

# God's Work

## Karen's Role

- Provide medical care by working in existing medical clinics and taking medical supplies into remote villages.
- Build medical program by capacity training local and national healthcare workers as well as educating locals through health and sanitation seminars.
- Help coordinate both short and long-term health programs by government and non-government organizations (NGOs) to prevent "doubling" efforts and help ensure even distribution of available resources.
- Be the presence of Christ...

Loving God.  
Serving others for Jesus.



*"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me..."* Matthew 25:35-36

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[WelcomeToBayshore.com](http://WelcomeToBayshore.com)



# Karen Alford

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*"And what does the Lord require of you?  
To do justice, to love mercy and to walk  
humbly with your God."* Micah 6:8

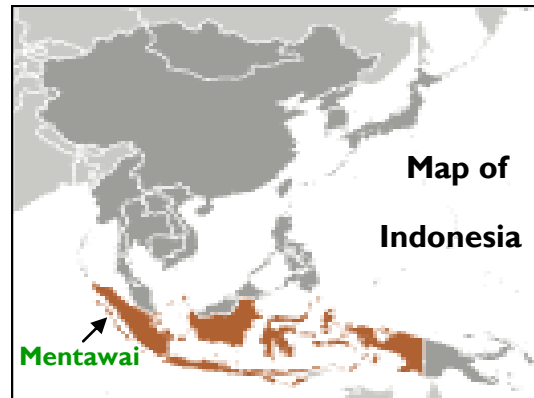
# Karen's Mission to Mentawai

## Karen's Story

Karen Alford, originally from Oregon, got her Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology from the University of Montana and served 3 years in the Peace Corps as a wildlife biologist in the Eastern High Atlas Mountains in Morocco. There, living among the Berbers, she felt called to go into medicine, so upon returning to the states she began studying to become a Nurse Practitioner. After graduating with a Master's in nursing from the University of Tampa in 2007, Karen accepted a ministry calling through Cooperative Baptist Fellowship to work on a medical riverboat in Southeast Asia. Now Karen has begun a new medical ministry in the Mentawai Islands off the coast of West Sumatra, Indonesia.

## History/Facts

- Geographic isolation of islands resulted in completely different development of language and culture from the rest of Indonesia; tropical rainforest ecosystem shelters a rich biological community with 60% of terrestrial mammals recorded as endemic



- Historically hunter-gatherer tribes
- Christianized by missionaries back in the 1930s, still practicing animist in some areas
- Governed by West Sumatra, Indonesia
- Part of "Ring of Fire." Hit by 7.7 earthquake and tsunami on Oct. 25, 2010 resulting in over 500 people killed and entire villages destroyed.

## Challenges Pre-Tsunami

- West Sumatra is strongly Muslim vs. Mentawai which is strongly Christian
- Very few schools
- No hospitals, only one government clinic to be shared by the 2 southern islands
- Very few roads so most transportation is by boat
- Limited electricity in one town only, no communication access (cell phone signal/radio signal) outside of that town.

## Post-Tsunami

- Thousands of people moved to crowded **Internally Displaced People** camps (IDP camps)
- No water available in the camps.
- No healthcare or access to healthcare in the camps
- **Limited** staple diet of bananas and sweet potatoes (forced to forage)
- No churches and very little or no access to pastoral care.



Karen is a self-funded CBF Affiliate and relies upon your donations to keep her in the field. If you would like to contribute to her ministry please send donations to:

Bayshore Baptist Church  
3111 W. Morrison Ave, Tampa, FL 33629

*Terima kasih dan Tuhan memberkati*

*Thank you and God bless*