



February 2005

QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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TSUNAMI DISASTER

SPECIAL REPORT

ICC Response to the Tsunami

ICC has projects in several of the affected countries: Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and Myanmar. ICC president, Rick Fleck, initiated relief activities in these countries by asking the ICC country directors to work with government and non-government aid agencies to determine how ICC can best serve in this situation. Communication is difficult into some of these areas, and we will be posting more

information on our website as it is available. ICC set up an Asia Disaster Relief Fund for people to be able to send donations to help the relief effort.

Our ICC staff and children are planning to do what they can to assist the victims. With our world-wide ICC family supporting them, we know we can do a great deal to help children affected by this disaster.

Sri Lanka

The ICC Sri Lanka Children's Village is on high ground and was not affected by the tsunami. Our director, Brian, staff members and some of our older boys distributed clothing and financial aid to victims in a remote, affected area on the east coast. ICC advised the prime minister of Sri Lanka of our willingness to care for orphans or other displaced children.

One of our boys from the ICC Sri Lanka Village was missing in the disaster area and we were concerned for him. He was located in a refugee camp. He is a Tamil boy and was doing his A level exams (similar to grade 12) and his finals were being given in an area that was badly hit when the wave struck. He will be returning to us as soon as roads and transportation are available. We are thankful to God for saving his life.

As part of our efforts in Sri Lanka, ICC Europe and ICC Australia are sending relief shipments to aid in the recovery.

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India

The ICC Sweet Home Children's Village is about 20 minutes away from the ocean, so it was not hit by the tsunami. Lilly, the ICC director, was going to take the children to the beach on Sunday, December 26, but she decided to wait until the next Sunday. A thirty-foot wall of water washed over that beach, destroying and killing everything in its path. We are so thankful that their lives were spared.

As part of our relief efforts, Lilly and the older boys have so far distributed bed sheets to over 600 survivors and rice to more than 200 families. As we send Lilly

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- 1 INDIA
 - 2 SRI LANKA
 - 3 MYANMAR
 - 4 THAILAND
 - 5 ANDAMAN ISLANDS

The death toll in the 11 Indian Ocean countries has risen to more than 225,000. Including more than 30,000 people in Sri Lanka, 10,000 in India and 5,000 in Thailand. Officials expect these numbers to increase.

Andaman Islands

ICC is in the early days of assessing this situation. Marilyn Beveridge and Lilly Kalagithi are flying there in February to formalize our plans.

Orphans from the Nicabay islands have been evacuated to the Andaman Islands.

According to the information we have acquired to this point,

the Andaman government does not want individuals to care for the children orphaned by the tsunami. They would prefer that these children be cared for by groups already registered to care for orphans.

If feasible, this could well be the place for ICC to start a new children's village.



Refugees from the tsunami

India - continued

more funds, she will be able to help more victims of this tragedy.

Several people working for other relief organizations have been injured while taking goods to be distributed. They were mobbed by refugees. One truck driver was so afraid that he just dumped his load and took off.

Lilly, her staff and the children prayed before they went to

deliver aid to refugees. When she arrived, she read the Bible, prayed with them and then called out for each person to receive their rations.

The Indian Government has offered funds to relatives to come to care for their orphans. Now, there are "relatives" coming from all over the country to fight for these children. We are concerned that when the funds are exhausted, or once the burden of caring for these orphaned children becomes too great, they will no longer want to care for them. If this happens, we may need many more children's homes.



Lilly distributes rice

Sri Lanka - continued

A counseling program for traumatized children is being considered. It has been reported that children are so traumatized that they will not leave a shelter for fear they will not see a tidal wave coming and will be swept away. We have a willing team of volunteers and they are consulting with experienced trauma counselors so as to be prepared should we move in this direction.

As part of our long-term recovery plans, we would like to construct our administration house at the children's village to be used for all our relief efforts in Sri Lanka.

We are also looking at the possibility of additional land adjoining our current land for one more home so that we can be ready for an influx of children in the future.

Thailand

The ICC children and staff have been working to collect blankets, clothing, and funds to give to the tsunami victims.

Our director in Thailand is working with provincial government officials to let them know that ICC is willing to help with relief supplies and by taking in children who have been orphaned and are in need of a new, loving home and family.

Additional funds will be needed to help in the relief and recovery efforts.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ICC

Dear ICC Family,

I want to share an update from our people who are working right now on the tsunami disaster recovery. ICC is helping in every way possible to alleviate suffering today and in the fallout that will surely come in the near future.

As the scope of the earthquake and tsunami tragedy in Asia continues to unfold, we have mobilized to provide assistance to those in need. In this edition of the *Qué Pasa* you will find a country-by-country update on how ICC is responding in the various areas hit hard by the tsunami. This assistance is beneficial for the short-term, but there is uncertainty about the number of children that will have no home or parents in the coming weeks and months. As this letter goes to press, we are evaluating how and where we can put our resources and expertise to good use.

To help you understand the dynamics ICC is working with, let me share an excerpt from a message I received from Marilyn Beveridge, ICC's Asia Pacific regional director:

I just finished talking to Lilly (ICC India director) who was just talking to the pastor in the Andaman Islands. The pastor has been asked by a poor father of three little kids to take his children and "SAVE" them, as he cannot manage after his wife was swept away in the tsunami itself.

The plea of the grieving father touches my heart. "Take my children and save them." That plea touches at the very heart of ICC's mission - to care for orphaned and abandoned children where there is need and where God opens doors for us to operate.

Is this God's call?

Are we to be used by Him to rescue these children?

How many other children are currently orphaned or will be in the future?

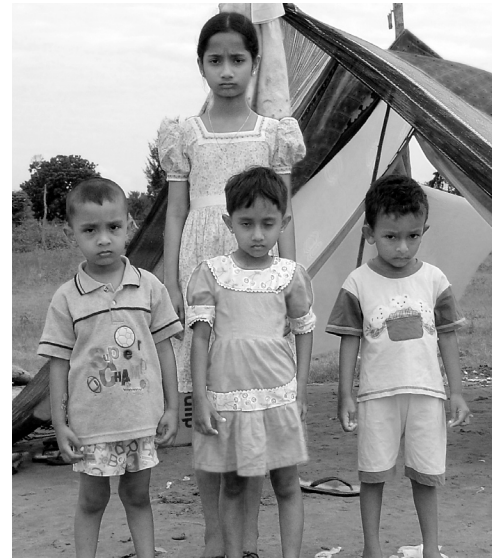
In order to answer these questions, Marilyn is traveling to India and Sri Lanka in February. She and Lilly are going to the Andamans. They are making contacts with government officials as well as church leaders and non-profit organizations. Their mission is to evaluate at what level ICC will be involved. Marilyn is also evaluating ways that ICC can be further involved in the recovery efforts in India and Sri Lanka. We will continue to provide you, our ICC family, with updates and photos in the months ahead. Be sure to check our ICC web site (www.forhiskids.org) periodically for updates.

In the meantime, we count on your financial and prayer support. Thank you for what you continue to do! On the back page, you will find how you can make a difference with ICC in a greater way during this time of crisis. Together, let's continue making a difference in the lives of children!

On Behalf of the Children,



P.S. In 1976 there was a terrible earthquake in Guatemala. As a result, ICC went to that country to rescue the lives of orphaned children who had suffered in that tragedy. Twenty-seven years later, we're still there caring for children that come from other tragedies. Perhaps, out of the tsunami tragedy, a new legacy of caring will be born through ICC in Southeast Asia, and hope will be renewed in the lives of the devastated children there. Please pray with us as we seek God's will in this terrible time of need.



[Refugees in Sri Lanka](#)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by praying for...

Safety for Merilyn and Lilly during their February trip in Southeast Asia

Wisdom and Discernment as we evaluate how ICC will help orphan children affected by the tsunami.

The physical and spiritual safety of all of ICC's children world-wide

by contributing towards...

The on-going monthly operational needs of ICC's projects,

The sponsorship of a child in need,

Special project needs (please contact Doug for specific ideas)

Myanmar

We were very concerned for our ICC children in Myanmar. They traditionally have a camp out at the beach for a few days each year during Christmas time.

Our communication with Myanmar is limited but we have received this message from our Myanmar director saying, "Praise God, He kept us all safe from the tsunami, but not so for many others here."

Join Us for an Introduction to ICC – Dare To Imagine

To increase awareness of ICC's work, ICC is holding a series of one-hour informational sessions here at the headquarters office in Vancouver, WA. These *Dare to Imagine Tours* are designed to provide a clear overview of ICC's mission, programs, and vision for saving more lives and sponsoring the children who are already part of our family. This is an opportunity for you to bring a friend who lives in this area. These tours...

Will last no more than one hour,

Will be informative,

And will likely change (or at least update) your perceptions about who ICC is and what we do.

You will not be pressured for money.

To RSVP for a tour or for more information, contact Liana St.Clair at (360) 573-0429 or Liana@forhiskids.org.

Upcoming Tours include:

February 10 – 12:00-1:00 p.m.

February 24 – 6:30-7:30 p.m.

March 10 – 12:00-1:00 p.m.

March 24 - 6:30-7:30 p.m.

April 7 – 12:00-1:00 p.m.

ATTENTION:

Washington & Oregon ICC Family Members

International Children's Care

"Circle of Hope"

Fundraising Breakfast

Date: April 22, 2005

Time: 7:29 a.m. Sharp!

Place: Heathman Lodge Ballroom
7801 NE Greenwood Drive
Vancouver, WA

Reservations required - Contact Liana St.Clair at Liana@forhiskids.org or (360) 573-0429

Please Note: We're looking for Table Captains to invite guests

SAVE THIS DATE



A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future
through planned giving

Contact Doug Congleton at ICC for more information on how you can become part of the "Legacy of Love"

(800) 422-7729
Doug@ForHisKids.org