

Volunteer Health Professionals, Inc.

FALL/WINTER - 2006

December of 2006 saw a five member team arrive on the Island of Kadavu to provide ongoing medical/dental treatment as well as develop a year round water system.

The water system will provide an abundant source of pure natural spring water for the future Tiliva Health Centre.

Betty Hayhurst, RN, FHNP, and Marcie Schmunk conducted multiple clinics in the village "long house" while Terry Schmunk, DDS, MPH provided dental care for Tiliva Village and the surrounding villages Josevata Davui, caretaker of the Health Centre site, led a group of village workmen in clearing additional building sites for the project as Doug Hayhurst, CHEM, led the team in clearing and laying of the 1,200 meter pipe line from the spring to the clinic site.

Pastor Kenny Digby provided spiritual input and assisted Doug and the village workmen with the clearing and water system project.

Doug and the Tiliva village workmen hauled three 1,000 litre water storage tanks to the source of the spring site over 700 feet up the side of the mountain behind the property.

Back in Suva on the Big Island of Viti Levu, Terry and Doug met with the Fijian Ministry of Health and the Fijian Seventh-day Adventist Mission leaders in arranging for a future partnership between the Tiliva Health Centre project, Volunteer Health Professionals, Inc. and these two local entities. The support by the Ministry of Health in supporting a full-time nurse practitioner/nurse mid-wife and the SDA Mission in support of providing local personnel to assist in building supplies and equipment was greatly appreciated. Another long time goal of VHP, Inc. was realized when Volunteer Health Professionals, Inc. was recognized as a tax exempt, charitable organization by the government of Fiji.

Immediately upon their return to the States the team started gathering building equipment and supplies for a future shipment to Kadavu.