Santa and Mrs. Claus visited with the children at our December Christmas Clinic. They are patients of Arizona Hearing Specialists who staff our Audiology Department.

We had lots of gifts from many volunteers. These are probably the only gifts the children will receive this Christmas as our families are very poor. Children and parents are very appreciative.

Some groups come every year with gifts for the children. The 8th graders of Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School in Tucson raise money to purchase bears for the children. This year they gave out 225 bears. They have been coming to our December Christmas Clinic for 13 years.

Arizona Hearing Specialists of Tucson and Green Valley sponsored a Donation Drive each November for the past 4 years. They collect toys, clothing, and non-perishable food which they give out at our December Christmas Clinic.

The Nogales Future Business Leaders Club of Nogales High School brought a Santa and took photos of the children with Santa. Students from the National Art Honor Society made a frame for each photo.

Above, Angel Valenzuela of Nogales, Sonora, holds his photo with Santa. The parents are always thrilled to have photos of their children.
More Christmas Gifts

Dana Jiménez from Nogales, Sonora, proudly displays the dress she chose from those made by the Green Valley members of the American Sewing Guild.

Emiliano, age 6, plays with his new car as he waits his turn in the Speech & Language Department. Emiliano lives in Nogales, Sonora.

Christopher, in stroller, and his brother Eduardo received lap blankets to keep them warm. The day was rainy and a little chilly so the blankets were greatly appreciated. Christopher is 7 years old, and Eduardo is 3. They live in Nogales, Sonora.

Another returning group is the Doll Guild. Paulina, age 11, selected this baby doll from the 190 dolls on display. Paulina lives in Caborca, Sonora.

See more photos of children with their toys on our Web site: www.standrewsclinic.org. Go to the Supporters page and scroll down to the Christmas section.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make our patients’ Christmas a very happy one.

Osel wipes the rain off his new wooden car. Every year the Woodworkers of Green Valley make a variety of wooden toys, jewelry boxes, and doll cradles with a cloth doll. They distributed about 300 wooden toys this year. Osel lives in Nogales, Sonora.
Samantha was 4 years old when she came to St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic. She could not walk; instead, she sat on her bottom, lifting her legs and arms, and scooted across the exam table. The orthopedic doctor in our Orthopedics Department diagnosed her with dysmorphic syndrome. She had a webbed neck, diaphragmatic hernia, bilateral high-riding hip dislocations and right knee dislocation.

Samantha went to Shriners Hospital for surgery. At age 5, she returned to The Clinic, dressed in her Sunday best. She showed the doctors how she could now walk with the help of a Clinic-provided walker.

In November, Samantha came to The Clinic, walking with the aid of crutches. She is now 13. She wears ankle-foot-orthoses and special shoes. All are provided by The Clinic.

Clinical 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
- Baby food
- Benefiber, Fibersure or Unifiber (non-gelling)
- Blenders
- Clorox wipes
- Disposable diapers (esp. newborn size)
- Eyeglass frames (children’s, used)
- Hand sanitizers
- Hearing aids (used) and batteries
- Milk-based infant formula
- 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
- Receiving blankets
- 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 to answer the telephone in the Green Valley Clinic business office, file, and do data entry or special projects.

To volunteer, call The Clinic office at (520) 648-3242.
Vivian Gastellum, age 11, is being fitted with special shoes. She wears ankle-foot-orthoses (AFOs) and needs extra wide shoes to accommodate the AFOs. Special shoes cost about $100, and as with all services, The Clinic provides the shoes free of charge to the patient. Vivian lives in Nogales, Sonora. Her shoe fitter is volunteer Pam Jackson.

AFOs are fitted in the Orthotics Department. They are custom made for the patients who need them. Laura Erickson, volunteer from Hanger Orthotics, is heating a pair of AFOs for Jesus Maldonado Pacheco. Laura explained that each AFO is heated, bent, and cut to fit the patient. AFOs cost about $250.

Twins Christian (left) and Bryan (right) Brean live in Caborca, Sonora. They are 6 years old. They have cerebral palsy. As with many of our cerebral palsy patients, they will be treated in several departments: Pediatrics, Speech and Language Therapy, Physical Therapy, Orthotics, and Orthopedics.

Brian José Enriques, age 14, is a patient in the Audiology Department. He lives in Navajoa, Sonora. Brian wears 2 hearing aids. Each mold for a hearing aid costs about $400, and the hearing aid costs $100.

Both girls hope to have their own I-Pad in the near future. An I-Pad with software costs about $500. Paulina, age 11, and Gloria, age 8, do not speak very much due to their medical problems, and their own I-Pad will allow them to communicate in a way they have not been able to do before. Paulina lives in Caborca, Sonora, and Gloria lives in Nogales, Sonora.

Paulina Cruz shows Gloria Gama how to communicate using an I-Pad with special software in the Speech and Language Therapy Department.
Patients Need Different Services

A merica Ximena Alvarado, age 3 months, had cleft lip surgery at the 10th Annual Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission in Hermosillo in October. She needs to have her cleft palate repaired too and is scheduled for surgery next year.

Clinic Day tours for groups of 4-6 people are offered to the public (please see calendar on the last page). Clinic takes place at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 969 W. Country Club Dr., Nogales, Arizona. Take exit 8 from I-19 to Country Club Drive (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 begins with a video overview of The Clinic in operation. Then, a volunteer guide leads the tour through The Clinic. Visitors are asked to refrain from taking photographs without permission.

Please note: From the Welcome Table, you will 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 several congested areas in The Clinic. Please give right-of-way to Clinic patients and volunteers. Thank you!

Ceyra Robles, age 8 years lives in Santa Ana, Sonora. Kristi Hesse, AuD, checks Ceyra’s ears in the Audiology Department. Patients fitted with hearing aids come in regularly for check-ups and to have their hearing aids cleaned.

Here, America drinks from a special Haberman bottle with special nipples. Cleft palate babies cannot suck like non-cleft babies. The Nutrition Department provides the bottles and nipples at no cost to the mother. On average, The Clinic pays $750/month for about 30 patients a year who need these bottles and nipples. America lives in Nogales, Sonora.

Milagros Soto, age 5 years, is practicing using a white cane. She is blind and is a patient in the Vision Department. Later, Milagros will learn how to read Braille and will learn how to use a Braille writer provided by The Clinic. A refurbished Braille writer costs $250.

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Dulce María del Rio uses an I-Pad in the Speech & Language Therapy Department. Dulce is 5 and lives in Nogales, Sonora.

Below is former patient, Victor Rodrigues with his family, sister Suzette (left), mother Alva, and sister Dulce (right). Victor was a patient in the Orthopedics Department. He had tumors in his leg which were removed, and he had therapy in the Physical Therapy Department. He is now 16 years old. After his surgery and therapy, the family legally emigrated to the US and live in Rio Rico, AZ where he attends high school.

Physical therapist Nanette Burnett (on the left) accepts a wheelchair from Kendra Neihouser of Casa Vida y Esperanza Orphanage in Magdalena, Sonora. One of the orphanage children received the wheelchair from The Clinic and no longer needed it so Kendra returned it for another child to use.

Alyssa Paulina Galaz, age 11, lives in Hermosillo, Sonora. She has spinal bifida. She is paralyzed from the waist down. She has been a Clinic patient for 8 years.

It’s easy to register St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic as a beneficiary with the e-Script program—automatically donating a percentage of your purchases to The Clinic.

Grocery, online and restaurant purchases all qualify when you register your loyalty card or credit/debit card. Ask your merchant(s) if they participate and what is their procedure. For example, you can register at Safeway by telephone: 1-800-400-7878, press 2 and a real person will ask for your Safeway Club Card number and your address.

Online, go to www.escrip.com and follow “Make a Difference in Four Easy Steps.”
White Elephant Distribution Day

“50 Years of Giving” was the theme of the White Elephant Parade this year. Here is a portion of our first prize float—yes, we won first place again this year. The elephant has a bag of coins to give out, and one of the children riding on the float wears an elephant hat. See more pictures on the Supporters portion of our web site: www.standrewsclinic.org.

White Elephant Distribution Day

The White Elephant is a large thrift store in Green Valley. They sell everything—furniture, appliances, clothes, rugs, Christmas decorations, almost anything. You can find some real bargains there. The store is open Monday-Saturday from 9:00 am to noon. They give away their proceeds on Distribution Day. In December, 125 organizations from south Tucson to Nogales, Arizona received a total of $1.4 million. Organizations write a grant proposal and go through a screening process.

Accepting our award of $65,000 this year was Marianna and her mother, Erika Castello. Marianna is 3 years old and lives in Obregon. She had just been released to go home after 2 months in Tucson following hip surgery. Dr. Francisco Valencia of our Orthopedics Department was her surgeon.

Note the White Elephant flag that Marianna is holding. She never let go of it during the 3-hour ceremony.

Remember the Clinic for Memorials and in Your Will

A contribution to The Clinic is a nice way to honor someone special—to say thank you, happy birthday, happy anniversary, etc. Send your check in the envelope enclosed with this newsletter. Include 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.

Another way to help The Clinic is to include a contribution in your will. Contact your lawyer for help with this.

Coming soon: Planned Giving brochure you can request for ideas of how to include St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic in your future plans.
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.

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.

Ivon Sesteaga, 1½ years, was born in Nogales, Sonora, with a double cleft lip. In 2013, she had unilateral cleft lip surgery at our Mission in Hermosillo. This year she had bilateral cleft lip surgery. This picture was taken before that surgery.

Ivon also has a cleft palate. She can have the surgeries she needs at our future missions. Each surgery costs about $1,000.

Ivon will continue to get nutritional supplements and feeding advice from our staff in the Nutrition Department. She will get speech therapy in our Speech & Language Therapy Department.

Clinic Calendar
The Clinic meets on the first Thursday of every month except July.
- February 5 (Clinic)
- March 5 (Clinic)
- April 2 (Clinic)
- April 26 (Fitzsimmons recital)
- May 7 (Clinic)
- June 4 (Clinic)
- August 6 (Clinic)
- September 3 (Clinic)

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Cruzando fronteras para ayudar a niños minusvalidos de México