Annual Report 2013

Placing aid directly in the hands of the people
Mission and Vision

Flagstaff International Relief Effort (FIRE) is a non-profit and non-government (NGO) organization. FIRE is a registered 501c.3 organization in the United States, headquartered in Flagstaff, Arizona, with a registered NGO branch office in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. After 16 years of work, FIRE continues to evolve, meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing country. Through sustainable programs, FIRE strives to empower the Mongolian community. These programs currently focus primarily on viral hepatitis and liver cancer prevention through research, training, supply distribution, awareness campaigns, testing, and vaccination targeted at the general population and health care facilities and workers.

Mission
The Flagstaff International Relief Effort (FIRE) is dedicated to providing resources and support to communities in need, reducing poverty, and improving the quality of life. Currently, FIRE's programs are focused in Mongolia.

Vision
FIRE works with partners at all levels — local, national, and international — to improve education and health care through Empowering Programs targeted at communities.
Letter from the Director

Dear Friends of FIRE,

2013 was another busy and successful year for FIRE. We celebrated 15 years of life changing work in Mongolia! We vastly expanded our programs and continued to dramatically increase our grant funding.

In 2013, we continued to develop our partnership with Oyu Tolgoi, Mongolia’s largest mine. Through a series of grants, we were able to build a multi-level intervention and awareness campaign. Each grant project built on the previous project. We started by distributing “safety boxes” or sharps containers, distributing our DVD for health care workers, and providing training to the entire province of Umnogovi. We upgraded safety boxes from the World Health Organization approved cardboard boxes that were distributed in the previous 9 provinces, to the red plastic boxes that are more commonly seen in the West.

From here, we narrowed our scope to three soums (counties) in the Umnogovi province. This smaller geographical focus gave us the opportunity to go more in-depth with our programs, since we were focused on a smaller population. As a result, we have created a comprehensive program structure that addresses viral hepatitis and liver cancer prevention from every level in a sustainable, repeatable method. We have executed and tested several new programs that we are now ready to spread across the country.

The contributions and volunteer hours of all of our friends and supporters make our programs possible. We cannot thank each of you enough for your continued and generous support, and the variety of ways in which it is shown.

Please continue reading for a summary of what you helped make happen in 2013.

Respectfully,

Meredith Potts
Executive Director
2013 Program Highlights

Community Awareness Campaigns

For World Hepatitis Day 2013, FIRE collaborated with local, state, and community-based organizations to implement awareness campaigns through the media and community events. FIRE conducted training for health care workers on the diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis, and provided educational materials for members of the community. Residents received informational brochures on hepatitis, were shown videos about hepatitis, received counseling from doctors about hepatitis treatment options, and were given training on how to protect against the risk of contracting hepatitis. A total of 1000 people participated in campaign events. As a result of these awareness campaigns, the community is now equipped with a better understanding of hepatitis diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.

Hepatitis Testing

FIRE joined forces with local health care facilities to organize a free hepatitis testing event for members of the community. To inform the public of the event, radio and television announcements were played at regular intervals, banners were hung at the local Health Department, and posters were placed in stores, motels, and cafés. The testing event had a remarkable turnout, with 764 members of the population being tested for hepatitis B and C. Out of the 764 people tested, 75 were diagnosed with viral hepatitis B and 80 were diagnosed with viral hepatitis C. As a result of this testing event, newly diagnosed individuals will have the opportunity to pursue treatment options, so that they can effectively manage their conditions.

Health Safety Training Program

To prevent the risk of disease transmission to doctors and nurses, and eventually to the general public, FIRE has developed a systematic training program for health care workers on proper medical waste management (MWM) procedures. This training program addresses issues that health care workers face at all levels of the health care environment. MWM training was held for health care workers, and 184 health care workers completed the training, accounting for 90% of health care professionals in these areas. After participating in training, health care workers were given knowledge assessment tests, the results of which demonstrated that health care worker
Medical Waste Management Supply Distribution

In accordance with the National Strategy for Improving Health Care Waste Management in Mongolia, FIRE distributed internationally approved supplies to health care facilities. Supplies distributed include:

• Plastic sharp boxes complete with needle removers
• 30 liter plastic watertight containers for infectious waste
• 60 liter plastic containers for transporting and storing medical waste
• Red and yellow plastic bags for biohazardous, infectious waste

These supplies enabled health care workers and administrators to upgrade their medical waste management practices, protecting themselves and their patients from disease transmission.

Advocacy with Policy Makers

Through strategic meetings and information sessions, FIRE informed policy makers in four project sites in the Umnugovi province about improving medical waste management (MWM) in the health care system. During these meetings, local authorities received information about medical waste and the current state of MWM in health care facilities. As a result, authorities resolved to build medical waste disposal units and to establish a monitoring system for MWM procedures. By creating new disposal units and the monitoring system, MWM safety procedures were upgraded and will contribute to improved safety in health care facilities.

The Dulaan Project

In 2013, FIRE received 3,696 handmade, knitted winter items from knitters around the world. We distributed these items directly to the people who needed them most during the winter months of October, November, and December. Some of the recipients included orphanages, a school for disabled children, and homeless adults. These beautiful items helped brighten the day and warm the lives of those in need.

Quotes From Mongolia

(Original quotes are translated from Mongolian)

“We would like thank you for…supporting the activities of Bayankhongor province’s health sector. We hope that your support will contribute a lot to the healthcare worker and…to the protection of public health. May good deeds spread.”
~ Bayankhongor province’s Health Department

“Our khoroo …is composed from migrants of the countryside, and poor population. We would like to thank you for distributing warm clothes for our children in order to pass the harsh winter. We wish… your heart be always warm same as your project ‘Dulaan’. ~Enkhtsetseg. Ch, social worker of Bayanzurkh district. 19 khoroo

“I tested for HBV, HCV and [was] diagnosed positive for HBV. I’m sure, many people like me are not aware that they are infected. Now I can do monitoring [of] my liver disease and change my lifestyle. It was helpful for me to prevent further damage. Thank you.” ~CH.Nyamsuren, resident of Khanbogd soum. Umnugobi province
FIRE is committed to keeping administrative expenses as low as possible. We are proud that in 2013, 85% of all income, including grants and specified and unspecified donations, went directly to program expenses in Mongolia. FIRE makes the most of every donated dollar by maximizing support through efficient and responsible fiscal management.

### 2013 Board of Directors

- Andy Kruse
- Way Yuhl
- Kim Fawcett
- David Edwards
- Susan Bigley
- Troy Levitt
- Dawn Hatch

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#### 2013 Financial Statements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013 Total</th>
<th>Donations</th>
<th>In-Kind Contribution</th>
<th>Grants &amp; Specified Donations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis Testing</td>
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<td>Ortho</td>
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<td>Dulaan</td>
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<td><strong>Total Program Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>Income Less Expenses</td>
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<td>Net Assets, Beginning of 2013</td>
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<td>Change from Year’s Activities</td>
<td>$2,368</td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets, End of 2013</strong></td>
<td>$26,451</td>
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</table>
2013 Donors

The following list recognizes the friends of FIRE who made contributions in 2013. Without their generous support, FIRE’s work in Mongolia would not be possible. We are immensely grateful for their examples of loyalty and commitment to FIRE.

**Benefactor (Buyanii Uilsten) ($1000+)**
- Barbara Coyne
- Charles & Kathleen Potts
- Chusask & Chwen Siripocanont
- Roberts Family Foundation
- Harvey & Naomi Cohen
- John Durham
- Robert & Gladys Miller Foundation
- Million Dollar Round Trable Foundation
- Oyun Tolgoi
- Theodore Parlovich
- John W. & Clara C. Higgins Foundation
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

**Patron (Iveen Tetgegch) ($500 - $999)**
- Catalyst Foundation
- Betty Phelps
- Judith Conant
- Samuel So
- William Headaphol

**Supporter (Demjigch) ($100 - $249)**
- Arthur Zack & Nanette Smith
- Athena Fotiadia
- B.N. Gantt
- Carol Brown
- Christine Orr
- Daniel Yansura & Patricia Tanttila
- Douglas & Susan Lee
- Gail A. Clair
- Gay Chanler
- Gregory & Annette Chavez
- Gwen Krause
- Ivy Gordon
- James & Mary Wertsch
- Joan Csapos
- Karen Kinne & Maury Herman
- Larry Charles Stevens
- Lori Pearlmutter
- Mark James & Mary Poore
- Mary Frances & Joseph Blades
- Mary J. Stump
- Robert & Penne Miller
- Sat Sansar Kaur Khalsa & Sat Sansar Singh
- Sylvia Breakey
- Terrie Raphael

**Friend (Naiz)**
- Albert Stuart
- Ariel Wyckoff
- Betty O’Connor Inc.
- Fizzy Bella Bath Boutique
- Frank & Nancy Branham
- J.M Loeken
- Jared Sibbitt
- Laurel & Richard Dunn
- Michael Baron
- Norma Kaecker
- Robert Breunig
- Scott & Pamela Anderson
- Sharang Phadke
- Stephen & Celia Grether
- Susan Patrick
- Tim Cahill
- Tim Coursen
- Truman L. Burns
- Walter & Nancy Taylor

Friend (Naiz) (up to $99)
- Albert Stuart
- Ariel Wyckoff
- Betty O’Connor Inc.
- Fizzy Bella Bath Boutique
- Frank & Nancy Branham
- J.M Loeken
- Jared Sibbitt
- Laurel & Richard Dunn
- Michael Baron
- Norma Kaecker
- Robert Breunig
- Scott & Pamela Anderson
- Sharang Phadke
- Stephen & Celia Grether
- Susan Patrick
- Tim Cahill
- Tim Coursen
- Truman L. Burns
- Walter & Nancy Taylor

Donor (Handivlagch) ($250 - $499)
- Andy Kruse
- Jeff Karl Jewelers
- Tom Bean
- Beaver Street Brewing and Lumberyard Brewing
“May good deeds spread.”

Сайн үйлс дэлгэрэх болтугай.

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