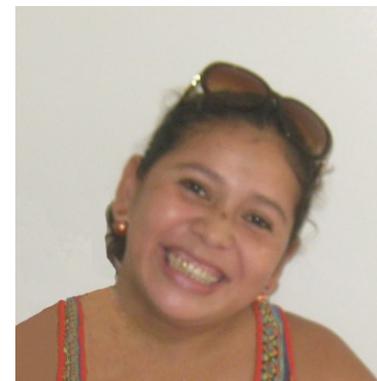


CAROLINA HONDURAS HEALTH FOUNDATION

Newsletter – September 28, 2016



Community Development Program - In July CHHF hired Gladis Aquiriano as a part-time Community Development Coordinator. Born and raised in the area, Gladis received a USAID scholarship and attended Modesto Community College in California; she is a dynamic young woman, fluent in English. One of her first projects was to bring together diverse community leaders to volunteer their time in working with CHHF to establish health education programs desired by the people of the area. Members of the committee include leaders from churches, the school system, and the government medical clinic. The ultimate goal is to reduce the frequency of illnesses seen regularly at the clinic and to improve the general health of the population.



Health Fair – August 2016

This volunteer committee was asked to provide input into topics of interest as the government health clinic planned a health fair to which people throughout the community were invited. Topics decided upon were teen pregnancy prevention, control of hypertension and diabetes, elimination of parasite problems, and immunization. Our committee of volunteers also assisted during the day of the event, August 20. In addition to medical and immunization clinics and health discussion, attendees were offered haircuts, manicures, pedicures, and children were provided with games and outdoor activities. Well-attended, the health fair was an opportunity for increasing awareness of personal involvement in resolving health issues.

Sadie's Story - Two years ago a team from Alabama met young Sadie Angelina at the Whispering Hope Clinic. As she came in with her mother, volunteers realized she had cerebral palsy. Volunteer Taylor Rowe spent time getting to know Sadie; a bond of friendship was developed. The next time Sadie was seen she had a Personal Energy Transport (PET) to help her get around. This year Taylor was on the Bowie team, saw Sadie, and reconnected with her. A few weeks later, volunteer Chuck Cordell was at Whispering Hope with the Altman team. He had the opportunity to visit Sadie in her home. Upon return home, the Altman team investigated the possibility of obtaining an adult PET for Sadie since she has outgrown the child's one. AHMEN (Alabama Honduras Medical Education Network) has agreed to donate a PET which will be delivered to Sadie by an October CHHF team.



Chuck Cordell with Sadie



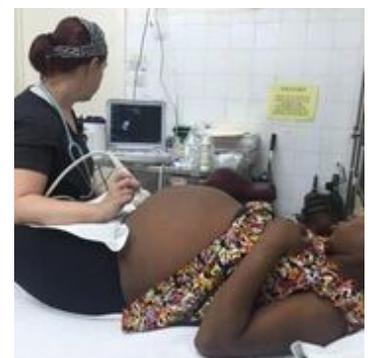
A Partner In Medical Care - Sadie is only one of the lives touched by volunteers on our teams. Our doctors send information about patients needing plastic surgery to the Medical Referral Coordinator. After coordination with Dr. Gordon Robinson (Alabama), patients are added to his schedule. At the Coyoles (Honduras) Hospital this month, Dr. Robinson saw several referrals from our clinics. (Photo: Dr. Robinson with patient Jose Daniel) Dr. Robinson provides all medical care without charge; CHHF assists the family with transportation funds when needed. Many of the referrals to Dr. Robinson are cleft lip and/or cleft palate. In the last 5 years, Dr. Robinson has seen 15 patients referred by CHHF; the surgical reconstruction of malformations requires repeat procedures so that patients see him once or twice a year for several years. The medical care he provides is life-altering.

Volunteer Focus - Pharmacist John Goodrich - Volunteering at our clinic is both rewarding and exhausting. Every team member is busy, but the pharmacist begins about 15 minutes after the first patient has been seen and continues non-stop all day, being the last to complete his work. For each patient seen, the pharmacist usually will fill more than 3 prescriptions. The day's work is accomplished on one's feet, moving from shelf to counter, counting and labeling, and proceeding to the next prescription. When the team goes to remote clinics, the strain on the whole body doubles because of the make-shift set-up for dispensing the needed medicines.



John Goodrich has volunteered in our pharmacy 16 times since 1999. He designed the cabinets and shelving in the first pharmacy and has been instrumental in maintaining a pharmacy that functions well and can be quickly understood by those pharmacists new to the clinic who have only a few hours to acclimate themselves for the coming work week. In addition to volunteering in the pharmacy, John has assisted with fund-raising, seeking donations from his church, his friends, and local businesses, encouraging each to become supporters of our mission. CHHF expresses appreciation to John as he reflects on his many mission trips to Honduras.

A Few Recent Team Photos - Always when teams are hosting medical clinics, patients must wait in significant lines. And they never complain. Teams see many children; knowing that there is no such thing in Honduras as a well-check, many providers spend extra effort in evaluation of the child's overall health. Several teams have taken a portable ultrasound unit. Expectant mothers have appreciated the opportunity to know that the baby is developing normally and to know the gender of the baby.



Words cannot express our thanks to volunteers who use their vacation and pay their expenses to serve this need in Honduras. Yet, beyond this volunteer service, CHHF spends over \$136,000 annually in order to provide medical care at our clinics. The health care we offer and programs such as the Medical Referral Program, the Community Development Program and the Education Program are changing lives. Your donation today means that you are joining with us in making a difference in the lives of those in Honduras who need a helping hand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. K. Hook, Jr.".

N. K. Hook, Jr.
President