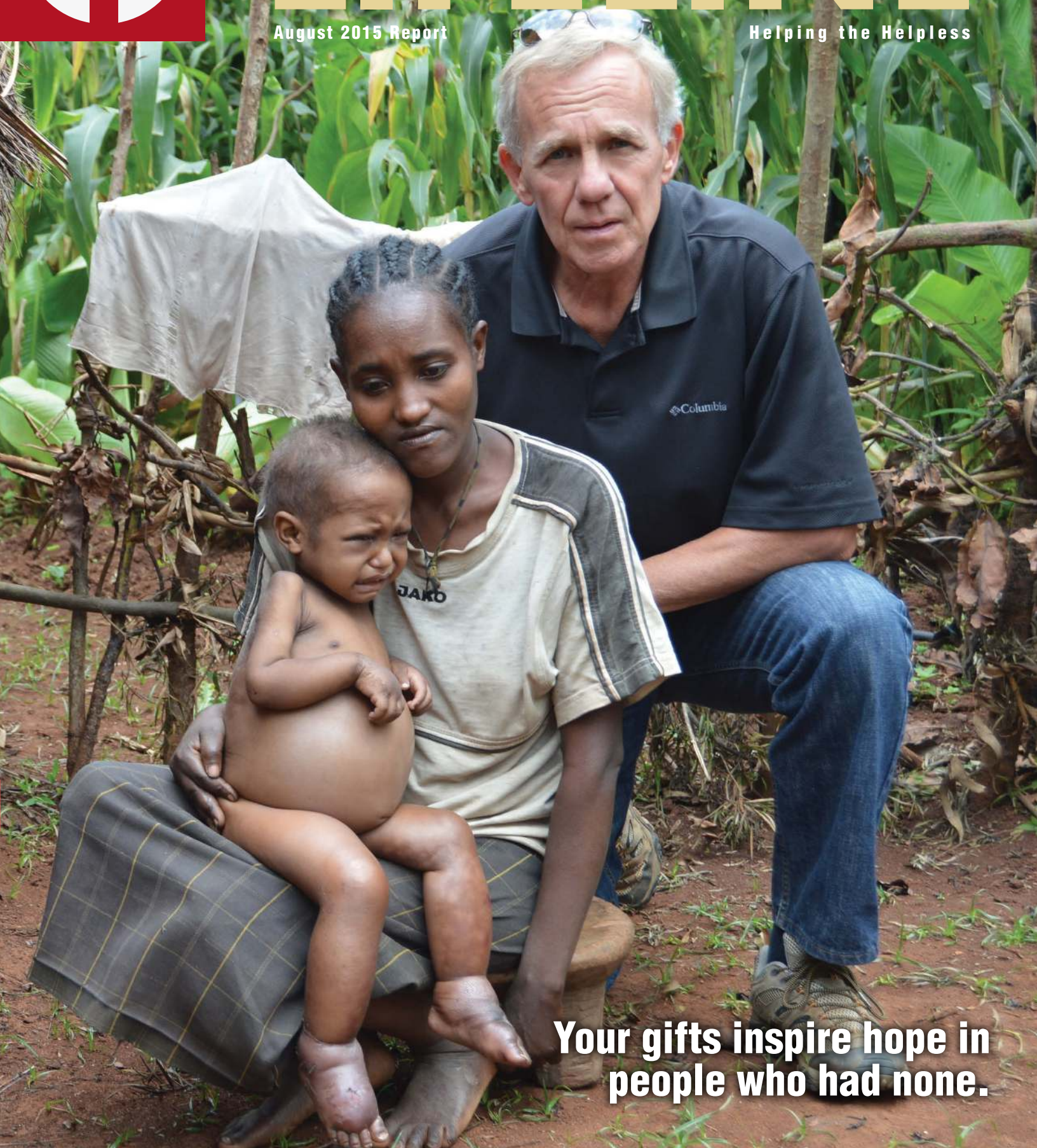


# LIFELINE

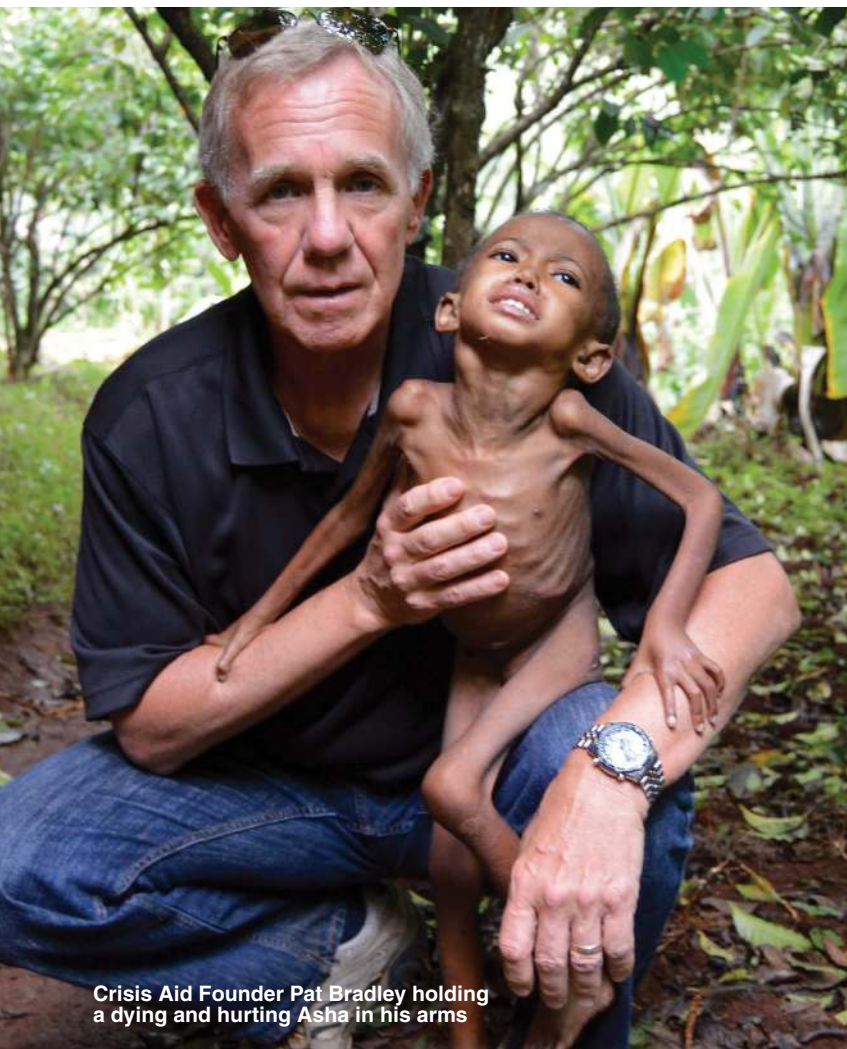
August 2015 Report

Helping the Helpless



**Your gifts inspire hope in people who had none.**





Crisis Aid Founder Pat Bradley holding a dying and hurting Asha in his arms

I blinked my eyes and a man suddenly appeared before me. I had no idea where he had come from. He bent down and suddenly lifted up his child, presenting her to me. At first glance, the child looked like she was dead. She was a skeleton with brown skin tight across her protruding bones.

We stood there stunned, not knowing what to do, when unexpectedly the struggling eyes of this lifeless child opened. I reached my hands out to the father immediately, and he placed the frail child into them. She felt like a feather, weighing almost nothing.

We soon learned of this child, her father and his family was not just heart breaking, it was truly heart shattering. Even after more than a decade

of working in this field, it was a difficult story—a heart wrenching reality—to hear, see and hold. I continue to fight tears as I share their story.

Mosi, the father, came from a nearby village. This father heard there was a foreigner at a church compound nearby, so he brought his daughter hoping to get help to save her life. He knew if he didn't, she would die.

Mosi told us his daughter Asha was 4-years-old. He tries to earn money each day as a day laborer, but more often than not, he returns home empty handed. There is no work to be found and no food for his family.

He told us his wife had passed away a year ago in May 2014. She suffered from severe headaches for a long time and eventually died. He never knew why. They did not have money for food, much less for medical care or the transportation it would take to get her there.

As Mosi continued sharing his tragic story, we learned that he was blessed with four children. He wiped tears from his worn out eyes, sharing he had buried two of his young children just since May. **Both girls died from severe malnutrition; they literally starved to death. Now he stood with us less than two months later, pleading for help to save his last little girl, Asha,** who was also starving and fighting for her every breath.

In that moment, we didn't know how this child was even still alive. Her upper arm measured 2.9 inches in circumference, which is smaller than the size of a quarter. This is ridiculously too small for a 4-year-old. (A minimal measurement for a healthy child would be at least 7 ½ inches.) Heartbreak and anger continued to build in my soul.





As Mosi continued, the look in his eyes was a combination of utter despair and desperation. Mosi was going to lose another child soon, and there was not anything he could do to prevent that from happening. He has begged for help from others in his village, but many are as poor as he is.

Asha was survived by her father Moshi and her 7-year-old brother. It is too late for the girls, but it is not too late to save this last child or the hundreds more who need your help. Your partnership enabled us to admit this family into a new feeding program that you launched in July.



Mosi, Asha's father, with her in her last days

His neighbors did what they could to help, but it was not enough. Because of your support, she was able to be hospitalized for several days, but for Asha it was too late.

*By the end of July, Moshi had buried his fourth loved one—and all within a year's time. First he buried his wife, then he buried his three young daughters within 3 months of each other.*

This precious boy and hundreds like him are being saved because of you.

In fact, **your prayers and donations are making it possible to respond to an emergency appeal from the government to serve 800 children in this new area, all whom are severely malnourished.**

These children, just like Asha and her sisters, will die without your help.



Now they will be saved, because our faithful partners are providing financial support for food.

But it is not just about getting them food. It is about getting them the right food. Severely malnourished children need a special food product to survive. The government was able to provide these 800 children with one month's supply. This is a great start, but it is not nearly enough. We hope to begin purchasing this special food product each month which will cost approximately \$3.00/day to provide for an entire family. Feeding the family is vitally important in these situations and can mean the difference between life and death for the children.

The need continues. There are an additional 1,200 malnourished children our team has identified

who are on the verge of falling into the deadly category of *severely* malnourished. These children will also need this special food product.

**The only help these children and families will get is what you provide.**

You have the opportunity to ACT NOW before it is life threatening for these children too. You will become the heroes in this part of the world!

Please consider what you can do. Yes, children are dying one by one; but together we will save them one by one! *We need your help TODAY and for the next 6 months to try and get a handle on the starvation these children are facing every day. You are their last hope.* Please focus on the one you can save.

Thank you for all you have done and continue to do. Thousands of children in East Africa are alive today because of your generosity over the past twelve years!

May God bless you beyond your wildest dreams.

We love you,

Pat and Sue

Your Gifts Make A Big Difference; Thanks for caring.

E info@crisisaid.org 1.888.740.7779 T 314.487.1400 F 314.487.1409 www.crisisaid.org  
P.O. Box 510167 St. Louis, MO 63151-0167

CFC# 70603

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