

2013 Mission Destinations...

Cambodia

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Gambia

Ghana

Guatemala

Gueni-Bissau

Haiti

Honduras

India

Mexico

Myanmar

Nepal

Panama

Peru

Philippines

Sierra Leone

Uganda



CHILDREN'S LIFELINE INT'L®

SUMMER 2013

WWW.CHILDRENS-LIFELINE.ORG



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

June 2013

Upcoming Events

"Day at the Races"
Sunday, August 11th
Del Mar Thoroughbred Club

"It's a Wonderful World"
Lifeline Gala
Park Hyatt Aviara Resort

Check us out...on the WEB

In the fall of 2012 Children's Lifeline initiated a fresh, new website. The majority of visitors have been from the U.S. and Canada. Numerous visitors from other countries have also viewed the site including; Japan, Germany, Australia, UK, and India. The interactive Google world map allows you to see where the missions take place and identifies the local host hospitals. Our "Contact" page gives you a way to stay in touch through email and please sign up for receiving electronic newsletters. Under the "News" link, current and past newsletters are available. On our "Get Involved" page, there are several ways you can support Lifeline. If you have not visited, please accept this as an invitation to stop by.

(www.childrens-lifeline.org)

We are anticipating your visit...

Dear Friends of Lifeline;

Spring is a time of renewal. The sun shines longer, flowers bloom, and we have a sense of newness in our lives. Since our last newsletter, more children were helped, bringing them a new beginning. The story of Chea on the opposite page is a prime example. Spring, summer, winter or fall Lifeline's missions have brought 'new beginnings' to children around the world.

In March, we organized our first cardiac mission to India. Dr. Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, from the University of San Diego Cardiovascular Center led the mission. The team performed cardiac surgeries, catheterizations and electrophysiological implants. The Sri SathyaSai Institute of Higher Medical Science Hospital in Bengaluru, India, hosted the team. The Medtronic and Biotronik companies generously donated the 10 pacemakers and 3 defibrillators.

Lifeline's mission is to heal and teach. The task of training the resident doctors and nurses at the host countries' hospital is emphasized with each mission and is enhanced through repeat visits. Most recently, our missions to Cambodia & Ecuador proved that the educational process is working. The local physicians, in both Instances, were able to take the lead in the operating room with the assistance of the Lifeline team. (Stories on page 6 & 7)

On a sad note, we are sorry to inform you that in April we lost a board member and longtime friend, Teddy Solomon. Teddy and I became friends and partners in the theatre business throughout the south and southwest. Please read his obituary in this issue. (page 7)

Our Annual "Day at the Races" is scheduled for August 11th at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club. Last year's event was extremely successful and fun. We are looking forward to another success this year. We would like to see as many of you as we can but if you cannot attend, we trust you will continue to support us. Your donations make it possible for us to continue to send doctors throughout the world. In thirty years, we have helped over 180,000 children. The doctors and nurses donate their time and services but need our assistance with funds for travel, lodging, equipment, medicines, and post-surgical care. We hope our medical missions can receive your support. ***Giving a child a new beginning is only possible with your help.***

Sincerely,



Salah Hassanein



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Good Bye Teddy
Mission Statement

CHEA'S STORY



Networking within the non-profit sphere is necessary to achieve goals, this is especially true when it comes to addressing human suffering. The following organizations were involved in saving the life of a seven-year-old Cambodian boy, named Chea: Children's Lifeline International

(CLI), The Australia Cardiac Team (OOH), Rady Children's Hospital / UCSD, Angkor Children's Hospital (ACH), Cambodia Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Women's Crisis Center, Cambodia, Children's Heart Center of Las Vegas. The CLI Team faced a dilemma during its 8th mission to Angkor Hospital in Cambodia, when they reviewed the case of Chea. Chea is a charming seven-year old child, weighing less than 30 pounds, with very sad eyes and in dire need of medical surgery. Besides having a large hole in his heart, the team unexpectedly found a very abnormal mitral valve (the valve that permits blood flow from the left atrium to the left ventricle). Chea's valve abnormality caused a severe backward leaking of the blood. The mitral valve problem would make closing his ventricular septal defect (VSD) a much more dangerous and complicated operation. Not only would he need to have the VSD closed but the mitral valve would need to be repaired or replaced. The team would need a 'mitral ring' and since this was not discovered until they were in Cambodia, they did not have the equipment to perform such a serious procedure. Chea's suffering was heightened by the loss of both parents. Three years ago, a villager left him at the Women's Crisis Center. The women searched for an orphanage. His heart defect was discovered at an orphanage during a routine medical examination. The orphanages would not take Chea due to an overcrowded system and the severity of his health. The women turned to Angkor Children's Hospital for help. The primary cardiologist Dr. Lyda, made a deal with the orphanage – if his heart defect could be repaired they would take the child.



Story Continues on Page 7

INDIA STORY

During 2012, Salah Hassanein - Chairman of Children's Lifeline International, approached Dr. Ulrika Birgersdotter-Green, an electro physiologist at the University of California at San Diego,



about leading a team of doctors on a Lifeline mission to a "new" location. In March of this year, the medical team set off on their first Lifeline mission.

The destination was Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences (SSSIHMS). The Institute is a non-profit medical center in Bengaluru, India.

Dr. Green's medical team included; Dr. Uma Srivatsa – electro physiologist, Dr. Greg Feld – Electro physiologist, Dr. G. Victor Pretorius – Cardiac Surgeon, and Dave Robberson – electro physiologist Technician. The team was fortunate to receive generous donations of 10 pacemakers and 3 implantable cardioverter-defibrillators - from the Medtronic and Biotronik companies.

The first day at SSSIHMS was spent in the operating rooms and the catheterization lab where doctors from both countries spent time getting to know each other. The surgical staff at SSSIHMS had a critical need to learn from doctors who were highly trained to perform pacemaker and defibrillator implants and ablations. Even the junior cardiologists and trainees were able to participate in all procedures and trainings. The local doctors provided the CLI team with a "wish list" of lecture topics. The CLI team granted the wishes by providing a full day of lectures (Continuing Medical

Education credits) for the local physicians, cardiologists and nurses.



Story Continues on Page 4

INDA STORY COUNTINUED...

Throughout the week, the children received pacemakers, defibrillators, ablations or cardiac surgery. The children had lived with heart defects that impaired the quality of their lives and dimmed the prospect of longevity as their condition progressed adversely. Many of the children seemed nervous but generally had a positive attitude that came shining through their eyes and smiles. By the end of the week, the CLI doctors performed 35 procedures and established strong relationships with the local doctors providing the necessary groundwork for future visits.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

On behalf of Children's Lifeline, Dr. Robert Ross and Dr. Daniel



Turner started the New Year off by accomplishing two back-to-back missions. The first was a Pediatric Catheterization Mission (January 24 – 29th) followed

by a Pediatric Cardiac Surgical Mission (February 2 – 11th 2013) at CEDIMAT Hospital, Dominican Republic. Eleven operations were completed over four days. The need is great and the children's medical conditions are complex. Education continued for the CEDIMAT physicians and nurses in the areas of cardiology, anesthesia, catheterization and perfusion. There is still a need to recognize unusual findings, acute changes and practice with medical calculations. Young lives were saved thanks to the CLI team's participation.

UGANDA

On November 4, 2012 Lifeline and CardioStart International collaborated, for the first time, with the Uganda Heart Institute. The joint team was received by the Mulago Hospital in Kampala, Uganda.



Prior to the mission, a serious virus outbreak of Ebola affected the area surrounding the mission's destination. Before their departure, Salah Hassanein spoke with mission leader Doctor Aubyn Marath, expressing his concern. Dr. Marath did not hesitate to say that the mission would proceed as planned. The medical mission planning continued with a strong emphasis on universal precautions and an adjustment of outreach mission strategy.

The team performed one Tetralogy of Fallot heart surgery.

Unexpectedly, the expertise of the team was needed and utilized in the emergency room, which was overflowing with children requiring medical attention. Nurse J. Henson - mission coordinator stated, "We did not expect to get into the emergency room as much as we did but children were in dire need of our help and we had the needed equipment and pediatric staff." The team saved many lives that would have otherwise been lost. The mission will return to Kampala in early 2014.

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something, and I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

~Edward Everett Hale



MYANMAR

The Student Action Volunteer Effort (S.A.V.E.) left Santa Monica, California, for Myanmar in December of 2012 on a Lifeline clinical mission to give immediate medical aid to those less fortunate. Doctor Marna Geisler and Nancy Mansfield led the team, which included six students. They were joined by the local Myanmar Compassion Project, which also provides medical care in the region. The trip focused on bringing medical care to areas around Tachileik. Typical of most clinical missions, the team sets up on local community sites. They established 3 clinics, two at orphanages and one in a rural mountain village near Keng Tong. The children ranged in age from a few months to 18 years, one hundred and sixty-eight children were treated over the course of a week. The children received a month's supply of multivitamins, supplements and medications to combat malnutrition, anemia and parasitic worms. Tooth decay and cavities were a common condition and the team was lucky to have a medic that could perform basic dental work and extractions. The team distributed over 100 pairs of eyeglasses and basic hygiene products. In addition, the team arranged for several children to go to medical centers for treatment that could not be given in a clinic setting. S.A.V.E. also brought with them donations of clothes and toys to lift their spirits.

SIERRA LEONE



In the fall of 2012, Children's Lifeline supported Dr. Kevin White's first mission to medically treat children in a clinical setting. Dr. Neil Canby accompanied him to Sierra Leone. They provided care to 409 children in Bo, a small urban city and Myumba, a rural town. The team treated malaria, a multitude of parasitic diseases, fungal and skin conditions as well as non-tropical diseases such as pneumonia. In Myumba, a number of babies were treated for b strep sepsis with intravenous antibiotics. Lifeline doctors performed life-saving procedures on a 12-year-old boy that came to the clinic with a three-month-old fracture accompanied by an infected open wound. The team provided antibiotics, arranged transportation and financial aid to get the definitive surgical treatment he needed. Without such help,



the team felt the child would have certainly died. CLI's medical team worked with a local physician, nurse and healthcare providers. They were very grateful for the medical assistance and for the much-needed medical education. Dr. White noted, "The town elders expressed their gratitude...**they had begun to believe the world had forgotten about them, and now they know - 'others' do care.**"

CAMBODIA

Lifeline's Mission to Cambodia has successfully accomplished its 8th medical trip to Angkor Hospital for Children under the continued leadership of Dr. Paul Grossfeld. The Medical Team included representatives from: Rady Children's Hospital / UCSD School of Medicine, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and Children's Heart Center of Las Vegas. This year, all of the children were deemed high risk. The impossible became the possible with the medical expertise provided by Children's Lifeline. The team reported they had successfully completed fourteen complicated cases. The children ranged in age from 2 to 16, eight girls and six boys. Serious heart conditions were not the only commonality, many of the children came from miles away, many lacked two parents, and most families made less than a dollar a day. Mission Coordinator, Susan Grossfeld summarized the results: "The medical team performed an unprecedented three open-heart surgeries per day for the first three days, four closed heart procedures on the fourth day and finished the week with two more open-heart procedures." Susan also noted, the resident Cambodian surgeon of Angkor Hospital independently performed the last surgery and did so with confidence and great technique, as the US Lifeline team proudly assisted. **The Lifeline mission of creating medical sustainability is taking hold.**



GUATEMALA

In March of this year, Dr. Larry Nichter and his team journeyed to San Marcos, a small town 6 hours south of Guatemala City. San Marcos was the epicenter of a devastating earthquake in 2012.



The National Public Hospital was still severely damaged and the team chose to work out of the Hospital Privado Nazareth. The Lifeline/Plásticos team was hosted by Luis Fuentes, Attorney to the Governor of San Marcos.

Because Guatemala does not have a Plastic Reconstructive training program, it was necessary for the team to begin a dialogue with the local surgeons about creating one. The focus was on setting up the infrastructure for an "incubator program" where surgeries on children with correctible deformities could be performed. They explored the idea of establishing a Social Reconstructive Surgical enterprise, completely owned and operated by the Guatemalans. This would help address the huge backlog of cleft and burned children. The Guatemalans would screen patients for future visits. The poorest and most needy patients, requiring complex surgeries, would be performed of by the Lifeline/Plásticos team.

Story Continues on Page 6

GUATEMALA STORY COUNTINUED...

The Team evaluated 30 patients. Four cases were chosen for their complexity, all required different surgical approaches and aided in training the local surgeons. The three pediatric cases included a cleft lip and nasal base reconstruction of a one and a half-year old infant, a burn contracture of the hand and fingers of a four-year-old and a severe burn reconstruction of the upper arm, chest and shoulder of an eight-year-old girl. All the procedures were successful.



In his report, Dr. Nichter stated: "Our goal was to have a more comprehensive view of San Marcos in particular and Guatemala in general so that the most impactful involvement of Plásticos Foundation and Children's Lifeline can be achieved with limited resources in the future." The children of Guatemala need your help. Donate to Lifeline so that the Social Reconstructive Surgical program can move forward.

MEXICO



In 2012, Lifeline arranged with Mercy Medical Center of Des Moines and Dr. Thomas Becker to bring 26 children to the United States for lifesaving cardiac surgery in order to correct congenital heart defects. Once again American Airlines donated the mileage necessary for the patients and guardian travel.

Doctors from Mercy travel to the Yucatan and evaluate children from the area using makeshift clinics and coordinate their care so that the children are able to travel to the United States for their surgery.

Dr. Becker, his staff and Mercy Hospital generously donate all of their healthcare services, including lodging and food for the child's guardian. Sometimes the child's stay can be as long as 3 weeks before they are able to return home.



ECUADOR

On October 26, 2012 the medical team from Penn State Children's Hospital of Hershey, Pennsylvania, traveled to Hospital de Niños in Guayaquil, Ecuador. This was their fourteenth mission to Ecuador, providing evaluations and treatment for children born with heart defects. The medical team was split in two groups that succeeded each other.

The two-team approach emphasizes the developing partnership with the local healthcare providers, allowing the teams to spend more time on teaching. The collaboration continues on many levels from the anesthesiologists, to the nurses, the clinicians in the intensive care, to the outpatient clinics and in the patient selection process.

The first team was led by pediatric cardiac surgeon Dr. John L. Myers and pediatric cardiologist Dr. Linda Pauliks. The second team was led by pediatric cardiac surgeon Dr. Brian Clark and pediatric cardiologist Dr. Stephan Cyran. All operations were carried out working hand to hand with local heart surgeons, Dr. Francis Landin and Dr. Darwin Zhungi. Dr. Edwin Rodriguez from Puerto Rico has also become an integral part of the mission's work. For the third consecutive year, Dr. Raul Perez from Cali, Columbia, volunteered for the mission. Having Dr. Perez on the team provided a valuable bridge between the US doctors and the physicians at Hospital de Niños.

The cardiology team evaluated 78 surgical candidates, performed over 200 echocardiograms and provided 22 inpatient consultations. Twenty-seven patients were able to receive open-heart surgeries. The team worked closely with the Ecuadorian physicians allowing ample time for procedures and teaching. The Hospital de Niños' surgeons carried out one-third of the operations. The Ecuadorian team now has the technology and expertise to perform open-heart procedures. Lifeline's goal of creating a sustainable medical environment is being realized. Regarding the mission, Dr. Myers wrote, "Once again, we thank the Children's Lifeline Program for their continued support of our missions. With your help the children and their families are given hope where there was none. We are honored to be a part of this project."



DON'T MISS OUT "DAY AT THE RACES" DEL MAR RACE TRACK
AUGUST 11TH SUMMER IS NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT IT!



SILENT & LIVE AUCTION



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE AN ITEM FOR AUCTION
PLEASE GIVE US A CALL AT 858.509.9445

MISSION STATEMENT

Children's Lifeline provides medical teams and surgical assistance to underprivileged children in developing countries.

Multidisciplinary voluntary missions in partnership with local hospitals are vital for these countries to achieve independence and become self sustaining.

CHEA'S STORY COUNTINUED...

After considerable discussion, the CLI team decided to appeal to the Australian cardiac team - Operation Open Heart (OOH) scheduled to arrive at ACH the following month. CLI provided a detailed and comprehensive medical evaluation of their pre-op findings. OOH Australia stated, "Of course we want to help this boy!...We will begin sourcing a mitral ring immediately." The mitral ring was secured. The CLI team was overjoyed, relieved and greatly appreciative to have such supportive and collaborative colleagues. Chea rebounded quickly from his complicated surgery. Carolyn Wilkinson, his ICU nurse commented, "He breezed through his operation and post-operative recovery and just lit up the ward with his smile." His surgeon Dr. Phil Roberts stated, "**His future can now begin with a degree of stability and, given his determined personality, I think he can get through any adversity!**" Chea is healthier today due to the global collaborative efforts of seven different organizations from three countries that reviewed, managed and addressed his situation. The US - Lifeline team handled the assessment and pre-op, Operation Open Heart - Australia performed the surgery and local Cambodian physicians assisted and set in place the orphanage where Chea now resides. This is a prime example of how networking within the non-profit sphere is necessary when addressing human suffering.

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TEDDY SOLOMON 1/5/1920- 5/7/2013

We are saddened by the passing of Teddy Solomon a director of Lifeline, a longtime friend and a well-recognized motion picture theater operator and pioneer. Teddy is survived by his wife Doris, six children, fifteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Teddy was born in Texas and raised in Mississippi where he began his love of theaters while working for his father and uncle in the silent movie house they had built. After graduating from college, he entered the army. Upon returning home, he joined the family theater business and formed Gulf States Theatres. Teddy's theater business grew to over 600 theatres and drive-ins in eight states. He was a past President of the National Association of Theatre Owners; a former board member of the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation; and served in various capacities on the local and international level of Variety Club International. Teddy established the first Louisiana Film and Video Commission, was instrumental in founding the New Orleans Film Society, was honored as ShoWester of the year in 2004 and was inducted into the Entertainment Hall of Fame. He will be missed by his family, friends, colleagues and charities that he supported.





Children's Lifeline International ®

514 Via de la Valle

Suite 207

Solana Beach, CA 92075

CHILDREN'S LIFELINE INTERNATIONAL®

MISSION SCHEDULE

First Half of 2013

COUNTRY	LEAD DOCTOR	HOME HOSPITAL / AFFILIATIONS	HOST HOSPITAL	DATE
Dominican Rep.	Daniel Turner	Children's Hospital of Michigan	Cedimat, Hospital, San Domingo, Dom. Rep.	January
Cambodia	Paul Grossfeld	University of California San Diego	Angkor Hospital for Children, Semi Rep, Cambodia	February
Dominican Rep.	Robert Ross	Children's Hospital of Michigan	Cedimat, Hospital, San Domingo, Dom. Rep.	February
India	Ulrika Green / Uma Servantas	UCSD Medical Center/UC Davis Medical Center	Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences, Bengaluru Karnataka, India	March
Gambia	Robert Hamilton	Pacific Ocean Pediatrics / Lighthouse	The Door Church, Gambia	March
Gueni-Bissau	Robert Hamilton	Pacific Ocean Pediatrics / Lighthouse	The Door Church, Gueni-Bissau	April
Guatemala	Larry Nichter	Plasticos Foundation	Escuintla Hospital, Guatemala City	April
Ecuador	Fabio Olarte	Frederick Memorial Hospital / John Hopkins	The Enrique C. Sotomayor Gynecologic Hospital	May
Mexico	John S. Lozier	Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines	Hospital de la Amistad, Merida, Yucatan	May
Honduras	Helen Kornblum	Helping Babies Breathe	AMIGA Honduras	May
Mexico	Stephen Mooradian	Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines	Hospital de la Amistad, Merida, Yucatan	June
Nepal	Luis Pierre / Patrick Leblanc	Brooklyn Hospital Center	Kathmandu Medical College, Teaching Hospital	July



"To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world"

~Heather Cortez

For more information and ways to help, please contact us!

Tel: 858-509-9445 Fax: 858-509-0708

Email: info@childrens-lifeline.org

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