

DOCUMENTARY TO PUBLICISE COMPLETE LACK OF FUNDED AMBULANCE SERVICE IN LAOS

The UFUA has been approached by a documentary film crew who are raising funds to film a documentary about the complete lack of any professional or funded ambulance service in Laos. Laos has one of the highest road accidents rates in the world yet does not have any official ambulance service. As a result many die that could probably be saved with appropriate emergency medical intervention.

We have been directly approached by the filmmaker Rob Innes who is the son of a longstanding UFU member. The film crew have set up a public funding webpage to raise at least \$6000 to fund the film about the local citizen volunteers who borrow gear and rely on donations to support their volunteer ambulance service. Rob has provided the following explanation for the project:

“My team and I are trying to raise funds for a documentary film about a completely volunteer ambulance and rescue service in the country of Laos. They operate in the capital city Vientiane, and the majority of them have no medical background, and rely on old donated equipment. They receive no funding, and survive solely on private donations.

At night in Vientiane, there is NO official ambulance or rescue service available and before these volunteers people would simply die on the side of the roads (the country has one of the highest road accident rates in the world!). These people do an incredible job, considering most local people in Laos earn very little money. They work all day and then go out each night in an effort to try to save lives.

Our documentary film "Life and Death in Vientiane" is set over Laos New Year, three crazy nights where the whole service is put to the test with over 50 rescues expected. The film is a chance for these people to tell their own personal story, and audiences will gain an insight into this world. We believe through the power of film, that we can help them raise awareness of the service which will hopefully lead to future donations to keep them going.”

The fundraising website is www.pozible.com/lifeanddeathinvientiane and we have been asked to publicise the website broadly so that the documentary can be completed and distributed.

The UFUA supports this project and hopes you will to with your donation to ensure its completion and success.