



Heart Care International Teaching Mission January 2008

Dear friends,

Thank you for your support to our first mission of 2008!! The trip was very successful. We were able to accomplish our objective of providing the El Salvadorian team with an effective practical and theoretical training. Most of the surgeries and post-operative care were performed mainly by the Bloom Hospital doctors and nurses, guided and supported by the Heart Care International team. The last day of the trip was dedicated to lectures and discussion with the ICU and OR nurses. Both teams were very satisfied with the process and the results.

In the following pages you will find pictures of the children that were saved thanks to your generous support. Without your help these mission trips would not be possible. Our next mission trip will be the first week of May 2008.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

Children who received open heart surgery



Karen, 13 years old, hole in the heart

Karen is a good student and very outgoing girl. She likes to go to school, be with friends and play soccer although due to her heart condition she would get tired easily and was sick often.

When Karen was 3 years old, her parents found out she had a hole in her heart. Since then she had been close to having a surgery 4 times (cancelled twice, once she gave her spot to a more urgent child, and once she was sick). Finally, she had her surgery and will be able to run and play soccer like any other girl. She wants to become a social worker and work in a hospital.



Josue David, 9 months old



Sergio, 3 years old, hole in the heart

He goes to kindergarten where he likes to draw and paint. His mother waited 3 years for Sergio to have his surgery.



Jose Francisco, 18 years old. Hole in the heart.

He found out about his heart disease when he was 15 years old when he had a few fainting episodes.

For 3 years Francisco waited to be chosen for surgery. When he turned 18 years old, he and his mother were told that due to hospital regulations Francisco could not be treated in the Bloom hospital any more.

Francisco's mother begged the cardiologist to help them so he decided to keep him in the list one more mission.

Fortunately he was selected to have surgery. He and his mother were extremely grateful.

Francisco is a second year medical student. He wants to become a pediatrician.



Josue Daniel. 8 years old



Jennifer, 11 years old, hole in the heart.

Heart Care International and Bloom Hospital medical teams working together

Surgery



HCI surgeon, Sam Weinstein, discussing the week's cases with Bloom Hospital surgeon and cardiologist



HCI surgeon assisting and teaching a Bloom Hospital surgeon.



HCI surgeon, in a teaching mode, assisted and observed by Bloom Hospital surgeons.

Perfusion



HCI perfusionist, Jim Reagor, working side by side with Bloom Hospital perfusionist preparing the heart-lung machine for the surgery

ICU



Heart Care International ICU nurse, Suzanne Courtright, working and Bloom Hospital ICU nurses.



Bloom Hospital ICU nurses caring for a patient who just had surgery during the mission.

Theoretical Training given by Heart Care International nurses



HCI, ICU nurse, Betsy Tirado, gives a lecture to Bloom Hospital ICU and OR nurses



HCI, OR nurse, Roberta Rodeman, gave a lecture on Sceptic Techniques and Universal Practices to Bloom Hospital OR nurses



Thank you for helping us
cure children's hearts