



INSIDE

Annual Highlights 2008

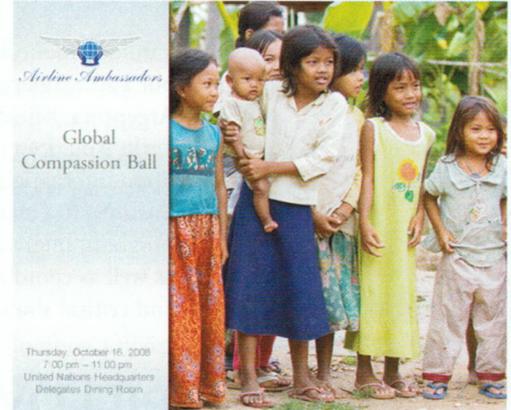
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Highlights

- Countries visited: 24
- Humanitarian Missions: 81
- Escorts Completed: 161
- Aid Delivered: \$3.5 Million
Impacting 82,000 Children

GLOBAL COMPASSION BALL FUNDS PROJECTS ON FIVE CONTINENTS

Airline Ambassadors' first gala, the Global Compassion Ball held at the United Nations, raised funds to support projects on five continents. Alongside ambassadors and dignitaries from around the world, NBC's Peter Greenberg and Ann Curry joined AAI's President Nancy Rivard and Board member Daniel Sheth to welcome the First Lady of El Salvador. Honorees included the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights, Latter Day Saints Charities, AAI's Denver Regional Director William Dise and Eric Klein of CAN-DO Foundation. Unforgettable performances by Shavram Shiva and Melky Jean provided even more inspiration for the evening. Special thanks go to American Airlines, Weber Shandwick, The Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI), our premier sponsors, and dozens of other companies and individuals who support our hands on development work—assisting orphans, children and families in overcoming issues in poverty and hunger, education, health, child welfare and community development.



US MILITARY HELPS TRANSPORT \$2 M OF HUMANITARIAN AID TO COLOMBIA

As fuel prices skyrocketed and the ability to ship humanitarian assistance on commercial airliners became more difficult, AAI developed a partnership with the US military to build goodwill, peace and security. AAI began coordinating with the US Special Forces when delivering relief for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Later, Army Civil Affairs called AAI into Colombia to provide assistance in response to the Galera volcanic eruption requesting medicine, equipment and supplies. AAI Board member, Dave Rivard, SSG Pastor Valdez, and Captain Rob Byerly helped coordinate a



ation of four containers through the generosity of LDS Charities. US Special Operations calls this "Force Multiplication," and it has enabled us to meet the needs list for a hospital in So. Colombia where we are the only NGO helping, as well as provide support to our two adopted orphanages in Bogota.

NEW IN FLIGHT VIDEO INSPIRES TRAVELERS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Many thanks to American Airlines for highlighting the work of Airline Ambassadors as part of the CBS Eye on American in flight video on every American Airlines flight, as well as features on the new 777 Air Show! A video of AAI flight attendants visiting UNICEF projects also airs on AA international flights. Airline Ambassadors led the recruitment for this **Champions for Children** program that raised \$500,000 for UNICEF in the last year. A new in-flight video was shot in Honduras in November.

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A Message From the President Nancy Rivard

Airline Ambassadors acts as a living link between world resource and world need. The real value of aid is in the goodwill and friendships that evolve after it is given. I would like to thank **Mireille Hanna** for her tireless humanitarian work over the last year. She single-handedly coordinated campaigns to support women artisans in Chiapas, Mexico, to provide an electrical system for Caritas Felices orphanage in Lima, Peru, and to build a school and establish a medical program in the Philippines via a unique tool called Karma 411. She also launched the efforts of our Latin American Regions in Colombia, Peru, Chile and Argentina. Mireille arranged courier transport of donations to the Latin American countries and projects from Miami by calling upon international flight crews. Mireille set up our monthly missions to Guatemala supporting the Open Windows literacy program, migrant coffee workers and projects of Mayan Families, as well as coordinating funds for a kindergarten in the Philippines, and critical shipments of water filters and supplies to Haiti. She is a true Ambassador of Goodwill. **BRAVO!**



PILLOW STUFFEES

You're looking for a new way to support Airline Ambassadors, Pillow Stuffees is may be the answer!! Pillow Stuffees were created by our Honoulu Regional Director, **Deb Quitgley**. They offer you a fresh, restful, cozy and hygienic pillow for your flight and can even double as warm head-gear! Profits help our projects around the world. Check out our website airlineamb.org and help us "Make a Difference!"



ANIMAL ESCORTS

We need volunteers each month to help rescue and transport animals to no kill shelters or to new homes across the country. If you would like to participate in this or volunteer at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary contact our Animal Coordinator Larry Harman - animals@airlineamb.org



MEET YOUR SPONSORED CHILD

Have you ever wished that you could personally meet the child that the TV ad says you will be sponsoring? Well, now you can. AAI offers 3-day Sponsorship Trips that gives an opportunity to hand deliver your funds and meet your sponsored child. One trip will be to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. **Deb Quigley** will help you coordinate these visits. To sponsor an adopted child and coordinate a visit to Cambodia contact Deb Quigley QuigleyFliies@aol.com, or for Colombia, contact Alex Restrepo at alexkarlrestrepo@hotmail.com.

ESCORT NEWS

Children's Escort Program:

The Children's Escort Program provides a unique way for airline personnel to volunteer escorting children to the United States for needed medical treatment, or for orphans to a new home, a new country and a new family. We coordinate 10 - 15 of these escorts every month (this program is only available for those with flight benefits from the airline industry). If you are interested in applying as a children's escort, contact our Margaret Whitehead, Director of the program, at Mmwhitehead3@aol.com. Here are a few recent stories:

Escort to Africa

Ruth Matranga escorted little 12 year-old John to Africa. He came to the U.S. for scoliosis treatment, but the doctors determined that surgery would involve too much risk for him. Ruth escorted John back to his homeland. "Little John has the most life of any of the kids I have escorted" said Ruth, "It is so sad that he will not be with us for very long. ...Even though he has no arms, he was able to drink a glass of juice with his feet!"



Baby Olivia from Burkina Faso

Carol Ludington escorted baby Olivia from Paris to Columbus. Olivia is from Burkina Faso and had corrective surgery in Ohio. Carol said, "The trip was great, Olivia was a little doll and everyone wanted to take her home, including me! It was a delightful adventure! Olivia's Mom made this dress just for her trip to the US!"

A Traveling Companion from Cambodia

Deborah Quigley escorted Sithan Leam from Hawaii to Cambodia following surgery and treatment at Shriners's Hospital. Sithan had to undergo many medical procedures and Deborah was always ready to jump to her side saying, "If Sithan needs to return to Hawaii in the future, I will be most willing and thrilled to come get her. She was a great traveling companion!"



An Angel from Haiti

One little infant changed lives on an American Airlines flight this year. The Flight Attendant escorting the infant explained, "this little baby was a catalyst for good—some how, some way—for a lady (holding her during our flight). It was touching. Just before landing, I took the baby back, and as we deplaned, the woman hugged my neck...I can't profess to know what she was thinking (through her tragedy). I told her I would pray that she and her family found the strength they needed for the journey ahead and she just shook her head up and down, tears once again forming. These children give so much—just by being. I doubt they will ever be aware of the lives they have affected. Love comes in tiny doses, and packs a big wallop!"



Baby Kimberly is saved!

Baby Kimberly, a tiny three-month old, malnourished baby desperately needed to come to the United States to have medical surgery. Doctors estimated that if she didn't come within one week, it could be too late to save her. She was not able to eat sufficiently at this critical time in her development. American Airlines staff scrambled to make the trip possible and Kimberly came to Cincinnati and received the medical help she desperately needed.



From Atlanta to Haiti

Seven year old Olwitch came to the US to have surgery for his club feet and had been away from his family for a year. Ironically, Terry Olwitch had the privilege of escorting him back home to his country, community and family. "Olwitch made friends wherever we went, laughing and dancing his way onto the gate area and into the airplane. He ventured into the cockpit and congratulated the pilots on what good drivers they were!"

MISSIONS 2007

Each month Airline Ambassadors coordinates 3-10 humanitarian missions where volunteers hand deliver aid and love to children and families in need. These Journey's of the Heart, substantively help children and provide a way for our members to bring "compassion into action".

Argentina

Thank you **American Airlines** for the donation of 150 First Class duvets and BRAVO to **Laura Schultz** and dozens of flight attendants who transported them one by one from Miami to the layover hotel in Buenos Aires and on to Bariloche, where children desperately needed a warm blanket as defense against the cold. Join us on future missions to support this program in Argentina.



Bolivia

AAI members went to the Hospital del Nino to deliver supplies and professional ophthalmological services and hearing aid manufacturing education for the La Paz Center for the Blind and the Center for Adult Education. Also, with the cooperation of the Lexington Lions Club, 1,500 pairs of eyeglasses and 800 pairs of shoes were hand delivered to grateful crowds! Many thanks to **Bob Millonig** whose donations made a new room possible for the hearing impaired.



Colombia



Thanks to **Alex Restrepo**, **Martha Orozco**, **Maryann Gelvez** and our Bogota team who provided support for Hogares Luz y Vida orphanage for abandoned and disabled children, and Ninos por el Nuevo Planeto. This home was begun by a young couple who took in 300 sexually

abused children from drug addicted parents and they need EVERYTHING! – diapers, sheets, hygiene items, clothing and food. Thanks to **Travel Pro**, each orphan has a place for personal "treasures" at the foot of every bed (a traveling footlocker). AAI also delivered hospital equipment, donations and services to the hospitals in San Juan del Guaviere, Putumayo, and Tucano as well as clinics in their outlying areas. Thanks to **LDS Charities** for this critical equipment.

Dominican Republic

Our AAI team hand-delivered \$150,000.00 of aid donated by Latter Day Saints Charities! Many thanks to **Shannon DeWitt**, AAI Mission Coordinator, **Rolando Vasquez**, of **American**

Airlines, and **Laura Reyes**, of **Kids4KidsCrossingBorders**, who arranged for cargo ship delivery. The team distributed donations, toys, and critical hygiene assistance. **Gary Basciano** provided baseball uniforms and equipment in Cien Fuego and some kids enjoyed their first Little League game. Community leaders shared their needs and helped plan future programs that will break new ground, save lives, and make a long-term difference in the quality of life for the suffering communities in the area.



El Salvador

William Dise led an El Salvador mission on behalf of the First Lady **Mrs. Ana Ligia Mixco de Saca**. The team brought donations of clothing, shoes, hygiene kits, newborn kits, and a gift for every resident in two communities in Soyapango. The First Lady graciously presented William, and all members of the team, with a plaque of appreciation. Many thanks to **Fresh Produce**, **CROCS**, **LDS Charities**, **OneWorld Running**, **Leslie Sosnowski**, **Karen Mastrondardi** and the entire **Denver team**. The trip was inspiring and rewarding – blending humanitarian work with participation and support of high level organizations in El Salvador.



In addition, **Cindy Paulus** coordinated the delivery of THREE 767s to El Salvador in 2008! THANK YOU **jetBlue!** AAI teams provided a shelter, medical assistance to children's homes and twelve communities in El Salvador. They even established the first "JetBlue International Soccer Tournament" for at-risk boys in the country, as well as 100 computers! Thank you to **Stephan Hitmann** and the **911 Fund!**

Ethiopia

Norma Nashed, of **Reaching Hearts for Kids**, coordinated a mission to the "cradle of civilization," Ethiopia. Volunteers visited the 36 orphans of **Reaching Hearts for Kids' Model Village** and delivered gifts, played with the children, built cabinets and gardened around the home. **Cavaliere Philip Bonn** and **World of Hope International** coordinated European efforts and arranged the donation of shoes, "Play Pumps" for irrigation, and seeds to address the dire food shortage in the country. The team conducted a needs assessment and met with the Minister of Tourism and the Mayor of Addis Ababa to hone our future support to Ethiopia. Thanks to **Michelle Campbell**, who coordinated an LA fundraiser for our Ethiopia projects and who will be leading a future Ethiopia mission!





Guyana

Airline Ambassadors arranged a donation of 100 school kits to students of the Central Islamic Organization of Guyana's Islamic Academy. The students are orphans and considered to be the most vulnerable segment of the population who attend the Academy free of charge. **Sheik Moeen ul-Hack** and a number of orphans were present to receive and distribute the school kits. The Sheik sent a thank you note to Airline Ambassadors and the U. S. Embassy. AAI has further plans to assist this school with U. S. Army Civil Affairs Units.



Guatemala

"Guatemala was different from anything we'd ever seen before!" said **Kasey Shelley**. Kasey's team, led by her mother, **Peggy Shelley**, delivered sewing machines, newborn kits, clothing, shoes, blankets and chickens to women and children. The group helped kids with their homework, and **Emma Zilber**, AAI's high school intern, delivered "friendship bags" from students at Half Moon Bay High School, California. This mission provided food to migrant worker families from coffee plantations, too. Join us on a future Guatemala mission where and your donation can provide one year of schooling for a child, a 0% women's micro-loan, a water system or an efficient stove for a needy family. This is a spectacular journey to a land of rich color and cultural diversity... Stay an extra week and learn Spanish at one of the popular language schools in Antigua!



Haiti

Haiti suffered the onslaught of FOUR hurricanes in 2008. Bravo to **Nancy Hummel** who personally delivered food to **Sister Fatima** in Port-au-Prince, where orphaned children were eating mud cookies for food. 1,800 meals were delivered. **Mireille Hanna** delivered critical medical equipment and supplies as well as water filters. We are thrilled to partner with **Melky Jean**, on behalf of her native Haiti, and **CARMA** for more humanitarian efforts. The land and people are beautiful, the mountains are gorgeous, but Haiti is also the poorest country in this hemisphere. We were honored to have Melky perform at the Compassion Ball and will adopt CARMA projects for ongoing support. AAI is working with the US military and American Airlines to coordinate airplanes of relief to help suffering Haitian families.



Mexico

AAI Southwest Airlines supervisor **Kim Rex** fell in love with the children of Mexico. When she learned that the orphans she loved could not attend school without school uniforms and supplies, she had an idea. Southwest Airlines was changing uniforms. Thousands of employees had old uniforms that were still perfectly good. She staged a campaign to collect the uniforms and led a team to hand deliver the uniforms, along with school supplies from **LDS Charities**, to 180 children at Casa de Paz Orphanage and Fara Orphanage. The kids modeled their new duds proudly! **Peggy Sprague** taught a dental hygiene class and led an art project in which each child decorated their own guardian angel. The Mexican people were so welcoming and incredible that participants didn't want to leave them!



Myanmar

Immediately after Cyclone Nagris hit Myanmar with devastating fury, only six visas were granted for immediate humanitarian assistance. These visas were given to AAI member, **LeiLei Thein**, and her team who chartered a DC-10 filled with 1000 Shelter boxes of aid earmarked for the devastated delta areas. Each Shelter box contained a tent, water purification equipment, and survival supplies for a family of ten. **Dr. Daniel Susott**, **Dr. Ratanvale** and **Deb Quigley** led our second team and provided medical support and care for children orphaned by the disaster. The second team bought more water purification systems for the suffering communities with money raised from the "Benefit for Burma" event in San Diego.

Nepal

Many thanks to **Mark Ferguson** and students from his high school in Michigan who raised \$2000 to refurbish a school they had visited last fall. The group also completed a riveting video documenting the visit which you can see on our website at www.airlineamb.org. AAI has committed to providing a radio station in this mountainous area where communications are vital, too. Please watch our website for trips next spring!





Peru



Thanks to very generous donations from **Robert Millonig** and **Heather Mozart**, we were able to build a bathhouse for the community of Montejato and provide school sponsorships for 100 children whose lives were devastated by the earth-

quake last year. We plan support for the Fuller Center for Housing to build 400 houses for residents in La Florida. Participants spent a day in the earthquake affected area of Ica and Pisco, went to orphanages for girls, had a celebration at lunch and visited the world famous Museo de Oro. AAI members also provided a new electrical system for Las Caritas Felices orphanage and other teams visited Iquitos to improve health, education and infrastructure of the riverside communities. They painted 200 homes and delivered children's shoes, clothing and hygiene items to 1,000.

Philippines

11 cartons of medical supplies and a wheelchair traveled from Houston to Dolores by airplane, truck, and, at times, were handed from person to person across flooded areas before successfully reaching their final destination. Thank you to **Aida Alard**, of **Medical Bridges**, **William Dise**, **Mireille Hanna** and **Patricia Mogilnicki**, of **Airline Ambassadors**, and **Emiliana Field** and **Monika Picardo**, of **Philippine Airlines** and **American Airlines**.



Thailand

How can we describe this incredible mission in the heart of Asia! Bangkok, the Temple of Dawn, the Buddhist people, the elephant conservation camp, the hill tribe children, and the traditional "long-necks". Thank you to **Mark Fangue** and **Liz Allen** who researched needs and projects for AAI's ongoing support to Thailand. They discovered another face of Thailand through the slums of Bangkok, visits to fair-trade organizations, and the purchase of handcrafts that were made by children, elders, and victims who live in extreme poverty following the tsunami. Mark and Liz took videos and photographs which have been viewed 9 million times on YouTube and the elephants painting at our adopted conservation camp is airing on National Geographic and Animal Planet.



South Africa

Our missions to South Africa are a magical opportunity to help children, experience the native Zulu culture first hand, and marvel at the breathtaking safari animals. **Airline Ambassadors** is the only charity providing development assistance to Nkundusi Village. AAI has adopted this Zulu community and we are following the direction of local leaders in refurbishing the creche and school and in the development of tourism projects to bring the community revenue. Thank you to the **Reed family**, **Robin Schmidt**, **Kathy Crider**, **Sheila Madden**, **Roslyn Parker** and our S. Africa Director, **Silviya Simmonds!** South Africa volunteers visit Sinthemba, the Lion Park, and Nkundusi Village. They share African culture through dance and song and they learn, from professional guides, about the wildlife and ecosystem of the savannah. Join us on the next mission!



United States

Kirsten Perkins and **William Dise** have been leading on-going missions to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina, in New Orleans. Donations make the purchase of building materials possible and work continues as they help to re-build the homes and communities with the **St. Bernard Project** team-up. As **Kirsten** says, *"You will be building someone's house so be prepared to work hard and to the best of your ability. No experience is necessary as the (St. Bernard Project) will train us. We will work hard, but there will also be opportunities to meet families in the area and to enjoy the wonderful food and culture of New Orleans."* **William Dise** coordinated an **American Airlines** response and coordinated 150 AA employees in the rebuilding of 9 houses this fall.



Vietnam

Airline Ambassadors developed an art program for disabled children. Goods have been distributed among four facilities who are serving the needy in two provinces. **Kelly Neal** and **Suzanne Sigona** took off for Vietnam with donated items. Get involved in the next mission and share your skills on the frontlines. Regular missions are also planned to help disabled children and victims of Agent Orange with **Trinh Bui Kokkoris**. Watch our website for details!



SPECIAL

events & youth programs

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL COMPETITION 2008: "WATER FOR ALL"

Youth ambassadors David Kidwell and Kelly Shelly helped launch our 2008 Paz Y Cooperacion School Competition at a UN press conference. The theme for the 2008 Competition is "Water for All." Posters describing the competition invite students of all ages to reflect upon the theme. The theme for 2008 was WATER. Over 1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water while 2 billion lack adequate sanitation. Every day 4,500 children die from inadequate hygienic conditions and each year 2.2 billion people die of illnesses associated with water-borne diseases such as malaria. Thank you to students from 60 countries who participated. Award ceremonies will be held in Morocco in 2009.

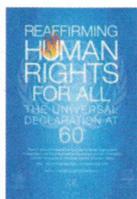


BENEFITS FOR BURMA, ETHIOPIA AND CHILDREN OF THE WORLD

Thank you to James Scmactenberger for coordinating an inspiring Benefit for Burma in San Diego. Funds raised from the benefit used by AAI members to buy water purification systems for families affected by the devastation of Cyclone Nagris. Michelle Campbell coordinated a fundraiser in Los Angeles to support projects in Ethiopia. LAX based pilots provided great music and guests sampled Ethiopian cuisine! Lindsey Ward also coordinated a Reggae concert in San Diego to support AAI's efforts helping children around the world. Thank you ONE WORLD Reggae.

DPI NGO ANNUAL UNITED NATIONS PARIS Re-Affirming Human Rights

AAI sent six delegates to Paris for the first annual DPI/NGO conference held in France at UNESCO Headquarters to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 2,000 representatives of non-governmental organizations offered profound insight into the reality of Human Rights issues world wide, through conferences, round tables and midday workshops.



A Human Rights Village was erected in front of the City Hall of Paris, offering an opportunity to the French public to meet NGO's and discuss what human rights means in their lives. Bravo to AAI's student intern, Alexandra Bonvalot who led our delegation.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

Camille Wheeler is now accepting applications for 2009 IYE

(International Youth Exchange) program for family and friends of airline staff. The program gives youth, ages 14-18, the opportunity to experience other cultures first-hand during a two-week exchange period in which they live with a family in another country. For more information, please email cwhee23773@aol.com

CARE CONFERENCE

Shannon DeWitt, represented Airline Ambassadors at the Care Conference in Washington, DC. The focus was on global hunger crisis, climate change, sexual and gender-based violence. "For the first time in my life I felt and experienced the democratic process, in a way that I never imagined. Our efforts will help set policy that will help millions of people." Shannon points out how invaluable these conferences can be for members who would like to find out how global themes, treaties and legal agreements are developed. He adds Airline Ambassadors, having consultative status at the United Nations, can contribute ideas that will impact billions of individuals, governments and our planet.

Membership Application

Take advantage of tax incentives and join or donate by 12/31

Name (print) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____ (m) _____

E-mail _____

Airline or Company _____ Title _____

I would like to donate:

One - time \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500

Monthly \$5 \$10 \$15 \$20

Payment Type MC VISA Check Other _____

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866-ANGEL-86
www.airlineamb.org

Airline Ambassadors provides humanitarian aid to children and families in need and international relief and development to under-privileged communities throughout the world. AAI is a non-profit 501(c) (3) charity and all donations are fully tax deductible.

Please join us bringing Compassion Into Action!

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 Virtuoso Travel
 Wallaroo Hats
 Weil, Gotshal & Manges
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 Wheelchair Foundation
 Wick Foundation
 World Care

Thank You!



MISS AMERICA: MAKING WISHES COME TRUE

Kirsten Haglund, Miss America 2008, is dedicated to humanitarian efforts. Having developed her own non-profit organization, she is involved in many social and charitable projects. We were thrilled to have Kirsten participate on our Wish Flight to Give Kids the World Village in Orlando, Florida as one of our very special guests at the Global Compassion Ball in New York.

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Airline Ambassadors and CAN DO

partnered to provide critical relief supplies to residents in Oakville, Iowa following the floods of 2008. This community is home to 439 people with 118 children under the age of 18. The residents set up in a school field, living in tents and RV's. Out of the 181 homes and 22 businesses there, 101 were considered destroyed and 92 sustained major damage. The two organizations provided aid and supplies while CanDo broadcasted the delivery of relief live on the internet at: Virtual Volunteer! We are working with CanDo to take this technology on missions around the world.

Donate United Miles:



Airline Ambassadors has a United Mileage Plus Charity Miles account. This has helped our humanitarian volunteers tremendously throughout the year as they travel to make a difference and support tsunami relief and reconstruction work, but our miles are running out! You can help by donating United Plus Miles to Airline Ambassadors.

Please donate now!

<https://secure.ualmiles.com/MP050103.jsp>



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