



Preventable Diseases of Poverty

Neglected Tropical Diseases



<http://www.sikm.org/user/cimoge/littlegirls.jpg>

A presentation for
Cape CARES

Fighting to end seven of the world's
deadliest diseases



Eliminate NTDs...



...Reduce poverty.

What are NTDs?

What do more than 1 billion members of the world's population have in common? Hint: the vast majority of these people are poor, live in rural regions of developing countries, and suffer from something virtually overlooked by the rest of the world. The commonality between these people: they suffer from one or more of the Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs). Primarily affecting impoverished areas, NTDs are physically debilitating and serve to perpetuate the cycle of poverty. Infected persons are often labeled as outcasts within their communities and among their own family members.

Although the collective disease burden of NTDs may be higher than that of HIV/AIDS, malaria, or TB, the aggressive efforts made to treat these better-known diseases have garnered much more attention and support from the international community than NTDs.

1.4 billion people are afflicted with NTDs. That's more than twice the population of the United States.



http://cdn.photoshelter.com/img-get/1000g1_8xNYZwg/s/650/3-4-10-Haiti-6.jpg

We are
fighting to
see the end
of NTDs.

How can Cape CARES help?

Good news and bad news.

Fortunately, the majority of the most prevalent NTDs are easily treatable. However, lack of awareness in the international community and insufficient funds in developing countries makes accessing these treatments and educating rural populations difficult and expensive.

NTDs in Honduras.

The primary NTDs affecting the Honduran population are soil-transmitted Helminths (intestinal worms). For example, *Necator americanus*, more commonly known as “hookworm,” causes discomfort, anemia, fatigue, and stunted growth. These intestinal worms infect between 30 and 70 percent of Honduran citizens and are a major source of

morbidity. If treated regularly, school attendance among Honduran children can be increased by 25 percent.

Help us help others.

The University of Notre Dame is committed to seeing the end of NTDs. Through research and direct service, Notre Dame faculty and students serve the people of Haiti in their effort to eliminate NTDs. We thank Cape CARES for its work in Honduras, and we encourage continued advocacy, education, and treatment of the Honduran people in order to further our common goals of ending NTDs worldwide, reducing poverty, and improving the overall state of public health.