MOTHER AND CHILD SAVE BY MAP MEDICINES

In late May 2016, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said it has identified an increase in insecurity and a worsening humanitarian situation in the Diffa region in southeast Niger.

According to government figures, the region hosted in mid-May more than 241,000 Nigerian refugees, and IDP. "Security around the towns of Diffa and Bosso has deteriorated in recent months with a series of criminal incidents, including suicide attacks near villages and sites where Nigerian refugees and internally displaced people have found refuge.

Approximately 157,000 people who fled Boko Haram are installed in 135 camps along 200 kilometers of National Highway 1, a road along the border with Nigeria and Komadougou River. Two major markets along this road are closed since April for fear of insurgent infiltrators commit attacks.

It is amidst this regional uncertainty that the recent MAP shipment arrived to Kirker Hospital in Maine Soroa, in late April. International Relief Teams sponsored the shipment worth more than $14 million dollars, and The Reed Family Foundation paid transport.

Hadiza Maman, a 29-year-old refugee residing in the village of Tam got the news late in the afternoon on a Thursday. It was 4:00pm in the isolated rural area of Tam, and the temperature...
approaches 104 degrees under the shade. It looks like life has stopped in the small village of approximately 750 people due the extreme heat.

Very early the next day, Hadiza with her 2-year old child on the back walked to the 10 miles to go to Kirker Hospital to seek medical attention. They were both suffering from flu, which they treated for weeks with medicines sold by “street pharmacists.”

Upon their arrival at Kirker Hospital, they were consulted by Nurse Tidjani, and given Acetaminophen, Diphenhydramine hydrochloride, Phenylephrine hydrochloride for his severe cold and cough, from the recent MAP shipment. Two days after starting treatment, she went back to Kirker Hospital to thank the medical staff. “I both feel better than ever”, she said. “I wish we had these medicines much earlier, I can now go back to conduct my income generating activity and provide for my children”

Ari Abari, a 29-year-old boy came to Kirker Hospital to seek medical care after experiencing skin pruritus rash, and subcutaneous tissue disorders. He was successfully treated with the medicines from the recent MAP shipment.

Ali Abari, a patient receiving medicines at Kirker Hospital