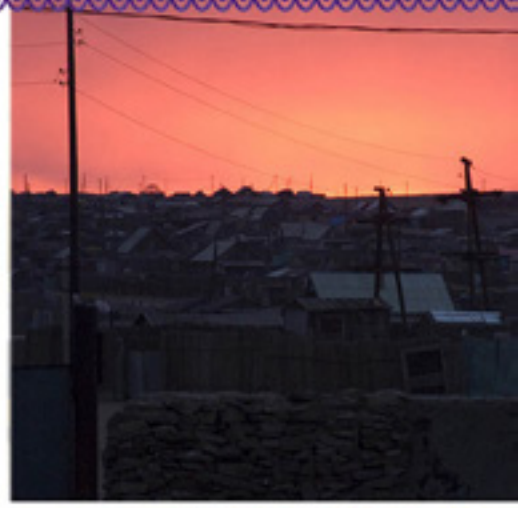


# Annual Report 2011



**FIRE**   
Flagstaff International Relief Effort

*“Placing aid directly in  
the hands of the people”*

# Mission and Vision

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## **Mission**

The Flagstaff International Relief Effort (FIRE) is dedicated to providing resources and support to individuals and communities in need, to reduce poverty, political instability, and to minimize the impact of natural disasters. Currently FIRE's programs are exclusively focused in Mongolia.

## **Vision**

FIRE works with partners at all levels - local, national and international - to improve education, health, and reduce poverty through programs that enable individuals and communities to design initiatives resulting in an improved quality of life.

***Since 1999, FIRE has shipped ten, 40-foot containers filled with donated winter clothing, medical supplies, and educational materials. Over the last 14 years, 23 FIRE medical volunteers have conducted more than 1,200 hours of training with 2,700 Mongolian medical professionals around the country and delivered \$720,000 worth of medical supplies and 94,000 sharps containers (biohazard boxes for sharp medical waste) to 278 clinics and hospitals countrywide. Additionally, FIRE has tested 1,000 health care workers for hepatitis B and C with 142 being vaccinated against hepatitis B. 46 FIRE clothing volunteers personally distributed 76 tons of winter clothing to over 65,000 individuals, and 80 computers and 6,000 English-language library books to one dozen schools. To date, FIRE's programs have provided aid in 15 of Mongolia's 21 provinces.***

# Letter from the Director

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Dear Friends of FIRE,

2011 was FIRE's most successful year yet. We created the greatest impact we have ever had in our 14 year history. We expanded our office in Mongolia and received ten times as many grant funds than we have in all previous years combined.

This continues to be an exciting time for us as we complete phases of existing projects and make plans for new programs. We have been approached with several new program ideas and new partnership opportunities and are excited to see what the future holds.

Some of the new partnerships established in 2011 include joining the World Hepatitis Alliance, signing a partnership agreement with Family Health International, the largest health NGO in the world and working with a new division at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington, D.C. We also received a grant from the American Association for the Support of Liver Diseases (AASLD) in support of our Medical Director in Mongolia, Dr. Munkhjargal Ayurzana, to travel to San Francisco in November for their annual conference. This was the first ever grant that AASLD has made for this purpose. It was an honor for us and a great show of support for our work and hepatitis related programs.

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 2011.



Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MPotts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Meredith Potts  
Executive Director

# 2011 Program Highlights

## **National Institutes of Health (NIH) Hepatitis Research Program**



In cooperation with NIH and the Mongolian Academy of Medical Sciences (MAMS), FIRE has initiated a study researching the prevalence of blood borne viruses among high-risk health care workers through 1,000 collected blood samples from across Mongolia. The results will provide a better understanding into transmittable infections (i.e., is there a genetic predisposition toward contracting hepatitis, or against being able to clear it?). It will also provide Mongolian authorities with a basis from which to form health policies and develop strategies for increasing awareness, prevention, detection and treatment of health care workers. In 2011, 350 samples were collected from two provinces and sent to NIH where the testing process began.

In support of this project, Meredith Potts, FIRE's executive director, gave a talk to the "Super Nerd" group of NIH, Center for Human Immunology Inflammation in July of 2011.

## **Sharps Containers Distribution**

Through the support of Rotary Clubs in Mongolia and the United States, 14,000 locally made safety boxes (biohazard boxes for sharp medical waste), meeting WHO (World Health Organization) design specifications were distributed to Dornod Province in Eastern Mongolia. This was enough for a two-year supply for all 39 hospitals and health care clinics in this province. Plans have been made to complete 3 more provinces in 2012. In addition to the distribution of boxes, FIRE also provided a half day training program for representatives from each health care facility in the province.

## **Health Safety Training Program**

FIRE joined the World Hepatitis Alliance (WHA), a global organization providing support to halt deaths and improve lives of people living with chronic viral hepatitis B and C round the world. In support of WHA's World Hepatitis Day on July 28, FIRE participated by providing 80 minutes of TV programming on STAR TV and Education TV (Mongolian TV Channels) to educate the public about hepatitis. FIRE's medical director gave a newspaper interview entitled "Hepatitis B is 100 times more infectious than HIV".



In conjunction with the sharps containers distribution program and the NIH Hepatitis Research Program, FIRE provides important training to health care workers, waste handlers and inspection agents about the proper use of safety boxes and safe disposal of sharps waste nationwide. In 2011, FIRE trained 500 health care workers. The objective is to substantially reduce the number of inadvertent needle sticks and lacerations with contaminated needles or other medical sharps waste. In 2011 we began turning this program into a one-hour training video to be distributed nationally by the spring of 2012.

## Hepatitis B Vaccination Program



For the first time in 2011, through donor specified funds and in conjunction with the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Hepatitis Research Program, FIRE began supporting a vaccination program for health care workers. Over 400 health care workers were tested for hepatitis B in two provinces in Mongolia. Vaccination was provided for 142 health care workers who tested negative or had not been previously vaccinated. With an average of only 7% of health care workers vaccinated against hepatitis B in Mongolia, we hope to continue to grow this program.

## Orthopedic Training Program

FIRE hosted two orthopedic surgeons at Trauma Hospital in Ulaanbaatar, the only orthopedic hospital in Mongolia, for two weeks of advanced Orthopedic training. Dr. Satkauskas and Dr. Uvarovas from Lithuania provided lectures, surgical assistance and bed side training in the spring of 2011.

## The Dulaan Project

In 2011 FIRE received 1,036 hand made knitted winter items shipped directly to our office in Mongolia from knitters around the world. We distributed these items directly to the people who needed them most during the winter months of October through December. Some of the recipients included orphanages, a school for disabled children and homeless adults. These beautiful items help brighten the day and warm the lives of everyone who receives them.



## Quotes From Mongolia

(Original quotes are translated from Mongolian)

*"I have been working as a nurse for more than 10 years in the countryside. I am very lucky to be tested and vaccinated against hepatitis B virus thanks to the FIRE team. Viral Hepatitis B and C are the most prevalent blood borne infections in Mongolia and many health care workers affected by at least one of those to infections somehow. FIRE's work will save many lives." ~ A. Tsatsara, Nurse, Umnugovi Province*

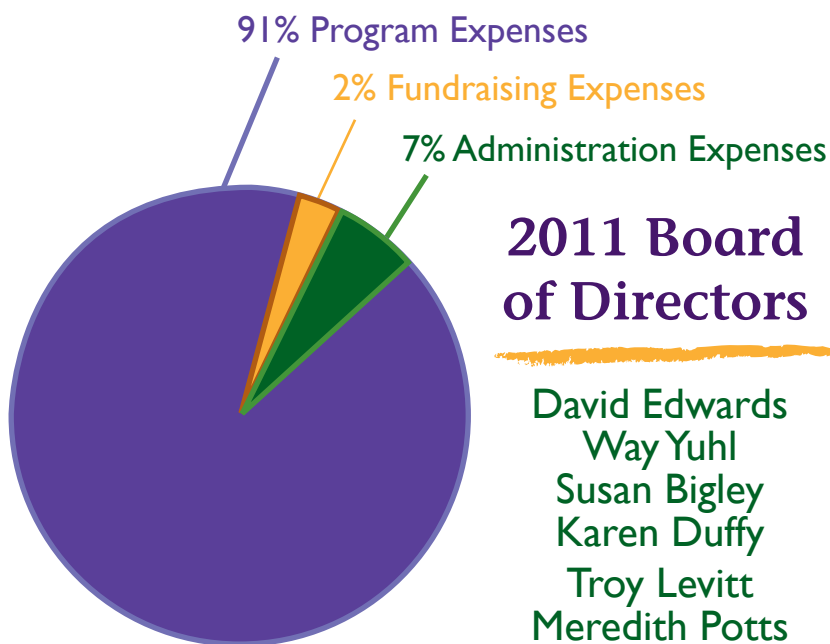
*"We are grateful for your donation of safety boxes to all of our health facilities. We also appreciate your valuable contribution to the prevention from hospital borne infections and improvement of medical waste management within hospitals." ~ K. Buyanaa, Dornod Province's Health Department*

*"We are grateful for your donation of hand knitted clothes, warm hats and gloves to disabled children. They are helpful to our kids to keep good progress in their studies and let us spend money on important things like food. May humanity for children blossom." ~ J. Chimedzaya, Director, 25th school for children with special needs, Ulaanbaatar*

# 2011 Financial Statements

	2011 Total	Donations	In-Kind Contribution	Grants & Specified Donations
<b>Total Income Received</b>	\$ 252,249	\$ 34,896	\$ 146,699	\$ 70,654
NIH Hepatitis Research	\$ 139,477	\$ 17,688	\$ 113,900	\$ 7,889
Sharps Containers Distribution	\$ 10,256	\$ 4,256	\$ 6,000	
Health Safety Training	\$ 40,121	\$ 1,121	\$ 7,000	\$ 32,000
Hepatitis B Vaccination	\$ 16,296	\$ 8,095	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,200
Orthopedic Training	\$ 5,240	\$ 975	\$ 3,200	\$ 1,065
Dulaan Project	\$ 5,218	\$ 2,110	\$ 3,108	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	\$ 216,608	\$ 34,246	\$ 140,208	\$ 42,154
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 1,028	\$ 1,028		
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 5,348	\$ 175	\$ 365	\$ 4,808
Administrative Expenses	\$ 17,323	\$ 475	\$ 6,127	\$ 10,722
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 240,307	\$ 35,924	\$ 146,700	\$ 57,684
Income Less Expenses	\$ 11,942			\$ 11,942
Net Assets, Beginning of 2011	\$ 4,337			
Change from Year's Activities	\$ 11,942			
<b>Total Net Assets, End of 2011</b>	\$ 16,279			

***FIRE is committed to keeping administrative expenses as low as possible. We are proud that in 2011, 91% 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, maximizing support through efficient and responsible fiscal management.***



## 2011 Board of Directors

David Edwards  
Way Yuhl  
Susan Bigley  
Karen Duffy  
Troy Levitt  
Meredith Potts

# 2011 Donors

**The following list recognizes the friends of FIRE who made contributions in 2011. Without their generous support, FIRE's work in Mongolia would not be possible. We are immensely grateful for the examples of loyalty and commitment to FIRE.**

## **Benefactor (Buyanii Uilsten) (\$1000+)**

Arizona Community Foundation  
Lee S. Blaugrund  
Harvey and Naomi Cohen  
Tim Coursen  
The Dealy Foundation  
Direction for Rural Action Fund  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
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Million Dollar Round Table  
Foundation  
Mongolian Health Care Fund  
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Theodore Patlovich  
Charles and Kathleen Potts  
Roberts Family Foundation  
Schwab Charitable Fund  
Chusak and Chwen Siripocanont

## **Patron (Iveen Tetgegch) (\$500 - \$999)**

Catalyst Foundation  
Flagstaff Cultural Partners  
Andy Kruse  
David Lang and Laurie Breihan

## **Donor (Handivlagch) (\$250 - \$499)**

Beaver Street Brewing and  
Lumberyard Brewing  
Mary Kathleen Collins  
Judith Conant  
Michael Hoenig

Jeff Karl Jewelers  
Paul and Barbara Kokernak  
Doug and Susan Lee  
Betty J Phelps  
Fred Phillips Consulting  
John Tveten

## **Supporter (Demjigch) (\$100 - \$249)**

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Mary Frances and Joseph Blades  
Carol Brown  
Gail Clair  
Joan Csaposs  
Margretta Diemer  
David Krassner and Amanda Gauy  
Ivy Gordon  
Rick and Julie Johnson  
Howard and Arlene Kuperberg  
James Marzolf  
Amy Miller  
Christine and Duncan Orr  
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Skyhorse Saddle Company  
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Dianne Simpson  
Christina Stockwell  
Mary Stump  
Alice and Carl Trach  
Ron Tuckman  
James and Mary Wertsch  
Daniel Yansura and Patricia Tanttila  
Arthur Zack and Nanette Smith

## **Friend (Naiz) (up to \$99)**

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Donald and Joyce Bayles  
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Sylvia Breakay  
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Abby Spotskey  
Kris Stark  
Madelyn Azep  
Walt and Nancy Taylor  
Gayle Werth  
Nathaniel and Jean White  
Sharon Wilson

*“May good deeds spread.”*

Сайн үйлс дэлгэрэх болтугай.

**FIRE**



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