

Hunger Project

Efforts rally to stave off famine

By JUDITH BERNE

Individuals, churches and synagogues in Oakland and Wayne counties, the state, nation and the world have rallied to stave off the famine in Cambodia.

Joann Greenberg, of the Detroit committee for The Hunger Project, wants "the people who have participated in Cambodian relief to know what they have done has made a difference."

The West Bloomfield resident is charged with getting the message through to the greater Detroit area that the money, time and efforts to get food to Cambodia and to sponsor and maintain refugee families in the United States is paying off.

Word from UNICEF, she says, is that "the course of history has been literally changed for the Cambodian people because of the money pouring in."

"Three months ago, 15,000 people a day were dying," Mrs. Greenberg reports. Prognosis was that the population would be wiped out.

In a six-week period, Mrs. Greenberg relates, individual Americans contributed \$15 million to Cambodian relief in addition to \$105 million pledged by the U.S. government.

"I don't think this came out of guilt," Mrs. Greenberg says. "It comes from their munificence and desire to help someone."

"It's more than newsworthy," she adds. "It's historic."

IT DIDN'T TAKE a Cambodia to get Mrs. Greenberg, an optometrist with offices in Westland, Hamtramck and Madison Heights, involved with world hunger.

Her interest was whetted 1½ years ago when friends took her to see the John Denver movie "I Want to Live" — a dramatic portrayal of the world's hunger.

Mrs. Greenberg says she's not an idealist. "I became involved when I found out something could be done," she said. "With three offices and three children, I wasn't looking for things to do. (The Hun-

ger Project) came into my life and moved me."

The Hunger Project is a two-year old international organization devoted to ending world hunger. The project helped bring Cambodian starvation to world attention.



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In November, the project placed ads in newspapers across the country, asking for a worldwide commitment to end the Cambodian famine.

Ten agencies were listed as distributing food and supplies in Cambodia or providing relief for Cambodian refugees in Thailand including the Cambodian Reserve Program sponsored by the Holy Order

of MANS, 7410 LaSalle in Detroit 48206.

One result from the money which came pouring in is a two-month stockpile of grain awaiting distribution and a steady diminishing of the death toll due to starvation.

Another was an increase in the number of Cambodian refugees including multi-generational families, being brought to the United States, sponsored by individuals or religious organizations.

LOCALLY, THE PROJECT contacted "every church in Michigan," Mrs. Greenberg describes. The response was all but unanimous.

In the immediate area, religious organizations from Garden City to Rochester responded with contributions of money, clothing and supplies for distribution within Cambodia, providing relief at refugee centers in Thailand or to settle and maintain refugee families in the United States.

Just a sampling of the contributions reported to Mrs. Greenberg are:

• In Farmington Hills, St. Colman's Catholic Church took up a special collection raising \$733 for Cambodian relief.

• In Birmingham, Pastor W. E. Woldt of Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church announced Sunday, Jan. 27 is "Hunger Day for Cambodia." His wife, Farmington teacher Janet Woldt, told her elementary school class not to give her holiday gifts. Instead, she asked, if they would do chores around the house and contribute the money they earned to help the Cambodians.

• In Farmington, Our Lady of Sorrows Church sent out letters to every congregant, raising \$7,400 for that effort.

"ALMOST EVERY CHURCH did something," Mrs. Greenberg said. "Many of the churches were onto it before we called. Others got onto it fast."

"It's the first time in the history of the world a major famine has been averted. We're hoping no other famine will ever exist and that the resources used here can avert any others."

O'Boyle-Eason

Mr. and Mrs. Jack O'Boyle of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter, Deborah Ann to Gordon Wilson Eason, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Eason of Bloomfield Hills.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of North Farmington High School, and her fiancé is a graduate of Birmingham Seaholm High School. Both will graduate in May from University of Michigan, she with a degree in education and he with a degree in industrial design. A July wedding is planned.



Parker-Priebe

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard F. Priebe of Farmington Hills announce the marriage of their daughter Lynn Mary to Richard Harold Parker, Master Sergeant, USAF, on Dec. 16 in Bellevue, Neb. He is the son of Mrs. Henry Parker of Lodi, Calif.

The bride is a 1977 graduate of Our Lady of Mercy High School and attended Madonna College prior to joining the Air Force in January 1979. The newlyweds are stationed at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska.



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