent. Beyond meeting a basic community health need, the program supports health, dignity, employability, and self-confidence, helping individuals and families feel valued and cared for during times of hardship. ●



International program consultant Karina Zelaya (front left) touring the primary health care center in Ovejuyo, Bolivia. Global Links equipped patient examination rooms, delivery rooms, and the imaging department. The nearest women’s hospital is two hours away, but women there now have access to essential prenatal care close to home.



**PACK  
PERSONAL  
CARE KITS**

South Hills Interfaith Movement shared, *“The Personal Care Kit program has been highly valuable for our organization and the families we serve through our food pantries. Personal care items are one of the most desired items that we distribute, and usually, we can only source enough to offer 1 full-size item to families at each pantry distribution. Families are thrilled when we have the kits with multiple full-size toiletry items, and our volunteers love being able to be so generous on those days.”* - Molly Penderville, Basic Needs Director.

Through **Breathe Hope**, Global Links works alongside free and charitable clinics, such as the East Liberty Family Health Care Center, and schools, such as Clairton City School District, to get nebulizers into the hands of patients who need them most. Younger and older patients with respiratory conditions often rely on nebulizers, small machines that turn liquid medicine into a mist that can be inhaled to help them breathe. For many people, an emergency could require a trip to the hospital/ER, and having this equipment at home can mean a better quality of life. However, insurance provides only one machine every few years, so if it's broken, lost, or at another family member's home, people need an affordable machine. ●



**SHIM is one of our Community Partners currently receiving Personal Care Kits for their food pantry families**



**Breathe Hope nebulizers can improve respiratory health**

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

## Strengthening Community Health Through Corporate Partnership



**The ER department from UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh volunteered with us for some team building outside of the emergency room**



**DONATE A NEBULIZER**

Tracee Kirkland Rivers, MSN, CRNP, FNP-BC at the East Liberty Family Health Care Center shared, *“Everything went very smoothly with the request and delivery process, and we're happy to share that the nebulizers have already been received by patients who were truly in need. We're very grateful for the Breathe Hope program and value this continued partnership with Global Links. Your support makes a meaningful difference in the care we're able to provide to our community.”*

Looking for a meaningful corporate team-building experience? At Global Links, you can start with a behind-the-scenes tour and conversation that connects your team to the real-world impact of their efforts. Then your team will help sort and pack essential medical supplies for communities in need. We also offer meeting space if your group would like to gather over lunch or hold a team session before or after volunteering. Corporate donations further extend your company's impact, helping ensure

rescued supplies reach the people who need them most.

What are teams saying? *“My name is Kyla, and I am a Nurse Practitioner at Children's Hospital [CHP]. I recently attended a day of service at Global Links with UPMC and absolutely loved it. I enjoyed it so much I came back to CHP and was telling others about it.”* ●



**CORPORATE TEAM BUILDING**

# Sustainable Impact Through Partnership

Global Links is proud to partner with Allegheny Health Network (AHN) to recover still-useful medical equipment, supplies, and furnishings, ensuring these resources continue to serve communities in need. Through this collaboration, items that might otherwise be discarded are carefully rescued, processed, and redirected to health care settings where they can make an immediate impact.

As AHN shared, “Allegheny Health Network is proud to partner with Global Links, contributing furniture and materials to further their critical work in expanding health care access globally... Our recent donation, including desks, whiteboards, and

*filing cabinets, successfully prevented nearly 25,000 pounds... from reaching landfills. Global Links demonstrated exceptional coordination, conducting on-site assessments and managing the efficient removal of all donated items. We are thrilled about supporting their impactful mission and strengthening our commitment to sustainable practices.”*  
-Paige Colao, Energy & Sustainability Specialist, AHN & Dan Brabander, Process Manager, Facility Moves, AHN Together. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to sustainability, stewardship, and improving access to health care locally and globally. ●



Thank you to the McKeesport Hospital Foundation for supporting our Diaper Distribution held on April 11 in partnership with the Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank, which served over 330 families



Join us for a meaningful night out while being a part of an evening rooted in connection, and impact.  
**Tuesday, June 2, 2026**  
**6:00 pm**  
**169 Bakery Square Blvd**  
Registration at [GlobalLinks.org](http://GlobalLinks.org)

## Many Ways to Give

There are many ways to give, some of which can offer tax benefits. You may wish to make a gift from your Donor-Advised Fund (or DAF) or make a gift of appreciated stock. If you're 70 ½ or older, you might contribute via a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your retirement account. You can find more information on our website at [GlobalLinks.org](http://GlobalLinks.org) under the Other Ways to Give tab, or by calling Global Links' Director of Development, Kimberlee Love, at 412.361.3424 X 203.



OTHER WAYS TO GIVE



Tee up for a great cause and enjoy 18 holes of golf, food and drinks, a basket auction, all while supporting Global Links.  
Presented by YLAC—Young Leader Advisory Committee  
**Thursday, June 18, 2026**  
**10 am–4 pm**  
Registration at [GlobalLinks.org](http://GlobalLinks.org)

# GLOBAL LINKS

Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.

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Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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Permit No. 3272



## ABOUT GLOBAL LINKS

Global Links is a 501(c)(3) Pittsburgh-based non-profit dedicated to improving health in communities with need locally and globally. We build partnerships with healthcare providers and share medical surplus to improve access to essential care.

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