



**St. Andrew's
Children's Clinic**

La Clínica

Nogales, Arizona

Winter 2016

Christmas at St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

In addition to all the wonderful healing that takes place at our clinic, December Clinic is also our Christmas clinic. Many thanks to all the great people who remember our patients with gifts at this clinic. These are probably the only gifts the children will receive at Christmas because their families are very poor.

Eighth-grade students at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School in Tucson held a fundraiser fair in the fall to raise money for their annual project of buying a stuffed animal for the patients.



This year's toy was an elephant which Gadiel Guerrero Gonzales, age 3, proudly shows off. He lives in Nogales, Sonora,

and has had cleft lip/palate surgeries.



Angeles Villa is 9 and lives in Nogales, Sonora. She has been blind since birth. Here she explores the doll and cradle made by the Woodworkers of Green Valley. The Woodworkers' wives paint all the toys and usually paint features on the dolls, but this year the ladies made two special dolls with raised features for our blind girls to "see." The Woodworkers also made lots of wooden toys. There were autos, buses, planes, carousels, etc. The children loved them all!

Again this year the Doll Guild brought dolls for the girls. Luz Hernandez, age 13, lives in Nogales, Sonora. She shows off the doll she received. Luz has osteogene-



sis imperfecta, more commonly known as brittle bones disease. Because her bones break easily, surgeons at Shriners Hospital have implanted rods in her long bones to strengthen them. She needs a wheel chair to get around.

Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission—October 2015

Once again we traveled to Hermosillo for our 11th Annual Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission. The CIMA Hospital volunteers had everything organized for us and kept the children entertained while they waited through all the exams to see if they were chosen for surgery.



Abel Eduardo Martinez, age 9, waited with his mother, Ruby, born with a cleft lip that was repaired years ago. Abel was born with both cleft palate and cleft lip. The doctors say that clefts are often caused by a combination of genetics and environment. They live in Nogales, Son.

Ruby's expression is typical of many of the parents—*anxious about upcoming surgery and wanting the best for their children.*

This year 100 children were screened. Many were checked for follow-up and bone growth. Several children were deferred until their palate develops more. Fifty-one children were selected for surgery; several had more than one surgery with 63 surgeries performed. Surgeries included: cleft lip and palate repair, tooth extraction, septorhinoplas-

ty, and bone graft.

Angel Gael Aguilar is pictured in pre-op before surgery. He has a



cleft lip and is 8 months old. He lives in Hermosillo, Sonora.

Kevin Elihu Gutierrez Hernandez, age 18, got good news when the doctors examined him this year. After several surgeries, he is finally finished. He was ecstatic!



Liahm Vega Moroqui was 10 months old when he went to Hermosillo for surgery. He was born with a double cleft lip and cleft palate.



Doctors repaired both clefts in the lip. One month after surgery, his upper lip was still swollen, but he is doing well. He will need several more surgeries for the cleft palate.



Go to our Web site to see more: www.standrewsclinic.org. Click on **Articles** and **Cleft Palate Mission** buttons.

Then and Now

Juan de Dios Quia Leon is a patient in the **Orthotics Department**. He lives in Caborca, Sonora.

In the photo below, Juan was age 5. He was waiting for the orthotist to adjust his ankle-foot orthoses (AFOs) so they would fit more correctly. The orthotist fit him with an extra-depth shoe that would accommodate both the width of his foot and the AFO. Both the AFOs and shoes would stabilize his ankle and arch at the same time.



Now 17, Juan de Dios continues as an Orthotics patient where his AFOs and shoes have been adjusted several times when he had a growth spurt.

Juan de Dios lives in Caborca, Sonora. He can continue as a patient at The Clinic through his 18th year. By that time he should



have finished his growth spurts. As with other patients, his life has been changed greatly by St. Andrew's Children's Clinic.

Clinic Wish List

To donate any of the items below, please call the Clinic office in Green Valley at: (520) 648-3242 or e-mail office@standrewsclinic.org

- AA Batteries for speech/language devices
- Bacitracin ointment
- Benefiber, Fibersure or Unifiber (non-gelling)
- Blenders
- Breakfast drinks
- Coloring books and crayons
- Clorox wipes
- Disposable diapers (esp. newborn size)
- Eyeglass frames (children's, used)
- Hand sanitizers
- Hearing aids (used) and batteries, pref. #13 & #675
- Hydrocortisone (1% ointment)
- Peanut butter
- Pediasure (generic okay)
- Physical therapy (exercise balls (45 cm & 55 cm)
- Physio rolls "peanut balls" (30 cm & 40 cm)
- Powdered milk
- Prune juice—small cans only
- Simple picture books in Spanish
- Small mirrors & small toys/prizes for homework rewards
- Toys
- Trash bags with drawstring
- Umbrella strollers (available at Wal-Mart)
- Vitamins, children's chewable with iron
- Wipes
- Ziploc bags—quart size only

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport patients from the Border to the Tucson airport and return.

We also need volunteers for special projects.

To volunteer, call The Clinic office at (520) 648-3242.

Patients Need Different Services

Cristopher Moctezuma Guardo, age 7, lives in Nogales, Sonora. He is a patient in the **Nutrition Department**. He is small for his age due to Cornelia Delang Syndrome. He also has epilepsy.



José and Daniel Torrecillas, ages 12 and 10, live in Nogales, Sonora. José was born with a cleft lip and cleft palate. He has had several surgeries at our Annual Mission. Daniel needs help with pronunciation. The brothers are patients in the **Speech Department**. Their mother, who was very faithful in bringing them to the Clinic, died in August. An un-



cle has been bringing them because their father works.

Aileen Urquiles, age 8, lives in Nogales, Sonora. She is blind and has learned to walk with a cane and use a Braille writer since coming to The Clinic. Here she gets to know a black lab visiting the Christmas Clinic with a Customs and Border Protection agent. His usual job is to identify illegal produce.



Yazmin Felix Ibarra, age 11, could not walk (top of right column). She went to Shriners Sacramento and Dr. Davids operated on both her legs.

She had weeks of physical therapy in the process. She is so excited that she can now walk! Yazmin lives in Nogales, Sonora.



Adrian Barreia Benal, age 10, has the same problem that Yazmin did. He is going to Shriners Sacramento for surgery on both legs. Adrian lives in Bahia Kino, Sonora.



Patients Need Different Services

Physical therapist Barb Sinclair works with Luis Villera in the **Physical Therapy Department**. Luis is 5 and lives in Nogales, Sonora. In addition to needing physical therapy, Luis is deaf.



Twins Ariel Jesus and Jesus Javier Yepiz have been coming to The Clinic since they were age 1



year. Ariel is blind; Javier has very low vision and wears thick lenses in his glasses. They are pictured here with their father, Ariel Yepiz. They are all grateful for the services The Clinic provides to the twins: eye glasses, white cane, Braille writer. Without these, the boys would be seriously disadvantaged.

Sandra Itzel Trejo Lopez, age 9, lives in Nogales, Sonora. She is a patient in the **Orthopedics Department**. She walks on her toes and will probably go to Shriners



Hospital for a tendon release. In the meantime, she is fitted with new shoes by our certified pedorthist Michael Meyers. The shoes should provide her more support and help her to walk better.

Audiologist Nick Ramirez, AuD, fits Iñiguez Oscar Borbora of Nogales, Sonora, with a hearing aid. Oscar is a patient in the **Audiology Department** and lives in Nogales, Sonora.



Please Visit Us

Clinic Day tours for groups of 4-6 people are offered to the public (please see our calendar on the last page). The Clinic takes place at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 969 W. Country Club Drive, Nogales, Arizona. Take exit 8 off I-19 to Country Club Drive (the first traffic light) and turn right. You'll see the Church on the left.

Reservations are needed for

tours. To reserve your place on a morning tour, please call The Clinic office in Green Valley at:

(520) 648-3242 or
e-mail: office@standrewsclinic.org

Each tour will begin with a video overview of The Clinic in operation. Then, a volunteer guide will lead the tour through The Clinic. Visitors are asked to refrain from taking photographs without permission.

Please note: From the Welcome Table, you will need to walk several hundred yards over our unpaved, uneven and slightly uphill driveway to the Ramada for the video and beginning of the tour. You will find that there are several congested areas in The Clinic. Please give right-of-way to Clinic patients and volunteers. Thank you!

Kudos to Dr. Glen Baird, Spokane Shriners Hospital

The December Clinic marked the 100th Clinic for Shriners Spokane. Dr. Glen Baird has been coming since October 1999. Karen Sykes, Board President, presented Dr. Baird with a certificate congratulating him on his years of service and commitment to The Clinic.

The first Spokane surgeon to come to The Clinic was Dr. Thompkins who came in April 1999. As of December 3, 2015, 9 different Shriners Hospital Spo-

kane doctors have performed 324 surgeries on 140 different patients. Some children had more than one surgery.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic pays air fares for child and accompanying parent. Shriners pays for surgeries. We are fortunate to have a relationship with Shriners Hospitals in Sacramento and Spokane. They send a medical team to The Clinic in alternate months to assess children for surgery and to do follow-up on their patients.



White Elephant and The Clinic

Another wonderful relationship we have is with the White Elephant Thrift Store in Green Valley. White Elephant is a huge non-profit thrift store which this year distributed \$1.5 million to non-profits meeting their criteria.

Each non-profit writes a grant, and grants are given out on Distribution Day in December.



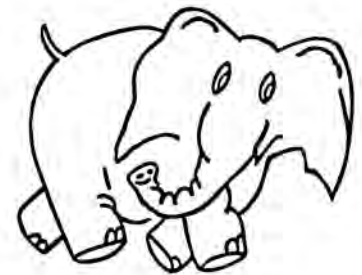
We are fortunate to have received \$65,000 this year. This will go a long way to meeting our children's needs.

Above, Executive Director Laura Romero accepts the Clinic's check and introduces one of our patients, José Rivas. José is 15 and lives in Nogales, Sono-

ra. He is accompanied by his mother. José was misdiagnosed in Mexico and reached the point where he could hardly walk. Orthopedic doctors at The Clinic diagnosed his scoliosis; he had surgery and physical therapy. Now he is able to participate in all the activities that a normal teenager does.

In October each year, the White Elephant invites grantees to participate in its fall parade. This year's theme was: Ghosts and Goblins Help The White Elephant Celebrate 51 Years. Our float featured the White Elephant with a witch's cape and hat, a huge pumpkin, grinning cat, bat, a gremlin, and spider. Competition

was keen, and we didn't get an award this year, but radio commentators said the float was Rose Bowl Parade worthy! Hats off to



our volunteers who conceived and decorated the float! It took a lot of work but the final result was worth it.



Patients Need Different Services



Guadalupe Ulises Vega Gamez, age 5, lives in Sinaloa. He recently had surgery on his right hand. Dr. James of Shriners Hospital performed the

surgery. He writes with his left hand but is practicing with his right hand.

Sofia Bulema is 3 and lives in Nogales, Sonora. She is a patient in the **Vision Department**.



Damaris Barreras Espinoza, age 2, *smiles* for the camera. She has scoliosis, no neck, and ribs fused on one side. She's going to Shriners Hospital for surgery.



Ways to Give to St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

There are several ways you can give to St. Andrew's Children's Clinic, either directly or indirectly.

- Enclosed envelope; send check or we will charge to your credit card.
- PayPal from our web site: www.standrewsclinic.org. Click on the **Make a donation** button on the Home page and again on the Donation page.
- e-Scrip program; register St. Andrew's Children's Clinic with your e-Scrip account and a percentage of your purchases will be donated to The Clinic. Online, go to: www.escrip.com and click on: **Make a Difference**. You can also register at Safeway by telephone: 1-800-400-7878.
- AmazonSmile; a portion of your purchases will be donated to the charitable organization of your choice. Web address: smile.amazon.com. Choose St. Andrew's Children's Clinic!
- Arizona Gives Day, hosted by the Alliance of Arizona non-profits and the Arizona Grant Forum, is April 5, 2016. Go to their Web site to make your donation that day: www.AZgives.org. Choose St. Andrew's Children's Clinic from the list of charitable organizations.

Remember the Clinic with Planned Giving and for Memorials

We now have a Planned Giving brochure that you can request which will give you ideas for how to include St. Andrew's Children's Clinic in your future plans. Contact our business office for a copy: (520) 648-3248; office@standrewsclinic.org.

Looking for a way to honor someone special in your life? A contribution to The Clinic is a nice way to honor someone special—to say thank you, happy birthday, happy anniversary, etc. It will also help patients who need The Clinic's services.

Send your check in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter. Include the information about the memorial or honoring. The Clinic office will send the person notice of the memorial or honoring. For memorials listed in obituaries, please include the correct name



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Clinic Calendar

The Clinic meets on the first Thursday of every month except July.

- February 4 (Clinic)
- March 3 (Clinic)
- April 7 (Clinic)
- May 5 (Clinic)
- June 2 (Clinic)
- July 7 (Clinic)

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The mission of St. Andrew's Children's Clinic in Nogales, Arizona is to provide free, specialized medical care to children living in Mexico who cannot get the care or afford the care they need in their home country.

Lupita Moreno Felix, a patient in the **Augmentative/Alternative Communication Department**, tries out her new iPad. Lupita suffers from a severe form of cerebral palsy in which all parts of her body are extremely tight and uncontrollable except the big toe on her left foot. With her is speech therapist Sharon Hendrickson-Pfiel.

Lupita just had her 18th birthday so when she turns 19 she can no longer come to The Clinic. With the iPad she can continue to learn and study; she is very bright. Thanks to St. Anthony's-on-the-Dessert Episcopal Church in Scottsdale for funding the iPad for her. Lupita lives in Magdalena, Sonora.



St. Andrew's Children's Clinic receives funding from individuals, churches, organizations, corporations, and foundations. No government funding is received from either the United States or Mexico. Of donations received, 98% goes to direct patient care.

Cruzando fronteras para ayudar a niños minusvalidos de México