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Healing Beyond Borders: Task Forces 509 Bring Hope to Papua's Remote Villages

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INTAN JAYA- In a heartwarming display of compassion and service, the Raider

Infantry Battalion 509/Balawara Yudha Kostrad, operating under the HABEMA Command, conducted a remarkable “Free Health Treatment” program for the residents of Puyagiya Village in Sugapa District, Intan Jaya Regency, Papua Tengah Province. This initiative, held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, exemplifies the unwavering commitment of the Task Forces to bridging the gap in healthcare access in one of Indonesia's most remote regions.

Led by First Lieutenant Wanianto from the Holomama Post, the health activity addressed critical medical needs in the community, where healthcare facilities are often scarce or inaccessible. Residents, like Lukas Sondegau, who suffered an injury after falling from a tree, received immediate care and attention. Accompanied by his family, Lukas was warmly welcomed by the soldiers and their dedicated medical personnel. After a thorough examination and treatment, Lukas was provided with free medication to aid his recovery.

In a heartfelt moment of gratitude, Lukas expressed his thanks, saying, *“Thank you, Commander 509. I feel healthier now. God bless.”* His words reflect the deep impact of this initiative, which brought smiles and relief to the local residents.

The Commander of Task Forces 509, Lieutenant Colonel Dian Dessiawan Setyadi, emphasized the importance of prioritizing the community’s basic needs, especially health. He stated, *“This initiative is not just about fulfilling a duty; it’s about creating a meaningful connection with the people we serve and supporting their well-being.”*

Beyond the medical aid, the soldiers fostered open communication with the community, gathering valuable insights about local conditions while strengthening trust. This engagement highlights the dual role of the Task Forces: ensuring security while actively contributing to the region's socio-economic development.

Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, the HABEMA Commanding General, praised the efforts of Task Forces 509, calling it a *“testament to the TNI’s dedication to improving the lives of people in Papua and supporting regional development.”* He further emphasized that such initiatives are vital for fostering hope and unity in regions with limited infrastructure.

As Task Forces 509 continue their mission, their efforts underscore a larger narrative: the TNI’s commitment to not only safeguarding the nation but also uplifting its people, no matter how remote or challenging the circumstances.

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