Healing and Hope: 115 New Smiles

This past fall was full of excitement and inspiring moments. Thanks to your support, life-saving smiles have been able to help 115 children suffering from cleft lip and/or palate.

Our medical volunteers traveled to Argentina, Jamaica, Mexico and Peru in 2012.

As we look at 2012, SHAREs is committed to partnering with local medical providers and volunteers to bring hope to even more children. It is our goal to help develop sustainable solutions to local medical needs by working closely with local resources.

Thank you for helping us bring hope and create new smiles!

Merya Gissell

Merya’s mother was devastated when she was diagnosed with a cleft lip right after birth. She knew her future would be painful, but she knew her mother would do her best to help. She knew she could afford this surgery.

When Merya was 7 months old, SHAREs first medical mission traveled to Tarqutos, Peru. She immediately recovered quickly and went on a bumper ride in a crowded bus to get Merya to Hospital Ministry in Lima to do the last step.

Her efforts were not in vain. Merya was scheduled on the first day of surgery.

Merya became very popular with our doctors and nurses. She was beautiful and very happy. When Merya finally emerged from the OR after surgery with her brand new smile, all was well. It made the entire team very happy to witness.

JLR Medical Group Honors BJ Carey

JLR Medical Group sponsored four surgical missions at the behest of Betty Jane Carey, CRNA.

A long time employee of JLR, BJ has battled with cancer in 2011. She was not only a long time supporter of SHAREs’ International, but a pioneer of our surgical missions.

JLR and SHAREs are honored to announce our surgical mission trips this year in honor of BJ Carey.

We are looking forward to keeping everyone updated on the top tales, packing parties, photos and mission stories!

Dr. Luis Acosta

Mérida, Mexico

April 16th - 22nd

Dr. Jeanie Karg

Mcallen, Mexico

May 3rd - 9th

Dr. Jerry Allen

Santa Cruz, Bolivia

August 1st - 7th

Dr. Elwyn Frest

Tarqutos, Peru

September 26th - October 2nd

Volunteer of the Year

Our Volunteer of the Year for 2011 is Joy Burke. Joy has participated in 14 SHAREs’ missions to help local children in Mexico, Argentina and Peru.

Joy’s first trip with SHAREs was to Merida, Mexico in 1999. She has been volunteering on a yearly basis ever since.

Recently we caught up with Joy and asked her about her involvement on SHARE’s trips. “My greatest reward was watching a mother see her child at gaze, her child, who was born with a deformity, looking normal for the first time in her life.”

We want to know what do we do without the support of volunteers like Joy. Thank you.

Family Fun Day

Dr. Alan and Pam Saffran hosted SHAREs’ first Family Fun Day at Interlachen Country Club on November 13th - 14th.

A total of 25 families were able to visit Interlachen’s beautiful facility and enjoy tennis, croquet and golf.

Our SHAREs Board members had the opportunity to spend time with the families regarding SHAREs’ work in Latin America and the Caribbean. SHAREs was able to spread the word about the important mission work that is being done overseas.

A special thanks to the Saffrans Family, Interlachen Country Club and Hollis Weiler owner of Sweet By Good Miss Holly.

New Surgical Site in 2012

In December of 2011, SHAREs had the privilege of partnering with a new and eager medical team at the site of Campeche, Mexico.

The preliminary area for collaboration between US本土 dental volunteers and local health providers include; supporting the local special education teachers with the initial cleft and palate surgical cases. We are aware of a significant need for surgical procedures for the rehabilitation of many children. The local hospitals have been operated and exchanging ideas and products such as; such as; plaster for the fabrication of obturators of the partial and complete cleft palate cases and patients who have a cleft palate and children and provide help.

The inaugural mission will take place in August of 2012, thanks to the support of SHAREs volunteers who will be donating their time and dental equipment for a week. We look forward to developing a positive legacy for the children and families of Campeche. We hope our local outreach will enable children and provide help.

For additional information about SHAREs International, please contact Emily

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IN THREE EDITIONS: 2011 Highlights Myra’s Story Hosking BJ Carey JLR Anastasia 2012 Surgical Missions Volunteer of the Year Family Fun Day New Surgical Site PHOTOS FROM 2011

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