

SUMMARY REPORT

Small Steps Healing the Children and Podiatry Institute Medical Mission Trip

**San Salvador, El Salvador
September 22-30 2018**

This year on the annual medical mission trip to San Salvador a momentous occasion was celebrated as the Small Steps Medical Mission team working in conjunction with the Podiatry Institute and Healing the Children celebrated its 25th anniversary. The initial flagship trip by this team was made in 1993 to Guatemala.

Over 150 children were screened with 43 surgeries performed by a medical team of all volunteers. The team included an Orthopedic Surgeon, DPM's from Spain and across the US as well as podiatry residents, CRNA's, nurses, prosthetists/orthotists, scrub techs and translators. We are so very grateful for the selflessness expressed through the hard working and never quit attitude from all the volunteers. The four days were spent screening patients, providing the opportunity to provide surgery, providing orthotics and assistance to these

children and families who were all incredibly grateful. Patients were seen that had multiple deformities including polydactyly, clubfoot, over-corrected clubfoot, spastic equinus among them. All follow up care will be provided by a local Orthopedic Surgeon at the Military Hospital in San Salvador.



This year as part of the 25th anniversary celebration an equal amount of surgeries were performed in one fewer day in order for all the volunteers to take a siesta in Guatemala and return to where the Small Steps Healing the Children project first began. It was an opportunity to take in the culture and enjoy being in some of the most beautiful country in the world, with gorgeous landscapes and colorful native clothing.

We would also like to thank the Cuscatlan Rotary Club and the Military Hospital of El Salvador for their exceptional help and assistance in making sure the volunteers were well provided for and very well fed. MedShare as well as hospitals and private organizations in Arizona, Georgia and Pennsylvania assisted in donating the equipment needed to make this mission a success.

Podiatry Institute Faculty Members

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