

AS 2016 DRAWS TO A CLOSE, WE WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT TWO OF THE EIGHTEEN SURGICAL TEAMS WORKING WITH US AND ACPC, OUR GUATEMALAN SISTER ORGANIZATION

In October, **The Hernia Society** performed sixty five surgeries for our patients, among them nine year old Jose Lopez, from the village of Purulha, Baja Verapaz. During his time with the team, Jose won their hearts by repeating many English phrases, accompanied by his wonderful smile.



Jose Lopez, inguinal hernia patient, and Ariel Marroquin, Director of Operations.

In addition to the patients receiving surgery, another seven had major incisional hernias that required more advanced planning and had to return home. Fortunately, five were able to be rescheduled with the Canadian **Health for Humanity** team that came for three weeks in November. Alicia Risso, one of these incisional hernia patients, said after her surgery,

"I want to thank Pfs and ACPC for not giving up on us and finding the support we needed. We felt sad when we were told in October that we would not get our surgeries, but Ariel found another team for us. Thanks to the teams and to the people who made this possible."

The **Health for Humanity** team provided 103 of our patients with surgery, sixty of whom were patients from our **Cleft Infant Nutrition Program**. As the team evaluated these children they were amazed at how healthy they were compared to other children they had seen. According to Dr. Joe Delvicario, "They have big cheeks, they smile and look healthy - thanks to your nutritional program and health promoters. These are the healthiest children that we have seen this year, all ready for surgery".

2016 has been a good year. **ACPC** has become our full partner with Guatemalans helping Guatemalans. The work goes on and we are deeply appreciative of your support.



Santos Fernando, cleft lip patient.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DONATE: Make a tax-deductible donation:

- Visit the PayPal or GlobalGiving link at partnerforsurgery.org. Payments can be securely made via **credit card**.
- Mail a **check** in the enclosed remittance envelope.

SPREAD THE WORD: Find us on Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn and share our updates with your friends, families and co-workers.

VOLUNTEER IN GUATEMALA: We are always on the lookout for new volunteers. If you would like to help us or know of someone who would be interested, please call at (703) 893-4335 or send a message to info@partnerforsurgery.org.

OUR PROGRESS IN 2016

Surgical Missions: **18**

Rural Medical Missions: **4**

Number of surgeries: **680**

People receiving medical attention: **4447**

Cleft Infant Nutrition Program: **162** enrolled

Partner for Surgery is a registered 501(C) 3 non-profit organization and **all donations are tax deductible** to the full extent of the law.

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM FRANK PETERSON

PRESIDENT, PARTNER FOR SURGERY

December 1, 2016

I would personally like to thank all of you who have supported **Partner for Surgery's** efforts in **Guatemala**. You have truly made a difference in thousands of lives among the poorest people in the world.

Despite the challenges caused by a deteriorating health system, we have continued to provide health and surgical care in the rural communities together with **ACPC**, our Guatemalan sister organization. However, **the need has increased** – particularly for children with cleft lip and palate – and some are now turned away because of lack of funding.

Please remember those in Guatemala whose lives and future wellbeing depend on the assistance provided by **Partner for Surgery**.

Warm Wishes for this Holiday Season,



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