

SAFE PASSAGE

In 2006, Shared Beat was created to assist Safe Passage with the healthcare of their educational reinforcement project. Over the past 12 years, a wellness program has evolved adapting to the needs of the student population. Today, all 450 Safe Passage students, are involved in the Shared Beat health and wellness program. The program includes:

- Access to the on-site Wellness Center
- Personal Health Record
- Annual physical exam including a physician visit, height and weight, Vision and Hearing Screening
- Biannual physical exam for children 2-5 years of age
- Biannual fluoride treatments with new toothbrushes for home & school
- Biannual parasite prevention per the World Health Protocol
- Daily in school vitamins
- Bimonthly health education classes

The Shared Beat Wellness Center at Safe Passage is open during the school year. The Guatemalan staff include a part-time pediatrician, a full-time nurse and full-time nursing assistant. Students receive medications, treatments and referrals at no cost. An Emergency Fund is also available for students with emergent issues requiring hospitalization. The Wellness Center is open to the families of students if space is available.



Every February, Shared Beat's Medical Outreach Team of doctors, nurses, translators, vision & hearing specialists and caring volunteers take part in the annual student screening process. Each child receives a physical exam, vision screen and hearing test. Students with health issues are further screened as decided by the Outreach Team and Wellness Center physician. If students fail the eye exam, they are referred to a local optometrist and glasses are provided at no cost. Students who are hearing challenged are followed closely by the team and receive hearing aids through the help of Dawn Bledsoe and hearing aid donation by ReSound.



Tooth decay is the number one untreated disease in children. Untreated tooth decay leads to problems with learning, sleeping, eating and growing. To help alleviate tooth decay, Shared Beat provides toothbrushes and fluoride while the partner programs are encouraged to:

- Provide a daily brushing program in their schools
- •Reduce sugar intake in school lunches
- Discourage vending of sugary drinks and candy on campus
- •Dissuade the use of candy as a reward

According to Unicef, intestinal parasites are one of the biggest health problems confronting school-age children. These parasites consume nutrients from the child increasing chances of malnutrition and delayed physical growth.

To help prevent intestinal parasites, Safe Passage students receive classes in proper hygiene as well as receive parasite prevention twice per year.



Health Education classes are enjoyed twice a month by all students ages 2 years — adults. Topics focus on healthy living and illness prevention.

In addition to student health, twice per year the Shared Beat Medical Outreach team has an open health clinic for the community. Consults and medications are free. The patients are also provided with glasses by the Shared Beat vision team.

We are grateful for the wellness center staff, volunteers, donors, generous company's like ReSound and our nonprofit partners Safe Passage, Blessings International and Vine International for making this possible!





