



*Working Together in Health for
Mothers, Children, and Communities*



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CORE Group Annual Report 2006



Who We Are

The CORE Group is a membership association of international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) whose mission is to improve the health and well being of children and women in developing countries through collaborative NGO action and learning. The CORE Group's 47 member organizations work in more than 180 countries. CORE, Inc. is a 501 [c] 3 charitable organization based in Washington, D.C.

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CORE Group Board of Directors

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World Vision

Karen LeBan
Executive Director
CORE Group

Thirty thousand children die every day of largely preventable diseases such as diarrhea, malaria, pneumonia, and newborn infections. The CORE Group and its 47 member organizations work around the world to prevent these deaths by improving health services at the community level, as well as increasing the ability of families to address their own local health needs. CORE members measurably improved the lives of children, their families, and their communities in 2006, and through strategic partnerships are well-placed to contribute even more in 2007.

In 2006, the CORE Group increased collaboration with global and country health alliances and initiatives, bringing the valuable views and experiences of its members to health policy discussions. CORE joined the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health; the Advocacy, Communications, and Social Mobilization Taskforce of the Stop TB Partnership; and the Implementing Best Practices in Reproductive Health Initiative; and actively participated in such policy fora as the Latin America and Caribbean Newborn Health Regional Strategy and the Child Health in Africa and Countdown to 2015 conferences. CORE also continued to support associations working to reduce the burden of malaria in Kenya, Mali, Tanzania, and Uganda.

2006 was a year of new partnerships to expand the CORE Group's momentum. CORE was pleased to welcome seven new members this past year. In June, CORE received funding from Johns Hopkins University/Center for Communication Programs to expand advocacy in the fight against malaria in Kenya and Mali. And CORE partnered with the President's Malaria Initiative to increase the use of mosquito net retreatment kits in Tanzania. At the same time, CORE continues to live up to its reputation for technical excellence with state-of-the-art skill-building workshops, online learning sessions, and the well-attended annual Spring Meeting.

As CORE looks forward to 2007, we will focus on strengthening collaboration and expanding partnerships at the country-level to increase the numbers of children reached with life saving information and services. With a more diverse funding base, the CORE Group is better able to respond to its members needs in times of shifting donor priorities, so CORE is actively exploring new and exciting partnerships. In the meantime, we thank our dedicated members and partners for their efforts over the past year, and together we will continue to move towards reducing the risks brought on just by being a young child or new mother in a developing country.

Tom Davis
Chair, CORE Group
Board of Directors

Karen LeBan
CORE Group
Executive Director



World Vision

Haiti has the highest prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS in the Americas. In order to reach HIV/AIDS patients, orphans, and vulnerable children in rural Haitian communities, CORE brought several organizations together to develop a coordinated plan of action. The plan, now financed by the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, enables these organizations to work together to reach 90,000 people in 13 districts across the country.

CORE fosters strategic alliances for in-country collaboration to increase the impact of community-focused child health and development programs.

While individual organizations working in community settings make a significant difference in saving lives, imagine the combined effort of multiple organizations, working in a coordinated fashion to save the lives of the 10.8 million children under five years old who die of preventable illnesses every year. It is only when we synchronize our activities that we can make an impact on a much larger scale. CORE creates alliances among its 47 member organizations and between its members, the private sector, governmental institutions, and grassroots organizations to maximize collaboration for improved child health and development. CORE pursues open, inclusive partnerships,

connecting its members with different constituencies at national, regional, and global levels to promote and implement effective community-based maternal, newborn, and child health programs. Since different organizations have different strengths and resources, their collective efforts complement each other, and they can reach more families and communities with an array of services and resources. CORE serves as a neutral facilitator to enable the organizations to both learn more about each other's successful approaches and tools and to jointly adapt tested interventions for reducing maternal and childhood deaths.

Yours is certainly a valued and respected organization, and we at Project HOPE are proud to be a part of it.

—James B. Peake, M.D.
Executive Vice President
Project HOPE



CORE established networks of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and private voluntary organizations (PVOs) who work together to fight polio and/or malaria in eight countries—Angola (malaria, polio), Ethiopia (malaria, polio), India (polio), Kenya (malaria), Nepal (polio), Tanzania (malaria), Uganda (malaria), and Zambia (malaria). These formal networks, or secretariats, are staffed by full-time directors who organize NGO/PVO activities such as polio immunization and surveillance or distribution of mosquito nets. As many as 100 organizations are members of each secretariat. The secretariats facilitate productive collaboration among organizations to address these and other pressing health issues, such as cholera outbreaks in Angola or water and sanitation issues in India.



fostering collaboration



World Vision

Malaria is a preventable and treatable disease that kills a child every 30 seconds in sub-Saharan Africa. Reducing the toll of malaria is one of the Millennium Development Goals that every government worldwide endorsed. Through the VOICES for Malaria project, CORE is working with national networks of NGOs in Kenya and Mali (the Kenya NGO Alliance Against Malaria and Groupe Pivot, respectively) to develop coordinated national advocacy strategies, train malaria advocates, and generate local public and national policy support to reduce the burden of malaria. Through the President's Malaria Initiative, CORE is supporting its members to distribute 300,000 insecticide retreatment kits for mosquito nets and train 6,500 health workers in 82 districts in Tanzania in the administration of a new mosquito net voucher system that enables the poorest families to receive mosquito nets.



World Vision

In Bolivia, over 70 percent of children who die never get to a health facility for treatment, in large part because such facilities are simply not accessible. To address this, CORE has funded one of its member organizations, Save the Children, to work with other members such as CARE and Christian Children's Fund, as well as PROCOSI (a local NGO network), USAID/Bolivia, and the Bolivian Ministry of Health, to improve the logistics for restocking life-saving drugs at rural community pharmacies, called *boticas*. The program also includes training the community health workers who staff the *boticas* in basic health assessments, so they can offer the appropriate medications or refer patients to other health facilities.

promoting community health

CORE promotes technically sound community health approaches that are flexible, respond appropriately to local needs and influences, and are designed to reduce dependency on insecure resources.

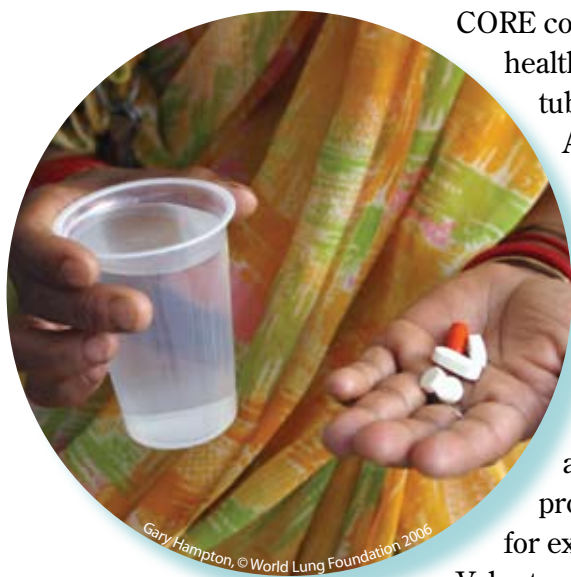
Community-based actions focused on home care form the backbone of all known life-saving medical interventions in the developing world. The working style of CORE members encourages the participation of communities and is responsive to local customs, needs, and concerns. This approach helps to ensure appropriate project design, culturally sensitive implementation, and long-term sustainability of the gains achieved. CORE working groups

evaluate the approaches of various organizations and convert these approaches into trustworthy standards, strategies, and practices to guide community-based maternal, newborn, and child health programs worldwide. Additionally, they bring the community-based perspective and local reality to global and regional policy fora in order to influence policy decisions and bring focus to the need for community-based services.

CRWRC's membership with CORE has led to stronger connections with like-minded PVOs in many of the countries in which we work. By sharing our experiences or working together towards a common goal, the PVO voice speaks more loudly to local government authorities and decision-makers.

Will Story, Child Survival and Health Technical Advisor,
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

Globally, 3.9 million children die every year within their first 28 days of life. CORE actively participated in developing a Latin America and Caribbean regional newborn strategy with USAID, the Pan American Health Organization, Saving Newborn Lives, and other organizations. CORE facilitated the involvement of NGO representation, which ensured that community-based approaches were included in the strategy and that NGOs would be able to support governments in developing and implementing future newborn health programs.

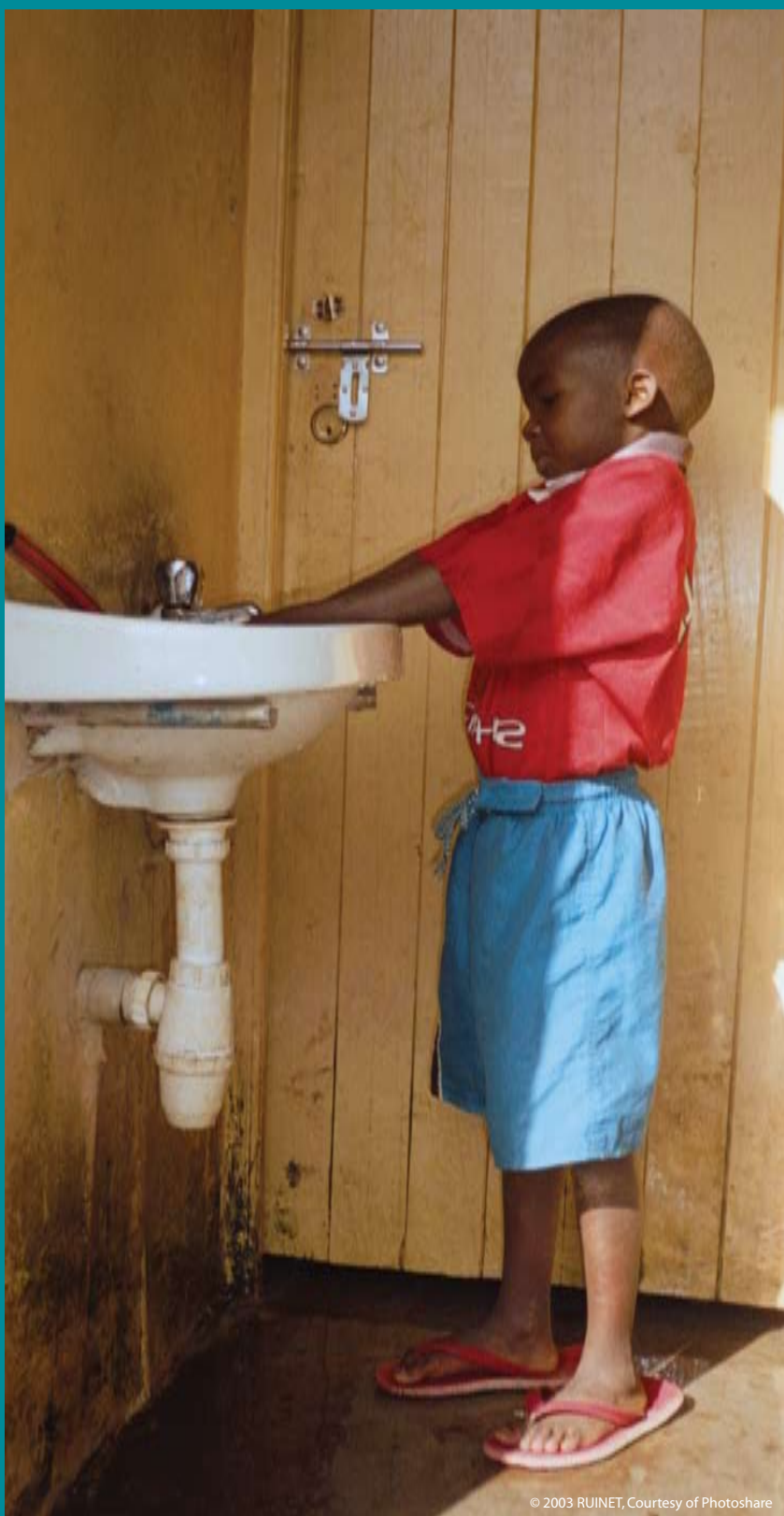


CORE conducted a regional workshop in India to give health program staff the skills to implement effective tuberculosis (TB) programs. Participants from across Asia learned the fundamentals of detection and treatment of the disease, studied the example of India's Revised National TB Programme, and devised their own project designs. Many of these projects have since been funded and are now underway, including a World Vision project in the Philippines funded by the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. Participants are also creatively incorporating TB into their existing programs. Population Services International/India, for example, has trained all the counselors in their 13 Voluntary Counseling and Testing centers in preliminary

TB screening, which is an effective intervention given the high rate of co-infection for HIV and TB.

promoting community health

Many illnesses can be avoided with simple changes in people's behavior; handwashing alone can reduce the incidence of diarrhea by 35 percent. With this in mind, CORE's Social and Behavior Change (SBC) Working Group conducted a training of trainers workshop for 16 organizations in the BEHAVE Framework, a tool that enables NGO program managers to design effective behavior change strategies in their child health and development projects. Many of those participating organizations have gone on to conduct their own trainings in Albania, Bangladesh, Haiti, and India, building local capacity for behavior change. The documents are available on the CORE website. In 2006, CORE offered skill building workshops in operations research, communications and behavioral change, qualitative research, and survey techniques to NGO staff in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the United States.



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Central to CORE's dissemination efforts are its listserves and website. The CORE Group's listserves facilitate communication and exchange among more than 800 members of the global child health community with notices on conferences, technical documents, job openings, and other news of interest. Each of CORE's eight working groups manages its own listserve for planning working group activities and sharing resources. The CORE Group web site, www.coregroup.org, provides access to state-of-the-art tools, manuals, resources, and documentation of global maternal and child health programs. The CORE Group's Child Health and Development Database, which houses more than 325 English and other language documents, tools, and materials created by NGOs to improve and scale up child health and development programs, is also available on the CORE Group website.

CORE identifies and disseminates NGO-tested innovations and local experiences to strengthen program models and affect child health and development outcomes.

A program used successfully by one organization in one country can often be used just as successfully by another organization somewhere else, but only if that other organization thoroughly understands it. CORE identifies and shares innovative practices

used by members to improve the health of mothers and children. CORE then widely disseminates these materials and invites constructive dialogue to continually refine them.

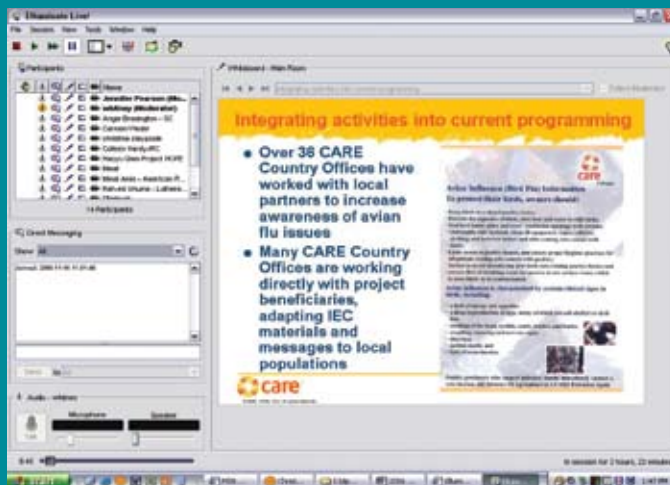
We are very thankful for the opportunities that CORE provides us as an NGO, and we have been impressed with both the quantity and quality of the resources available to us through the CORE Group.

Janis Lindsteadt and Dr. Todd A. Nitkin,
Northwest Medical Teams International



AMREF

Throughout the year, the CORE Group offers online technical updates to members and partners via a collaborative meetings tool called Elluminate. These interactive presentations showcase the work of CORE members and update the child health and development community on recent technical advances. For example, in 2006, CORE offered a six part web-based learning series on Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS), a simple and rapid method for assessing coverage of key health knowledge and practices. Recordings of past presentations are available on the CORE website.



E. Hill

CORE hosts learning events throughout the year, including its annual spring membership meeting and periodic technical updates to promote peer learning and exchange, share state-of-the-art innovations, and provide an intimate space for forming communities of practice and strategic partnerships. In 2006, CORE hosted updates on such topics as quality improvement of health services, dialogue education, diarrhea prevention and control, community-based family planning, community-based treatment of acute malnutrition, pediatric HIV/AIDS, and avian influenza.

Selected CORE Group Documents and Tools

To access, go to www.coregroup.org (click on Working Group links)

HIV/AIDS

Improving Access To and Use of Quality Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) Services: A Checklist for Community-Based Health Projects

Integrating TB and HIV Care in Mozambique

IMCI

The Care Group Difference: A Guide to Mobilizing Community-Based Volunteer Health Educators

Community IMCI: Reaching Communities for Child Health and Nutrition: A Framework for Household and Community IMCI

Partnership-Defined Quality Facilitation Guide—A Tool for Community and Health Provider Collaboration for Quality Improvement

Malaria

Casting a Wide Net: How NGOs Promote Insecticide-Treated Bed Nets (Tanzania)

Community-Based Solutions for Effective Malaria Control: Lessons from Mozambique

Improving Malaria Case Management in Ugandan Communities: Lessons from the Field

An Integrated Approach to Combining a Measles Campaign with a Bed Net, Vitamin A and Mebendazole Campaign in Zambia

Joint NGO Implementation of Community-Based Treatment of Malaria in Rwanda

Monitoring and Evaluation

Knowledge, Practice, Coverage (KPC) Training of Survey Trainers Curriculum

Assessing Community Health Programs: A Participant's Manual and Workbook—Using Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) for Baseline Surveys and Regular Monitoring

Neonatal Health

Como Sera, Pues? The NGO Contribution to Neonatal Health in Bolivia

Framework for an Integrated Community Approach to Obstetric and Neonatal Emergencies—Manuals and Guides

Innovative Community-Based Interventions to Improve Newborn Health in Latin America and the Caribbean

Nutrition

The Integration of Vitamin A Supplementation into Community-Directed Treatment with Ivermectin: A Practical Guide for Africa

Positive Deviance/Hearth: A Resource Guide for Sustainably Rehabilitating Malnourished Children

Polio

Drop by Drop: The NGO Contribution to the Polio Eradication Initiative in Angola

Safe Motherhood/Reproductive Health

Maternal and Newborn Standards and Indicators Compendium

Uganda Family Planning Programs: Lessons from the Field

Social and Behavioral Change

Applying the BEHAVE Framework: Facilitator's Guide and Participant Binder

Barrier Analysis: A Tool for Improving Behavior Change Communication in Child Survival and Community Development Programs

Tuberculosis

Implementation of a National Tuberculosis Control Program in Minority Communities: Accomplishments and Challenges from Kosovo

Using Incentives to Improve TB Treatment Results: Lessons from Tajikistan

working groups

CORE's eight working groups are made up of individuals from member and partner organizations interested in contributing to further development and understanding of technical topics. The working groups sponsor workshops, trainings, and other activities designed to make maternal and child health programs more effective. The groups are self-directed and self-governing, and members participate on a voluntary

basis. For more information on individual working group activities, visit any one of our working group web pages at **www.coregroup.org**.

Working groups include:

- HIV/AIDS
- Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI)
- Malaria
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Nutrition
- Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health
- Social and Behavioral Change
- Tuberculosis



audited financial statement

The audit firm, Gelman, Rosenberg, and Freedman, Certified Public Accountants, prepared CORE Inc.'s financial report and stated, "CORE Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the requirements that are applicable to its major federal program (auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations."

CORE, Inc. Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets

For the Year Ended September 30, 2006, with Summarized Financial Information for 2005

	2006	2005
REVENUE		
Grants	\$1,041,146	\$1,718,529
Contributions	\$8,855	\$3,000
Memberships	\$21,800	\$18,965
Workshop fees	\$25,734	\$14,509
Interest and other income	\$41,900	\$3,890
In-kind revenue	\$34,658	\$6,921
Total Revenue	\$1,174,093	\$1,765,814
EXPENSES		
Maternal and child health	\$665,204	\$1,062,049
Malaria	\$267,273	\$383,113
Tuberculosis	\$75,478	\$166,639
HIV/AIDS	\$23,016	\$112,163
Family planning	\$61,204	\$10,303
Match in-kind	\$34,658	\$6,921
Total Program Expenses	\$1,126,833	\$1,741,188
Management and general	\$1,823	\$2,181
Total Expenses	\$1,128,656	\$1,743,369
Change in net assets	\$45,437	\$22,445
Net assets at beginning of year	\$122,381	\$99,936
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$167,818	\$122,381



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CORE Group members

Adventist Development and Relief Agency
African Medical and Research Foundation
Africare
Aga Khan Foundation, USA
American Red Cross
CARE International
Catholic Relief Services
Christian Children's Fund
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee*
Concern Worldwide USA
Counterpart International, Inc.
Curamericas
Doctors of the World
EngenderHealth
Food for the Hungry
Foundation for Compassionate American Samaritans
Freedom from Hunger
Future Generations
Global Health Action*
Haitian Health Foundation*
Health Alliance International
Helen Keller International
Hesperian Foundation
Interchurch Medical Assistance*

International Relief and Development*
International Aid
International Eye Foundation
International Rescue Committee
La Leche League International
MAP International
Medical Care Development, Inc.
Mercy Corps International
Midwives for Midwives
Minnesota International Health Volunteers
Northwest Medical Teams International*
Partners for Development
Program for Appropriate Technology in Health
PLAN International
Population Services International
Project Concern International
Project HOPE
Salvation Army World Service Office
Save the Children
White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood*
World Neighbors
World Relief Corporation
World Vision

** New members in 2006*

The following partners participated in CORE working groups and/or helped CORE develop products or services:

Academy for Educational Development
ACCESS Project
Africa Health 2010 Project (AED)
African Communities Against Malaria
American College of Nurse Midwives
American Public Health Association
BASF
Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival
Bayer Environmental Science
Boston University/Country Research Activity
CATALYST
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CHANGE Project (AED)
Child Survival Technical Support+ Project (ORC/MACRO)
Christian Relief and Development Association
Development Finance International, Inc.
Embassy of the Republic of Angola
Family Care International
Family Health International/IMPACT
Fleishman-Hillard
Food Aid and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (AED)
Frontiers Project (Population Council)
Global Health Advocates
Global Health Council
GMMB
Groupe Pivot

Handicap International
Healthy Environments for Children Alliance
Hygiene Improvement Project (AED)
Implementing Best Practices in Reproductive Health Initiative
Interaction
International Federation of the Red Cross
International Medical Corps
Johns Hopkins University
Johns Hopkins University Center for Communications Programs
JHPIEGO
Kenya NGO Alliance Against Malaria
LINKAGES Project
Loma Linda University
Makerere University
Malaria and Childhood Illness Secretariat (MACIS)/Uganda
MEASURE Project (ORC/MACRO)
MENTOR Initiative
Nicasalud
Pan American Health Organization
Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health
Peace Corps
PROCOSI
Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Project
Roll Back Malaria Partnership
Saving Newborn Lives
Stop TB Partnership

CORE Group partners

How to Get Involved

The CORE Group offers many avenues for learning, information sharing and taking action on issues related to maternal, newborn, and child health and infectious diseases. Sign up for a listserve. Participate in a CORE workshop or activity. Be part of CORE's in-country efforts. Or provide a financial contribution. To donate, visit **www.coregroup.org** or send a check made out to CORE, Inc. to:

CORE Group
300 I Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Sumitomo Chemical

The Synergy Project (Social & Scientific Systems, Inc)

Tanzania NGO Alliance Against Malaria

Tuberculosis Coalition for Technical Assistance

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Foundation

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID): Bureau for Global Health; Latin America and Caribbean Bureau; Africa Bureau; Food for Peace; President's Malaria Initiative; India, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia Missions

U.S. Coalition for Child Survival

University Research Corporation-Quality Assurance Project

Vestergaard Frandsen

World Bank

World Health Organization

World Lung Foundation

Zambia Malaria Foundation

Donors/Fiscal Year 2006

Individual

Jean M. Capps

Arthur Garceau

Reverend Patricia M. Stamm

In-Kind

African Communities Against Malaria

AMREF USA

BASF Corporation

Development Finance International, Inc.

GMMB

Vestergaard Frandsen

Institutional

Bayer Environmental Science

Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs

USAID*

World Vision subgrants from USAID

Bureau for Global Health and Family Health International

**CORE's Child Survival and Health Network Program is funded through a cooperative agreement with USAID's Child Survival and Health Grants Program.*

CORE Group Staff

Executive Director

Deputy Director

Communications Manager

Malaria Coordinator

Executive Assistant

Director, Finance and Administration

Assistant Controller

Karen LeBan

Lynette Walker

Christine Chumbler

Areana Quiñones

Jennifer Pearson

Norma Floriza

ATM Unjum Pervez

CORE Group Polio Partners Project Staff

Director

Deputy Director

Senior Technical Advisor

Grants Manager

Special Advisor

John Cox/CARE

Sara Smith/World Vision

David Newberry/CARE

Miriam Perry-Roldan/CARE

Bill Weiss/Johns Hopkins University

Thanks to Edward Ehrenberg, Eldred Hill, Julia Ross, and Deborah Sitrin for their contributions to CORE during 2006.



CORE Working Group Chairs

HIV/AIDS

William Fleming/Christian Children's Fund

Ronnie Lovich/Save the Children

Darshana Vyas/Counterpart International

IMCI

Laban Tsuma/Plan International

Malaria

Luis Benavente/Medical Care
Development, Inc.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Juan Carlos Alegre/Save the Children

John Barrows/International Eye
Foundation

Todd Nitkin/Northwest Medical Teams

Nutrition

Kathryn Bolles/Save the Children

Erin Dusch/Helen Keller International

Mary Hennigan/Catholic Relief Services

Rebecca Magalhaes/La Leche League
International

Safe Motherhood & Reproductive Health

Lisa Bowen/Plan USA

Winnie Mwebesa/Save the Children

Social & Behavioral Change

Claire Boswell/Salvation Army World
Service Office

Bonnie Kittle/Project HOPE

Will Story/Christian Reformed World Relief
Committee

Tuberculosis

Dennis Cherian/World Vision

Ann Hendrix-Jenkins/consultant

Elena McEwan/Catholic Relief Services

Khrist Roy/CARE

2006 Annual Report Editor

Christine Chumbler



*Working Together in Health for
Mothers, Children, and Communities*



Save the Children

*The CORE Group promotes and improves the health and well being of children and women
in developing countries through collaborative NGO action and learning.*

Visit us at

www.coregroup.org

Tel: 202-572-6330 • Fax: 202-572-6481 • contact@coregroup.org