



Children Without Borders
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Official Statement

Milton, Mass. (March 4, 2010) - Children Without Borders, a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing medical care to children and health education to families in underserved communities, filed a preemptive declaratory judgment lawsuit in the US District Court in Boston on March 1, 2010. Children Without Borders is seeking a court finding that it is not infringing on the Doctors Without Borders trade name. The charities had been involved in discussions for several months.

“We regret we were not able to resolve this issue amicably and without legal intervention,” said George Whitelaw, M.D., founder of Children Without Borders and an orthopedic surgeon from Milton. “We offered to include a disclaimer on all our materials and Web site, but that didn’t satisfy the other party involved. We will continue to offer the life-saving medical care our patients depend upon while we pursue this matter.”

The Milton, Massachusetts, based charity was founded in 2007 and is almost entirely operated by a small group of volunteers and experts who provide their services on a pro bono basis. With a small and devoted following of supporters, Children Without Borders is able to sustain permanent community clinics offering pediatric care in impoverished suburbs of San Jose, Costa Rica. It contributes more than 90 cents of each dollar raised directly to services and care for children. Children Without Borders is privately funded through individual donors and receives no state or federal funding.

“We have a great deal of respect for Doctors Without Borders and the incredible work they do,” said Whitelaw. “We hope our medical student Interns will pursue medical volunteerism with Doctors Without Borders when they complete their formal medical training. We just want to continue doing our work caring for the children. They are the ones who will be impacted the most if we are unsuccessful. In many cases, we are their only source of medical care.”

Children Without Borders is being represented by a lawyer who has generously taken the case on a pro bono basis. All donated funds will continue to be used to provide life-saving medical care for children in need.

About Children Without Borders

Founded in 2007, Children Without Borders (CWB) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to provide medical care for children and preventative health education for their families in underserved communities. The Milton, Massachusetts, based charity is operated almost entirely by a devoted group of volunteers ranging from physicians in various specialties to accomplished and respected business professionals, public health experts and a variety of skilled individuals.

Primarily operating in Costa Rica, the charity's strategy establishes permanent community clinics convenient to very poor and underserved communities. The charity provides care to approximately 100 children each week and regular health education seminars for families. It works with local and international partners to ensure the sustainability of its clinics and train future doctors who are encouraged to pursue medical volunteerism.

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