



Hospital Sisters
MISSION OUTREACH
A healing presence for the life of the world

Reaching Out

Summer 2009

Applauding our neighbors

In these tough economic times we're thrilled to applaud the people of Nokomis, IL, along with their friends and families from around the county and state. While each of us have our own concerns, there are others whose poverty is a life-long, daily struggle. Unfortunately, now they are even more in jeopardy because of the world-wide financial crisis. Thank you to our friends in Nokomis whose generosity for their "Bridge the Gap" campaign, coordinated through the Nokomis Ministerial Alliance, was an enormous success. Their donation of \$27,000 assisted us in the shipping of medical equipment and supplies to Quito, Ecuador this year. Several people from Nokomis witnessed the loading of the container and joined us in a prayer for its journey to Ecuador. Father Chris Comerford said "My heart is in my throat. I'm thankful that so many people were able to help so many in need. I wish the whole community of Nokomis was here. It's a crowning moment for this project."

Making life easier in Guatemala

Earlier this year, the St. Elizabeth's Hospital Auxiliary (Belleville, IL), donated a 20-passenger bus that had been used to transport patients to various locations in Belleville. We were happy to find a home for the bus in Boystown, Guatemala and appreciated the assistance of the Meehan Family Foundation who agreed to cover the costs of shipping the bus to Boystown where many children are served. John and Jean Compton (parents of Bruce Compton, President and CEO), donated their time to drive the bus to Florida for shipment overseas.

We contacted the Sisters of Mary, Boystown, who provided a wish-list of items. Together with a team of volunteers from Notre Dame University and Dr.



Pletsch (one of our volunteers), we filled the bus with the needed items and it began its journey to Florida—and ultimately to a grateful community in Guatemala.

A mission trip to Honduras



Several area physicians accompanied the Illinois Wesleyan University branch of Global Medical Brigades to Honduras. and wrote "Earlier this year, we contacted Mission Outreach for supplies and through your support, we were extremely successful in this, our first of many visits to Honduras." Pictured, left, is one of the volunteers.

Bringing hope in Haiti

Our friends at Haitian Development Fund (Springfield, IL) shared news of their medical mission to Haiti. Brent Deland, right, told us that "We treated more than 430 patients during the five clinic days. I think the photo tells a great story of Mission Outreach and the items you've made possible in Haiti: exam table (2004), exam light (2007), gloves (2009), and bandages/tape (2008). Simply put, we cannot serve the more than 10,000 patients without your assistance. My thanks for making our ministry the reality we are."



A unique gift for Honduras

St. Joseph's Hospital (Chippewa Falls, WI), removed its unneeded laundry equipment and donated it to Mission Outreach. We were happy to tell them that their donation would be shared with a new hospital in Catacamus, Honduras—a city with some 165,000 inhabitants but little medical care. (The nearest public hospital is more than a day's journey for most people.) The donated laundry equipment included two 200-pound washers, an extractor, steam dryer, gas dryer, ironer, folder, a chain hoist track system, and a large lint filter. Prior to this, in October 2008, Bishop Maurus Muldoon, diocese of Juticalpa, Honduras, along with coworkers and Bishop Kevin Vann, diocese of Fort Worth, Texas visited us to discuss the needs of this new hospital. By March 2009, the first container of medical equipment and supplies was received and by November 2009, we expect to have shipped eight containers of medical equipment and supplies to furnish the facility.

We welcome your support to our ministry. Donations can be made through our website or checks made payable to: *Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach.*

Every dollar donated results in over \$6 of medical supplies and equipment shipped to the developing world. We thank you.



Since 2003, we have collected and redistributed medical equipment and supplies valued at more than \$10,000,000 to over 50 countries. In addition to providing increased access to healthcare to those in need, we have prevented usable surplus from ending up in landfills. Children around the world, like these pictured, left, in the Philippines, will have increased access to care as the result of your support.

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