



## INMED Partnerships for Children

“Creating Opportunities, Transforming Communities”

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Spring 2008

### School, Community Gardens Thriving in Brazil and South Africa

#### INMED–Monsanto Fund Partnership Highlights Sustainable Improvements in Child, Family Nutrition

For more than 53,000 children in nine impoverished communities in Brazil and South Africa, the sight of gardens brimming with nutritious vegetables is not only a point of pride—the students have cultivated these gardens themselves—but is also a symbol of a healthier future.

In the urban slums and rural areas of Brazil and in the informal settlements surrounding Johannesburg, South Africa, poverty is extreme, making it difficult for families to obtain adequate food, in both quantity and nutritional quality. Many children can count on only one meal a day—their school lunch.

To help make the most of this vital meal, the INMED–Monsanto Fund partnership’s Garden Brazil and Healthy Futures South Africa programs (the latter implemented in partnership with Joint Aid

NGO), establish school vegetable gardens to supply fresh produce that supplements and enriches the carbohydrate-heavy staples on which school foods are typically based.



Brazilian students carefully tend their school garden, learning important lessons about biology, nutrition and the environment in the process.

The programs also incorporate health, hygiene, nutrition and food safety education for students, teachers and cafeteria workers, and establish clean water systems using simple solar technology.

Both programs are designed for sustainability, by teaching students to save seeds and cultivate their own seedlings for the school gardens, by providing training and gardening kits to local families, and by incorporating environmental education to promote conservation of natural resources through the gardening process.

#### Families to Build Household Food Security with Donated Garden Starter Kits

With a donation of complete vegetable garden starter kits donated by the Dominion Woman’s Club (DWC), a northern Virginia chapter of the International General Federation of Women’s Clubs, low-income families in Brazil will improve their nutritional status and household food security.

These kits, consisting of seeds, garden tools and other supplies—plus the training necessary to establish a successful home vegetable garden—will not only help provide families with nutritious food, but will offer the opportunity for income generation through the sale of excess produce. The first 10 families to receive the kits and training will then share their new skills and seedlings with other families in their neighborhoods.

The DWC will host a fundraiser in April 2008 to benefit its “adopted” charitable projects, including INMED’s Garden Brazil program.



These South African boys are justifiably proud of the bounty of carrots that they learned to grow through their school’s garden project. These carrots—and the other vegetables now flourishing in the gardens—will go straight from harvest to the day’s school lunch, enriching the nutritional quality of the meal, usually a grain porridge.

**INMED Partnerships for Children** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit global development organization working to create positive generational change in the U.S. and around the world by building partnerships that strengthen family and community capacity to support the development of healthy, educated children who have increased opportunities for the future. INMED is certified as a “Four-Star Charity” by Charity Navigator and one of the “Best (Charities) in America” by Independent Charities of America, and is a participant in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), Children’s Charities of America and United Way of the National Capital Area.

## Communities Across Brazil, Peru Prepare for Mass Deworming Campaign Johnson & Johnson Donates 770,000 Doses of Antiparasitic Medication

More than 1 billion people around the world suffer from infection with parasitic intestinal worms. It is largely a disease of poverty, the result of poor sanitation infrastructure. Over the past 16 years, INMED has delivered deworming medications, in partnership with Johnson & Johnson, to millions of children and their family members in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa.

Currently, INMED conducts deworming campaigns in Brazil and Peru, with South Africa to be added soon. In some project communities, infection rates are

strikingly high, afflicting as many as 85% of residents. Children are generally the most vulnerable to parasitic infection, with potentially devastating effects.

Parasites sap the nutrients from the foods children eat, compounding the already poor nutritional status in the communities where INMED works. A paradoxically rounded belly is often a tell-tale sign of infection among these undernourished youth.

Loss of nutrients to the parasites can lead to anemia and other vitamin deficiencies, which combine to leave children lethargic and unable to focus in school. Long-term effects of parasitic infection can be seen in stunted growth and poor cognitive development, compromising children's future health and opportunities.

Yet the solution is simple: a semiannual dose of deworming medication, which INMED bolsters with year-round education on preventive health, hygiene and sanitation to help prevent reinfection.

The next mass deworming campaigns are now being organized for Summer 2008 for an estimated 385,000 school children, their family members, and other vulnerable community members across Brazil and in Peru's remote Amazon forest region. Follow-up treatment will be delivered approximately six months thereafter.

### IAMusic Program Youth Compete for Gibson Guitars, Funds for School Music Programs Event Caps Bob Marley Week Celebration in Jamaica

With a classic image of reggae legend Bob Marley in the background, INMED President Dr. Linda Pfeiffer presents an Epiphone guitar—the kind Marley used—to the first-place winners of the Bob Marley Week Creative Expressions Day. The Bob Marley Foundation, which works to empower youth through mentoring and music, contributed gift certificates to purchase instruments and supplies for six winning schools' music programs.

The Gibson Foundation has donated 150 acoustic and electric guitars in 2008, plus a cash grant, to expand INMED's successful IAMusic youth development and music education program in Jamaica, Trinidad, Peru, Brazil and the U.S. The project expansion was announced at the February 2008 event in Jamaica.

Through the IAMusic program, at-risk youth build self-confidence and self-esteem as they gain music skills in a safe environment that offers a positive alternative to the crime and violence so prevalent in their communities.



### Share the news...

Do you know someone who would be interested in learning more about INMED's work?

If so, please send an e-mail to [contact@inmed.org](mailto:contact@inmed.org) letting us know the person's name and e-mail or street address. We will tell him/her who made the referral, and will not share the contact information with any third party.

### INMED-GE Foundation's Ready to Teach, Ready to Learn Program Transforms Elementary Education in Brazil

INMED and INMED Brasil have completed the most recent annual evaluation of the Ready to Teach, Ready to Learn teacher training and basic education program in Francisco Morato, an extremely disadvantaged community in São Paulo—with spectacular results.

At baseline, more than 30% of the children in grades 1-4 could not read or write—now all but 3% have mastered basic literacy. Also at baseline, only 7.5% of these children had achieved the next level of literacy, which is associating the correct written word with the spoken word—now 40% have mastered this level.

The outcomes achieved to date in the pilot phase of the program hold similar promise for the additional 6,000 São Paulo students who were added to the program last fall. Literacy indicators among these students are even worse, highlighting the potential of the Ready to Teach, Ready to Learn program as a vital tool in improving the quality of primary education in the struggling local school system.

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

### INMED's MotherNet Programs Strengthen Vulnerable Families to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect

Every year, April marks Child Abuse Prevention month in the U.S.; 2008 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the observance. Through its long-running MotherNet programs—MotherNet L.A. in Compton, California and MotherNet Loudoun in INMED's headquarters area of northern Virginia—INMED delivers a comprehensive range of services to prevent child abuse and neglect among families at highest risk for poor outcomes in child health, development, safety and academic success.

Recent evaluations add to both programs' records of success—no enrolled families had founded cases of abuse or neglect, a remarkable achievement given the overwhelming risks and challenges MotherNet participants face: intergenerational poverty, social isolation, language barriers, teen pregnancy, complex mental health

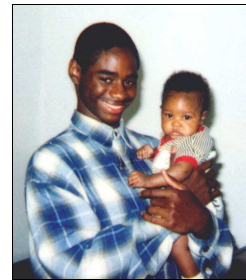
issues, domestic violence, a history of abuse as a child, unemployment, unstable housing, substance abuse, gang affiliation and post-incarceration issues.

Central to the MotherNet program model is providing intensive, long-term, in-home case management services to help families build a foundation for success by defining personal family strengthening goals; delivering education on pregnancy, parenting, and child health, nutrition and development; linking them to health services and other appropriate community resources; monitoring child development; and providing practical and social support to alleviate the major sources of family stress that can lead to child abuse and neglect.

*"I did not know anything about raising a child. I didn't know where to go to the doctor, how to take care of my child, or what to do. The MotherNet program has helped me in learning how to take care of my child."*

*"My family support worker gives me a lot of advice and encourages me to keep moving forward."*

— MotherNet program participants



INMED's MotherNet programs promote the health, safety and optimal development of hundreds of children each year by helping at-risk parents gain the knowledge, skills and self-confidence to provide a nurturing family environment, and by ensuring that families are linked to the resources they need to give their children the healthiest possible start in life.

### INMED Awarded "Exceptional" Charity Rating

For the third consecutive year, INMED has received the highest rating for sound fiscal management from Charity Navigator, America's leading charity evaluator. Our four-star "exceptional" rating demonstrates that INMED "exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause." When you donate to INMED, you can be sure that your contribution is responsibly and effectively invested in our work to improve the health, lives and opportunities of children, families and communities around the world. To view INMED's profile on Charity Navigator, visit [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org) and type "INMED" into the Charity Search box.



### Please Contribute! Help Support Families and Communities Served by INMED

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please make your check payable to INMED Partnerships for Children and mail to us at 20110 Ashbrook Place, Suite 260, Ashburn, Virginia 20147. If you would like your contribution allocated to a specific project, please indicate the project on the memo line of your check.

*Thank you for your support!*

You may also donate online at [www.inmed.org](http://www.inmed.org)

## ***We're Moving!***

Boxes are being packed, and INMED is on the move...  
Effective May 1, 2008, you may reach our global headquarters at:  
20110 Ashbrook Place, Suite 260  
Ashburn, Virginia 20147 USA

## ***Thank you to our donors!***

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