



**April 4, 2007**

## **Wisconsin Medical Project Fundraising Event**

### **News Release**

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The Wisconsin Medical Project will be co-sponsoring the showing of *Salud*, a critically acclaimed 90 minute documentary film about the Cuban health care system and the Cuban trained health care professionals who are providing medical care in numerous Latin American, South American and African communities. The film will be shown at Anderson Auditorium at Edgewood College on Tuesday evening May 1, 2007. A donation of \$10 is suggested.

### **The Film**

A feature documentary, *¡Salud!* is directed by Academy Award nominee Connie Field. The film spans three continents to look at the philosophy and health professionals placing Cuba on the map in the worldwide movement to make health care a global birthright. Today, Cubans are among the world's healthiest people, despite the island's poverty and their need for critical medical equipment and supplies. Cuba's volunteer corps now posts 28,000 health professionals in 68 countries; and Cuban medical schools will graduate an unprecedented 100,000 new doctors from developing countries over the next decade.

The film's cameras reach into The Gambia, rural South Africa, coastal villages of Honduras and river settlements in the Amazon, where a Cuban is often the first doctor a poor community has ever seen. In some nations they staff entire health systems. In all, they take with them the experience and philosophy of their own community-oriented, preventive and universal health care model fundamentally at odds with a global wave of healthcare privatization.

More information about the film can be found at <http://www.saludthefilm.net/ns/main.html>.

### **The Wisconsin Medical Project**

The Cuban medical system has been very successful however the U.S. embargo has made it immensely difficult for Cuba to obtain vitally needed medicines, medical supplies and medical equipment. The Wisconsin Medical Project has

been engaged in providing humanitarian assistance to Camaguey, Cuba, including shipments of medical equipment and supplies through a license granted by the United States Commerce Department. Project members have a ten-year relationship established through the Madison-Camaguey Sister City Association. To date the Wisconsin Medical Project has delivered four 40-foot sea-going containers filled with wheelchairs and medical supplies. This fundraiser event will help support sending a fifth container of medical goods to Camaguey.

More information about the Wisconsin Medical Project can be found at <http://www.madisoncamaguey.org/WMP/index.htm>.