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Medicine, Missions, and Miracles: How God is Using Pharmacists at Samaritan's Purse

June 4th, 2026

W. Lance Pflizer, MD
Chief Medical Officer,
Samaritan's Purse International
Relief





Spring, Ohio and the World
Through Pharmacy



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"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send?' And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I, Send me!'" **Isaiah 6:8**



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Purpose: Awareness of the multitude of opportunities for pharmacists to serve in NGOs (Samaritan's Purse), both domestically and internationally.

Objectives:

- Recognize the particular domestic and international opportunities to serve in pharmaceutical missions (community outreach, mission hospitals, infectious disease outbreaks, disaster response).
- Develop greater clinical insight in regard to required pharmaceutical skills in each of these contexts
- Develop a deeper appreciation of the impact a pharmacist can make while serving beneficiaries in these contexts, both physical and spiritual.

I will pose questions pertinent to my objectives during the presentation.



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In 1977 Franklin Graham, a business student at Appalachian State University, traveled to Papua New Guinea with Bob Pierce, the founder of Samaritan's Purse, and Dr. Bernard Ferris, a physician assigned practicing in Boone, North Carolina. Dr. Bell, Inaugural Top, Franklin Graham, and Bob Pierce, the pharmacist, and Samaritan's Purse, the medical mission, and Samaritan's Purse, the medical mission, and Samaritan's Purse, the medical mission.



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In 1978 Franklin Graham became the CEO of Samaritan's Purse, and recruited international missionaries from California to Boone, NC. Samaritan's Purse quickly evolved into a multi-faceted disaster relief organization, and medicine eventually became one of its primary means of service. Today, Samaritan's Purse has diversified its medical services to include Emergency Field Hospital Deployment and disaster response, World Made a Mission (in partnership with 50 mission hospitals worldwide), Samaritan's Purse Specialty Services, Children's Hospital, and Samaritan's Purse Medical Center.



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But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion." **Luke 10:33**

World Medical Mission Samaritan's Purse

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- Common ailments often go undetected in many developing countries and quickly become a matter of life or death. People who suffer major health issues such as heart defects or AIDS face the real threat of never receiving life-giving treatment. Samaritan's Purse provides doctors, nurses, medical equipment, and other aid through World Medical Mission, our medical arm, while administering hope through the healing power of the Great Physician.

[World Medical Mission](#)

World Medical Mission Samaritan's Purse

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- Today, World Medical Mission (WMM) Partners with over 50 mission hospitals worldwide.
- WMM supports the mission hospital through sending volunteer medical personnel (physicians, nurses, therapists, and pharmacists).
- WMM sends 40+ ton medical containers to partner hospitals with state of the art durable and renewable medical equipment.
- WMM has established a Post-Residency Program that sends physicians (and pharmacists) on a 2 year "fellowship" to serve long-term in partner hospitals.

[World Medical Mission](#)

World Medical Mission Samaritan's Purse

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[World Medical Mission Hospitals](#)

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Terek Hospital, Kenya, 2012

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Harpur Hospital, Egypt, 2026

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- Harpur Hospital, Academic Opportunities

World Medical Mission

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- Samaritan's Purse stands ready to respond at a moment's notice whenever and wherever disaster strikes. We specialize in international disaster relief, meeting critical needs for victims of conflict, disaster, famine, and epidemics throughout the world, often working through ministry partners on the ground. We provide food, water, shelter, medicine, and other assistance in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Disaster Assistance Response Team

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Post Typhoon Haiyan Philippines, 2013.

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Chone, Ecuador, Post-Earthquake

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- In November of 2025, Samaritan's Purse sent an EPH to Black River Jamaica after the local hospital was largely destroyed by Hurricane Melissa.

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- A specially-trained team deploys with the Emergency Field Hospital to perform setup, with the goal to have the hospital operational within 24 hours of arriving on-site. In Jamaica, the team was assisted by members of the Jamaican Defense Force.

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Mission Aviation Services: Robust Aircraft

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Dr. Anna Wehmen, Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Specialist

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Pharmaceutical modules correspond with each hospital tier (Tiers I, II, and III)

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)

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- FTZ: a designated area (within our Wilkesboro Medical Supply Warehouse) where SP can import, store, and export pharmaceutical supplies directly to international destinations.
- Can export without being subject to US custom duties.
- The pharmaceuticals must still comply with US FDA regulations.
- Advantage: We have ready access to our Emergency Field Hospital Formulary in order to deploy promptly on mission critical deployments.
- Significant cost advantage.


Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)

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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- April, 2025, DART pharmacist organizes supplies before the Emergency Field Hospital opens in Myanmar following a 7.7-magnitude earthquake.

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- Minimum two years' experience as a Pharmacist in a clinical setting is required
- Clinical pharmacy experience within the last five years is required (these are the same standard clinical requirements listed for other professional healthcare providers [i.e., physicians and nurses] and are not expected to change)
- Inpatient/hospital experience required (working to change "required" to "preferred")
- Completion of accredited training as a Pharmacist with current active licensure in sending jurisdiction (not expected to change)

Disaster Assistance Response Team

Minimum Requirements for Pharmacy DART Roster




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Minimum Requirements for Pharmacy DART Roster (Time Commitment For Training)


- DART Training – one week, 8 hours per day, small stipend included
- MedLogs/Pharmacy Training – one week, 8 hours per day, small stipend included

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do." Ephesians 2:10






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Disaster Assistance Response Team

- Equipped with multiple operating theatres, more than 250 surgeries were performed in the EFH deployed to Myanmar, where local medical facilities were severely damaged in the earthquake.

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- Community Medical Outreach (CMO) provides free primary medical, dental, and vision care in Jesus' Name. This ministry of Samaritan's Purse works together with local churches to provide quality healthcare to underserved communities in the United States.
- Our intent is to provide holistic care, addressing both the physical and spiritual needs of each patient.




Community Medical Outreach






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Community Medical Outreach

- Blood pressure check with the primary care clinic.

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Community Medical Outreach

- Our Ophthalmology Care includes eye care tests for color vision, depth perception, astigmatism, and corrective lenses. Patients pick out their unique frames while their lenses are crafted on site. Upon completion, each pair of glasses is fitted to the patient. A full range of medical care is also offered complete with some prescriptions.




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6/4/2026

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Community Medical Outreach

- One of the main services provided with CMO is free dental care. Anna Werthum, PharmD, arranging dental equipment prior to a community outreach.

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Community Medical Outreach

- Our dental services include cleanings, fillings, and extractions. Pictured is one of our volunteer dentists and dental hygienist providing service to one of our many patients.

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Pray Continually...1Thessalonians 5:17

"Prayer is my best Medicine"

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**Prescription for Renewal
Medical Missions Conference
October 1-4, 2026
Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld,
Orlando, Florida**

*To get to know more about Samaritan's Purse and what they do, they are committed to spreading the Gospel. And they do so by providing medical care in impoverished areas, allowing them the best of what our world has to offer.

**He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
Psalm 147:3 ESV**

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Questions?

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