DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE PEDIATRIC CARDIAC SURGERY PROGRAM IN EL SALVADOR

LATIDOS DE ESPERANZA
Filial de Gift of Life International

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This year Latidos de Esperanza is forming alliances and implementing activities and programs to continue transforming the lives of many Salvadoran families. It is with whole-hearted effort that we continue to save the lives of children with congenital heart disease. We reiterate our commitment to each Salvadoran family overcome by hopelessness due to the health of their children.

Last year was a year of great success which saved the lives of 186 Salvadoran children through open heart surgery and catheterization procedures. We are optimistic that this year will be even better.

I take this opportunity to thank our strategic partners, medical personnel, Rotary Clubs, Ministry of Health, Hospital Bloom and volunteers who have contributed, providing quality specialized care and technology to all our children who are undergoing procedures that will save their lives and now await a bright future for themselves and their families.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Ivonne López
DONATION OF PORTABLE ECHOCARDIOGRAM TO HOSPITAL SAN JUAN DE DIOS IN SANTA ANA

In February of this year the second echocardiogram was donated to San Juan de Dios Hospital in Santa Ana, which can be used for children from birth onwards. This will help to ensure that the scope of pediatric cardiovascular care in the country is the best it can be.

DONATION OF OPERATING ROOM TABLE AND SLAVE MONITOR

On March 6th, the cardiovascular program at Hospital Bloom received a donation of an operating room table and a slave monitor. The donation amount was: $16,551.93. Thanks to Club Rotario San Salvador, Santa Tecla, Noroeste, Cuscatlan and Westlake Village.

The slave monitor will allow all medical personnel to have sufficient visibility to observe the patient’s vital signs at all times during surgery. During the course of the year Hospital Bloom will also receive ongoing donations of supplies such as protamine, pleurovacs, urine collections bags and more.
NUTRITIONAL ASSISTANCE AND VOCATIONAL SUPPORT (PANAV)

During this year, we have added 7 families to the nutritional program, which has provided them with healthy food supplements, vitamins and basic hygiene products. To date, about 200 children and their families have been included in the nutritional program.

Also, in the month of January Dr. Claudia Aguirre (dentist) shared with parents the importance of oral health, proper oral care and treatment to avoid future health problems in their children.

SURGERIES PERFORMED AT HOSPITAL BLOOM

During the first quarter of 2013, 34 patients suffering from various congenital heart defects have undergone surgery at Hospital Bloom and are now on their way to a healthy life filled with many joys. Latidos de Esperanza and Gift of Life International are continuously strengthening the cardiovascular program and medical staff through training, donations of supplies, medications and medical equipment ensuring patients are cared for by the best health care professionals with the most advanced cardiac technology.

CATHETERIZATIONS

To date, 112 children have benefited requiring catheterization procedures and this year was no exception. This year 12 children received catheterization procedures in the first quarter. These children have been waiting several years for this opportunity and were selected from a list of 200 patients waiting to receive the gift of life.
UNIENDO AMERICA ROTARY FAIR

Each year, the Central American Rotary Clubs organize a Rotary Fair known as Uniendo America with the object of gaining support for their projects from Rotary Clubs in the United States and Canada. In the month of January, this event took place in our country where Latidos de Esperanza and Gift of Life International presented the program to obtain partnerships and funding needed to purchase supplies, medications, equipment and catheterization devices for 3 medical training visits per year. Salvadoran Rotary Clubs actively involved in this project are: Santa Tecla, San Salvador, Cuscatlan, and Noroeste as well as clubs in the United States such as the Oakland and Westlake Village Rotary Clubs.

PALS FOR NURSES

In the month of February and March, Latidos de Esperanza (through the support of Digicel and Oakland Rotary Club) sponsored the 18 nurses who are part of the pediatric cardiovascular program at Hospital Bloom to take the PALS course (Pediatric Advanced Life-Saving Skills) and were certified by the American Heart Association.

DONATION OF 2 CELL PHONES FROM DIGICEL

Thanks to Digicel, two cell phones were awarded to the winners of a contest on our Facebook page. This activity allowed us to publicize our activities and programs to a greater number of people.
In the month of February, the very prestigious Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow Award was presented to 4 people who have made a difference in our country for their humanitarian efforts and their significant contribution to the Our Hearts are in El Salvador Program: Dra. María Isabel Rodríguez (Minister of Health), Ing. Antonio Rodríguez (CEO, Digicel), Licda. Marta Luz Martínez (head nurse ICU), Dr. Hugo Salgado Roldán (Director Hospital Bloom).

The Paul Harris Society is named after the founder of Rotary International, a service organization that has more than 1.2 million members worldwide.

Paul Harris is one of Rotary’s highest awards and is presented to someone who is considered a great humanitarian who has made a significant difference in promoting world peace, understanding and goodwill through the improvement of health, education and poverty reduction.

The award is given when a Rotarian or Rotary Club contributes $1,000 to the Rotary Foundation to support Rotary projects worldwide either for water projects, maternal and child health, education and more.
COMING EVENTS

January - March 2013

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A TICKET PLEASE CALL 503-2243-4321, PHONE NUMBER FOR CLUB ROTARIO DE SAN SALVADOR.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

January - March 2013

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