



Airline Ambassadors INTERNATIONAL

*The Only Independent Relief and Development
Organization of the Airline Industry*



Children's Medical Escort Program

I feel a sense of accomplishment returning children to their family and am so happy to be a part of their happiness. I'm always so thankful for this extraordinary experience. I'm truly blessed. I'm at peace." – Masako "Bunny" Doi

This heartwarming program is a unique way for airline personnel to contribute. Each month 10-20 volunteers are needed to escort children to the U.S. for medical treatment not available in their home countries. We work with 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 a city in the U.S. where medical care will be provided.

Because American Airlines provides free *Miles for Kids* tickets for the children as well as support for our program with priority passes for the escorts, we primarily need American Airlines employees or retirees, but are working to expand the program to all airlines.

To become a Children's Escort you must be an airline employee, an AAI member, and complete an Escort Application form with can be downloaded from our website at www.airlineamb.org.

Check out stories on page 2!



Humanitarian Missions Program

"I had no idea when I sponsored Maria Isabel, that it would lead to a whole jewelry line in her name to provide livelihood for forgotten women of Guatemala!" –Deanna Frieze

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

These "journneys of the heart" provide members with the chance to provide their unique interests and skills to world need and a hands on way of making a difference rather than only writing a check at a gala dinner. Besides meeting needs for the kids, these missions provide a way for each of us to express our fundamental kindness, generosity and compassion.

AAI has adopted projects for on-going support and made commitments to provide education for children in Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, and the Philippines as well as Dominican Republic, Jamaica and South Africa. Your support in providing vital funding and humanitarian assistance makes a substantive difference to these kids. The best part is that you can join us on missions every year to see the grateful faces of children whose lives you have helped to impact. *See more pictures and stories on Page 3.*

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.

600,000-800,000 persons are trafficked across international borders annually and in the U.S. 100,000 - 300,000 domestic minors are forced into sexual slavery every year. AAI is taking the lead in bringing one of the greatest human rights issues of our time to the airline industry. We extend thanks to Congressmen Smith, and Pitts for hosting Congressional Hearings to help us spearhead awareness on this issue, and more recently for HUGE support from Representatives Honda, Lee, Meadows and Speier combating this important human rights issue.

Airline Ambassadors developed a training curriculum for airline, airport and hospitality partners, which has been given in 24 locations and reviewed by the State Department, Homeland Security and law enforcement experts. Flight crews can be the frontline of defense in stopping this horrific crime. We developed flash-cards with key indicators and the DHS Tip Line # for easy access. Please check our website for how to get involved and join us in fighting modern day slavery.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Nancy Rivard, *President and Founder*
- Andres Valenzuelas, *Vice President*
- Sandy Dhuyvetter, *Secretary*
- Carl Inniss, *Treasurer*
- Hoai Hunyh
- Mary Lou Murray
- Christine Warnke

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF ADVISORS

- Dr. Patch Adams
Founder and President, Gesundheit! Institute
- H. E. Inocencio Arias
Ambassador of Spain
- Ken Behring
Founder, Wheelchair Foundation
- Dr. Noel Brown
Special Advisor, U.N. Environment Programme
- Deepak Chopra
Physician, Philosopher, Author
- H.E. and Mrs. Luis Gallegos
Ambassador of Ecuador
- Val Halemendaris
President, Caring Institute
- Prateep Unsongtham Hata
Founder, Duang Prateep Foundation
- Annette Lantos
Director, Congressional Human Rights Caucus
- Geoffrey Lipman
President, Intl. Coalition of Tourism Partners
- H.E. Francis Lorenzo
Ambassador of the Dominican Republic
- Dr. Wally N'Dow
Secretary-General, United Nations Habitat II
- Ana Ligia Mixco de Saca
Former First Lady of El Salvador
- Dr. Elisabet Sahtouris
Author, Biologist
- Hiroo Saionji
President, World Peace Prayer Society
- Daniel Sheth
MSD Capital
- Reverend Desmond M. Tutu
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town

ESCORT NEWS

Children's Medical Escort Program



Margaret Whitehead

Bravo to selfless volunteer escorts who helped transport over 915 children in 2013, more than any year since we started the program in 1995! Many thanks to Margaret Whitehead who has directed these efforts since then as a full time volunteer. She couldn't have done it without the great support from Connie Lowry, Wayne Lee and Joanne Striker who assist coordinating volunteers to accompany these children on one of the most important journeys of their lives.

THANK YOU to those that volunteer each month for our children's Escort Program, There is not nearly enough room to highlight the hundreds of stories of our amazing volunteer who have traveled to Russia, Indonesia, China, India, Philippines, Ukraine, Honduras, Latvia, Peru, Brazil, Ghana, France, Germany Honduras and many more countries in Latin America and around the world.

"I'd like to express my gratitude, for enabling me in doing this quick trip to Guayaquil." Eva was a great traveler. She only had a temper tantrum once, when saying goodbye to her Godfather, as was expected. She enjoyed watching the planes take off and land from her window seat, then slept the entire time, and became a pro in riding escalators, and moving walkways while in Miami.



Eva with Martha Gonzalez



Mel Gibson and Marcella

Hometown Mission (Los Angeles)

Mending Kids International partnered with Cedar Sinai Hospital to provide surgeries for 20 children. Half of the children, ages 4-8 were from Los Angeles, and half came from as far away as Africa and Central America. AAI volunteer, Anna Maldonado escorted two young girls, Marcella and Lizette, from El Salvador for the effort. Her story was featured in the Malibu Chronicle last fall. Marcella is pictured here with actor Mel Gibson at a celebration for the kids in Malibu.



Many Thanks to **Beyond Measure Media** for providing great video PSA's of our AAI programs!

Twice last year, AAI Volunteers coordinated escorts for over 500 from Latvia, Ukraine and China, in the largest orphan airlifts we have ever attempted! We can't tell all the stories... but here is an example from Delta FA Cheryl Robinson about her efforts in China.

Hi Margaret, I survived the trip!!! It was an awesome experience. I would love to go to volunteer to fly to Beijing when the group returns. In Detroit the Delta Airlines In-Flight helped organize food and treats and drinks...everything to be delivered to a gate and we all sat around...had pizza and lots of candy and drinks!!!

Thank you again for everything Cheryl Robinson

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



Sandy Dhuyvetter, host of Travel Talk Radio, accepted the Ambassador of Peace Award for AAI at the London Travel Market!

Humanitarian Missions

Journeys of the Heart



Airline Ambassadors has adopted projects in Colombia, Haiti, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica and Philippines. Our goal is to provide sponsorship's for children at each of these projects enabling them to complete their education. For \$30 per month, (cost of uniforms, a meal, supplies, shoes and school fees), our members can enable these kids to have a positive future. AAI teams visit these children at least twice a year. We believe miracles happen in the lives of these precious children receiving the personal love we give, and this creates a miracle in our own lives as well.

Haiti

Martine Longchamp, American Eagle flight attendant is founder of Diakonos International and helped create "KOMINOTE TI FANMI NOU de DIAKONOS". This family home located just outside Port au Prince provides a safe family haven for 37 orphans, abandoned and abused children where they can play, learn, grow and develop into healthy, happy, educated and productive young adults. AAI teams visit during ART DAY each July, and just before the start of the school year providing vital school supplies and backpacks.



Colombia

AA flight attendant Alex Restrepo leads missions to his native Colombia to help 75 abused and abandoned children at Fundacion Ronpiero "Chiquis" orphanage. Marta Bettencourt, who runs the facility is dedicated to providing for these children, some of whose mothers live in the streets or as prostitutes. Each year, Alex leads a team to visit the facility in a heartwarming interaction with the kids. Pictured above is some of the team after re-painting the orphanage. We return each year with gifts and provide a special Holiday Party here. We appreciate the support of American Airlines and the whole base in Bogota.

El Salvador

Currently in El Salvador there are 1500 schools without electricity and 200 without water. Our goal is to provide educational sponsorship funding for 10 children as well as solar panels and a well for at least one school in 2014 leading to long term goals of education and health. An AAI team was at the inauguration of the first well and solar panel system in Sept. 2013 and made a commitment to help our partner Gente Ayudando Gente with their work providing medical care for women and building sustainable development in El Salvador. Anna Maldonado, pictured here, visited communities where solar panels provided light to rural families and will help lead missions to this beautiful country.



Guatemala

AAI works with Mayan Families to support impoverished children in Panajachel on the banks of beautiful Lake Atitlan. Join us to visit the day care center, schools, vocational training, and even animal programs that will leave you inspired. AAI Board member, Deanna Frieze met 14 yr old Maria Isabel, who was being raised by her grandmother who could not afford to keep her in school or even buy food. They had shared a half an avocado for lunch. Deanna decided then and there to sponsor the family. "You will never go hungry again", she announced. Deanna also initiated micro-loans commissioning the Mayan women make beaded products for her Sunny Days retail shops in California and named the line - "Maria Isabel". BRAVO - Deanna!



Jamaica

Roslyn Parker fell in love with the girls at Melody House, a community home for abandoned and abused girls in Montego Bay. We are working now to set up a vocational program for the girls as manicurists, so always looking for donations of nail polish or supplies for the effort. Roslyn also has a company called Travel to Do Good and leads missions for AAI to Africa and other countries as well.



Philippines

Airline Ambassadors has been visiting Shepherd of the Hills Children's Home since 1999 and this is one of our favorite projects. Besides delivering funding, clothing and gifts, we participate with the kids in daily activities, going to the beach, making pizzas (from scratch), playing games, baking cookies, doing craft projects and swimming in the new pool. The older boys give a tour on outrigger boats, island hopping through gorgeous terrain. The stay is always topped off by a very special CONCERT with dancing, followed by a bonfire and dancing. "I have fallen in love with all the kids here and watched most of them grow up. I cannot wait to return each year, as I now feel as though these are my children too." Cheryl Robinson



Airport Trainings on Human Trafficking

The buying and selling of women, girls and boys – is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world. U.S. airports are major hubs of entry and exit for perpetrators. AAI worked closely with Homeland Security and Customs Border Protection to develop an industry specific training consistent with the “Blue Campaign”. We have provided 24 trainings at airports across the U.S. and the first training of flight crew in Europe in Kiev, Ukraine in 2013. We appreciate recent support from Congressmen Mike Honda and Mark Meadows and Congresswomen Barbara Lee and Jackie Speier for support of our Oakland Airport training.



Interpol

Airline Ambassadors participated at the second INTERPOL Conference on Trafficking in Human Beings in Lyon France November 14-15, 2013. The French Minister for Women’s Rights opened the event, which brought together 150 law enforcement and non-governmental experts from nearly 50 countries. “What an honor to be invited to present our airline initiative to the Interpol Conference with top human trafficking experts from around the world”. - Sandi Fiorini, AAI Human Trafficking Trainer



Runaway Bridesmaids

Holly Corbett, is part of a trio of female travelers, book co-authors, and TravelChannel.com personalities known as *The Lost Girls*. She is spearheading an AAI team in a 1 Mile Fun Run in her hometown of Hoboken NJ on June 26. What sets this team apart is that they’ll be wearing recycled bridesmaid, prom, or cocktail dresses (yes, even the guys!) and collecting pledges to raise money to provide an airport training for Newark, New Jersey in Human Trafficking Awareness. The premier *Runaway Bridesmaids* race took place in 2012 as part of New York City’s famous Fifth Avenue Mile, raising nearly \$11,000 to help fight sex trafficking.



Plane Manners

Bravo to AAI Board member ML Murray, author of the delightful new children’s book, *Plane Manners*. This is a beautifully illustrated story features a cast of zoo animals each conveying good manners and tips on airplane safety. It is a little book with a big heart and a lofty goal, and available in Heritage bookstores located in 12 U.S. airports. \$1.00 from the purchase of every *Plane Manners* book goes to Airline Ambassadors to support our work fighting child-trafficking.



Global Officials of Dignity Awards at the United Nations



Airline Ambassadors is a partner with We Care for Humanity on the 2nd G.O.D Awards, to honor nobles and notables with outstanding civic and charitable stewardship who have significantly improved quality of life in their communities through the fields of Business, Philanthropy, Arts and Entertainment. The Gala is slated to be held on JUNE 20, 2014 at the UNITED NATIONS Headquarters. Airline Ambassadors will present the Crystal, Gold, and Blue Heart Awards, honoring companies who have supported our three programs at this elegant celebration.



Donate your MileagePlus frequent flier miles to Airline Ambassadors



You can donate your United Airlines MileagePlus frequent flyer miles to Airline Ambassadors. When you donate miles you help children in need. You can donate any number of miles (minimum of 500) to support the good work we do. Thank you in advance for this important contribution.

Shine a Light on Human Trafficking

Flight attendants carry flashlights as part of their uniform requirement. Our slim new flashlight card fits in a pocket and provides a list of four common indicators as well as the DHS Tip Line number. **Your action to Recognize and Report suspicious behavior can save a life! They are available for \$3, or free when you join or renew your membership.**

