



St. Andrew's
Children's Clinic

La Clínica

Nogales, Arizona

Winter 2014

Christmas at St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

Christmas is a special time of year, but especially at St. Andrew's Children's Clinic. This year was cold and rainy, but this didn't dampen the enthu-



siasm of all the volunteers who worked to make this a special Christmas. They brought wooden toys; knitted and crocheted hats, blankets, and sweaters; dresses; and various stuffed animals and toys. For pictures of some of these items, please see our Web site under Supporters: www.standrewsclinic.org.

The children were excited to see Santa, and he was thrilled to see them too. He visited all the departments, shaking hands and posing for photographs.

In the **Speech and Language Therapy Department**, children worked with their alternative communications devices to tell the Christmas story. Emmanuel Campo, age 13 (left), and Jose Ramos (right) show the template for the devices that children could use in

answering questions about the Christmas story. Each picture is programmed to say the word describing the picture. In this way, nonverbal children have a



way of talking.

Emmanuel used his alternative communication device to lead the story-telling. Emmanuel is a Down syndrome patient. He recently had heart surgery after being on a waiting list for 4-5 years. Emmanuel lives in Nogales, Sonora.

Yeraldine Escarrega Lopez, age 5, proudly carries her new



doll and wooden cradle. Each year, the Woodworkers of Green Valley make wooden toys for our patients. See more of the toys on our Web site.



Janis Wolfe Gasch, AuD, (left) and Executive Director Laura Romero (right) celebrate the results of Arizona Hearing Specialists' 3rd Annual Donation Drive. The organization collected toys, clothing, and money for The Clinic. Janis is head of the **Audiology Department** and founder of Arizona Hearing Specialists in Tucson and Green Valley. Each month, members of her staff come to The Clinic to fit children with hearing aids.

9th Annual Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission—October 2013



In October, staff members and volunteers journeyed once again to Hermosillo for the Annual Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission. Medical staff from Children's Surgery International of Minneapolis flew in to perform the surgeries at CIMA Hospital, a first-rate hospital in Hermosillo. The CIMA Voluntariado had everything organized and facilitated each day's work. They even entertained the children during the long day's wait. The Voluntariado are a



group of ladies from all walks of life who give of their time free of charge at CIMA Hospital. They also raise money for CIMA patients who cannot afford hospital care.

There were approximately 74 children screened. Those not selected for surgery were deferred for 1-3 years to allow for bone growth and maturity.

Thirty-seven children were selected for surgery: fifteen had cleft palate, eleven had cleft lip, and one had speech surgery. Eight children had bone graft surgery, one had rhinoplasty, and one had tooth extractions. Two children had both cleft lip and cleft palate surgeries.

Some highlights of the day are pictured here. When word was



received that the medical team was on its way from the airport, patients and parents lined up and practiced their welcome song.

Once patients were taken to the surgical ward, anxious families waited patiently until they could visit their children in the recovery rooms.



Each patient had blood tests before surgery. Unfortunately, Inari Ponce's blood work was not up to the level that the doctor wanted. So, her parents waited with her until her blood



work was suitable. Inari has a cleft lip and was 2 months old at the time of surgery. She and her parents live in Nogales, Sonora.

After surgery, each patient had a special blanket waiting on the recovery room bed. Generous volunteers made the blankets for the children.



Two Patients from 9th Annual Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission

Kylie Sanchez Arana had cleft lip surgery at the 2013 Mission. She is shown here before surgery in October and when she visited The Clinic in



November after surgery. You can see what a great job the surgeon did on her cleft lip.



Kylie is 8 months old and lives in Nogales, Sonora. Prior to surgery Clinic nutritionists gave her mother supplements to help her attain a healthy weight for surgery. When she begins

talking, she will receive speech therapy at The Clinic.

Carlos Bobadilla was born with both cleft lip and cleft palate. In the top photo, he is



about one year old in 2006. In the bottom photo, he is age 8. Carlos also lives in Nogales, Sonora. Since 2006, he has had both cleft palate and cleft lip surgeries, and he had bone graft surgery at the Mission in 2013.

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
- Benefiber
- Blenders
- Breakfast drinks (powder or can)
- Clorox wipes
- Disposable bibs
- Disposable diapers (esp. newborn size)
- Eyeglass frames (children's, used)
- Ground flaxseed meal
- Hand sanitizers
- Hearing aids (used) and batteries
- Milk of Magnesia
- 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, adult
- 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

Patients Need Different Services

Luz Hernandez, age 10, lives in Nogales, Sonora. She is



a patient in the **Orthopedics Department**. Luz has “brittle bones” disease. Despite all her health problems, she has a beautiful smile.



Danna Leinaly Ramirez, was born with Apert Syndrome. Among other medical problems, the digits on her hands are fused together. She is going to Shriners Hospital for hand surgery. She will have bilateral thumb index syndactyly releases.

Danna is 3 months old and lives in Nogales, Sonora. She is a patient in the **Orthopedics Department**.



Josue Felipe Lugardo Francisco is 3 years old and lives in Nogales, Sonora. He is a patient in the **Speech & Language Therapy Department**. He didn't have much vocabulary when the speech therapist started working with him. He is working on sounds and putting words together.

Lenny Sierra Matus is 11 years old and lives in Hermosillo, Sonora. He is a patient in the **Speech & Language Therapy Department**. Because of his



cerebral palsy, Lenny is unable to speak and has very spastic movements. He is a quadriplegic. He is very bright. With a head switch, software, and communication device, he will be able to communicate. This will cost about \$775.

Azaeila Romero is one year, seven months old. She lives in a



small town near Ciudad Obregon, Sonora. She is a patient in the **Orthopedics Department**. She is pigeon-toed and wears special shoes to turn her feet outward. She is a patient in the **Orthotics Department** also.

Patients Need Different Services

Dr. James Hayes examines Angel Martín Reyes in the **Orthopedics Department**. Angel has a discrepancy in his



leg length so he will be fitted with a lift in his shoe in the **Orthotics Department**. In the future he can have surgery to correct this discrepancy. He will be followed in the Orthopedics Department to determine when this surgery should be performed.

Angel is 8 years old and lives in Caborca, Sonora.

Jesus Alejandro Rivas is 15 years old and confined to a wheel chair, the result of meningitis. He lives in Nogales, Sonora. He is a patient in the **Vision Department** where he has his eyes tested for new eye glasses. He is also a patient in the **Physical Therapy Department**



Eilene Urquidez came to The Clinic in October for the first time. She is a patient in the **Vision Department**. Eilene had retinoblastoma in both eyes and is visually impaired. She is 6 years old 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 Dr., Nogales, Arizona. Take exit 8 from 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!

Patients Need Different Services

Laura Bustamante, age 7, lives in Nogales, Sonora. She has never been treated for her foot which is badly deformed. When she has her shoe



on and is walking, it looks like the shoe is on backwards.

Laura was at the November Clinic for the first time and was evaluated in the **Orthopedics Department** by the Shriners doctor from Sacramento. He recommended that she go to

Shriners as soon as possible for stretch casting. A cast is put on every week, and the doctor will stretch the foot more and more until it's in a more normal position. Then the doctor will do surgery to make sure the foot stays that way. Laura will wear a brace after that to maintain the foot's position.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic pays air fare for the patient and accompanying parent, and Shriners covers the surgery cost.



Paulina Cruz Mergado, age 10, lives in Caborca, Sonora. Paulina has misshapen toes and wears special supports in her shoes. Dr. Valencia examined her in the **Orthopedics Department** at the December Clinic and recommended modifications to the supports.



Claudio Riveros Hernandez is working on strengthening his feet and ankles in the **Physical Therapy Department**. The physical therapist showed his mother how to help him practice his toe raises and his heel stretches. Our parents are very good at working with their children at home.

Claudio is 9 years old. He lives in Nogales, Sonora.

e-Script—Another Way to Give to The Clinic

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 Parade and Distribution Day

Every year, St. Andrew's Children's Clinic enters a float in the White Elephant Parade which takes place in October in Green Valley. For the second time in recent his-



tory, our float won first-place in our division. This float is especially noteworthy because many of its parts are reused from an area high school's homecoming floats.

Then in December lights were added to the float and entered in the Nogales Light Parade. This is the first time we've entered this parade. We received second place. The two parades give us lots of local visibility.

Each fall, St. Andrew's has an opportunity to apply to the White Elephant for funding at their December Distribution Day. All grant applications are reviewed by a committee; committee members visit the organizations throughout the year. Over 100 organizations in southern Pima and Santa Cruz counties received a total of \$1.5 million earned through sales at the White Elephant Thrift Store.



This year The Clinic is the proud recipient of \$58,000. Thank you, White Elephant, for helping meet the medical needs of our children.

Accompanying Executive Director Laura Romero to the Distribution Day was Emmanuel Campo and his mother. Emmanuel is shown here shaking hands with Fred Wray, President of White Elephant's Board of Directors.

Fitzsimmons and Friends Help Children Who Can't Speak

Vicki Fitzsimmons will again sing a voice recital to raise money for alternative communication devices for children who are nonverbal.

The recital is Sunday, March 30 at 2:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall of St. Francis-in-the-Valley Episcopal Church in Green Valley.

This year's program will be a potpourri of music—Broadway, opera, and religious. Joining Vicki as her accompanist is Lorna Larsen of Rio Rico. Vicki usually has another performer join her, and this year's guest is her voice student, Roy Smith. Roy is 10 years old and a talented singer. Steve Ferreira will play a special selection on his Native American flute.

There will be a reception following the recital. Admission is free, but donations to help raise money for the devices is appreciated. These devices will be used by the patients in the Speech & Language Therapy Department.

Remember the Clinic for Memorials and in Your Will

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.

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



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US POSTAGE
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Clinic Calendar

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

- February 6 (Clinic)
- March 6 (Clinic)
- March 30 (Fitzsimmons Recital)
- May 1 (Clinic)
- June 5 (Clinic)

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St. Andrew's Children's Clinic

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Jorge Santiago is 4 years old and lives in Caborca, Sonora. Both his ears are deformed, and his hearing is compromised. He will be fitted with a hearing aid behind his ear. The vibrations through his bone will enable him to hear. Jorge is a patient in the **Audiology Department.**



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.

Cruzando fronteras para ayudar a niños minusvalidos de México