



D.D.S. International
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November 6, 2016

Dear ,

This year our trip to Guatemala was quite different. There are always challenges, but God seems to work them out for the best. We have fewer assistants and hygienists attending from the United States. Their cost for the trip this year would be \$1,700.00 in addition to losing one week of income from work. This year we had three chairside assistant and no dental hygienists.



We were fortunate for the first time to have dental students from the University of San Carlos, Guatemala to assist us with our mission. Sixteen students worked with energy and enthusiasm by providing dental assisting, hygiene, restorative and surgical services to our patients. Drs. Rob Henin, Tom Getreuer, Dave Greenman and myself provided supervision, instruction and mentoring for the

students to help improve their skills above and beyond their excellent patient care. Each student was given free travel, food and housing for the week, which cost the mission \$100 per student.



Drs. Nikita Vakhil of Glastonbury, CT and Laura Withers MD of Portland ME provided direct patient care. We were also fortunate to have other veterans of our program to assist us including: Reverend Pat Henin, Donna Getreuer RN, Ronna Post CDA, and Bruce Couillard. Christie Moraga joined us for the first time to translate.



Patterson Dental Supply generously contributed much needed dental equipment and supplies to our mission and they continue to be greatly appreciated.

This year we had an additional team of eight missionaries from Calvary Christian Center of Ormond Beach, FL. They assisted in patient care and provided food, clothing, games and skits to share the gospel with the families that attended the clinic.



On Wednesday we made our trip into the mountains to visit many families at one of the schools. A meal, clothing and a program with music and a gospel message was given there. This year we did not provide food staples for people in their homes like we did last year due to budgetary and communication issues.



One six year old was frightened when he was seen for extractions. He fainted before we attempted to remove a tooth. When he came to, he was asked when his last meal was and he said "two days ago". We gave him some food and while he was eating two boys watched him. It was obvious that they were also hungry. A mother helped to feed the boy who fainted and after she was certain he ate all he wanted, she gave the rest to her two sons.

We learned two things from this experience. First, although we provide a free lunch to all those who are waiting, some for many hours, we need to consider an earlier meal for those being treated in the morning. Second, hunger and poor nutrition should have a greater focus in our mission. I am burdened to provide short and long term solutions to hunger in that community.



Barbara Smith and Chickie Amberg collected and donated beanie babies which continue to be very popular. Dorie Conlon Perugini's students made dresses for the young girls which put big smiles on their faces. We appreciate the financial support we received from Chickie Amberg, Barbara Smith, Dr. William Liebman, Kirk Smallidge, Carol & Peter Delaney, Jocelyn Heim, Audrey Quinlan, Debra Bailey, David Malcolm and Robert & Setsuko McNabb.

I can't thank you all enough for your contributions – (toys, clothing, financial, thoughts & prayers, interest) to help this mission project be a success.

Sincerely,

Brad Heim DMD