



## NEWS

### For Immediate Release

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## Global Links Marks Sendoff of 500<sup>th</sup> Shipment of International Medical Aid with Free Public Celebration, Bolivian Breakfast, Facility Tours

### Medical Supplies Will Outfit Floating Primary Clinic Serving Remote Areas of Bolivia's Amazon Basin

(PITTSBURGH - March 10, 2014) -- Pittsburgh-based [Global Links](#) celebrates the official sendoff of its 500<sup>th</sup> shipment of life-saving medical materials recovered from regional hospitals with a free public celebration, including an authentic Bolivian breakfast buffet, on March 21. The March 21 shipment will outfit a three-story river boat that will serve as a floating primary care clinic serving the poorest and most remote areas of Bolivia's Amazon basin.



Photo Survival & Silvia Antelo Aguilar

The public is invited to be a part of this historic day and attend a free celebration at the organization's headquarters in Green Tree. [All Hands on Deck](#) kicks off at **8:30 a.m.** on **Friday, March 21**, with breakfast, followed by facility tours, the official sendoff of the shipment, and

an inside look into the work that goes into planning and packing medical supplies for a large international aid project.

The Amazon Health Boat outfitted by Global Links will bring health services and education directly to communities along the Madre de Dios and Orthon rivers. From May to August, 2014, the boat will travel nearly 6,000 km, docking in areas that are accessible to patients.

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Working in cooperation with ADEMAF (Bolivia's regional development agency), Global Links will outfit the boat with four exam stations – two primary care stations, one maternal / gynecological health station, and one dental station. The boat will also be stocked with necessary basic health care and testing supplies, first-aid kits for communities and a medical reference library. By bringing the healthcare services directly to the communities, thousands of patients who cannot travel for medical or economic reasons will gain access to high quality health care, testing, immunizations and health education.

“The Amazon Health Boat project is one example of how Global Links works with partner countries to have both an immediate and long-range impact on communities in some of the poorest countries in our hemisphere where the need for even basic health care is great,” says Global Links CEO and co-founder Kathleen Hower.

Since 1989, Global Links has delivered over \$200 million in critical medical aid through collaborative programs, and annually keeps more than 260 tons of usable materials from entering our landfills. The shipment to Bolivia marks the 500<sup>th</sup> shipment in the organization’s history.

**To RSVP for *All Hands on Deck*, click [www.globallinks.org](http://www.globallinks.org) or call (412) 361-3424. Global Links is located at 700 Trumbull Drive in Green Tree.**

### **About Global Links**

Global Links is a medical relief and development organization dedicated to improving health in resource-poor communities, primarily in the Western Hemisphere. Global Links collaborates with U.S. health care institutions and the community to recover hundreds of tons of high-quality surplus medical materials every year that would otherwise be sent to landfills. These materials are shared with public health institutions that are providing care for their country’s most vulnerable people.

In Western PA, Global Links offers numerous volunteer opportunities, donates materials to other non-profit organizations, and supports international medical service trips. For more information, visit [www.globallinks.org](http://www.globallinks.org).

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