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TUESDAY, AUGUST 09, 2005

Plumpy'nut To The Rescue!

by Michael in New York on [8/09/2005 09:14:00 PM](#)

A tiny packet of peanut butter "stuffed" with milk, vitamins and minerals is revolutionizing the care of desperately malnourished children in Niger. As we know, the world watched as Niger suffered the slow-motion catastrophe of starvation and did nothing when we could have saved so many for so little. Now we are sort of acting, but it will cost a lot more and be a lot less effective.

One good bit of news: **Plumpy'nut, that "sports bar" of sorts that lets mothers feed their own children** rather than have to leave the kids under the intensive care of a hospital. It reduces costs, leaves doctors free to treat the desperately ill and costs about \$20 for a month of Plumpy'nut. That's right, \$5 a week.

Which raises a question: if Plumpy'nut is good enough to give malnourished children in food emergencies, why not give it to the countless thousands of children in Niger who are hungry when the world's attention is directed elsewhere?

To get 1.5 million children back onto the road to health would cost \$30 million, known in international circles as "chump change."

Paging the "culture of life" President. Hello? Are you there?



JOHN'S PHOTOS



HOT OFF THE WIRE

Matthew Yglesias

Blogging as a Vocation - Alyssa Rosenberg on being a writer: My experience has been, as Daniel Strauss says, that people become artists, or in the case of journalists, artisans (I ... *3 minutes ago*)

Ben Smith

Regrets, sort of - Gibbs says Obama regrets his Gates comments, sort of, and blames he press: "I think he would regret if realized how much of an o *6 minutes ago*

Daily Kos

Specter, Sestak to Visit Netroots Nation - I am thrilled to announce that on Friday, August 14, Sen. Arlen Specter and Rep. Joseph Sestak will be joining us at Netroots Nation 2009 for a Pennsylv... *13 minutes ago*

HuffPost Politics

Mike Elk: GE Moves Green Jobs To China - In the last decade, GE has closed over fifteen factories in Ohio and downsized numerous others. Since 1980, employment in GE Lighting has dropped by 68 percent. *22 minutes ago*

Firedoglake

FDL Action: Public Option Whip Count - Day 30 - We've updated the whip count with a whole new round of folks from Mike Stark's interviews on the Hill. Sadly, many of our new additions fall into the cat... *31 minutes ago*

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