



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

***La Clínica***

Nogales, Arizona Spring 2016

## FACT SHEET FY 2015

**F**or 43 years, St. Andrew's Children's Clinic has provided free, specialized medical care to children living in Mexico who cannot get the care or afford the care they need in their home country. The Clinic is held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Nogales, Arizona.



Kirik is 8 years old and lives in Navajoa, Sonora. She is a patient in the **Orthopedics, Orthotics, and Nutrition Departments.**

**St. Andrew's Children's Clinic** is a non-denominational, non-profit organization, with a volunteer professional health care staff. The staff sees approximately 225-250 children the first Thursday of each month except July. Every October, in cooperation with Children's Surgery International and CIMA Hospital, 50-55 children (on average) have cleft palate/cleft lip surgery in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. This special mission involves volunteers on both sides of the US-Mexico border who work with the medical team to give patients smiles and a much better life.

In 2015, with the help of generous donors and volunteers, St. Andrew's Children's Clinic provided the following:

- 3,857 Clinic hours by volunteer health care professionals
- 6,984 Clinic hours by other volunteers
- 2,324 patient visits
- 136 first-time patients to The Clinic
- 186 office visits (US and Mexico)
- 175 lab tests (US and Mexico)
- 61 cleft palate/cleft lip surgeries
- 7,740 professional health volunteer hours for cleft palate/lip surgeries
- 47 eye doctor/surgeries
- 44 orthopedic surgeries
- 92 pairs of eye glasses dispensed
- 44 round-trip flights and transportation to hospitals for patients
- 38 prostheses
- 178 pairs of corrective shoes and orthotics
- 55 repaired hearing aids
- 68 customized wheel chairs, walkers, and strollers
- 28 prescriptions, either for cornea transplants or dermatology patients
- 5 iPads for augmentative/alternative communication patients
- also, medicated eye drops; Braille writers; strollers; speech and language equipment; nutritional supplements; physical, occupational, and speech therapy; dermatology and cardiology consultations; and many generous donations of blankets, diapers, and toys.

**We are very proud to report to you that 98% of all donations goes to patient care.**

## Special Issue of Then/Now Stories

**Gloria Ramos** of Nogales, Sonora, was brought to The Clinic at 6 months old because she only rolled to one side. Dr. Hayes, assisted by Lidia Sando-



val in the **Orthopedics Department**, taught Gloria's mother how to stretch the baby's neck muscles so she would begin to roll the other way. This was her first visit to The Clinic.

Gloria is exceedingly shy and does not talk; she has other health problems as well. Because she is nonverbal, she is learning to communicate with an iPad with special software in Spanish. An iPad with cover and basic software costs about \$500. When a child is ready for more advanced vocabulary, we can add more software for about \$200. Gloria is a patient in the **Augmentative/Alternative Communication Department**.



**Rodrigo Cortez** was 2 years old when his parents brought him to the **Orthopedics Department** at St. Andrew's Children's Clinic. His right ankle was badly deformed, and he would never walk on it. The orthopedist recommended amputation just below the knee and fitting with prosthesis at Shriners Hospital.

Doctors explained that amputation at an earlier age would be better because Rodrigo would grow up with the amputated leg and consider it normal. Below, Rodrigo was age 5, when he nonchalantly ate his sucker with his pros-



thesis beside him. He was waiting for adjustments to be made.

Patients receive a new prosthesis when they have a growth spurt. Each prosthesis costs at least \$250 which The Clinic provides free of charge.

When the children at school were teasing Rodrigo about his amputated leg, the prosthetist covered the prosthesis with a Spiderman design which the children thought was cool. Rodrigo will receive his last prosthesis when he turns 19 and is no longer eligible to return to The Clinic.

Below, Rodrigo strides out on his prosthetic leg. He was 14 in this photo. He is a confident teenager who lives in Nogales, Sonora. His mother volunteers in the Records Department and in the kitchen.



**Angela Ruiz Valdez** was born with partial legs. She had



surgery and was fitted with stubbies at Shriners Hospital to enable her to learn how to walk. Here she is at age 9. She not only walked but also danced at her school holiday program.

At 11, she wears prostheses. She loves wearing dresses and dressy shoes.

Angela lives in Los Mochis, Sinaloa, about 15 hours from The Clinic. She comes when she needs an adjustment to her prostheses or longer legs.

Her uncle built her a cart to drive to school; she can even take passengers. Once at school, she straps on her prostheses and takes off to class.



### **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](mailto: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.

**Gemma Medrano Jimenez** travels from Hermosillo, Sonora



which takes about 4 hours by car, longer by bus. She has cerebral



palsy and is a patient in the **Orthopedics Department**.

At age 5, Gemma tried out a special walker and worked hard to master walking. Walkers cost \$200-400, depending on the style, a cost paid by The Clinic. The orthopedist referred her to the **Physical Therapy Department**.

At age 11, Gemma is still coming to The Clinic. Below left, she is in the **Orthotics & Prosthetics Department** getting fitted with a special pair of corrective shoes which cost about \$100. The shoes are fitted by a certified pedorthist and provide her more stability as she walks with her walker.

Twins **Ariel Jesus and Jesus Javier Yepiz** live in Nogales, Sonora. They have been coming to The Clinic since they were age 1



year. Ariel is blind; Jesus Javier has very low vision and wears thick lenses in his glasses.

Patients in the **Vision Department**, the twins are now 14 years



old. Their mother left when they were very young. Their father has been very faithful in bringing them to The Clinic where Ariel has learned to walk with a cane and use a Braille writer. A refurbished Braille writer costs about \$250. Eye glasses are about \$22 with donated frames. The family is very

grateful for all provided to them.

By the time he was 7 years old, **Jesus Hernandez** was blind. He could see shadows with his right eye only. He needed a corneal transplant.



At 12, Jesus gave a moving tribute to Coca Romero, Clinic patient coordinator, at the Award Ceremony where Romero received the prestigious Ohtli Award from Mexico. The next day he had the first of 5 corneal transplants. Four of these failed because his body rejected the transplant. He also had glaucoma surgery.

Finally, at age 17, Jesus received the miracle of sight from Dr. Ann McCoglin and her Tucson associates. They used an artificial cornea. Dr. McCoglin donated her services and helped raise the \$5,000 for the artificial cornea.

Jesus and his mother cried tears of joy. Jesus is excited to see everything he has been missing. He wants to catch up with school work and study to be a civil engineer. If he needs a transplant in the other eye, hopefully arrangements can be made.



**Samantha Piñeda** was 5 years old in this photo. She could not walk. To propel herself across the table/floor, she sat, lifted her legs and arms and jumped. She was diagnosed with dysmorphic syndrome. She had a webbed neck, diaphragmatic hernia, bilat-



eral high-riding hip dislocations and right knee dislocation.

At age 13, Samantha walks with crutches. She wears ankle-foot orthoses and special shoes provided by The Clinic. Samantha lives in Nogales, Sonora.



Born with a cleft lip, Kylie Sanchez is 6 months old in the photo at the top of the next column. The Clinic **Nutrition Department** provides special bottles and nipples for cleft palate/lip babies

who can't suck.

Kylie had cleft lip surgery at the Clinic's Annual Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission in Hermosillo, Sonora in October, 2013.

She is now 2½ (photo below) and gets speech therapy in the



**Speech and Language Therapy Department** at The Clinic.



## Please Visit Us

**C**linic 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!

**Hector Raul Lopez**, age 6 months, lives in Nogales, Sonora. He was diagnosed with arthrogryposis which means he has no real knee, wrist, or elbow



He had surgery on his feet at Shriners Hospital.

At age 11, Hector can now propel himself in a wheel chair, toss a ball by crossing his wrists, and transfer himself from his wheel chair to a bed on a slide board. His mother helps him minimally. He has a cheerful outlook



on life. He continues to receive therapy in the **Occupational and Physical Therapy Departments.**

**Eneyda Guadalupe "Lupita" Montes**, age 4, waits for adjustments to be made to her prostheses in the **Orthotics & Prosthetics Department.** Both feet were so badly deformed at birth that she



would never walk. Her legs were amputated below the knee at Shriners Hospital. She has had several replacement prostheses as she has grown in height.

In the photo at the top right, Eneyda is 12 years old. She would like to be an orthopedic surgeon when she grows up.

In the photo at the right, she is 17 years old. This time she is waiting for her new prostheses which will make her 2" taller. She was very excited. To see an interview with Eneyda, go to our web site: [www.standrewsclinic.org](http://www.standrewsclinic.org). Click on the Articles button. Click the button on the right side of this page which is a PBS story with the interview.



**Alexis Morales Sanchez** lives in Nogales, Sonora. He has developmental apraxia of speech and ADHD. He has limited speech which is garbled and difficult to understand. He is a patient in the **Augmentative/Alternative Communication Department**.

At age 4, Alexis was introduced to a Tech/Talk which enabled him to choose from items on



a template, and the Tech/Talk would say the name of the item. For example, in the photo he is choosing the color on the tem-

plate to convey what color of flower he wants to use to make his mother a Mother's Day corsage.

By age 12, Alexis had progressed to a SpringBoard communication device which enabled him to put together sentences to ask and answer questions. Then, he received an iPad which had special communication software to give him homework exercises and access to a much larger vocabulary. Both the SpringBoard and iPad are his "voice" at school and home. He and his family are very proud of his communication ability. The Tech/Talk costs about \$450, a SpringBoard costs about \$3,000, and the iPad with case and basic software costs about \$500. All are provided to the child as needed free of charge from The Clinic.



## 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](http://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](http://www.escrip.com) and click on: **Make a Differ-**

**ence.** (Note: Safeway no longer participates in this program)

- AmazonSmile; a portion of your purchases will be donated to the charitable organization of your choice. Web address: [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Choose St. Andrew's Children's Clinic!

## 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](mailto: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 and address: St. Andrew's Children's Clinic, P.O. Box 67, Green Valley, AZ 85622.



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**La Clínica**

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ORGANIZATION  
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office@standrewsclinic.org

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www.standrewsclinic.org

## Clinic Calendar

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

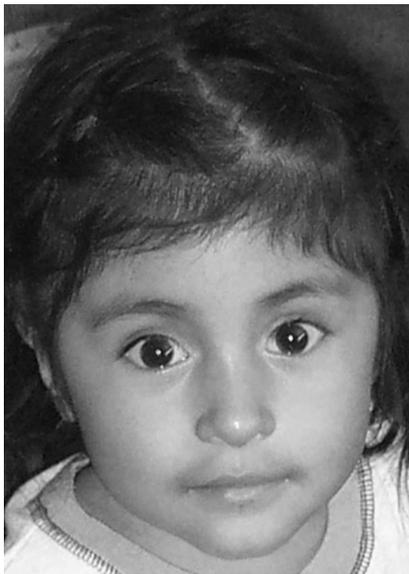
- June 2 (Clinic)
- August 4 (Clinic)
- September 1 (Clinic)

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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.

**Luz Hernandez** at 3 and 13. She has brittle bones disease and uses a wheel chair provided by The Clinic. She lives in Nogales, 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