

The McCord Research and McCord Buruli Ulcer Foundations Created the "Pennies Have Power™" Charity to Eradicate the Buruli Ulcer in Ghana and 39 African Countries



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Our Project and Our Goals

McCord Research, Inc. has formed a foundation to help eradicate the Buruli ulcer. We first learned about the ulcer at a meeting of the American Professional Wound Care Association (APWCA) through a presentation given by Edwin Ampadu, MD.

To achieve our goals, the foundation has aligned itself with a children's charity

made up of children from around the world that raise money to help children in need. In their first project the children's organization, lead by a 7th grader from Des Moines, IA, raised 10 million dollars to help the children affected by Katrina.

Pennies Have Power is a simple but life-changing program that will work through this charity. Our goal is to help treat and heal children in Ghana and throughout Africa who suffer from a disfiguring and even life-threatening disease called the Buruli ulcer.

It is simple and inexpensive to eliminate the lifetime of suffering caused by the Buruli ulcer. For just over 1,467 pennies we can treat and cure a Buruli ulcer. And kids from around the world are going to make this happen. Through the McCord Research/Buruli Ulcer Foundations, kids will change the lives of other kids all over Ghana and Africa.

Truly, Pennies Have Power and Kids Can Make the Difference!

What is the Buruli Ulcer?

The Buruli ulcer is a skin disease caused by bacteria that is a genetic cousin to the bacteria that causes leprosy and tuberculosis. Like leprosy, patients with the Buruli ulcer develop ulcers on their body that can eventually cripple and even kill them.

How Our Foundation Will Make a Difference

Public awareness, education and basic medical treatment are the simple solutions to tackling this disease; however, poverty and ignorance are the roadblocks to any of these options. Supporting the Buruli Ulcer Project through Pennies Have Power is easy, inexpensive and life-changing!

The Pennies Have Power Program

The funds raised through Pennies Have Power will help to:

- Raise awareness of the disease in the US and other countries so that more donations can be raised to help children suffering with this disease.
- Train doctors and other medical staff to improve early diagnosis and prevention of the disease and to educate the people of Africa about the Buruli ulcer.
- Most importantly, provide treatment to those children already stricken with the disease.

Here's How it Works

The children's charity already works with 4,000 school districts in the US. Many more schools are involved from around the world. Any school, class, youth group, community center or neighborhood of kids can organize their own Pennies Have Power campaign by collecting pennies. For every 1,463 pennies collected and contributed to the Buruli Ulcer Project, a child in Africa can be treated and cured of this crippling disease. Pennies truly have the power to change children's lives forever.

- Pennies (and nickels, and dimes, and quarters, and...!) can be collected through whatever means each group comes up with. We encourage creativity! Some ideas include:
- Teachers can put Pennies Have Power collection containers on their desks in their classrooms.
- Kids can work with their favorite local businesses to keep Pennies Have Power containers at their checkout counters.
- Classes, youth groups, or other kids' teams can set up Web sites to collect "pennies" and other donations.
- Kids' sports teams can have pennies and loose change collected at the concession stands of all their games.
- Teams can create Pennies Have Power collection envelopes that they distribute to family and friends. Anytime anyone buys a candy bar, a burger, a toy or any other purchase, they can put the loose change in the envelope for contribution to the Pennies Have Power campaign.

Financial Goals

The McCord Buruli Ulcer Foundation is working to start raising money in 2009. Through the team effort of children around the world, we hope to raise five million dollars for the care, education and treatment of children afflicted with the Buruli ulcer.