

**2010 Podiatry Institute Medical Mission trip:
Zacatecoluca, El Salvador
May 1 – 8, 2010
Led by Todd Gunzy DPM, founded 1992**

Podiatry Institute members:

**Luke Cicchinelli
Todd Haddon
Todd Gunzy
Donald Powell**

Having taken an 18 month hiatus, the 25 member team titled "Small Steps" arrived in San Salvador on May 1st. The mayor of Zacatecoluca donated a full length service bus for transportation of the team



from hotel to hospital each day. The following day was set aside to medically screen 116 children. A total of 33 patients were selected prioritized according to deformity severity. The turn-out was great, unfortunately, ten patients had to be placed on a "wait list" for our return May 2011 as we could not accommodate the number of surgical patients we saw. We were fortunate to be able to evaluate patients from our previous mission 18 months prior, some came for simple check-ups, others presented to have the contralateral extremity operated on. All in all, the success of these surgeries provides a better forecast

for each child's future, the ability to ambulate without pain, run and even work productively in the distant future.

The prosthetics sub-division of this team saw and treated approximately 80 patients during the week. These non-operative patients were fitted with AFO's or orthosis and post operative patients with corrective AFO to be used mainly as nighttime splintage for one year following surgery.

The hand sub-division of this team treated 8 patients surgically mainly for flexor contractures of the wrist and fingers and triaged another 10 patients in the emergency room for a multitude of wrist and elbow fractures with mainly closed reduction being performed.

All follow-up care is performed by local orthopedists.

The team would like to thank all sponsors and participants for their assistance, especially Healing the Children Chapter of Greater Philadelphia, Cuscutlan Rotary, and The Podiatry Institute.



The next medical mission for this team is slated for May 14 - 21, 2011.



