

Health Access Sumbawa



Health for Remote Communities

December 2019 Newsletter /

In this issue: SCALING UP MALARIA CONTROL

GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Dear Friends,

Thank you, thank you and again Thank You!

Your generous support for HAS is making a big difference in so many lives. The board, staff & clients of Health Access Sumbawa wish you & your family a very healthy and prosperous 2020.

Gratefully,

Jack

Jack Kennedy. HAS INC

A QUICK LOOK BACK

It's hard to believe that five years have passed since we first landed on the beach in Sili village, our rented outrigger canoe loaded with 500 treated bed nets. Over the three years that followed, HAS built a malaria clinic, covered 600 beds with treated nets, tested over a thousand residents for malaria, and by 2017 had successfully eliminated the disease from three coastal villages named Sili, Maci and Panubu.

After this flurry, we decided to wait for a promised road to be built before attempting to scale up the malaria effort. HAS settled into the community to work on broader public health issues. We improved the peoples' access to primary health care, fresh food, clean water, and toilets. We initiated a program to turn plastic waste into eco-bricks, useful for building infrastructure such as animal containment walls.

During this period, a shocking change came to the valley. Thousands of hectares of lush jungle were bulldozed by government contractors to make land available for corn monoculture. This sadly misguided farm policy required some kind of a response. This past year HAS planted two cashew orchards to demonstrate the economic potential of permaculture, an alternative vision of the family farm.

“Our goal: A Malaria-Free Sumbawa by 2030”

PUT YOUR BOOTS ON: IT'S TIME TO EMBARK ON ANOTHER GREAT HAS ADVENTURE!

The road out of Sili village is still broken, but we can't wait any longer. Over the next few months Health Access Sumbawa will more than triple the scale of our malaria control effort. And that's just for starters!

Triple the Bed Net Program: \$16,500

In November Health Access Sumbawa took a major step toward eliminating malaria in 3 new communities called Mata, Panco & Tolo'oi. These villages are adjacent to the area we have been serving since 2015. Mata is a large village... 1,500 people / 350 homes.



The boat to Panco

We completed a village census, numbered every home, and covered every bed in town with a long lasting treated bed net.

In December 2019 the **HAS** team hung nets in Panco, a small hamlet one hour by boat from our clinic. In February 2020 we start work in Tolo'oi (with 852 residents / 292 homes). All homes will receive nets and house numbers. The total cost for all this activity is about \$16,500. Thanks to the ongoing generous support from friends like you, **HAS** is ready to scale up its malaria prevention programs in Sumbawa!

THE NEXT STEP AFTER BED NETS IS TO DIAGNOSE MALARIA & TREAT CASES WITH EFFECTIVE DRUGS. THE DIAGNOSTIC LAB IN SILI VILLAGE IS CUT OFF FROM OUR NEW SERVICE AREAS DUE TO THE BROKEN ROAD. THE SOLUTION: BUILD A MOBILE LAB ON A 4 X 4 TRUCK OR BUS.

A MOBILE LAB WILL ALLOW **HAS TO TAKE OUR MALARIA PROGRAM ANYWHERE. IT CAN BE MOVED TO WHEREVER THE NEED IS GREATEST.**

A Mobile Laboratory & Clinic: \$45,000

The next step after bed nets is to diagnose cases of malaria, and treat them with effective drugs. **HAS** needs a simple laboratory to diagnose malaria, a clean room with running water, electricity, and a work bench with microscope. We have our lab in Sili village, but it's isolated by a broken road. The government health clinic in Mata is a shambles and has no running water. It needs a new roof, the walls are cracked and filthy, septic field is overflowing into the yard, and it needs a new ceiling.

HAS considered renovating it to include a lab for our use, but were told it would take years to get approvals. Unfortunately, many village clinics in Sumbawa are in this sad condition.

This situation led us to an innovative solution: **HAS** should build a self-contained, mobile lab / clinic mounted on a 4 x 4 truck or bus. This will enable us to take the malaria program anywhere a 4 x 4 truck can go. The cost to build a custom mobile clinic would be similar to a brick & mortar structure, but it can be moved to wherever the need is greatest.

More Information & to Donate:

Online: www.Healthaccesssumbawa.org/

Mail: 392 East Neck Rd, Nobleboro ME 04555



HAS Bed Net Installation Team

Strategic Goals

- Become a leading force driving malaria control / elimination on the island of Sumbawa, with programs focused on central Sumbawa.
- Improve access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and primary health care, especially for mothers and children.
- Protect the waters of Cempi Bay from plastic waste by supporting effective waste recycling systems and initiatives.
- Improve farm incomes and reduce soil erosion by encouraging fruit and nut plantations, especially on hillsides which are marginal for growing corn.