

Give life-saving health care items through Project Hope

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MILLWOOD — Everyone knows someone who presents a gift-giving challenge. Or there may be a Secret Santa dilemma at work.

Project HOPE suggests giving the gift of health for another person. Its 2016 Holiday Gift Catalog offers the opportunity to symbolically give gifts such as vaccines, antibiotics and oral rehydration salts that are needed by others around the world.

These are ideal gifts for anyone who cares about helping those who need better health care.

"Project HOPE refreshed and relaunched its online symbolic giving catalog in 2014," said Jann Schultz, senior director of individual giving and communications. "This is the third year Project HOPE has offered the opportunity for supporters to give gifts that will make a difference this holiday season."

Gift cards are available when purchases are made through the online Project HOPE Holiday Gift Catalog.

Schultz said there are other ways to support Project HOPE and its mission to provide health care to under-served populations around the world.

First, making a financial donation supports health care workers in remote locations.

Also, medical volunteers are needed to help provide better health for vulnerable people around the world, Schultz said.

Project HOPE, headquartered at Carter Hall in Millwood, traces its history to the late 1950s. Dr. William B. Walsh, a medical officer aboard a World War II destroyer, was moved by the poor health conditions he saw in the South Pacific. He imagined a medical ship delivering health care and education around the world.

Walsh founded Project HOPE in 1958, when President Dwight D. Eisenhower donated a U.S. Navy hospital ship that was transformed into the SS HOPE, which was refitted and equipped as a peace-time hospital ship.

The SS HOPE first set sail in September 1960, headed for world-wide destinations. The ship was retired in 1974, but its mission continues in land-based programs.



To view the gift catalog or learn more about Project HOPE go to projecthope.org