The hard-hit Jaffna region on the coast of Sri Lanka was the first to receive requested blankets, towels and surgical gowns provided by INMED Partnerships for Children in partnership with Delaware-based Image-First, an apparel manufacturer, and Counterpart International. They went to hospitals and undersupplied clinics in the region. The medical gowns were used by volunteer-visiting surgeons who had filled their suitcases with medical supplies for the victims rather than their own clothing.

The bedding and apparel was followed by a donation of $1.6 million in requested pharmaceuticals to the region, in partnerships with Sanofi and the National Cancer Coalition. INMED also received many requests for shelters, and TVI Corporation of Glen Dale, Maryland, came through with donations of durable yet easy to set-up shelters in many sizes. “All of the employees of TVI just wanted to help”, said CEO Richard Priddy.

INMED and its partners will continue to help. Of the 150,000 people who lost their lives when the tsunamis struck, about one third were children, but even more have survived and are grappling with their experiences and with surviving with relatives or in refugee camps.

INMED Partnerships for Children is a non-profit 501(c)(3) global development organization dedicated to inspiring communities and fostering their ability to develop healthy, educated children with increased opportunities for the future.
INMED Helps Parents Take Charge of Their Children’s Asthma

For parents who have watched their children struggle to breathe during an asthma attack, asthma is a frightening disease.

Language barriers, embarrassment at asking questions, rushed appointments in overscheduled clinics, and poor communication between medical providers and their patients are all factors that may contribute to parents’ lack of understanding of how to manage their children’s condition. To help families overcome these barriers, INMED Partnerships for Children recently launched Take Charge!, an asthma case management program that provides in-home, one-on-one education in the client’s native language. The program is operated through INMED’s MotherNet L.A. program in Compton, California.

Case managers work closely with each family to ensure that they understand how to manage their children’s asthma most effectively—from administering medications correctly, to minimizing environmental triggers in the home, to helping children remain active despite their asthma. In addition, center-based asthma education courses are offered to case management clients and to the community at large.

As reported by one mother, “I was very glad to get this education, because at the doctor’s office I never got it.” Now, she says, “I am learning to better control my child’s asthma.”

Another important element of the Take Charge! program is enrolling children in a low- or no-cost health coverage program to ensure that they have access to primary and preventive care through a regular medical home instead of a hospital emergency room. In the first six months of the program, INMED enrolled more than 80 low-income children into a health coverage program.

INMED/MotherNet L.A., a trusted provider of outreach, education and support in Compton since 1994, offers a broad range of services to strengthen families and the community, including high-risk perinatal home visiting and case management; center-based classes on parenting, child development, domestic violence prevention, health-focused English as a Second Language and computer skills; school-based courses on adolescent sexual health; and mentoring for children of prisoners.

INMED Partnerships for Children and the Freddie Mac Foundation Celebrate a Decade of Partnership

In 2004, INMED and the Freddie Mac Foundation marked the 10-year anniversary of their partnership to strengthen families and their children in need.

Since awarding seed funding to launch MotherNet Loudoun (MNL), a perinatal outreach program, in INMED’s global headquarters location in Loudoun County, Virginia, the Freddie Mac Foundation has invested more than $1.1 million in MotherNet’s programs to improve the health, lives and opportunities of local children. Over the past decade, INMED’s MNL and expanded MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun program have helped over 10,000 families give their children a healthy start in life.

“The Freddie Mac Foundation is thrilled to partner with INMED in serving some of the most vulnerable families in our community,” said Community Relations Manager Dean Klein. “Our long-term investment has brought tremendous outcomes for some of our neediest families and children.”

To celebrate the 10-year anniversary of its partnership with INMED, Klein and the Foundation’s Senior Vice President, David Robinson, joined MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun staff for a home visit with a participant family. After reading books with the family’s twin boys and hearing their mother’s testimonial about how MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun had helped the family through the children’s premature birth and ongoing health challenges, Robinson presented each of the boys with a teddy bear and $1,000 savings bond on behalf of the Freddie Mac Foundation.

MotherNet/Healthy Families Loudoun Director and INMED’s Director of U.S. Programs, Dr. Judy Hanley, emphasized the importance of the Foundation’s support. “Without the Freddie Mac Foundation, we would not have been able to reach the families we have served over the past decade, to help them overcome insurmountable obstacles, and to experience the privilege of hearing participants thank us for ‘saving’ their families. We are grateful for the long-standing support and commitment the Freddie Mac Foundation has provided to us and to the Loudoun community.”

To donate to INMED’s US Programs:
visit www.inmed.org and donate to MotherNet
Children Throughout Latin America Receive Classroom Libraries

Scholastic, USAID and INMED are completing the distribution of 120,000 books to establish nearly 1,000 new classroom libraries in schools in disadvantaged communities in Latin America through the Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training (CETT) program.

Announced by President Bush at the 2001 Summit of the Americas, the CETT program aims to lay the foundation for lifelong learning and participation in the global workforce by improving reading instruction in the early primary grades. Fourteen countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean are benefiting from the program, training teachers who will reach approximately 500,000 students in poor communities. Classroom libraries help make reading a natural part of the children’s everyday activities, and are cost-effective: one book can be used many different times by many different children.

A key factor in this effort to ensure reading for all children is INMED’s focus on forming private-public partnerships. The U.S.-based publisher Scholastic, The Alcoa Foundation, DHL, Project HOPE, Ford Motor Company Fund, The Palmer Foundation, The Peruvian mining company Antemina and the Central American firm Grupo Lis are among the companies supporting the program to date.

On September 9, 2004, USAID, Scholastic and INMED met in New York to mark the expansion of Scholastic’s support for the CETT program. Adolfo Franco, USAID Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, applauded Scholastic’s continuing support. “This raises the effectiveness of USAID’s multimillion dollar investment in teacher training because the colorful books help teachers to instill in their students a love of reading.”

INMED Celebrates 10 Years of Service in Brazil
Horta Brasil (Brazil Gardens) Partnership Launched
With El Paso Energy, GE, Johnson & Johnson, Monsanto and USAID

Combating hunger among children and promoting nutritional well-being and self-sufficiency for families are the key goals of the Horta Brasil program, which supports the Brazilian national initiative, Fome Zero (Zero Hunger). In partnership with the public and private sectors, INMED is improving the nutritional quality of school lunches – the main daily source of food for most of the 100,000 children in the program – through school and community gardening, treatment for parasitic infection, micronutrient supplementation and nutrition education.

Over the past decade in Brazil, INMED has trained more than 15,000 teachers; treated and provided preventive education for over 800,000 children; and reached and mobilized over 3 million family and community members to improve the health and quality of life of their communities. At the end of 2004, INMED Brasil was honored for its ten years of service to children and communities in Brazil in a ceremony attended by the U.S. Consul General and USAID; executives of major companies including Monsanto, GE, El Paso Energy, Colgate and others; and Brazilian dignitaries.

Through this new initiative, The Monsanto Fund and Monsanto Brasil; El Paso Energy; Johnson & Johnson and Janssen-Cilag do Brasil; GE Brasil and The GE Fund; and USAID Brazil and the USAID Global Development Alliance (GDA) have joined with INMED to combat hunger and malnutrition and develop economic opportunities for communities in the poorest areas of the country.

To donate to INMED Brasil, visit www.inmed.org

To support learning for all children, visit www.inmed.org and donate to CETT or visit www.readingforallchildren.org
A tragedy of the magnitude we see following the Tsunami in Asia demands a response from all of us prepared to help. INMED is working with other international groups and local partners on the ground to meet emergency needs and help to rebuild lives. At the same time, this crisis reminds us of other crises around the world, such as in Darfur, western Sudan where 1,000 people a day – mostly children – die. Our commitment to the children and families affected by tragedy will continue.

We also remain committed to addressing the root causes of the on-going tragedy of poverty that deny so many children the opportunity for a bright future. We know that education is an essential underpinning of opportunity, yet among our closest neighbors – in Latin America and the Caribbean – children attain on average only 5 years of education. In some communities in South Central Los Angeles, in our own country, forty percent of children live below the federal poverty level – and as many children die from gang violence each month as American soldiers are killed in Iraq.

Together with our friends and partners we can strengthen the ability of communities worldwide to raise healthy, educated children with increased opportunities for the future.

INMED and MADRE Aid Refugees in Sudan

Since March 2003, tens of thousands of men, women and children have been murdered in Darfur, western Sudan. Communities are under attack by the janjaweed militias, who kill entire families, systematically rape and mutilate women and girls, burn down villages, destroy food crops, and poison wells.

The death toll had climbed to 1,000 people a day by fall 2004 and is expected to reach 300,000 within months if emergency action is not taken. In addition, a million and a half people have been made homeless by the janjaweed. Most are subsisting in overcrowded, dangerously unhygienic camps without sufficient food, water or basic health care.

In December 2004, INMED, through it’s donating partner, ImageFirst, packed, assembled and loaded new clothing, fabric rolls, blankets, linens and towels in a 40-foot container.

Teaming with MADRE and Zenab for Women in Development, the container was shipped to Adil Bakhit for distribution to the internal refugee camp called Aboushok, in West Darfur.

About 110,000 refugees benefit from this donation.