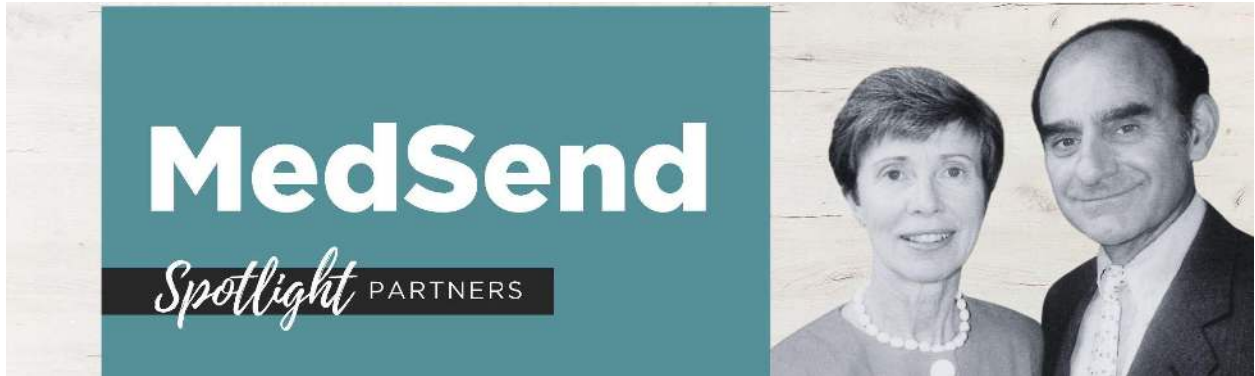


Small Steps, Global Impact: Medsend's story Jul 15, 2025



In the early 1970s, Dr. David Topazian—a dentist and faithful Black Rock member—invited missionaries into his home, unknowingly planting seeds that would grow into a global healthcare missions movement. Through short-term trips, David witnessed the deep need for medical care in underserved communities—and the obstacles Christian healthcare workers faced in answering God’s call, especially student debt.

After retiring, David and his wife Deidre moved to Venezuela, where he began to ask a game-changing question: *What if the Church helped pay off student loans so Christian medical professionals could serve overseas now, not later?* That question became **Project MedSend**, launched with the support of Black Rock Church.

Since then, MedSend has supported over 750 long-term missionaries worldwide, expanded into training national leaders in the Global South, and launched the Longevity Project to help missionaries thrive on the field. Throughout it all, Black Rock has remained a vital partner.

Another way this family grew to impact medical missions is through Dr. Topazian’s son Mark, now also a doctor and Black Rock Global Partner. Mark and his wife Janet serve with SIM in East Africa, where he mentors Christian doctors, strengthens medical residency programs, and helps equip healthcare workers through tools like the Saline Process—training them to share the love of Christ with patients in everyday clinical settings. In all of this, he continues his family’s legacy of compassion, vision, and global service. As Mark observed, “This is the story of a faithful family, a generous church, and a God who multiplies small steps.”