



language and culture, and work side by side with full time Christian medical professionals. We designed this experience to encourage them to consider medical evangelism as a ministry when they complete their professional training.

The **ABC Program** offers opportunities for North Americans to care for children in desperately poor Christian families. Through a \$30 a month donation, the sponsor gives an eligible child food, clothing, medical and dental care, and education. The program motivates children to get an education, thus loosening the chains of poverty. By operating the program through churches, local leaders are sensitive to the children's spiritual needs. Sponsors may write to and visit their child if they wish.

What are HTI's objectives?

To proclaim the gospel in both word and deed through teaching and providing health care.

To train indigenous Christian health promoters to serve in their home villages.

To provide opportunities for U.S. Christians to use their talents in the mission field.

To give college students real life medical evangelism experience through the Medical Evangelism Training (MET) program.

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**HEALTH TALENTS
INTERNATIONAL**
 A MINISTRY OF TEACHING AND HEALING



What is Health Talents?

Health Talents International is a non-profit corporation chartered in 1973 that works within Churches of Christ promoting medical evangelism in developing countries. It is governed by a Board of Directors and supported by people and congregations from all over the world. As **Christians** we know that God expects us to use our talents in his service (Matthew 25).

The unique relationship between health care and evangelism is obvious in the ministry of Jesus as he went “about all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues and healing every kind of sickness” (Matthew 9:35). We believe that a sick person is able to hear the good news of God’s wonderful love more clearly if he first sees that love demonstrated through acts of service.

Where is the work done?

Health Talents’ primary area of work is in Guatemala and we continue with limited work in Nicaragua. We selected Central America because the people’s needs are severe and it is close to the U.S., providing for easy travel. This helps us provide opportunities for service to the greatest

number of North Americans. However, the HTI Board seeks to provide medical evangelism services wherever needs and opportunities exist.

How is the work done?

Health Talents’ medical evangelistic ministry begins with a strong emphasis on developing leadership in national churches. We accomplish this by using the talents of local Christians in Guatemala.



The center of HTI’s ministry is its base of operation in Montellano, Guatemala, Clinica Ezell, about two hours southwest of Guatemala City. Clinica Ezell is a modern surgical facility with three operating suites, fifty bed patient ward, pharmacy, lab, diagnostic room, dental clinic and adjacent dormitory housing sixty people.

A second base of operation, Clinica Caris, is located in Lemoa, Guatemala near Chichicastenango. Clinica Caris houses two dental operatories, two exam rooms, pharmacy, lab and storage area.

Drs. Lisa Dunham, Nehemias Lopez, Nidian Patricia Poz and Walter Sierra along with four dentists, Drs. Andrea Lux, Manuela Ixquiactap, Silvia Baltodano and Aura Alvarez, hold mobile clinics in surrounding rural areas. Mobile clinics are held in area churches who partner with Health Talents as we seek to treat the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of those we serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

Any opportunities for North Americans?

There are many opportunities for North Americans to use their talents. Several times a year HTI brings teams of North American medical professionals and support personnel into Guatemala and Nicaragua to supplement the daily work of national Christians.



Mission Trips: Primary care and Surgical

The **primary care clinics** need health care professionals who can provide basic primary care. Physicians of many specialties, dentists, family nurse practitioners and others are the heart of these clinics. We also need pharmacists, nurses, dental hygienists and non-medical people who can provide auxillary services.

The **surgical clinics** include ENT, eye surgery, general gynecological, orthopedic, plastic and urology surgery. There are currently eleven surgical clinics scheduled each year. We need anesthesiologists, ENT’s, general surgeons, gynecologists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons, nurses of all types, surgical techs and other health specialties. We also need non-medical people on each team who are willing to provide general support to all phases of our work.

Any Other Opportunities?

HTI created and supports two other important programs. Our **Medical Evangelism Training Program (MET)** provides opportunities for pre-med, dental, nursing and missions students to experience medical evangelism in the real world. We select 10-12 students per year from the dozens of applicants. They travel to Guatemala to spend six weeks living with a Guatemalan family, study the

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