



**STRONG
VILLAGES**

Providing Assistance to
Indigenous People Worldwide

STRONG VILLAGES • MISSION

“COMPASSION
IN ACTION”
IS MORE THAN
A SLOGAN,
IT’S OUR
WAY OF
LIFE.

Strong Villages provides culturally sensitive assistance to indigenous populations worldwide. We do so irrespective of race, religion, creed or political conviction.

Like Mayan ruins, too often, ancient cultures are written off as relics from another world. Far from being “past tense”, the indigenous are deeply engaged, socially conscious and caring.

We honor indigenous people everywhere and are committed to providing assistance which contributes to their health and happiness.

Strong Villages coordinates volunteer travel opportunities and partners with local organizations and health ministries to provide desperately needed medical and dental services to indigenous people all over the world.

“Compassion in Action” is more than a slogan, it’s our way of life.





Mayan Villages in the Belize rainforest are where we work to provide care and services to the indigenous.



CRITICAL NEEDS

THE NEED IS GREAT.
OUR RESOLVE
IS STRONGER.



Health care in Belize is socialized. The government provides one dentist to serve the 31,000 residents of Toledo District.



For optimal dental health, the World Health Organization recommends a dentist to population ratio of 1:7,500.



Access to the sole dentist is further obstructed by the lack of transportation. 80% of the population lives in rural villages.



There is one hospital with 20 healthcare providers for the entire district of 31,000 people.



Of the four languages spoken in Belize, UNESCO classifies three as “Vulnerable” to “Severely Endangered”.

Medical & Dental Care



**Collaborative
Volunteerism**



STRONG GOALS

Language Preservation



**Digital Medical
Records**



PLEASE SUPPORT THESE GOALS AND MAKE A VILLAGE STRONGER! DONATE NOW @ WWW.STRONGVILLAGES.ORG

MEDICAL & DENTAL CARE

FROM COLDS
TO CAVITIES,
PRE-NATAL
HEALTH TO
READING
GLASSES,
THERE'S NEVER
A DULL MOMENT
IN "THE JUNGLE"!

Strong Villages leads passionate volunteers into the rainforest to provide much needed assistance to indigenous people worldwide.

With one dentist for 31,000 people of the Toledo District in Belize, the need is strong. Our resolve is stronger.

"Compassion in Action" is more than a slogan, it's personal to our volunteers.

For the population we serve in Belize, healthy villages is our focus as we provide local support to the Ministry of Health, village community health workers and local leaders.

Imagine enduring six months of pain from an impacted wisdom tooth. YOU wouldn't tolerate six hours of discomfort before seeking relief. For many of the underserved, six months IS "immediate relief".

By increasing access to care, suffering is relieved and hope for a healthier future is restored.



COLLABORATIVE VOLUNTEERISM

NOBODY
UNDERSTANDS
THE TRUE NEEDS
OF A VILLAGER
BETTER THAN
A VILLAGER

Strong Villages relies on the dedication of caring, committed volunteers who generously give time and expertise to each mission. While our volunteers are Jungle Rock Stars, we have the utmost respect for the people we serve.

Forcing our world view on a culture from another world is not in our playbook.

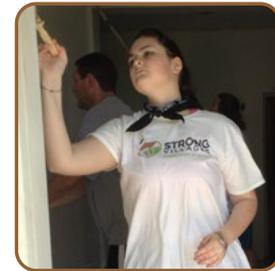
Instead, our successful track record can be attributed to collaborative partnerships with local organizations. Nobody understands the true needs of a villager better than a villager.

"Trip of a lifetime! I thought I was helping them, but they changed my life."

Dr. Laura M. - Dentist

"Unbelievable experience. One of the best weeks of my life!"

Mike B. - Student



LANGUAGE PRESERVATION

The roar of rampant globalization is deafening. Rainforests are being depleted. Village life rooted in tradition and balance is being overshadowed by Levi's and internet cafes.

The fabric of indigenous cultures is quickly unraveling.

Strong Villages has chosen to be proactive in supporting the preservation of indigenous cultures and languages that thrive around the globe. We work side-by-side with indigenous friends, governments, universities and advocates supporting indigenous cultural preservation.

Oral traditions and storytelling is part of the indigenous fabric. It's how the present is preserved and the past remembered. There is no greater way to honor a culture than to provide shelter for its rich stories. Unfortunately, as language fades, so does a culture.

Strong Villages is excited about its **Digital Culture Preservation Project**. Our goals are simple:

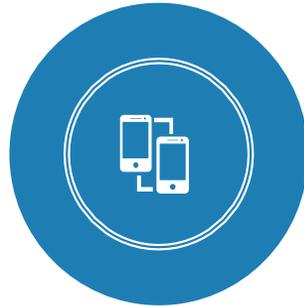
- ▶ Support the Preservation of Endangered Languages
- ▶ Capture Ancient Traditions of Art, Textiles, Food, Cultural Ceremonies and More
- ▶ Empower Others to Participate in Preservation of Culture - Documenting Living Historians for Future Generations



DIGITAL MEDICAL RECORDS

Just because we work in remote villages deep in the rainforest doesn't mean we can put technology to work for the people we serve.

Strong Villages wants to revolutionize the process of medical record keeping....because there's nothing more exciting than medical record keeping, right?



Benefits of
Digital Medical Records



Increase Quality & Continuity of Care



Record Sharing with Health Ministry



Establish Standards for Medical NGOs

STRONG TEAM

The seeds for Strong Villages were planted in a Belzean rainforest over 20 years ago. Lynn Bealer had been trekking into the jungle to provide essential care to indigenous populations since 1988. On assignment from ABC News, Jeff MacIntyre would journey into the jungle to do a story on Lynn in 2001. Just like a movie set, monkeys were howling, parrots squawking, insects buzzing. The scene was set for the two to meet.

At the time, neither knew what those seeds would yield. Both were there for different reasons, but shared a similar goal: Help the indigenous population of Belize. Lynn's method was to create a hands-on connection with the community. Jeff's tool for change was harnessing the power of media to raise awareness.

Over a decade later, the two reunited and Lynn shared a passion to create an organization to provide compassionate assistance for the indigenous.

Moved by the message, Jeff jumped at the opportunity to help Lynn bring this passion to life. 15 years after their sweaty jungle meeting, the seeds would sprout and Strong Villages began to grow.



LYNN BEALER
CO-FOUNDER

Lynn has traveled internationally for over 20 years with dental & medical missions to Central America and Haiti. She is currently the International Director for Strong Villages.

Lynn has held a Real Estate Corporate License for 25 years and has a MA in Sociology.

lynn@strongvillages.org



JEFF MACINTYRE
CO-FOUNDER

Jeff is an Emmy Award-winning television producer and journalist. He believes everyone has a story to tell and has traveled to 45 countries telling important stories for ABC News.

For over 20 years, he's owned the Los Angeles-based production company, Content Media Group.

jeff@strongvillages.org

TRAVEL WITH STRONG VILLAGES

Travel to Belize for an unforgettable opportunity...

- ▶ Learn About Ancient Cultures
- ▶ Swim in Waterfalls
- ▶ Provide Care and Compassion
- ▶ Howl with Monkeys
- ▶ Explore the Rainforest
- ▶ Make Friends & Memories!

Spend a week exploring the ancient lands of the Mayan and Garifuna people. Adventure, wildlife and environmental awareness await! Your trip will bring meaning and purpose to your life as you help provide vital care and services to the indigenous people of Belize.

How can you travel into the jungle, connect with loving indigenous people and not leave a different person?

This trip is perfect for...

- Doctors
- EMTs
- Nurses
- Medical Students
- Dentists
- Non-Medical Volunteers
- Caring People Like YOU!

For More Trip Info Visit:
www.StrongVillages.org



READY FOR
THE TRIP
OF A
LIFETIME?





**STRONG
VILLAGES**

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