



# Living the Mission Experience

Delivering compassionate healthcare and the Gospel  
to the most needy in the developing world

[www.hhmm.org](http://www.hhmm.org)

May 2017 Vol. 5. Issue 1

Forward to a Friend

## Mother and Daughter Teamwork



In this issue of Living the Mission Experience I would like to share with you the experience of a mother and daughter missionary team. Missionary work is not easy, but the Lord makes the burden lighter. Today we hear many stories which focus on the breakdown

of families and the inter-generational squabbles that exists between mothers and daughters/fathers and sons. Servant of God, Fr. Payton used to say, "a family that prays together stays together." I believe the same can be said for family members that serve together on the missions. I have seen them grow in their faith and relational bond. I have also seen family members develop a greater respect for each other's vocation. When we take the time to work with our children, even grown children, we learn to appreciate their life's work. It could be as simple as asking questions about how work is going or traveling thousands of miles to participate on a Helping Hands Medical Mission. Whatever the case may be we need to take the time to really learn and be interested. There are many needs in the world today from bringing the Gospel of Life to the developing world to serving a family at your church who may be going through a rough time, whatever the case may be serving with a family member or members will help to enhance the experience and you will learn more about each others work in the process. Building family bonds through serving is a great way to leave a lasting impact on this generation and the next.

Mission Stats: San Salvador

Patients Served: 2,276

Surgeries Performed: 37

Births: 16

Lupita Assad, RN

International Missions Coordinator

## Meet the Missionary Margaret Van Milder, Volunteer

Home State: Virginia

Parish: St. Anthony's Catholic Church

Mission: First



You may remember Shirley Van Milder, M.D. from the February 2015 edition of Living the Mission Experience.

Shirley has now served on six medical missions in El Salvador. Shirley is an Ob/Gyn doctor from the Washington, DC area. However, the last mission was special as she was assisted by her mom, Margaret, who was serving on her first medical mission, not as a doctor, but as a volunteer assistant. Margaret spoke of how much she enjoyed the experience. "It was challenging at times, but the overall experience, the camaraderie and the joyful spirit of the whole team was great". Margaret shared with us how blessed she felt to have the opportunity to serve the poorest of the poor in El Salvador. Margaret was assisted in her perseverance through the challenges, because of the balanced prayer life and, most importantly, daily Mass. "I have always wanted to work in the mission, but have not been able to until now. Scrubbing in and assisting in the operating room with my daughter while she operated, was special and has motivated me greatly!" I am so happy I took the time to serve on a Helping Hands Medical Mission and I encourage others to server on a mission as well, you will be better for the experience.

If you are interested in learning more about HHMM or would like to participate in an upcoming mission, please contact Gloria at [mission@hhmm.org](mailto:mission@hhmm.org) or (972) 253-1800.

Serve with us on a mission. Learn more at [www.hhmm.org](http://www.hhmm.org).