

Health Talents International

Medical Mobile and Dental Trip in Chichicastenango

October 2-7, 2019

Team Members: **Physicians:** Annie Drachenberg, Mike Kelly, Steve Walker, Jon Walker; **Oral Surgeon:** Robert Lamb; **Nurse Practitioner:** Kelby Schroeder; **RN:** Elsa Wright; **Dental Assistant:** Julie Stanley; **Translator:** Julie Kelly, Sandy Sims; **Caregiver:** Debra Blesener, Jean Smith, Jack Smith, Lou Ann Watson; **Trip Chaplain:** Pancho Hobbes; **Team Leader:** Sheri Kretzschmar

As soon as the U.S. team touched Guatemalan soil, we were well taken care of. Kemmel, Lisa and the Guatemalan ministry team had everything in order and the prep-work had been accomplished.

Everyone arrived safely with all our appropriate luggage in hand. Kemmel, Manuel and sufficient transportation met us with our anticipated Pollo Campero lunch. We began our climb up to Chichicastenango, with the elevation being close to 6,450 feet. Stopping along the highway for a quick break, a few of us enjoyed a hot rice drink. It provided us with some warmth, as the temperature was dropping with the climb.

Each morning, we enjoyed breakfast before we headed out to clinic. Kemmel met with us following breakfast and would discuss the events and plan for the day.



The majority of clinics were held to see the ABC Children and other members of the community who had needs. We served clinics in six communities and in Lemoa.

Trucks and vans were loaded with the medical and dental supplies that we needed for the day. Every morning we prayed for guidance and protection in our travels, closed the gate of the hotel and hit the roads.

The clinics were close to Chichi, so we did not have to spend a lot of time in the trucks.

Lisa reviewing with Annie the patient chart and data collection. This information is significant to chart the growth and needs of the children in the ABC Program.



When we arrived at our locations, we quickly set up clinic and prepared to see patients. This clinic was in Las Trampas.



As the ABC Students arrived, the consults began. Kelby sees an ABC Family as Juan translates for them. We enjoy having Juan work with us for different reasons. He is not only the husband of our nurse Ana, but he also speaks K'iche', Spanish and English. This makes the consult function smoother.



The group from Abilene prepares to head out. Each having unique talents to contribute, which make for a successful day of service. Jack (prayer warrior), Annie (physician), Jean (caregiver), Julie (dental assistant), and Lou Ann (caregiver).



Never wanting to forget nor minimize the spiritual aspect of a patient or growth of a child, each family is prayed with after the consult.



The dental team in Paxot II take time for a group photo before ending the day. Maria and her sister, Tomasa worked as dental assistants. Andrea, who use to be full-time dentist with Health Talents, returns to help with the clinic. Julie and Robert paired up as a team this week. Marcos, a dentist from Santa Cruz helped us today. Marcos, who was a scholarship student, returns from time-to-time to help with groups. It is encouraging to see his and Andrea's commitment to Health Talents and to their communities.



Jon consulting with an ABC Family as Julie translates for them.



During the consults, we not only discuss physical and spiritual aspects but also provide education, specific to the age of the child. This week, we focused on the amount of screen-time that students engage in. As the culture in Guatemala changes and more people have cell phones with online capabilities, we need to provide more education for children and their parents.

A special surprise was when Josue and Ana Marta joined us for a day. They are in medical school in Quetzaltenango and in 2020, will be completing their studies. Lisa has been working with them as they transition into their new roles.



With the week coming to a close, it was time to get a team photo. Robert was quick on his feet and set up for us.



We are thankful for everyone's work during the week. You have provided care and love to many patients and families. We never want to forget our purpose for being here. We pray that everyone has safe travels back to the states and we look forward to your next visit to Guatemala.



Psalms 8:1---O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all of the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens (ISV).

Thank you, Robert, for your photos.