

TURNING DESPAIR TO HOPE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

HOSPITAL INFANTIL REGIONAL UNIVERSITARIO DR. ARTURO GRULLON, SANTIAGO, DR

October 26th - November 1st, 2014

15 DOMINICAN CHILDREN RECEIVE THEIR GIFT OF LIFE



THANK YOU TO ALL ROTARY GG1423047 CONTRIBUTORS FOR TURNING DESPAIR TO HOPE FOR THESE PRECIOUS CHILDREN: ROTARY DISTRICTS 7190, 6840 AND 4060, GIFT OF LIFE 726, ROTARY CLUBS OF SANTO DOMINGO, ROTTERDAM SUNRISE, BALLSTON SPA, BURNT HILLS-BALLSTON LAKE, COBLESKILL, CORINTH, DELMAR, GLOVE CITIES (JOHNSTOWN), GRANVILLE, LATHAM, MALTA SUNRISE, MIDDLEBURGH, SARATOGA SPRINGS, SCHENECTADY, SCOTIA, SHENENDEHOWA, SOUTHERN RENSSELAER COUNTY (EAST GREENBUSH), AND WILTON



GLOBAL PARTNERS UNITE AND TURN DESPAIR TO HOPE

Despair was turned to hope for 15 Dominican children and their families as a result of the partnership between global partners with one common goal - to save the lives of as many children suffering from heart disease as possible. Nine children received the gift of life through open-heart surgery, while six children received lifesaving interventional catheterization procedures to correct their heart ailments.

The expert medical team from Albany Medical Center in New York, led by pediatric cardiologist Dr. Harm Velvis was joined by pediatric cardiac surgeon, Dr. Francisco Gamero from El Salvador and perfusionist, Gustavo Carrillo from Mexico. This international team of medical professionals worked side by side with the Dominican pediatric cardiac team from Hospital Infantil Regional Universitario Dr. Arturo Gullon in Santiago, Dominican Republic to share their knowledge, enhance their skills and empower them to care for the children in their own country who suffer from heart disease.

The mission was made possible through the funding of a Rotary Global Grant which was partnered by the Rotary Club of Rotterdam Sunrise in New York and Club Rotario Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. Additional financial support for the purchase of supplies and medicines was provided by in-country partners Fundacion Corazones del Cibao and Hospital Infantil Regional Universitario Dr. Arturo Gullon. We wish to express our gratitude to Rotarians David Rey, Tom Burdick and Jordi Gasso as well as Dr. Juan Ramirez, Executive Director for Fundacion Corazones del Cibao and Hospital Infantil Director Dr. Rosa Morell for working together to ensure a successful mission.



THANK YOU INTERNATIONAL VISITING TEAM

Our sincere thanks to the International visiting team from Albany Medical Center in New York, Hospital Bloom in El Salvador and Hospital Tec de Monterrey in Mexico for giving of their time and sharing their knowledge and skills to help save the children of the Dominican Republic.

VISITING TEAM:

Dr. Francisco Gamero
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon
El Salvador

Dr. Harm Velvis
Pediatric Cardiologist
Albany

Dr. Javier Sanchez
Pediatric Intensivist
Albany

Dr. Anica Crnkovic
Pediatric Anesthesiologist
Albany

Chad Pezzano
Respiratory Therapist
Albany

Gustavo Carrillo
Perfusionist - Mexico

Gregory Davies
OR/Scrub Nurse - Albany

Debra Boel
ICU Nurse - Albany

Maureen Wroblewski
ICU Nurse - Albany

Lisa Dice
ICU Nurse - Albany

Michael McEvoy
ICU Nurse - Albany



THANK YOU HOSPITAL INFANTIL AND FUNDACION CORAZONES DEL CIBAO

Our sincere thanks to the doctors, nurses and administration from Hospital Infantil and Fundacion Corazaones del Cibao for their support and coordination to help make this mission a success.

DOMINICAN TEAM:

Pediatric Cardiologist: Dr. Juan Ramirez, Dr. Isabel Morel

Pediatric Cardiac Surgeons: Dr. Ysaac Heredia, Dr. Jose Cruz

Intensivists: Dr. Arelis Fernandez, Dr. Thirsa Brito

Anesthesiologist: Dr. Martin Suriel

Perfusionist: Dr. Mauricio Guillen

Pediatric Cardiology Fellows: Dr. Paola Monta, Dr. Rosmeri Vasquez, Dr. Dilenny De La Cruz, Dr. Berenny De Leon

OR & ICU Nurses: Fidelina Cepeda, Kettiz Samboy, Francisco Garcia, Angela Rosario, Angelica Garcia, Marlene Colon, Rose Mary Leon, Aldonza de Jesus, Jose Ramirez, Maria Morel, Elisa Peralta, Arelis Cardenas, Yaniris Guzman, Jacqueline Bautista, Kersia Ventura, Sonia Nunez, Magaly Samboy

Medical Students: Jocabed Vila, Daphne Alfred Alce Sanveur Menos, Lenny Fernandez

Administrator for Fundacion Corazonnes del Cibao:

Dennys Sierra

Medical Assistant for Fundacion Corazonnes del Cibao:

Dr. Elinora French





THE SHARING OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

An international sharing of knowledge and skills transfer took place at Hospital Infantil during the mission week. An expert medical team from Albany Medical Center worked side by side with the Dominican doctors and nurses while 15 children were operated and recovered. The Albany team was joined by Salvadoran Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon, Dr. Francisco Gamero who has been instrumental in the continued development of a sustainable pediatric cardiac program at Hospital Bloom in San Salvador. Also joining the Albany team was perfusionist Gustavo Carrillo from Monterrey, Mexico. Gustavo has been a great asset in providing training to perfusionists in El Salvador and now in the Dominican Republic.



ROTARIANS AT WORK

The Rotary Club of Rotterdam Sunrise in New York partnered a Rotary Global Grant with Club Rotario Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic to fund this week-long vocational training trip where the lives of 15 Dominican children were saved.

A special thank you to Rotarians David Rey, Tom Burdick and Jordi Gasso for their dedication and tenacity in coordinating all aspects of the global grant. Our heartfelt thanks to Jordi Gasso for helping to coordinate all in-country logistics for the mission.

Gift of Life International Executive Director, Rob Raylman presented a plaque to Club Rotario Santiago Monumental recognizing their achievement of saving the lives of 1400 Dominican children through their Gift of Life program.





GRATEFUL CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS

On behalf of the children operated and their parents, we wish to thank the following fundamental organizations for helping to turn despair to hope for these families during the week of the training mission.

FUNDAMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

- The Rotary Foundation
- Rotary Club of Rotterdam Sunrise
- Club Rotario Santo Domingo
- Gift of Life Rotary District 7190
- Rotary District 6840
- Rotary District 4060
- Gift of Life 726
- Gift of Life International
- Albany Medical Center
- Hospital Infantil Regional de Universitario Dr. Arturo Grullon
- Fundacion Corazones del Cibao
- Club Rotario Santiago Monumental
- Contributing Rotary Clubs of Ballston Spa, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake, Cobleskill, Delmar, Glove Cities (Johnstown), Granville, Latham, Malta Sunrise, Middleburgh, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, Scotia, Shenendehowa, Southern Rensselaer County (East Greenbush), Wilton





*Thank you
for giving us the gift of life!*





ROSALY

17 years old

Diagnosis: VSD

Ventricular Septal Defect
& Mild Pulmonary
Stenosis

Date of Surgery: 10/27/14



ALEXANDER

6 years old

Diagnosis: VSD

Ventricular Septal Defect

Date of Surgery: 10/27/14



JENSY

8 years old

Diagnosis:

Perimembranous VSD
Ventricular Septal Defect

Date of Surgery: 10/28/14



LUZ

1 year old

Diagnosis: TOF

Tetralogy of Fallot

Date of Surgery: 10/28/14



DAURY

10 months old

Diagnosis: VSD

Ventricular Septal Defect,
severe pulmonary valve
stenosis

Date of Surgery: 10/29/14

YANELIS

2 years old

Diagnosis: ASD, VSD
Atrial & Ventricular
Septal Defects

Date of Surgery: 10/29/14



LLILIAN

7 years old

Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect

Date of Surgery: 10/30/14



YADRIAN

3 years old

Diagnosis: A/V Canal
Atrial/Ventricular Canal

Date of Surgery: 10/30/14



JHON

8 years old

Diagnosis: ASD
Atrial Septal Defect

Date of Surgery: 10/31/14



NERELYN

6 years old

Diagnosis: VSD
Ventricular Septal Defect

Date of Cath: 10/29/14





CRISNELY

1 year old

Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosis

Date of Cath: 10/29/14



RACHEL

6 years old

Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosis

Date of Cath: 10/29/14

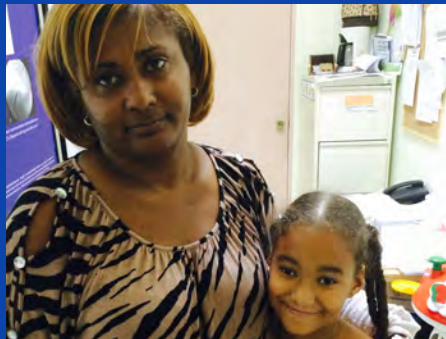
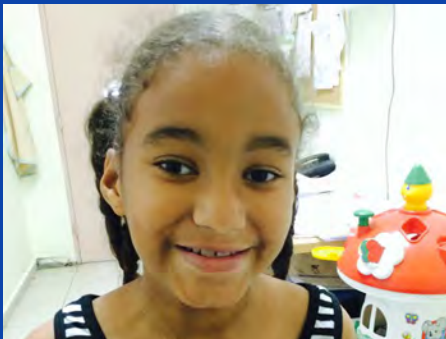


JORDI

8 years old

Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosis

Date of Cath: 10/29/14



LISBETH

7 years old

Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosis

Date of Cath: 10/30/14



WANDERLY

11 months old

Diagnosis: PDA
Patent Ductus Arteriosis

Date of Cath: 10/30/14



www.giftoflifeinternational.org

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Gift of Life International is a Rotarian based program that provides cardiac care to children throughout the world and was started by the Rotary Club of Manhasset in Rotary District 7255 USA and is currently sponsored by Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts around the world. Gift of Life International is a non-profit organization which is tax exempt according to IRS Code 501(c)3. Tax ID#56-2322626