continued from front

the few primary islands. With a unique solution that relied on the simple belief that vessel owners and volunteers wanted to "sail with a greater purpose" but simply needed a way to do so.

In 2012, they began reaching out to the island nation governments, international yachting and health care communities. Since then, God has thrown open the doors for Sea Mercy and their partners to connect these remote islands to these much-needed services by creating a local Sea Bridge of volunteer yachts, captains and experts to assist our island nation partners.

- **Free Health Care Bridge** – Bringing reliable and comprehensive health care services (dental, medical and eye care) to the remote island communities
- **Disaster Response & Recovery Bridge** – Delivering emergency food, water, shelter, and medical aid following natural disasters (cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis) and the tools and ongoing supplies needed to rebuild devastated remote island communities
- **Education & Training Bridge** – Providing local and international education, research, and training opportunities that brings balance and fairness to the remote island citizens
- **Economic Development Bridge** – Empowering those living on the remote islands to return to the healthy, self-sustaining and thriving communities they once were

Ready to sail with a greater purpose?

Sea Mercy works directly with their island nation partners through Memorandum of Understandings and each program is developed in response to their direct involvement and observation of each remote island needs. Unfortunately, with the effects of climate change and economic hardships, there is a growing urgency and magnitude for those needs.

There are currently 11 island nation communities (2,400+ remote islands) in the South Pacific that Sea Mercy is targeting for their Sea Bridge programs. The need is great and the workers are few (Matthew 9:35-38), but they are also getting help from disciples. Working with the leadership and disciples in Fiji (Suva and Nadi) for local support, they are also seeing more and more disciples from other churches joining their efforts. Disciples from Denver, San Diego, Eugene and Corvallis are now playing a huge part in their 2017 RISE programs.

If you are looking for a way to have an incredible Good Samaritan adventure this August, then volunteering for a week or more on a remote island in the South Pacific might be exactly what floats your spiritual boat. Visit Sea Mercy's RISE Volunteer Opportunities page for more information on how you can volunteer. If you or your church would like to 'adopt an island' and/or volunteer for a future RISE or Floating Health Clinic program, then email Rich & Stephanie at info@seamercy.org to get the dialog started.

www.DisciplesToday.org hosts thousands of pages of news, articles and images to help connect disciples and churches around the world. All information and content is freely available for everyone.

Latest Stories on www.DisciplesToday.org:

Go to www.DisciplesToday.org to read the latest Hot News articles and to access the archives for all channels.

- ***HOPE for Kids Performing Arts Camp***
  Bruce Nussbaum, New Jersey, USA — Tuesday, 18 April 2017
  HOPE for Kids Performing Arts Camp is excited to announce their 4th year! HOPE for Kids Performing Arts Camp is a Christian camp intended to develop the talent and heart of the artist. Their mission is...
- ***Easter Sunday Brings Baptisms Around the World***
  Disciples Today — Tuesday, 18 April 2017
  We received great news this weekend of baptisms taking place all over the world! Here are just a few of our new brothers and sisters baptized recently. See...
- ***Global Missions Report***
  Disciples Today — Thursday, 06 April 2017
  Since the late 1970s, our fellowship of churches has seen great victories sustained by ongoing, significant sacrifice. From a handful of churches in one country, we are now more than 665 congregations in 150 nations of the world. And from a few hundred meeting...
- ***Central Jersey Church Appoints First Elders***
  Pedro & Carrie Delgado, Central Jersey, NJ, USA — Tuesday, 18 April 2017
  The Central Jersey Church of Christ has reached a new and exciting milestone since being planted by the NYC Church of Christ in 2004. With 500 in attendance for our Easter service, one of the church's first evangelists, Robert Carrillo, appointed Johnny Rivera and Tommy...

• *UPCOMING EVENTS*

ICMC US West
Austin, Texas USA
June 29-July 1, 2017

Middle East Conference
Cairo, Egypt
July 2017

ICMC US East
Asheville, North Carolina USA
August 4-6, 2017

2017 Family Ministry Conference
Denver, Colorado USA
September 1-3, 2017

ICOC Worship Conference
Dallas, Texas USA
October 13-15, 2017

DT Hawaii Cruise
Honolulu, Hawaii USA
October 28 - November 4, 2017

2020 World Discipleship Summit
Orlando, Florida USA
July 2-5, 2020

CONNECTING DISCIPLES IN CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

International News reprinted courtesy of Disciples Today
www.DisciplesToday.org
www.DTSpace.net
KNN@DToday.org
All rights reserved ©2017

INTERNATIONAL & LOCAL NEWS BULLETIN
To Inspire, Inform, Unify and Grow the International Churches of Christ
DT DISCIPLES TODAY
WWW.DISCIPLESTODAY.ORG • ISSUE 603 • APRIL 23, 2017

Sea Mercy – Bringing Hope to the South Pacific

Kelly Boyd, Eugene, OR, USA



God has been using the disciples in Oregon in some powerful ways these past few years. With the official launch of the University Church of Eugene in 2015, God has grown their fellowship from 14 disciples to over 75. He also has thrown opened the doors for them to plant churches in Corvallis (Willamette Valley Christian Church) and in Bend (Bend House Church) Oregon. However, not only are the Eugene disciples winning souls for Christ in Oregon, God is also using them as "Good Samaritans" (Luke 10:25-37) to impact the lives of those living on the thousands of remote islands of the South Pacific through a non-profit charity called Sea Mercy.

Although the people of the South Pacific have always held a special place in the hearts of Sea Mercy's Founders (Richard & Stephanie Hackett), it was not until an anniversary sailing trip to the South Pacific that they discovered the incredible needs on the forgotten remote islands.

"There was a huge difference between the health, education and economic services available on the populated primary islands compared to those on the remote islands. Where the primary islands had hospitals, power, roads, running water…the remote islands had nothing. The more questions we asked and research we did after returning home, the more we realized that no one had a solution for it. We knew God had led us to our 'Good Samaritan' moment in life and felt we could not ignore it."

– Richard Hackett, President, Sea Mercy

Often separated by hundreds of miles, one of the greatest challenges to the survival of the thousands of "at risk" remote islands across the South Pacific is staying connected to the health care, disaster response, education and economic development services that are only available on

continued on back