

# Teethsavers International, Inc

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Teach a Few to Teach Many  
[www.teethsavers.org](http://www.teethsavers.org)

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## Teethsavers Founder Dr. Jack Rudd Receives International Recognition

The Academy of Dentistry International is the international honor society composed of some 2,800 dentists throughout the world dedicated to sharing knowledge in order to serve the dental and oral health needs and to improve the quality of life of the people throughout the world.

The Academy of Dentistry International founded in 1974 is devoted to the advancement of dentistry throughout the world and to the elevation of dental standards by continuing education. Along with the sponsorship of dental education and service projects, this Academy directly aids in the improvement of the dental and oral health and well-being of people worldwide.

The Academy of Dentistry International presented three awards outside the academy members on September 26, 2007 in San Francisco, California.

**International Dentist of the Year 2007** This award is presented to the dentist who best exemplifies international leadership. The recipient for this year was Dr. Phil Plunk, Director of the program Salud y Paz in Guatemala.

**The Award of Distinction** Presented periodically to individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of Continuing Dental Education. This year the recipient was Dr. Jack Rudd, Director of the program Teethsavers in Zambia.

**The Humanitarian Award** This award is given in recognition of significant contribution to the enhancement of the quality of life and the human Condition. This year the recipient was Dr. Paul Kotala for his contributions to a program in Laos.

**Recognition** by this honorific academy composed of oral health academics throughout the world brings Teethsavers' Six-Year Molar Focus School to a higher level of acceptance and responsibility.

**The Zambia Six-Year Molar Focus School** is a new category dental school, a one year course, maximum of 10 students costing about \$2,200 per year per student. The school is approved by and its graduates receive a certificate and are registered by Medical Council of Zambia.

**Teethsavers project** is a three year longitudinal basic epidemiological oral health survey ages 6 and 7 and age 12 using random sampling. International oral health officials first place emphasis of our project on evaluating our school's graduates, then our **Hope for Oral Health Care for Developing Countries**.

## Support of Teethsavers International Inc. Three-Year Oral Health Survey

**Dr. Poul Erik Petersen**, DDS, Dr. Odont Sci, Msc (Sociology) Director Global Oral Health Program, World Health Organization (WHO), wrote an e-mail dated 23 August, 2006, "Dr. Rudd, your Zambia project appears to have demonstrated success in the implementation of oral health at the village level. It will be most important if such activities and their impact on oral health can be documented and serve as a model for other communities/countries. Dr. Baez has substantial experience in **calibration** trials and it would be good if you could have his support in this activity."

**Dental calibration** objective is for our four examiners/evaluators to be in agreement 85% of the time in Teethsavers three-year oral health survey which is essential to have validity as a model for developing countries, publication in international dental journals, presentation at dental meetings and seminars and to Ministers of Finance and Health of developing countries..

**Dr. Ramon Baez**, DDS, MPH, led our calibration in May and September. Dr. Baez is Director of Multicultural Affairs and Head of the WHO Collaborating Center for Translation of Oral Health Sciences into Clinical and Public Health Practice. On retirement, he is now Adjunct Professor in the Department of Community Dentistry at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Baez was International Dentist of Year 2001 and has been involved with dental calibration since 1965.

**Dr. Jo Frencken** DDS, MSc, PhD, a dental researcher in the Netherlands, spent 14 years in Africa developing ART (our sealant and restoration), Teethsavers valuable consultant since 2000, now an active member of our board of directors and volunteered to assist with survey reports. Jack's last consultation with Dr. Frencken was this past October in the Netherlands. Dr. Frencken was International Dentist of Year 1999.

**Drs** Baez, Frencken, Petersen and 100's of Teethsavers Humancreatures support education and provide encouragement and have been and will be essential for Teethsavers focus on never-ending commitment with steadfast responsibility: **Hope for Oral Health Care for Developing Countries.**

**September 1**, Teethsavers' twenty employees moved to Katete District (one hour west of Chipata) into a triple-huge, seven-bedroom headquarters for the three-year survey and school when re-started. Our home is about four miles from meager shopping necessitating our going to Chipata at least once a month for food and supplies. The house is crested by arched trees on the winding dirt road leading to it and highlighted by a small mountain behind with much vegetation. The all-concrete house has a tin roof and a large bush-grass fenced yard. We have a water well with rope and bucket to augment the inadequate city water. Electric power is not adequate to keep our refrigerator cool. However all is good in Katete: no more \$75.00 a day truck rental, a used three ton truck was a gift to Teethsavers for field work. Phone (806) 853-9108 for a no-charge, direct call to Teethsavers in Katete, Zambia.

**566 days of 2004 to 2007** in Chipata District, teaching and treating with teams of 16 to 24; graduates, students, dental assistants and 25 volunteers; 3 dentists, 12 dental students, 10 non dental staying 2 weeks to 3 months from 5 countries. 74,459 children grades 1 to 4, taught and screened, 21,372 examined and treated with 9,354 ART sealants, 9,538 ART restorations and 6,801 (**31%**) of those treated were for periodontal (gum & bone) disease- cause is no oral hygiene. About 60% had hard calculus we removed by scaling. 26,850 older children and 16,012 adults were only taught. Our equal emphasis: teaching mothers to combine oral and body hygiene beginning at age three-months.

**\$1.40** is the average cost per child, both taught and treated at their school or village and is about 1/3 the cost of a molar extraction at a government dental clinic. This includes all expenses except 2% administrative and the volunteer director's (Jack's) airfare. Your donation brings oral health care to many children, many who have never heard of a toothbrush.

**All Teethsavers** in Katete Acknowledge Your Support of Some of God's Children, Who Are Unseen, Unheard and Much Too Often Forgotten.

Please see Teethsavers website [www.teethsavers.org](http://www.teethsavers.org) and send a donation to Westminster Presbyterian Church  
3321 33 Street, Lubbock, Texas  
79410 Please write Teethsavers in the memo area of check.

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