



**ROTARY DISTRICT 6110  
MEDICAL SUPPLIES NETWORK, INC.**

**NETWORKER**

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**SHIPMENTS**

Since July 1 of this Rotary year, we have shipped more than \$630,000 worth of medical equipment and supplies throughout the world. Our last three shipments were made to Mexico and Nicaragua.

The Nicaragua shipment was made in conjunction with water drilling equipment for the water well project established by the Rotary Club of Tulsa several years ago. Each year supplies are sent in support of that project. Once this equipment is loaded into the container, all additional available space is filled with medical equipment and supplies.

We made two shipments to Mexico during the past three months. The first shipment was made directly from a warehouse in Oklahoma City. This warehouse contained various types of equipment that were useful for a new hospital facility in Matamoros, Mexico. Rotarian Charles Campbell of the Rotary Club of Broken Arrow arranged to have a Mexican trucking company deliver a semi-trailer to Oklahoma City for loading. Additionally, several Rotarians from the Matamoros club flew to Oklahoma City and helped with the loading of this trailer. This equipment was donated to MSNI by Jim LaGree of LaGree and Associates, an Oklahoma City commercial real estate firm.

Our second shipment was made to the same area in Mexico. This

shipment was made from our warehouse and, again, Rotarian Campbell provided a trailer, which was loaded with daily-use supplies and equipment for the same facility.

**INVENTORY**

When we completed our last shipment in December, we had depleted our available inventory as of that time. This does not mean that the warehouse was empty. The warehouse had several pallets of supplies and various types of equipment that we had not inventoried or checked at that time. In order for us to meet our goal of one container per month, all of these donated items must be inventoried for shipment. These items come from various parts of the District, and the supply is endless. We currently have several hospitals throughout the District that provide us with items on a regular basis. Additionally, many Rotary clubs bring in items from their area when they become available.

Each weekend, Rotarians and other volunteers from the Tulsa area work at our warehouse inventorying and preparing items for shipment. We currently have approximately 13 Rotary clubs that participate on a rotation basis. Some of these clubs help at the warehouse once every quarter and others less frequently. If your Rotary club would like to schedule a workday at our warehouse, please contact Director of Operations Larry Biron for available dates. The inventory

work is generally done on Saturday mornings. However, a group is welcome anytime during the week. The hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

**FUTURE SHIPMENTS**

All of the shipments made by MSNI are dependent on two things: (1) the recipient must be able to receive the equipment and supplies tax-free and duty-free; and (2) funding must be available to cover the cost of shipping. The average container cost from Tulsa to its final destination is \$8,000. Based on our shipping history, approximately \$100,000 is needed each year to cover this cost. Currently, these funds come from various sources, i.e., sponsorship from outside organizations such as churches and groups interested in helping the people of a specific area. Some of our recipients are able to provide their own funding, and the balance of these funds comes from Rotary fundraising projects.

MSNI currently has several requests for assistance, some of which may never be filled due to the fact that the recipient cannot meet the above two requirements. Shipping is normally made to a Rotary club in area of need. The reason for this is that the variety of items in a container can be used by different groups in the area.

