Together We Save Lives

Healing Little Hearts in The Dominican Republic

November 13 - 20, 2021

22 Children Treated

CEDIMAT Hospital
Santo Domingo, The Dominican Republic

Gift of Life International Training Visit Report
The November 2021 Trip to CEDIMAT in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic is dedicated in loving memory of

Rotarian and Gift of Life Rotary District 7980 Chair

Lynda Hammond

We would like to express our deepest condolences to Lynda Hammond’s family, her Rotary family and her Gift of Life family.
Lynda worked tirelessly to help provide care to Dominican children for many years. Through these efforts, hundreds of Dominican children have hope for a healthy future. Lynda will truly be missed.
The November 2021 training visit to CEDIMAT Hospital in Santo Domingo provided treatment to 22 children for their heart ailments with a total of 23 procedures performed. This was the 6th visit completed to CEDIMAT by the Gift of Life Training team since the beginning of the global pandemic. A total of 109 children have been treated during these six visits.

This training mission was co-sponsored through Rotary Global Grant GG2125774 Gift of Life International and Chain of Hope UK. Our heartfelt thanks to all grant contributors for their partnership: Rotary Clubs of Santo Domingo (Host Partner), Orange (International Partner), Bridgeport, Devon, Rotary Districts 4060, 7980, 6960,7255, Gift of Life Rotary District 7505 and The Rotary Foundation.

A special thank you to local NGO, Latiendo Por Ti for their dedication and support of this mission and the children of the Dominican Republic.
Thank you to the GOLI Visiting Medical Team

Dr. Rodrigo Soto  
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon  
GOLI Clinical Consultant

Dr. Tom Karl  
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon

Arlene LeMin  
Aida Solon  
Scrub Nurses

Dr. Gerald Williams  
Dr. Travis Vesel  
Intensivists

Becca Dworkin  
Aaron Bechtold  
ICU Nurses

Dr. Greg Fleming  
Interventional Cardiologist

Lindsay Bailer  
Respiratory Therapist

Chelsea Spencer  
Medical Student

GOLI Logo

Introducing the Dominican Team

**Cardiology Medical Director**
Dr. Cesar Herrera

**Pediatric Cardiac Surgery**
Dr. Juan León

**Anesthesiology**
Dr. Llefer Sánchez
Dra. Vicky Adames
Dr Hamlet Herrera

**Perfusionists**
Dr. Fradwikings Vargas
Yahaira Ramirez
Brigida Aguerrevere

**OR Nurse**
Crusita Fernandez

**Respiratory Therapist**
Romulo Parra

**Pediatric Cardiology**
Dra. Rebeca Pérez (Director)
Dra. Adabeyda Baez
Dra. Cynthia Rosario
Dra. Angela Vasquez
Dra Sahony Ciriac (R1)
Dra Laura Santana (R1)

**Pediatric ICU**
Dra. Carisa Nieves (Director)
Dra. Francia Lapaix
Dra. Ana Leticia Lopez
Dra. Adriana Martinez
Dra. Cely Mary Valois Mézquita
Dra. Rosalia Cedeno
Dr. Juan Orozco (R2)
Dr. Ariel Noesi (R2)
Dra Yodeiny Reyes (R1)

**Cath Lab Team**
Dra. Adabeyda Baez
Dr. Victor Rodriguez (Cardiology Resident)
Dra. Tatiana Alburquerque (Cardiology Resident)
Dra. Yadermis Trinidad (Cardiology Resident)
Brito Guevara

**RN and Auxiliary Staff**
Lic. Gloria Peña (Recovery)
Lic. Andrea Mendez
(Ward and Outpatients Clinic)
Lic. Altagracia Mora (PICU)
Cruz Maria Abad
Lorenza Mieses
Alexis Rodriguez
Leonel Ramirez
Jael Perez
Barney Valerio
Samuel Lora
Greisy Hiciano
Kamieng Chan
Working Together To Heal The Heart of the Next Child...
Providing Hope to Dominican Children with Heart Disease
GOLI Medical Volunteers Have Big Hearts which Heal Little Hearts
22 Children Treated
23 Procedures Completed
12 Open Heart Surgeries
6 Interventional Catheterizations
5 Diagnostic Catheterizations
The Next Children...

ALAIÁ
6 Months Old
Diagnosis: Atrial and Ventricular Septal Defects, Patent Ductus Arteriosus, PHTN (Surgery)

GILBERT
3 Years Old
Diagnosis: DORV, Stent Removal, PS (Surgery)

DANIEL
12 Years Old
Diagnosis: Tricuspid Atresia, PS (Surgery)

More than 40,000 little hearts healed since 1975...
YUNIOR
6 Years Old
Diagnosis: DORV, VSD, Severe PH
PA Banding (Surgery)

LIAM
6 Years Old
Diagnosis: TOF, S/P Stent Placement (Surgery)

MAURICIO
6 Months Old
Diagnosis: Tetralogy of Fallot
(Diagnostic Cath & Surgery)

And The Next...

Lighting the World with Hope, One Child at a Time...
And The Next...

MATHIAS
4 Years Old
Diagnosis: DORV, S/P Failed Repair
PA Banding (Surgery)

ANGEL
4 Years Old
Diagnosis: Tetralogy of Fallot
(Surgery)

HANLEY
8 Months Old
Diagnosis: VSD, PAPVD
(PAPVD (Surgery))

93% of children born with a heart defect have no access to care...
And The Next...

Jacob
11 Months Old
Diagnosis: Tetralogy of Fallot, Small PAs (Surgery)

Noraidy
17 Years Old
Diagnosis: RHD
Double Replacement with On-X Valves (Surgery)

Thank you to Chain of Hope UK and Haiti Cardiac Alliance for referring Marvens for treatment.

Every 3 hours a child with heart disease is cared for through our Global Network...
And The Next...

Global partnerships help to heal more little hearts...
And The Next...

PYAARA
1 Year Old
Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosus
(Interventional Cath)

OLIVER
4 Years Old
Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosus
(Interventional Cath)

ANDREILYS
2 Years Old
Diagnosis: TOF
Tetralogy of Fallot
(Diagnostic Cath)

Congenital Heart Disease is the #1 birth defect worldwide...
And The Next…

ESMAULYN
3 Years Old
Diagnosis: Coronary Fistula from RT coronary to PA (Diagnostic Cath)

BETSARY
6 Years Old
Diagnosis: Tricuspid Atresia, ASD, VSD, SP Band (Diagnostic Cath)

ALEXA
1 Year Old
Diagnosis: PDA Patent Ductus Arteriosus (Interventional Cath)

Healing the hearts of 3,000 children annually…
Daniel is now a 12-year-old boy who at 33 days of age had a heart murmur discovered. When he was 7 months old, he underwent a cardiac catheterization and was diagnosed with Tricuspid Atresia, Hypoplastic Right Ventricle, Transposition of the Great Vessels, and a Single Atrium. Basically, his heart has one single ventricle instead of two like everyone else. Consequently, his heart was unable to pump blood to his lungs and therefore unable to adequately oxygenate his blood. At 8 months old, he met Dr. Rodrigo Soto during a medical mission trip to Santiago, who was able to perform a Glenn Shunt. Although this procedure did not fix his heart permanently, it allowed him to continue to grow normally. After this, Daniel began struggling with his heart condition again; to the extent where he even needed oxygen at home. He had a hard time seeking medical attention and was eventually sent to Santo Domingo for assessment. There he coincidentally encountered Dr. Soto, who was leading the Gift of Life International medical team. Daniel was scheduled for surgery, but unfortunately the procedure was postponed on four occasions due to challenges with the diagnostic equipment. Finally, in November 2021 and 12 years later, Daniel had his surgery (FONTAN) which is the last stage in the single ventricle palliation.
Answering the Prayers of Parents Each and Every Day...
Gift of Life International (GOL) is a Rotarian based program that provides cardiac care to children throughout the world. GOL was started by the Rotary Club of Manhasset in Rotary District 7255 USA and is currently sponsored by Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts around the world. Gift of Life International is a non-profit organization which is tax exempt according to IRS Code 501c3. Tax ID#56-2322626