

The Only Independent Relief and Development Organization of the Airline Industry



Children's Medical Escort Program

This is such a beautiful program, and part of me falls in love with each of the kids we help. Linda Feeney

This heartwarming program is a unique way for airline personnel to contribute. Each month 10-18 volunteers are needed to escort children to the U.S. for medical treatment not available in their home country. We work with several different agencies who arrange medical care and a host family for a child, then ask us to provide an escort to accompany the child from his homeland to the city in the U.S. where medical care will be provided.

Because American Airlines provides free Miles for Kids tickets for the children and support for our program, we primarily need volunteers who are American employees, but are working on expanding the program to other airlines. To become child's Escort you must be an airline employee and complete an Escort Application form which can be downloaded from our website www.airlineamb.org. Check out stories on page 2!

Humanitarian Missions Program

It's made such a difference to me to adopt little Richard - and know that he will get an education because of me. Deanna Frieze

Each month AAI members hand deliver medicine, school supplies, hygiene items, shoes, clothing toys and love to children in orphanages, clinics and remote communities worldwide.

These journeys of the heart provide individuals with the chance to apply their unique interests and skills to world need, rather than just writing a check to an organization at a gala dinner. Besides meeting needs for the kids, they meet a need in each of us to express our fundamental kindness, generosity and compassion.

AAI accomplished spectacular relief work in Haiti, arranging for 17 airplanes and 3M lbs of food water and medical supplies after the earthquake in 2010. AAI then spearheaded the construction of Safe Houses in 7 locations for trafficked and abused kids. Regular missions are ongoing as well as to the Philippines, Colombia, Jamaica, Haiti, Guatemala, Cambodia and more. Please join us for a life changing experience. See recent stories on Page3.

Education & Advocacy - Human Trafficking

Petra Hensley entered the train station to meet friends for a weekend ski vacation when a gloved hand reached around her mouth and she lost consciousness. The nightmare that followed altered her life forever and made her an indispensable part of AAI's Trafficking Training team.

Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world and today. There are more than 27 million slaves in the world - more than at any time in history. Traffickers move their victims frequently and often use the speed and convenience of air travel.

Since correctly identifying trafficking on 4 flights in 2009, AAI has become a leading advocate for awareness in the airline and travel industry. AAI developed an industry specific training that is provided at airports and other locations to educate flight crew and travelers on the Blue Lightening protocol developed by Homeland Security. Stories page 4.

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ESCORT NEWS

Children's Medical Escort Program

Margaret Whitehead has been director of AAI's Children's Medical Escort program since 1995 as a full time volunteer. Our sincere appreciation goes out to her selfless service that has impacted so many lives. Wayne Lee and Connie Lowry provide important support to this heartwarming program. In the last year Airline Ambassadors volunteers escorted 265 children to the US for medical treatment and back home again....more than any year in our history

THANK YOU to those that volunteer each month for our



Margaret Whitehead

Children's Escort program. There is not nearly enough room to highlight the hundreds of stories of our amazing volunteers who have traveled to Russia, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, China, India, Philippines, Ghana,

Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Paris, Guyana, Haiti, Bolivia and many other Latin American countries.



Bunny Doi volunteers for these trips only because she knows there is a sick child in need of help. And those kids whose lives she has touched are very fortunate indeed. She has volunteered for escorts nearly every month and all over the world

Amy volunteered to escort a 6 year old to STL for donated open heart surgery. In the MIA airport the child began to experience breathing problems. The paramedics were called and transported her to a hospital where open heart surgery was performed. Amy never left her side for the next two days.



Linda Feeney with Bonny and Jason from Burkina Faso

Thank you to Linda and many volunteers who have helped raise \$ for the Children's Escort program.

Bravo to dozens of AAI volunteers from American, American Eagle, Delta and United who, on four occasions helped facilitate the complicated transfer of over 200 orphans from Latvia and Ukraine who spent a month during winter or summer holidays with host families in the U.S. Support from American Airlines played a large role in making these missions successful.





AmericanAirlines*

kids in need

Ina Melen with

Noel from

Bostor

Honduras to

Thank you for huge support for our Children's Medical Escort program from AA's Mileage Bank

Humanitarian Missions

Journeys of the Heart

AAI accomplished spectacular relief work in Haiti,

arranging for 17 airplanes and 3M lbs of food water and medical supplies after the earthquake in 2010 and then spearheaded the construction of Safe Houses in 7 locations for trafficked and abused kids. Safe Houses were dedicated to Hilton Worldwide and ITMA (International Tour Management Institute. In addition AAI provided training to 100 Haitian engineers in how to build properly reinforced buildings via our CASA Program.





Volunteer teams provided \$25,000 of in-kind aid and more than \$10,000 to support LaFeve School and All God's Children's Orphanage in Haiti. This included school supplies, school sponsorships and, \$ to reinforce a new library. Singer Timmy Thomas joined one of the trips and provided a concert and dance party for the kids to the tunes of his legendary hit – *Why Can't We Live Together?*

In the Philippines

"We had an amazing time at the orphanage and with the children. I'll never be the same again! I laughed constantly, danced non-stop with the kids, hugged children all day long, learned words in their language, took a million pictures and of course cried many joyful tears! Our leader Cheryl Robinson was so incredible! She has a true heart for these children! She prepared our team on specific items to bring for the kids."—Kim Bird





Bogota Orphanage Party

AAI team joined the Bogota AA base in providing individual presents for 75 children at Chiqui's Orphanage in Bogota Colombia. Everyone fell in love with the kids. Mission Coordinator Alex Restrepo has three trips planned again in 2013.



Join us on other missions this year to Jamaica,



Miss Universe spearheads helping HIV Kids in Ghana We were honored to support Miss Universe

helping fight HIV in Ghana.

South Africa, Guatemala,
Cambodia or Nepal.
Check
www.airlineamb.org
for a complete list of
Journeys of the Heart!

Education and Advocacy on Human Trafficking



It is estimated 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders and 100,000 to 300,000 domestic minors are forced into sexually slavery within the U.S. annually. Airline Ambassadors International, the only independent charity of the overall airline industry, has developed a training program available for airline, airport and hotel employees, as a front-line of defense against this horrific crime.

Sabre Holdings signs ECPAT Code of Conduct

AAI team was proud to train Sabre Holdings employees on Human Trafficking Awareness when they signed the ECPAT code of Conduct last fall.

"Sabre has a presence with all segments of the travel sector from agents and airlines to tour services and travelers, and everything in between, putting us in a unique position to act as a driving force in raising awareness for this cause," said Sam Gilliland, Sabre chairman and CEO.



AAI Kicks off 2013 Airport Training's in New Orleans pre Super Bowl

Human trafficking often increases before major sporting events and before the Superbowl AAI trainers spread the word on indicators to watch for and provided thousands of wallet cards to airport employees in New Orleans. Kudos to Flight attendant Unions APFA and AFA who have taken a public stand to support awareness, to American Airlines for initiating education for flight crews and Delta Airlines for signing the ECPAT Code and committing to training as well. All are invited to join us and check our website for calendar of upcoming trainings.



Blue Heart Campaign

AAI has adopted the Blue Heart Campaign to raise awareness about the issue. Blue Heart pins – luggage tags, bookmarks and flashlight's can be ordered by sending an email to angels@airlineamb.org.

AAI team raised \$ to End Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking Training got a boost March 16 at the Rock & Roll Marathon in DC BRAVO TEAM! Many thanks to Sharon and Andre Lobo who coordinated the Airline Ambassadors team for the event!







THANK you to United Airlines and all who have donated to our United Airlines Mileage Bank which provides miles to support our Humanitarian initiatives throughout the world.

Ukraine leads OSCE in 2013 with commitment to combating Human Trafficking

Ukraine is Chair of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in 2013. Airline Ambassadors met with ministries in Kiev and was invited to provide training for the transportation industry in Ukraine, as an example to 57 countries of the alliance.



Children are vanishing. Let's start seeing them before they're gone.

In one year, 200,000 children disappear into thin air. In one hour, learn how to bring that number to zero.

