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## THE MARSHALL LEGACY INSTITUTE

*Promoting Hope, Growth and Stability*

### AT-A-GLANCE

- ❑ The Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI) is a Virginia-based, non-profit, international humanitarian organization formed in 1997 in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Marshall Plan. MLI aims to extend the vision of George C. Marshall by addressing 21<sup>st</sup> Century challenges to promote hope, growth and prosperity in the developing world.
- ❑ MLI's current focus is establishing affordable and sustainable indigenous programs to help severely affected countries rid their land of the scourge of mines.
- ❑ Landmines affect millions of people in 70 countries worldwide. They maim or kill nearly 20,000 innocent people each year while instilling fear, denying use of productive land, and impeding social-economic growth.
- ❑ Mines are small, usually buried, often made of plastic, and difficult to find. Highly trained dogs are among the best detectors of landmines available in the field today.
- ❑ In one day, a human can search 40 square meters of land suspected of mine contamination, but a dog team may search up to 1,000 square meters in the same period of time.
- ❑ The Humane Society of the United States has cited that explosive-sniffing dogs are “the quickest and most effective method of identifying the location of landmines” and its February 2005 issue of *Kids in Nature's Defense* highlighted the work of MLI and landmine detection dogs.
- ❑ Currently there are nearly 800 dogs “sniffing out” landmines and saving lives in 26 countries around the world. Hundreds more of these wonderful dogs are needed to help make a safer world for children to play, people to work and communities to grow.
- ❑ MLI established mine detection dog programs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia, Eritrea, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka and Thailand, and plans to provide dogs to Angola, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and perhaps Vietnam in 2006/2007.
- ❑ The U.S. Department of State (DoS) highly regards the work of MLI and matches private funds 3:1 to train local handlers and provide essential infrastructure so countries can help themselves in freeing their land from the horror of landmines.
- ❑ MLI reaches out to caring global citizens to “sponsor” a mine detection dog by making a tax-exempt contribution of \$20,000 to acquire, train and deploy a dog to a needy country. Sponsors may name the dog, receive regular progress reports and visit the beneficiary nation to see the fruits of their investment.

- MLI's Children Against Mines Program (CHAMPS) fosters a sense of global citizenship and informs American youth about the plight of children in mine affected countries. Students have sent mine detection dogs named *Apollo*, *Lilo* and *Wyoming*, to help save and improve the lives of children in Bosnia and Sri Lanka.