



## Health Talents e-newsletter/July 2010

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### HTI MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Health Talents International is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through teaching and healing ministries.

## Greetings!

We have much news to report in this issue! In June the first tropical storm of the season blasted its way across Guatemala, leaving death and destruction behind. It affected many people we know and love. There is great news, however, about little Domingo, who came to the States for major surgery to correct a birth defect. Twelve university students completed their six-weeks stay as participants in the MET program Guatemala. And, finally, see evangelist Baldemar Ruiz's report on the spiritual harvest around Clinica Ezell.

We invite you to take a few minutes to see what's happening in the HTI ministry. And take another minute to say a prayer for Carlos and Silvia and their new baby, Dante! Be sure to include prayers for Kemmel and Dr. Lisa, Sheri, and the host of others who make it their life's work to bring a touch of the compassion of Jesus to the Mayan people.

## Dante Carlos Baltodano arrives!



## CONTACT US

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## MISSIONARY BLOGS

**Kemmel & Lisa**

[kemmelandlisa.blogspot.com](http://kemmelandlisa.blogspot.com)



Carlos and Silvia announced that little Dante arrived safely into this world on Saturday, July 24, at 5 pm, weighing in a 7 lbs. 4 oz. Both mother and baby (and daddy) are doing better than fine!

## MET Program...on steroids

Health Talents sponsors the MET program each year to provide interested students a look inside a real-life medical evangelism ministry in a Third World Country. This year's students got a bit more than they bargained for. It began with Tropical Storm Agatha, which caused mudslides and flooding...then there were those pesky earthquake tremors, volcano eruptions and sinkholes! And, oh yes, the water lines washed away in some places, too.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sheri Kretzschmar**

sheriinguate.blogspot.com

## **2010 Clinic Schedule**

**August 7-14  
Gen/ENT/Plastic  
surgery**

**September 4-11  
Gen/Gyn surgery**

**October 2-9  
Gen/Gyn surgery**

**November 3-8  
Mobile Med/Dental**

**November 13-20  
Eye Surgery**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **2011 Clinic Schedule**



**MET students (Left side L-R): Andrea Kelly, Kate Huggins, Caleb Hancock, Sarah Jones, Amy Archer**  
**On top of sign: Garret Rampon and Nate Hurley,**  
**(Right side L-R) Amanda Bowers, Jay Green, Carrie Gentry, Andrea Jernigan, Michelle Healsey**

They spent their first week in one-on-one language school in Quetzaltenango, then went to Clinica Ezell for orientation. By then, as Amy Archer said, "We were ready to begin...and had no idea what we were getting ourselves into!" After that, the real fun began!

They were divided into two groups that alternated between working with Dr. Lisa Dunham and Dr. Josefina Lux in the Chichi area (Lisa and her husband, Kemmel, are former MET students themselves.) and Dr. Walter and Dr. David on the coast. Living conditions in Chichi were much more primitive than those in Chicacao, but both were reported as being "awesome!"

Their days were spent shadowing the medical team and doing lots of triage (weight, blood pressures, glucose testing, pregnancy testing, etc.) They even pulled a few teeth when they shadowed dentists, Drs. Silvia, Jessica Romano and Marcos Lux.

Despite the drama of their time in Guatemala, the students kept great attitudes, even as some of them spent some time in a shelter. Yes, the students came away feeling blessed to have had an incredible opportunity of witnessing medical evangelism up close and personal. And their efforts were rewarded by seeing God work in magnificent ways in very

**January 15-22**  
**Gen/Gyn Surgery**

**January 27-Feb 1**  
**Nica Mob Med/Dent**  
**Surgery**

**February 5-12**  
**Gyn/Plastics**  
**Surgery**

**March 12-19**  
**Eye/Ortho Surgery**

**April 9-16**  
**Gen/Gyn Surgery**

**June 4-11**  
**General Surgery**

**July 6-11**  
**Mobile Med/Dental**

**July 16-23**  
**Eye Surgery**

**August 6-13**  
**Gen/ENT/Plastics**

unusual circumstances.

Thanks to any and all of you who helped make this experience possible for them. MET can be truly life changing.

## Tropical Storm Agatha

The tropical storm hit the Chichicastenango area on May 28. Nurse Sheri Kretschmar describes her attempt to venture out shortly after:

"As we tried to find a way to Patzite, the road was closed. We tried another road but was told that it was closed farther down the road. Manuel and I had walked down the road to see how bad it was.....and it was bad. I heard my name being called as we were walking and we met some of the members of the church from Mactzul I. ***They told us that their house had collapsed, and they had lost everything but were happy to be alive.*** The road was totally washed away with water pouring over the mountain.

Rick Harper reports that HTI has provided help for several families whose homes were washed away in the Chichi area. We also partnered with the school in Montellano on a food drive to help storm victims in the coastal area near Clinica Ezell. More help is need because with crops damaged by the storm, the need is ongoing. Send your contributions to Health Talents, PO Box 8303, Searcy, AR 72145 marked for FLOOD RELIEF.

We are so thankful that God in his mercy protected our students and the HTI team.

## Surgery

September 3-10  
Gen/Gyn Surgery

October 1-8  
Gen/Gyn Surgery

November 2-7  
Mob Med/Dental

November 12-19  
Eye Surgery



Mud-caked village in the aftermath of Agatha

### Little Domingo

It has been a long, often harrowing road for Domingo and his family since May 25th when he and Catarina, his mother, flew to Austin, Texas, for surgery to repair his very serious birth defect in his skull. Here he is finally on his way home on July 6! His surgery was a success, his healing is coming along, and his mother is certainly glad to be taking him home to Xejuyup, Guatemala, where the entire community is waiting for him.



Thanks again to the legions of people in Austin, especially Dr. David and Karen Craig, who looked after and cared for Domingo and his mother while they were there. Thanks also to the hundreds of people around the country who prayed for him. His experience is a testament to the love in the hearts of people everywhere. The community in Xejuyup, Guatemala, will long remember this glorious reflection of the compassion of Jesus. We wish you well,

**Domingo. Go in the name of the Lord, and have a wonderful life!**

## Kingdom Work

Baldemar Ruiz, the evangelism coordinator for Health Talents in Guatemala, recently reported on evangelism successes the churches are experiencing.

Baldemar has been studying the Bible with 115 people he has met through the HTI mobile clinics, and eight of them recently accepted Our Lord through baptism! Four were from the same family. We rejoice with them as they start a New Life in Him.

## Activities of Note:

- Aug 7-14...General/ENT/Plastic Surgery
- Sept 4-11...General/Gyn Surgery
- Oct 2-9...General/Gyn Surgery
- Oct 11-15...Leadership Training Seminar at Clinica Ezell
- Nov 3-8...Mobile Medical/Dental Clinic
- Nov 13-20...Eye Surgery Clinic

**Footnote:** As reported in the previous HTI newsletter, Dr. Mike Brown addressed HTI's breakfast gathering during Lipscomb's "Summer Celebration." His excellent talk was entitled, "The All-Important First Touch." Check it out for yourself and be blessed by Dr. Mike's insight into and zeal for the opportunities that exist in medical evangelism:

<http://www.ocularfusion.net/?p=3983>

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