

Throughout the history of The Clinic, the one continuing factor has been Love.

New Administrative Office Location:

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*The Clinic is cancelled for the months of
August, September and October.*

My Participation as a Volunteer at St. Andrew's Clinic

My arrival to St. Andrew's Clinic was motivated by a persistent invitation from Burris Duncan. He tried several times until he convinced me, and I attended on a date I don't remember, but it must have been around 1998.

When I arrived for the first time at the Clinic, I found an environment that was unknown to me. There were common factors with the Seguro Social hospital in Mexico where I worked and where there were a lot of people who needed help and we at the Mexican Social Security Institute (known as IMSS for its acronym in Spanish) were their only alternative. There, I received my salary regardless of my productivity and I understood that these people truly needed us, otherwise they would not be able to receive quality medical attention because their income did not allow it. I understood that I needed to have the will and courage to help them. I come from a humble background and I put myself in their place and decided I would make an additional effort to give patients the attention I would like to receive. I have done this for 28 years, in constant battle with my thoughts to do what needed to be done on the job. I found human pain of the children's families and in my search of resolving the problem of their illness I found the gratitude of the children's parents. I noticed they shook my feelings, they made me feel mentally better and with a greater enthusiasm I continued to give more. I got involved with child burn victims of Nogales, Sonora and established contact with Shriners Hospital, who I discovered were people with a great soul. This first caused in me great fear and intimidation because of the greatness that signified to me the "Shriners" name and their burn victims hospital and then a sensation of unconditional support regardless of me being from another country or my level of preparation—I was another link to help a child succeed. This is when I understood the other side of human thought that I still needed to put into practice: helping those in need.

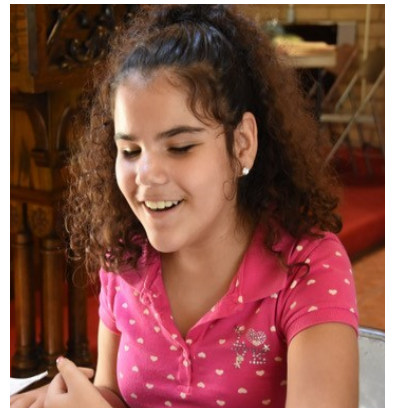
Several times I have been with children and adults in the closeness of death and I discovered how uncertain it is to insure life no matter how many insurances I buy. I discovered vulnerability and how we live believing we have bought our life with money and that is not the case. I saw myself wrapped up in various readings where I found that along with my actions there was an answer from the highest level of God. I discovered that God put people in your likeness in front of you for you to help. He doesn't send you letters; He doesn't send you a sermon with a priest; a patient or a person just arrives, sits down or stands in front of you and asks for help, and when they are in front of you, "you have the free will" to refuse them or to take the problem as a challenge and try to resolve it. There is a side of us that tells us not to make that effort and that battle has always existed, but fortunately the good side almost always wins and we make that effort to help. I was often left with sad thoughts when patients tried to outsmart us by deceiving or misleading us.



Arvizu Preciado, age 9 from Magdalena, receiving new leg braces.



Sabori Romero, 11 years old from Caborca, Sonora, learning braille in the Vision Department.



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Fortunately, these were a very small number of cases compared to those who were sincere and I understood that before God the intention to help counts as a check mark on your list of those you've helped and when they deceive us it is a point against them and we continue on the path to being better people. The part of a person's being that wants to sincerely help others without receiving money in return and laying your heart out to try to help the children is what I found most fascinating about the Clinic and what I enjoy the most. I've been collaborating with the Clinic for 20 years and there is where I feel like that crazy person that stops earning money in his office and give the time to the Clinic without regrets or complaints, with the relish and pleasure of being able to help my peers, brothers and sisters to better find the health they need so much.

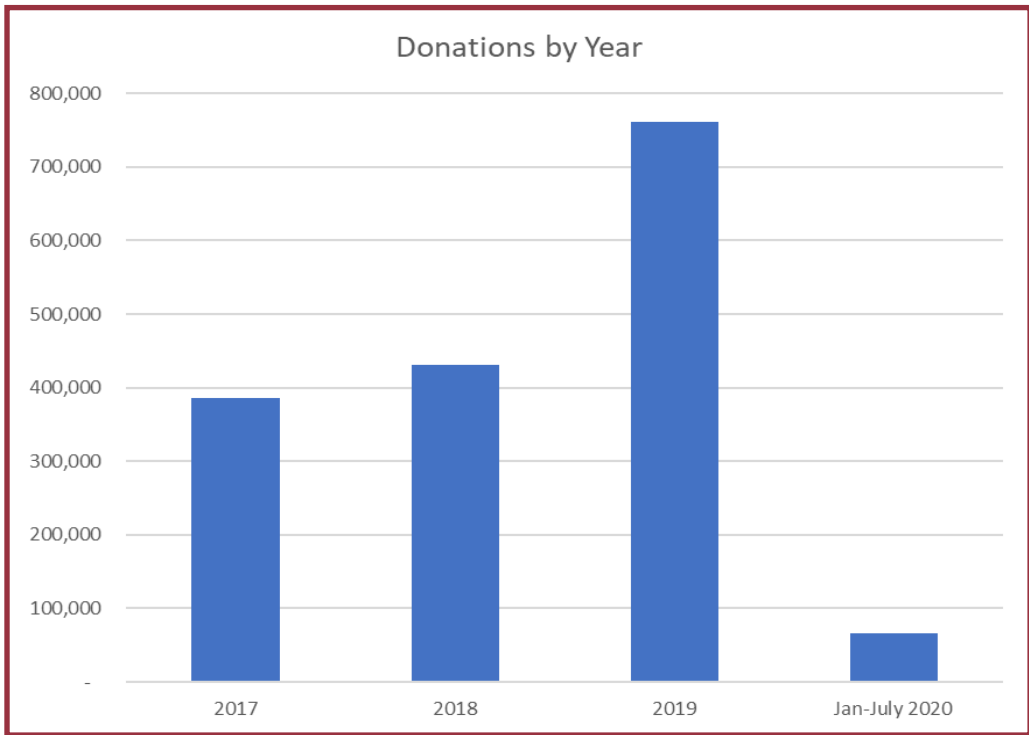
At St. Andrew's Clinic I found many different types of people with different activities and professions that attend Clinic with a smile; in their face you can see their enjoyment in helping others. In their expression you can see the admiration they have for what you do. They tell you, and they must know that I see them in the same way. I feel a great admiration for the quality of humans they are and for the time they sacrifice and give to patients without regrets. I have always said the Clinic is full of smiling and loving crazy people that have given me the greatest lesson in my life. The Clinic showed me the greatness of humankind and of the United State of America, where all types of people integrate in one loving objective of helping those who are most in need. The participation of great hearts never ceases to amaze me, like donor and sponsors more ("crazy people") and United States Immigration agents which speaks to the human quality that exists within these "harsh" men and women who help us so much with their great heart and without them the Clinic could not exist. My deepest gratitude.

St. Andrew's Clinic is a place where magic happens. A great number of people with the same energy come together and they have the joy of helping which transforms into a very powerful force that achieves the unthinkable and with the help of God: helping those in need. In the end we listen to God and we help the patients instead of using our free will to push them away. I work with an idea that if I help others the law of reciprocity will return my effort and my family will receive help, health, physical and mental well being. I don't do it to receive money—I know that I will receive what I have harvested, and that's why I always try to make it a good thing.

I was impressed by a reading from Elisabeth Kübler-Ross. In one of her books she does a survey of people who have died and come back to life after receiving CPR where they were asked to say what was the first thing they were asked when they passed the tunnel of light and every person gave the same answer: "WHAT DID YOU DO FOR YOUR PEERS WHILE YOU WERE ALIVE?" I understood that is the energy that accumulates throughout your life with your actions. It is with that question that I work in my life so that I always have an answer when my time comes.

Sincerely,
GUILLERMO E. GARCIA QUIROZ

Thank you Dr. Quiroz for your love for our children and families!



As you can see, our gifts for 2020 are significantly behind. We recognize the impact the Covid-19 pandemic has slowed so many of us down. Please send your gift by filling out the form below and return to: P.O. Box 67, Green Valley, AZ. 85622. Thank you so very much.



If your organization is interested in learning about St. Andrew's Clinic during this pandemic time, the Executive Director will be happy to participate in a Zoom program. Please contact Laura Romero by emailing ed@standrewsclinic.org



Please send your donation to St. Andrew's Children's Clinic at Box 67, Green Valley, Arizona 85622

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Your gift is tax-deductible. The Donations received, 98% goes to direct patient care.

Thank you for your continued support!