

# Purpose Medical Mission

2014 Newsletter

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

## Guatemala

In June, our team of seven providers traveled to Guatemala. More than 400 patients were treated.

Page 2

## Cameroon & Congo

The clinic in Cameroon is being constructed. Dr. Bayouth went to Congo on an exploratory trip.

Page 3

## Nicaragua

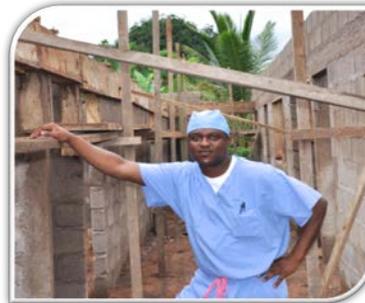
Nicaragua mission is set for January 17-24, 2015. We anticipate treating about a thousand patients.

Page 4

## A word from our president

Dear friends,

Seven years ago six medical providers from Lubbock answered the call to travel to Cameroon, West Africa, to explore the possibility of creating a self-sustaining village clinic. We had no idea what God intended for us. Today, Muyuka has a flourishing tertiary hospital serving over 80,000 people 24 hours, 7 days/week with services from preventative care to surgeries and deliveries.



As requests to recreate the success in Cameroon came from other countries and organizations, we responded by sending exploratory teams to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Congo. We were challenged to ensure that the activities we undertake meet our philosophy of self-sustenance. We want to partner with communities to help them find ways of taking care themselves. We have turned away from a few invitations, but the overwhelming majority of our commitments have succeeded. We have always put our trust in God; as always He has delivered. The following pages tell the success stories.

Most exciting is the new Healing Touch combined satellite clinic and health education center in the farming village of Mnyenge. We anticipate the doors will open to an additional 2,000 people in the fall of 2015. Our first major mission trip to Nicaragua is scheduled for January 2015.

Finally, in October we welcomed three new volunteers to serve on our board: Amy Peck, a child development specialist with Brightstar; Ann Marie Carruth, an attorney and Justice of the Peace; and Dr. Rob Minielly, a local anesthesiologist. We are thankful that, like hundreds of West Texans, they have answered the call to help guide our organization forward.

On behalf of the entire Purpose Medical Mission Board, I extend our heartfelt appreciation for your continued support and prayers. May you and your family be blessed with a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Sixtus Atabong  
President



Save the date  
2015 Gala

Black & White Gala 2015  
"Wear black and white and support our mission tonight"  
March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the  
McKenzie-Merket  
17<sup>th</sup> & University  
Entertainment by Element  
Live and Silent auction  
Purchase tickets after Jan 15<sup>th</sup>  
online at

[www.purposemedicalmission.org](http://www.purposemedicalmission.org) or call Crissy Haralson  
806-438-3736

## Guatemala 2014 Team

From left: Elena Caudle RN, McKyna Hines, Fran Ritchey RN, Emily Deeb MD, Kenda Wines FNP, Phillip Deeb, Nicole Hines, RN MPH



With help from our friends at Guatemala Sana we decided to approach 2014's mission from four different angles: outpatient evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of patients at the Sana clinic in Santa Maria de Jesus; health education of leaders selected by the local communities on preventative care, first aid, and safe deliveries; home visitation of home-bound patients, and education of preschoolers about basic hygiene through simple games and interactive posters.

The results were a resounding success. We treated over 400 patients at the clinic and trained six local leaders (some of whom will stay at the clinic and others will return to their villages to provide basic care and education in their communities). Our young volunteers, Mckyna Hines and Phillip Deeb both had life-changing experiences. They spent many hours with the preschoolers, but what they both came back with was an appreciation of how a simple act of kindness truly can go a long way.

Dr. Emily Deeb traveled to the homes of many patients that couldn't make it to the hospital.

Our hope and prayer is that we will leave the community with the material and intellectual resources for them to be able to take care of themselves for generations to come. We are looking forward to returning to these communities to build on what we have started.



Dr. Emily Deeb doing home visits



Elena Caudle RN training local health providers.



Nicole Hines RN MPH and Elena Caudle with local health providers.



McKyna Hines working with preschoolers.

## Cameroon Mission 2014

The Cameroon medical mission was planned for September 25<sup>th</sup> to October 6<sup>th</sup> 2014. We had 17 volunteers geared to travel to Cameroon; however, this period corresponded with the height of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. We prayed and asked God for guidance while monitoring recommendations from the CDC, the WHO, and local health officials in Cameroon. Though Cameroon remained untouched, we decided to postpone the trip to protect the volunteers, their families, and the patients that they will be returning to treat. This was a very hard decision for us as it had taken several months to plan the trip.

Meanwhile, thanks to our commitment to sustainable care and building bridges with the people we serve, work continues at the hospital in Muyuka and the current project of building a clinic and health education center in Munyenge.

Munyenge is a village of about 2000 persons located in the South West region of Cameroon, about 10 miles from the hospital in Muyuka. There is no running water or electricity. Rugged terrain prevents most patients from traveling to Muyuka, especially in emergencies. The village leaders approached us with the idea of helping them fund a clinic and health education center. During the last mission trip, we sent our volunteer engineer, Cory Truelock, to study the village and help the board decide if this was feasible. When the idea was presented to the attendees at the 2013 Gala, we were blessed with an initial donation of \$12,500 from the Lubbock Orthopedic Society. Other donations came pouring in, and today we are pleased to announce that, once again, an idea is coming to fruition. We were able to ship a 40ft container with medical and construction supplies, which successfully cleared the port in September.

Construction began in July 2014. If all goes well, the facility should be open by September 2015. Not only will the staff be able to provide care to this village and surrounding villages, the clinic will be the training center for local health providers. We pray that this will encourage doctors to come back to these villages to practice.



Children returning home from school in Munyenge village.



Evaluation and feasibility study of donated land for construction of clinic.



After approval by PMM Board, construction began in July 2014.



## Congo Exploratory Mission

During Summer 2014, Dr. Charlie Bayouth visited the Congo representing Purpose Medical Mission at the invitation of a United Methodist Church mission. During his time there, he did some clinical work, but mainly explored in what ways Purpose Medical might become involved in this work. We will be discerning this question during 2015.

## Upcoming Nicaragua Trip

Last year a team of four PMM board members traveled to El Osteonal, a small fishing village in Nicaragua, to explore how Purpose Medical Mission can partner with the community to establish a sustainable health center. Our first medical mission trip is planned for January 17-24, 2015.

We have been in close communication with community leaders and are excited that God is opening doors for a great trip. We anticipate treating about 1000 patients during this period, while continuing our assessment for a more permanent structure and potentially helping recruit medical providers to this village.

We ask for your continued prayers for a successful mission.



Jose Paniagua FNP, who was born and raised in Nicaragua with children from the village.



PMM board members with the local leaders and nurses at El Osteonal, Nicaragua



Dr. Sammy Deeb posing for a picture with children from the village.

### Our Vision

Purpose Medical Mission strives to achieve long term and self-sustaining healthy communities where extreme poverty and lack of basic healthcare and education are a problem. We believe that through spiritual healing and preventive care a healthy community can enable itself to withstand the challenges of tomorrow.

### Our Mission

Rooted in the healing ministry of Christ, Purpose Medical Mission was created to provide quality healthcare programs and services to the people in need around the world. Establish health clinics and urgent care centers in small towns and farming villages to enhance preventative care, treat illnesses and injuries. Promote and organize visiting programs of volunteers, ministers, health professionals, teachers, other professionals and paraprofessionals to expand evangelism and health awareness.



"You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their **purpose** firm and put their trust in you."

*-Isaiah 26:3*