



# Annual Report

## Special points of interest:

- Shared Beat & Safe Passage commit to wellness
- The glasses program takes off!
- Shared Beat supplies aid impoverished in San Antonio, Texas, Honduras, Russia, Africa & Guatemala
- Volunteers donate over 4000 hours in 2007!
- Can't find a special gift for that person who has everything? Why not give the gift of wellness to those in need! See page 6 for details.

## A New Commitment To Health And Wellness

Four years ago, on a flight from Guatemala City to Houston, my husband and I sat beside a US Embassy employee whose wife volunteered at Safe Passage.

For the next 2 ½ hours, he lovingly described a project in the heart of one of the poorest areas of Guatemala, a vision my husband and I could not shake from our thoughts.

Over the next 2 years I visited the project with friends and family to see what we could do to help. As a group of healthcare related personnel and professionals, we decided to form a nonprofit, Shared Beat, to assist with healthcare, wellness and prevention issues to supplement the established Bayer Clinic within the project. In November, Shared Beat completed its 3<sup>rd</sup> medical outreach clinic to the children, families and community of Safe Passage. During those 3 clinics our groups of volunteers provided care to over 1200 medical & 300 dental patients, provided glasses to 100+



students and adults, taught health education classes, initiated health records for the students and provided needed medications and supplies to the clinic.

At the conclusion of the most recent trip, Shared Beat and Camino Seguro administrators set in motion a plan for Shared Beat to cooperatively coordinate the healthcare portion of the project.

Shared Beat will:

- Provide annual physical, dental & visual screens to all students
- Provide health records for all students and staff

- Coordinate all healthcare groups activities to the project
- Provide needed glasses, supplies and medications in conjunction with Bayer
- Provide Health Education modules for teaching
- Mentor students interested in healthcare careers and provide scholarship opportunities

If you would like to help:

- Provide supplies and/or medications
- Donate scholarship money for students interested in healthcare careers
- Participate in a medical outreach trip

Please contact us!

Jenny Hartsell

830 336 4508

info@sharedbeat.org

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### Shared Beat August 2007 Medical Outreach Team & The Mothers Club of Safe Passage

The Mothers Club meets every Saturday, at Safe Passage school in Guatemala City, where they learn life skills through outside speakers and hands-on activities. To learn more about Safe Passage visit [www.safeassage.org](http://www.safeassage.org)

Volunteers Pictured:

Joanne Covarubius, Vianca Gutierrez, Kimberley Henderson, Lisa Pinina, Marie Berkenkamp, Scott Lawler, Bob Wilson, Torri Wilson,

Photographs in this Report were contributed by volunteer photographer, Don Bisett as well as volunteers Mary Jackson and Bob Wilson

# Annual Report

## A Volunteers Story



"There was what looked like a tornado of black buzzards ... symbolizing rot, disease and death"



"The images of people wading through...waste is appalling."



"...would you do what it takes to save a life?"



Visual screening starts young



Safe Passage student shows off his new "Harry Potter" style glasses

As a new participant with Shared Beat, I was asked if I would share my thoughts about my experience in Guatemala this November. Simply said, it was a life changing experience for me. If you're reading this article chances are you're familiar with Shared Beat, or have been a part of its incredible mission.

Making the decision to participate was actually a last minute decision for me. Outside of my family and employer, I really didn't tell anyone that I was going. Upon returning, the question I was asked most by my friends and colleagues, was "why did you go?" Had I been asked prior to going, I would've said adventure, experience and service; asked today, my reply is "I can't imagine not going again."

As we approach the holiday season, I can surely say that I truly have a lot to be thankful for. My previous experiences with poverty include getting lost on the wrong side of town in San Antonio, and shopping in Progreso, Mexico (which is a short drive from my Rio Grande Valley home). Nothing could have prepared me for the level of extreme poverty that I bared witness to. I still remember the first day I saw the dump from a distance. There was what looked like a tornado of black buzzards circling over it -symbolizing rot,

disease and death. The images of people in the dump, wading through residential, industrial, biohazardous and chemical waste is appalling. They wade through the trash for scraps of food, items that can be sold for recycling, as well as general needs items like clothes and shoes. I will never forget seeing all the hands raised up towards the dump trucks bringing as they deposited. I could write pages about how this experience disrupted and changed my ethnocentric view of the third world, but to do so would be untrue to what I feel a passion to speak about: the need for this program to continue and flourish in years to come.

Safe Passage, the program started by Hanley Denning, was created to provide assistance to the children of the Guatemala City garbage dump. They provide an avenue for children to attend public school for half a day, and then attend their center for educational reinforcement. Although there is a school nurse that staffs the center, the resources are limited, and many children go untreated for a myriad of preventable diseases. The makeshift clinic set up by Shared Beat and its volunteers allowed for children, family members, and members of the surrounding community to undergo medical screenings for their untreated ailments. The volunteer

staff was able to compassionately treat many of the patients with treatments that aren't available to them because of price and accessibility. Something as simple as an antibiotic has the potential of changing the course of the life of an infant; giving glasses to a child has the ability to change their learning potential and future.

We are all human. Regardless of race, nationality, age, education, socioeconomic status... we are all people with a basic desire to live and be happy. With the superfluous luxury that we live in as Americans it's not necessarily incumbent on us to travel to other parts of the world and give to others, but it's the right thing to do in consideration that sharing your talents, abilities, and generosity can change the outcome of one life... of many lives. So where do you the reader stand? Given the choice, would you do what it takes to save a life? Beyond being immensely gratifying and rewarding, the impact that is left on the lives of children and the community is a legacy that may never be recognized, but one that will live in the heart of a child.

Luis Sanchez



## Glasses

In November 2007, we were able to fit over 76 children and adults with glasses and reading glasses. The gold rimmed "Harry Potter" style frames were not everyone's idea of high fashion, even in the dump, but opinions changed when they realized they could see.

Throughout the busy week, two people were particularly memorable. One, a little boy we fitted on the first day. His smile stretched across his face when he put on his new glasses, pointing to things he could now see in the distance. His hugs and quiet "Gracias" made

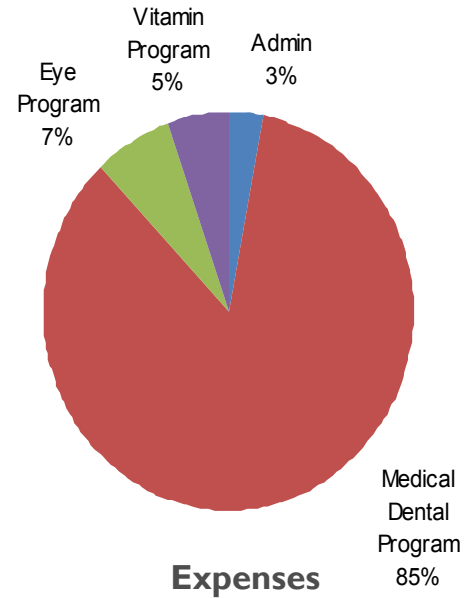
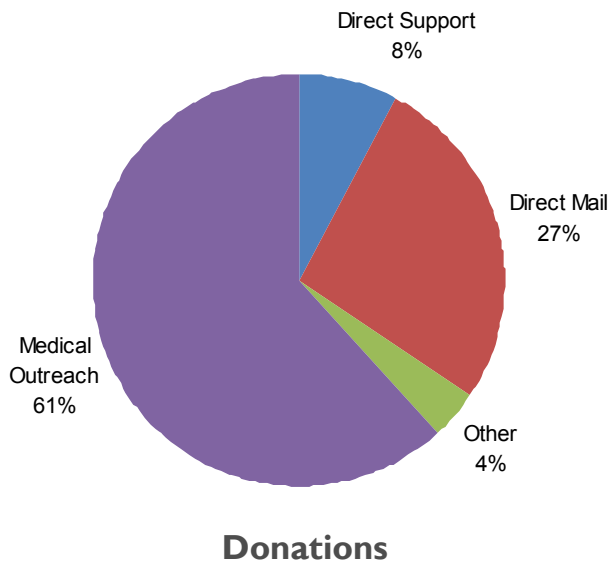
our day. Better yet, when we arrived the next morning, there he was, sitting on the steps, proudly wearing his new glasses.

The other was a tiny grandmother who was part of Safe Passage's Women's Literacy Group. She learned to read to help her grandchildren. Hunched over a child's chapter book, she tried on pair after pair of reading glasses until she found the perfect ones. Then, with a face full of gratitude, she circled the room and gave each of us a kiss, safely tucking her glasses in her apron.



We were able to help the eyes of 76 people that week, but in the end, it was our eyes that were opened. They were opened to the reality of their daily life, their challenges and their hopes.

By Torri Wilson



Don't forget to visit us on the web! [www.sharedbeat.org](http://www.sharedbeat.org)

Clinic Data

Medical Clinic Data 2007			
Patients	Diagnosis	Total	Total
Medical	Physical Exams		855
	Well Child	315	
	Respiratory	152	
	Dermatology	135	
	Ear/Nose/Throat	79	
	Infectious Diseases	72	
	Gastrointestinal	64	
	Musculoskeletal	58	
	Head & Neck	34	
	Gynecological	27	
	Eye	20	
	Renal	17	
	Endocrine	14	
	Cardiac	12	
	Blood	4	
	Weight Issues	4	
	Neurological	3	
	Mental Health	2	
	Other	10	

Dental		
Screening		152
Good Oral Health	66	
Extractions	28	
Decay & Carries	89	
Other	15	

Visual Clinic		
Screening		477
Glasses	72	
Readers	36	
Sunglasses	145	

Lab Test/ X-ray/ Prescriptions	
Lab	152
X-ray	12
CAT Scan	1
Prescriptions	1092

**Supply and Medication Donations to Safe Passage \$48,000+**





## Level 5

Don & Billie Bisett  
 Dr Marie Berkenkamp  
 Jack & Cala Coleman  
 Danny & Tiffany Ferry  
 Dr & Mrs. Wright Hartsell  
 Kimberley Henderson  
 Mary & Bur\* Jackson  
 Kirby Dental Center  
 John Masaryk  
 George & Melinda Reeves  
 Dr & Mrs. John Watson  
 Rick & Vickie White  
 Dr & Mrs. Robert Wilson

## Level 4

Ronald & Laura Amoretti  
 Anonymous  
 Karen Calle  
 Polly & Bruce Davenport  
 Donna Hesterlee/D'Ann Pinina  
 Richard Keasler  
 Anne Keating  
 Rene & Eleanor Lopez  
 Alicia Nieto  
 Karen & Ernest Olguin  
 Phillip Morris USA  
 Pamela Ramos  
 Richard Redding, DDS  
 Luis Sanchez

## Level 3

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 Brian & Julia Bates  
 Dean & Audrey Bearden  
 Jim & Willie Beaver  
 Donette Bisett  
 David & Terry Bisett  
 Doug Britton, DDS  
 Bettie Burton & Ed Sypniewski  
 Kyle Daughtry

Martha Eury  
 Beverly Burris  
 Cesar & Olga Carias  
 Dr & Mrs. David B Crosland  
 Beth & James Darnell  
 Pat & Larry Decator  
 Walter Drury  
 Don & Lori Enders  
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 Gary & Tory Hendry  
 C & P Hile  
 Stephanie & Terry Hodges  
 Chris & Cheryl Howard  
 Alice Keasler  
 Mike Kelly  
 Angie & Billie Lemmons  
 Dr & Mrs. Rick Mendelssohn  
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 Buddy & Kristen Matthews  
 Tina Mayle  
 Dr & Mrs. Tom McNish  
 Nancy Meadows  
 George Metz , DDS  
 Bob & Missy Mials  
 Carlos Morris  
 Dr & Mrs. Steve Murray  
 Carla & Mac Northington  
 Vickie Quintanilla  
 Vincent & Vicki Panella  
 Dr Margie Peters  
 David & Janet Piwonka  
 Abraham Zaer-Rafie  
 Amy Richards  
 Kris Ritticher  
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 Carl Rush  
 Marilou & Carlos Saguillo  
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 Richard & Stephanie Shaffer  
 Robert & Sarah Shaw  
 M Soechting  
 Ray Sprayberry, DDS  
 James & Linda Stafford  
 Richard & Yolanda Swope  
 Linda Tingle  
 Gerardo & Rosa Valenzuela  
 Tom & Elizabeth Walsh  
 Connie Widenhouse  
 Angie Williams, MD &  
 Royce Calhoun

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 Carolyn Beaver  
 Kenard Bisett  
 Tony & Carla Canty  
 Ginger Clark  
 John & Kay Clifton  
 Bif & Suzie Coleman  
 Jean East  
 Julie & Ken Evans  
 Eric Falk  
 Jane Goles  
 Beth Guthrie  
 Linda & Tad Hampton  
 Jeff & Suzette Harris  
 Michael & Susan Harris  
 Alex & Gretchen Huddleston  
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 Joel Rodriguez  
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 Benny Rush  
 Lila Schadler  
 Forrest & Ingrid Smith  
 M Soechting  
 Dale & Helen Stein  
 Becky Stephens  
 Barbara Swanson  
 Regi Vriesenga  
 Joyce & Col EY Walker  
 Geoff & Martha Weiss  
 Laura White

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Letty Alarcon  
 Cheryl Atherton  
 Todd Baribault  
 Joel Berry  
 Mary Cashiola  
 Ruben & Lamar Duarte  
 Kevin & Judy Evachewski  
 Dr Robert Frolichstein  
 Justice At The Gate  
 Mary Alice Gonzalez  
 Ruben Gutierrez  
 Anne Horejsi  
 Clara Lively  
 Paula Montanaro  
 Mary Moorman  
 Brittini Petty  
 J Rabe  
 Dr Michael Richard  
 Dr Steve Shroyer  
 Katie Small  
 Sally Strycker  
 Gary & Wendy Long

## Special Thanks

Methodist Healthcare Systems  
 Bob Black– John Dental  
 Doug Britton, DDS  
 Dietz McLean Optical  
 Ken & Ginny Frederick  
 Kirby Dental  
 Medaphase, Inc  
 Jairo Melo, MD  
 Methodist Print shop

Safe passage  
 Maegan Short  
 Forrest Smith  
 Maribel Solis  
 Cindy Terry, RN  
 Michael Wooley, MD  
 South Texas Hem/Onc  
 Wexford Labs



## Our Friends

Apple Specialty Advertising  
 Equipping the Saints  
 Eye Deal Eyewear  
 Globalemed/Medpharm  
 InFocus  
 La Pina Del Sol Antigua, Guatemala  
 Lazos Fuertes Hotel Antigua, Guatemala  
 Savedirect.Rx.com  
 Vine international



## Guatemalan Health Fair

Shared Beat's 1st Health Fair was held at Safe Passage in Guatemala City on Saturday, November 10th. The Fair was opened to the community with booths including:

*Physician Consultations  
Blood Pressure & Glucose Check  
Prenatal & Early Childcare  
Cancer Prevention  
Healthy Eats  
Dental Care  
Hygiene, Safety & First Aid*

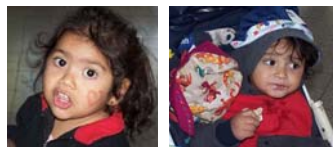
Spanish health and wellness literature was available at the booths along with volunteers to answer questions. Games & a piñata filled with healthy treats livened up the morning. Thanks to the generosity of our Health Fair donors, over 200 community participants received hygiene & dental items, caps, sunglasses, reading glasses, first aid kits and vitamins.



*Cala Coleman and Barbara Swanson hand out healthy treats*



*Pinata Fun!*



### Health Fair Donors

Ceila Aviles  
Jeff Beal  
Marie Berkenkamp  
Don Bisett  
Diane & Ross Bowen  
Kelly Burns  
Karen Calle  
Cala & Jack Coleman  
Linda & James Dunn  
Sharon Ferguson  
Jeannie Flores  
Girl Scout Troop 298  
Jane Goles  
Dr Goodson  
Helena Goodyear  
Vianca Gutierrez  
Jenny Hartsell  
Merry Hill  
Mary & Bur\* Jackson  
JC Branding  
Crystal Jeffers  
Christy Koronczok  
Wendy Long  
John Masaryk  
Snick & Laura Meyers  
Dr Stephen Miller  
Barbara Owens  
Trish Ramsey  
Grace Richter  
Kristen Scheller  
Kit Smart  
Kara Strutz  
Barbra Swanson  
Mary J& David Tasker  
Cindy Taylor  
Cindy Terry  
Rosa Valenzuela  
Anne Washburn  
Rick & Vickie White  
Torri Wilson  
Karri Zumwalt



*Volunteer Luis Sanchez plays games with Health Fair participants. The prize— a pineapple!*



*John Masaryk & Karen Calle, check blood pressures at the fair.*

## Bright Ideas Daycare Helps The Eye Team!



*Shared Beat volunteers, Marie Berkenkamp & Jenny Hartsell visit Bright Ideas students to share information about the glasses clinic and give a little geography lesson.*

The purchase of a hand-held focometer made the dream of providing glasses for the children of Safe Passage a reality. The focometer is the size of a camera lens and after an exam can determine a person's prescription. The device was developed by InFocus, a nonprofit eye ministry in Houston. To learn more about the focometer and InFocus visit [www.infocus.org](http://www.infocus.org) After purchasing the focometer,

Shared Beat volunteers Torri Wilson, Scott Lawler & Jenny Hartsell enlisted the help of Anna Marie Gerard's kinder class from Bright Ideas Learning Center, San Antonio, Texas. The students helped volunteers with the fine art of performing eye exams on children. The practice run with Anna Marie's class proved to be both challenging and a great help for the upcoming trip.

**Thanks Bright Ideas students!**



*A reason to smile!*

## 2007 Supply Donations

- Donated 2000+ pounds of medications and medical and school supplies to Safe Passage in Guatemala City, Guatemala
- Supplied 550 Safe Passage school children with a years worth of vitamins and anti-parasite medication
- Contributed 25 boxes of supplies to Medisend, a nonprofit sending needed supplies all over the world

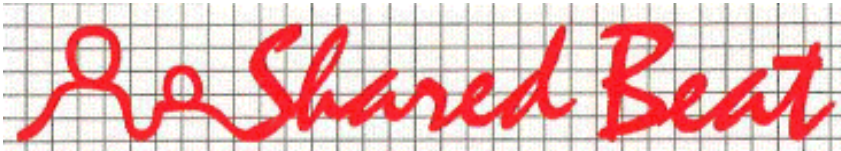
- Provided 150 First Aid Kits and hygiene supplies to the San Antonio chapter of StandUp For Kids, a national organization assisting runaways and street children.
- Provided Refuge International, a nonprofit group healthcare group, with 1000+ pounds of healthcare supplies. for medical outreach to Guatemala & Africa.

- Donated clinic supplies to: - Life Church , Edmond Oklahoma for a healthcare mission to Honduras
- Cibolo Creek Community Church, Boerne, Texas for health care missions to Mexico & Africa
- Agape Ministries, Raleigh, NC for a healthcare mission to Russia

To donate supplies, contact us: [info@sharedbeat.org](mailto:info@sharedbeat.org)  
830 336 4508



*Shared Beat volunteers made 550 "Be Healthy" Valentine cards for the students of Safe Passage*



Visit Shared Beat on the web- [www.sharedbeat.org](http://www.sharedbeat.org)

101 Greystone Circle Boerne, Texas 78006  
830 336 4508 830 336 4509 Fax info@sharedbeat.org



November 2007 Volunteers: Vianca Gutierrez, Rosa Valenzuela, Marie Berkenkamp, Linda Dunn, Don Bisett, Torri Wilson, Karen Calle, Jeannie Flores, Luis Sanchez, Jack Coleman, Cala Coleman, Mary Jackson, Anne Keating, Jenny Hartsell, James Dunn, Jeff Beal, Barbra Swanson, John Masaryk, Wright Hartsell

Shared Beat is a 501(c)(3) volunteer organization providing basic healthcare & wellness education to children and families in impoverished areas.

Shared Beat Board of Directors

- Jenny Hartsell, President
- Jeff Beal, Vice President
- Torri Wilson, Secretary
- Rick White, Treasurer
- Marie Berkenkamp
- Wright Hartsell
- Scott Lawler

Our board of directors are volunteers for direction of the mission as well as volunteers in the field.

## Volunteers

Shared Beat is an all volunteer organization. There are no salaried administrative staff or board members. Medical trip volunteers cover their own travel and lodging expenses. Shared Beat depends upon the generosity of the time and expertise of our volunteers.

**This year, our volunteers gave over 4000 service hours for those less fortunate!**

**Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers for giving of your time, money and hearts!**

If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer, or sponsoring a volunteer give us a call or send us an e-mail: 830 336 4508

info@sharedbeat.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

### Student Volunteers

This year Shared Beat student volunteers helped pack, sort & count medical supplies. Thanks to our students for helping out!

- Hayley Amoretti      Emily Hartsell
- Jeremy Hartsell      Dillon Lawler
- Amber Schlodoer      Jessica Wilson

Contact us if you'd like to be a student volunteer or know a group who needs a service project.



Lifetime friends, James Dunn & Jack Coleman work together checking heights, weights and temperatures on the children during the November 2007 clinic.



### Make a difference this holiday season.

Give a donation in honor of a friend or family. Shared Beat will send them a Christmas card acknowledging the gift and you receive a tax deduction!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Honoree/ Address of Family for Memorial Gift

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Mail To: Shared Beat 101 Greystone Circle Boerne, Texas 78006

All donations are tax-deductible and will be used to aid Shared Beat Health Care Programs

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_