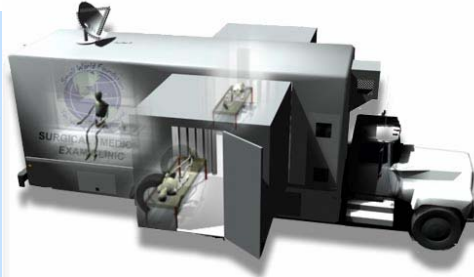




Articles Index:

- Mobile Hospital Project
- Karina's Dream
- Past Medical Missions: Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras
- Announcing our new website
- How you can help?



SWF Mobile Hospital I is our vision for 2004! There is a great need to help those in remote areas who have no access to medical care. It will be a fully equipped self-sufficient medical-surgical unit staffed by American doctors and nurses. Your donation toward this very special project will be greatly appreciated. We are 30% toward our goal! Please refer to our new website for more details.



Karina before



Karina after

Karina's Dream

Karina had heard of a little boy who had surgery and given a semi-operable hand when he initially had no hope of using it ever again. Karina, an incredibly shy young lady, was extremely nervous and excited about meeting Dr. Arnold, who she hoped would be able to help her dream come true. Karina's dream, although she has no hands and one deformed leg, is studying to be a clothing designer. In fact, Karina actually uses the stumps of her arms to push material through an antiquated sewing machine. Amazingly, before her bus trip to Lima, Peru, she had sewn a pair of slacks to wear for her trip home with what she thought would be her new legs. Karina had no idea that this procedure would require the amputation/revision of both of her deformed legs; a series of fittings of prosthetics for both hands and both legs; as well, as a tremendous amount of follow-up physical therapy and training before she could ever walk again.

Her vision of having new hands and legs moved us tremendously, yet her desire for immediate results broke our hearts!

We were extremely pleased to announce that Karina had been gifted by Holy Cross Hospital for her surgery and rehabilitation. In addition to this wonderful news, a local prosthetist from Hangar Prosthetics, not only provided the prosthetic limbs, but also donated his services. Many thanks go out to her sponsors, Ralph and Veronica Mueller, of Mission Possible who provided Karina with her travel needs and living expenses while here in Fort Lauderdale. We would further like to thank Dr Bohdan Moroz and the Rehab nurses and therapists for all their assistance. Please keep Karina in your prayers as she now heads home to Peru after months of enduring difficult rehabilitation. She can now walk and perform activities of daily living with confidence!



Karina, in rehab, one leg at a time!



Ralph and Veronica Mueller from Mission Possible walking with Karina Mendez, after completion of her rehabilitation.

"But those that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint".

Mission to Guatemala



Nurse evaluating baby with contagious skin condition

In June 2002, SWF medical team was requested to visit a needy village adjacent to an enormous garbage dump in Guatemala City. Camino Seguro, a non-profit org, has developed a large vocational aid and education program here over the past few years. We were invited back again in Feb and June of this year to render medical aid to hun-



Visit our new website:

smallworld.org

Please be sure to visit our new website! There you can read about some of our past missions and special patients, sign up to volunteer your services, and even make a tax deductible contribution to the mission of your choice!

We would like to welcome Debbie Hauss Andrews, RN to our staff. She will serve as Operations Manager.

dreds of children with parasitic diseases, and illness associated with malnutrition. Accompanying us were dentists and optometrists from the MedicalWings Organization. The most recent visit in June included liason with a local Guatemalan organization, Fundacion Pediatrica Gualtemalteca. They have established health centers throughout the country and have invited SWF to work in Guatemala City. We appreciate all their assistance in providing personnel to help us during our recent mission. Dr. Michael Tolle, Medical Director of SWF, has been very instrumental in building a viable long term primary health delivery system here and has become their "family doctor"; three trips in the past year! "We hope to get to know the people better on future missions and use that understanding to make more of a difference each time we visit."

Mission to El Salvador

During the Spring Break holiday, high school students and their biology instructor from the Jesuit Medical Society in Dallas traveled with the medical team to San Fernando, El Salvador. Located 4000 feet above sea level, along the northern border with Honduras; this area served as the home of FMLN, a revolutionary organization that waged a decade long civil war with the government.

The town's city hall was used as the clinic location and 280 patients were seen with a variety of ailments. Medications were dispensed and graciously donated from local hospitals in the Dallas area. The students were introduced to the process of taking a history and physical as well as how to triage patients. We expect they will return to this area in the near future as practicing physicians!



Students deciding on a plan of care



Lorena Tolle standing with a mentally deficient child suffering from malnutrition

Mission to Honduras

SWF returned to Comayagua, Honduras in Dec 2003 and were met by Pastor Danny Morales of Cantaros de Bendicion. Pastor Danny, Director of Avance Misionero Churches in Honduras, has assisted SWF on many medical missions in the past; patients were provided transportation so they could be met by the SWF team. A free clinic was held in one of the local orphanages and over 200 children were treated, followed by a clinic in Barrio Japon, near San Pedro Sula. A young girl with a brain tumor was seen in consultation and plans are being made to bring her back to Dallas for surgery. A neurosurgeon has agreed to donate his services and we are looking for funds for her travel expenses.



Dr Mike Tolle, Medical Director, will see over a hundred patients this day

How you can help

- \$50 will buy medication that will allow a man with a badly burned hand to go back to work
- \$200 will buy the necessary surgical and anesthesia supplies to restore the smile of a child with a cleft lip and palate deformity
- \$500 will help purchase necessary medical equipment and supplies to help set up a clinic in a remote village in a developing country
- \$1000 will ensure that 20 patients with limb amputations will receive the prosthetic care they need in order to walk again