2013 marks the beginning of our 40th year in operation. We will be celebrating in different ways this year. To kick off our celebration, we bring you these photos of patients “then and now” as a way of showing the long-term commitment we make to our patients.

Luís Lopez Contreras has cerebral palsy. Above, he is shown at age 9 with bracing on his right leg. Luís was subsequently fitted with a wheelchair. He lives in Hermosillo, Son.

The next photo shows Luís at age 18 and a senior in high school. He received his last wheelchair from St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic at the December Clinic. Good-bye hugs were given in the Physical Therapy Department where he was a long-time patient. We see patients, as needed, until they are 18.

Javier Medina Bojorquez, also from Hermosillo, Son., came to The Clinic in August, 2011 at 1 month of age. As shown in the upper right photo, Javier was born with a cleft lip and a cleft palate.

Javier had cleft palate surgery at CIMA Hospital in Hermosillo, Son. as part of our 2011 Cleft Palate/Cleft Lip Mission. He also had cleft lip surgery at our 2012 Mission. In the lower right photo you can see the improved appearance in his face—excuse that chocolate smudge in the corner of his mouth!

Javier is a patient in the Speech & Language Therapy Department where he learns how to pronounce sounds.
CIMA Hospital in Hermosillo, Son. where surgeries were done—a first-rate facility.

Welcome Banner at CIMA hospital; other banners greeted patients in the foyer.

CIMA Volunteers coordinated all the arrangements and kept things running smoothly. They also raise money to fund some of the procedures and therapies for Clinic patients throughout the year.

Unidentified patient shows a member of the CSI Team his repaired cleft lip. He came this year for a check-up.

St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic volunteers (Karen Sykes, Vicki Fitzsimmons, Diana Ward) were 3 of the 7 Clinic volunteers who assisted with patients.

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Patients and parents welcome the Children’s Surgery Intl. (CSI) medical team from Minneapolis.

CSI pediatrician, Dr. Paul Melchert, with returning patient, Kary Aleim Alegría Nuñez, age 5, from Puerto Peñasco, Son.

CIMA volunteer, as Minnie Mouse, was one of the volunteers who entertained the children. There were videos, toys, and floor activities for the children.

Members of the CSI medical team listening to parents and patients singing a “welcome” song.
2012 Cleft Palate/Cleft Mission—October 2012

Forty-four children living in Mexico now have happy smiles thanks to St. Andrew’s Children's Clinic, Children’s Surgery International, and CIMA hospital and volunteers. Some had cleft lip or palate repair. One had dental extraction. Another had nasal repair.

Unlike missions elsewhere, the St. Andrew’s Mission returns annually to provide follow-up surgery as well as to see new patients. Additionally, St. Andrew’s and CIMA Hospital provide speech and language therapy to patients following surgery. CIMA volunteers raise money to pay for the therapy at CIMA hospital.

These two boys became best friends as they waited for their examinations and surgery. They had adjacent rooms in the hotel.

On the left is Luis Fernando Guirado Gonzalez, age 6, who had his cleft lip repaired at an earlier Mission. This time, he had anterior palatal fistula repair.

On the right is Axel Isaac Garcia Ortiz, age 8. He, too, had cleft lip surgery earlier. This time he had rhinoplasty.

Angel Quijada (below, left) was born with a double cleft lip; his twin brother (right) was not. Following his 2010 surgery, his father said of Angel, “Now he looks more like his twin brother.” Angel also had cleft palate surgery in 2011. He returned for a check-up this year.

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.

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
- Wheel chairs—child-size only
- Wipes
- Ziploc bags—quart size only

Patients and their families stay in the same hotel where the doctors stay. Meals are provided to all. Lodging and meals are paid by St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic.
Christmas at St. Andrew’s Children’s Clinic

Christmas always comes early at The Clinic because we celebrate at the December Clinic, the first Thursday of the month. Our children are usually loaded with gifts by the time they finish meeting with doctors and therapists, possibly the only gifts they will receive as their parents are very poor.

Santa visits with the girls and boys. Of course, he speaks Spanish.

We have lots of sweaters, hats, blankets, and afghans donated by many individuals, churches, and organizations. Usually December Clinic morning is chilly so these warm clothes are very welcome.

In addition to receiving a wheelchair (see story on p. 1), Luis Lopez Contreras was delighted to receive a reclining chair. In November, physical therapist Nanette Burnett learned that he didn’t have a chair to sit in at home where he could recline so his legs could relax. She talked to her husband, Mike, and they went on Craig’s List and found an almost new recliner chair and bought it for him. They talked with Luis’ mother the previous month to be sure she would have transportation for the chair in December. Doesn’t Luis look happy?

Adam Morena Valdez, age 10, lives in Nogales, Son. He selected a wooden boat from the table of wooden toys. Each year the Woodworkers of Green Valley make wooden toys for our children. They are beautifully crafted and painted.

We had dolls donated by the Tucson Doll Guild; Santa stockings filled with a toy, toothbrush and paste, and an orange; and teddy bears donated by students at Saints Peter & Paul School in Tucson. McDonald’s, Nogales, provided Happy Meals for all the patients and their parents.

In November, Arizona Hearing Specialists of Tucson and Green Valley (our audiologists on Clinic day) sponsored their 2nd Annual Donation Drive and collected clothes, toys, and non-perishable food. In December, tables were heaped with gifts for the patients.

Arizona Hearing Specialists also held a raffle at their Donation Drive and donated the funds to the Clinic. Angelina Cruse of the Green Valley office coordinated the Donation Drive. She also donated two bicycles for small children who are patients in the Audiology Department.

Ximena Peña, age 4½, was one of the bicycle recipients. She had been asking her mother for a bicycle.

Ximena has been wearing one hearing aid. She has a mold in her left ear for another hearing aid to be made. She lives in Puerto Peñasco, Son.
Patients Need Different Services

Dr. John Cobb fits a hearing aid for a patient in the **Audiology Department**. The patient is Mariany Gracia, age 8, who lives in Nogales, Son.

Occupational Therapist Marsha Klein works in the **Nutrition Department**. Her specialty is feeding problems. She teaches parents a better way to get food and drink into children who cannot eat solid food or who have difficulty swallowing. Here she shows father, José Allela, how to sit his daughter up straight so she can digest her food better. She also shows him how to use a one-sided special cup.

José’s daughter is Fernanda, age 8. She has cerebral palsy and is very spastic. This makes eating difficult. She cannot walk or speak. José is very patient with her.

**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

Jesús Sebastian Markez, age 11, lives in Hermosillo, Son. He doesn’t walk and rides in a special stroller. He is a patient in the Orthopedics and Vision Departments.

Hania and Jesús are examples of many of the children we see who have multiple needs. In our clinic, it is possible to see more than one medical specialist during a visit. The specialists like being able to walk down the hall to consult with a doctor or therapist about a patient.

Hania Yareni Parez Layva (center column) lives in Nogales, Son. She too is a patient in the Orthopedics Department. But, she also has hearing loss and wears hearing aids. She is a patient in the Audiology Department.

Dario de Jesús Millanes Laguna is 6 years old. He is a patient in the Orthopedics Department. Dario lives in Huatabampo, Son. which is a nine-hour drive, one-way, to The Clinic. We have many patients who travel a long way to reach us. It is the only way they can get the care they need.

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.”
Fitzsimmons and Friends Help Children Who Can’t Speak

Vicki Fitzsimmons and Friends will once again present a voice recital to raise money for the Speech and Language Therapy Department. The recital will be Sunday, April 14 at 2:30 p.m. The location is the Parish Hall of St. Francis-in-the-Valley Episcopal Church, 601 S. La Cañada, Green Valley, AZ.

Vicki plans to sing some of her favorite religious songs, most or all in Latin. Following an intermission, she will perform songs made popular by present-day women singers.

Lorna Larsen will accompany Vicki on the piano. Steve Ferreira is the invited guest and will play flute solos. Reception and refreshments follow. The recital is free, but donations will be accepted to purchase speech communication devices for children who cannot speak.

Vicki has held several recitals over the past few years resulting in speech communication devices for several children. With new technology, some children will be able to use a less expensive option. We have found software to load onto an I-Pad that works the same as the SpringBoard Communication devices we have been purchasing. We always have children on a waiting list for devices so this year’s recital will be able to meet more of the need.

Vicki explains, “I didn’t talk until I was 4 years old. I communicated with motions and slurred sounds. My mother took me to the doctor to find out what was wrong; I was tongue-tied. The doctor clipped the membrane holding down my tongue, and I began talking in paragraphs. That’s all that was holding me back. But these children don’t have such a simple solution. I love to sing so I have put my talent to work raising money so they can communicate. It’s my way of giving back to them.”

AAUW Kicks Off New Sack Meal Program

As we have mentioned before, some of our patients travel a long way to and from our clinic. We feed them a snack early in the morning and lunch later. Many are at The Clinic most of the day while they see more than one medical specialist.

Then, they have to ride home, probably on public transportation, and probably for several hours.

The Green Valley AAUW chapter is kicking off a new sack meal program at the January Clinic. They are providing the initial funding and will assemble the sack meals the day before Clinic. The meal will consist of a sandwich, fruit, and juice. Donations for this program are welcome. Please note “for sack meals” on your check.

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.
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, 97% goes to direct patient care.