



Teamwork in action

WEWAK, Papua New Guinea (Oct. 13, 2005): Sokwawe was close to death, but she is now recovering due to the quick response of NTM missionaries.

The end of August, a note began its journey to NTM missionaries ministering among the Sinow people. Sokwawe, who gave a clear testimony of faith in Christ when the Gospel was first presented to the Siawis in 1992, was having complications following childbirth.

It was the end of September before the note arrived in the hands of missionaries Frank and Mirjam Tertel. They immediately began communications with Siawi missionaries Tom and Danielle Brendle, Jason and Shannon Swanson, and Linda Krieg, all of whom are on home assignment.

Since there was such a long lapse before the missionaries heard of the situation, their first question was, “Is she still alive?”

The Sinow missionary team sent a motor canoe to the mouth of the river that leads to the Siawis, and then a hiker took a note to the village asking if she could be carried to the canoe. Sokwawe was still alive, but far too ill to be carried three hours over a rough trail.

The Brendles, Swansons and Linda decided to have her flown to the hospital in Wewak. Usually, this step isn’t taken until a health care person has seen the patient. Linda e-mailed the pilot and the person who schedules flights and the plane flew in the next day.

There was some question about the condition of the airstrip since the tractor was out of commission and the grass was very long on the strip, but the landing was made without a problem.

Sokwawe and her husband, Saisu, were taken to the hospital where she is being treated for a bad infection, believed to be caused by a retained placenta.

Pray for her continued recovery, and pray that her testimony of God’s saving grace will be a witness to other Siawis.

“As God’s people labor together, we will see not just physical lives saved, but souls saved from Satan’s clutches,” wrote Linda, who will return to her ministry among the Siawis next month.