2014 by the numbers

Mobile Medical Missions:

evaluated 1833 patients scheduled 753 surgeries

Cleft Infant Nutrition:

195 children served through the year73 receiving speech therapy

Surgical Missions:

performed 683 surgeries (261 pediatric surgeries)

Cervical Cancer Prevention:

screened 3062 women removed 53 pre-cancerous lesions



Newsletter 4nd quarter 2014

Gregorio's story...

When Gregorio was born to Sonia and Miguel on April 22, 2013, **they were heartbroken** to learn of his cleft lip and palate. Sonia and Miguel were fearful that **no one would help them because they had no money**. The midwife suggested they seek help from **Partner for Surgery**.

Gregorio, his parents and grandfather **live in a humble home** that is typical for his village: a single room with a bed for the entire family, a dining table, and an open fire for cooking. Although electricity is sometimes available, they rarely use it since it is so expensive and **they have so little income**.



A week after Gregorio's birth, his parents scraped together enough money to travel to the Health Center -



6 hours away. Gregorio **weighed less than 5 pounds** in spite of being almost 19 inches long; he was severely malnourished and at risk of dying. As the midwife had promised, PfS/ACPC stepped in. For the next 18 months, health promoter Juan Gabriel **visited their home** to deliver supplies and monitor Gregorio's growth, as well as support and educate Gregorio's parents. Juan Gabriel also **accompanied the family to appointments** to ensure that Gregorio received medical care, immunizations, and supplements, and supported the family during their surgical journeys. Gregorio's parents feel **truly blessed** to have had this support, since their poverty would have

prevented them from receiving help otherwise.

Gregorio received cleft lip surgery in November 2013. In August 2014, Gregorio and

his parents received speech therapy training, and Gregorio received palate surgery in November 2014. Today this handsome young man is **full of smiles**!



Said Gregorio's grandfather: "Partner for Surgery has not only been a blessing for my grandson, my son and his wife,

but for all of us, his family. With your help my grandson's life has been transformed into joy and blessing, compared to the moment of birth when we all felt desperate and did not know what to do. Thank you, thank you very much."

A unique opportunity awaits you...

Would you like to get your boots on the ground with PfS in Guatemala – but have no medical training? Beginning in 2015, we invite **non-medical volunteers to participate** in all medical triage missions. Their services will be a critical component to our success. You will visit the communities we serve, **working side by side with the medical team**, meeting and serving our **patients and their families**. You do NOT need to speak Spanish! Roles include:

- Helping in the pharmacy
- Patient registration and intake
- Patient escort services
- > Trip historian take pictures of patients and the clinic site, gather stories, and interview community members.

Imagine seeing life through the **eyes of the local people**. It is an amazing opportunity to travel to a developing country, to understand the culture of the indigenous Guatemalans, to **go beyond the boundaries** of the sites in the history books and travel guides – to **experience the smiles and tears** of the people. If you have interest or know someone who does, please contact Frank Peterson directly for details at 703.893.4335 or info@partnerforsurgery.org.

A gift option for the person who has everything...

Make a **donation in honor** of that special someone. Visit <u>www.globalgiving.org</u>, search for Partner for Surgery, then select the project you wish to support. When checking out, click on *Make this donation a gift, in honor of, or in memory of someone*. You can send an e-card, print a card at home, or have a card mailed via USPS or FedEx. It couldn't be simpler!

An exciting addition to our Board of Directors...

We welcome **Glenn Blumhorst**, President and CEO of the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), to our Board. Glenn served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala from 1988-1991 and is very familiar with the challenges faced by the indigenous families we serve. Glenn will lead our Development Committee.



How YOU can help...

- ✓ "Like" us on Facebook /partnerforsurgery. Share our activities on your timeline and help spread the word!
- ✓ Are you a cyber shopper? Shop via Amazon Smile and designate Partner for Surgery using the following link: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-2034427. It costs you nothing, and Partner for Surgery gets a percentage of every purchase you make!
- ✓ If you can, make a tax-deductible donation:
 - Via Global Giving at http://goto.gg/18508
 - Via our web site, <u>www.partnerforsurgery.org</u>. Just scroll down the home page and click on the PayPal image. (You can use a credit card or your PayPal account)
 - Via US Mobile Phone: donate \$10 by texting GIVE 14869 or GIVE 18508 to 80088
 - Mail a *check* in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you...

...from our **volunteers**, from our **hard-working ACPC staff**, and from the thousands of Guatemalans whose **lives have been changed** because of you. 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.







<u>ACPC</u>

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Partner for Surgery * P.O. Box 388 * McLean, VA 22101 USA