

Impact Statement 2014



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





HELPING HANDS Medical Missions **Impact Statement 2014**

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**Be a Missions Promoter
and Share with Others**

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Dear Fellow Missionaries in Christ,

I feel so blessed by God to be able to serve the poor throughout the world by way of Helping Hands Medical Missions. For the third year in a row, we have increased our missionary participation. As a direct consequence, we have also increased the number of patients we have able to minister to. This has been accomplished in a number of ways: through a more focused outreach to current and past missionary participants, through our participation in local and national Catholic medical organizations, through social media and the internet, but most importantly and concretely through you! It has been your witness, your love and your invitations that have inspired others to give the missions a try. Your one on one outreach to your friends and family through a personal invitation has been one of the primary reasons for our growth in 2013-14 year.

Pope Francis has written that our faith cannot be exclusively read through books, it has to be experienced in the real world by helping others. This is precisely the experience of so many of our missionaries. It has been such a blessing to see people experience this life giving service to others on their first mission. I have also seen missionaries experience this same joy on their 15th mission.

One of my personal mission highlights this year was our mission to San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas. This year marks the fourth year that HHMM has done missions in this part of Mexico. During the past 18 years, I have seen other mission programs begin and end, but with God's grace, your constant prayers and untiring love for the poor, HHMM has been able to persevere year after year. I am so humbled by the outpouring of dedicated service from our Mission Directors and missionaries. I thank God for another year of service to the poor and look forward to our new initiatives and life changing missions in 2015. May God continually bless you in doing His work and may Saint Luke, Patron of Physicians and Surgeons; Saint Agatha, Patron Saint of Nurses; and Saint Theresa, Patron Saint of Missionaries, watch over all of you now and always.

Sincerely in Christ,



Lupita Assad, RN

Foundress and International Missions Coordinator



Bringing the Gospel of Life to the Poor – International Program Update

Water Project

Helping Hands Medical Missions has been delivering compassionate healthcare and the Gospel message of Jesus Christ to the most needy of Guatemala for the past 12 years. Through free medical clinics and the loving service of our missionaries, thousands of lives have been impacted in a positive way.

During the course of a mission in Santa Maria de Jesus, Guatemala, many of the children and adults who visited the clinic were diagnosed with parasites; a direct result of drinking contaminated, unfiltered water. Left untreated, parasitic infections lead to malnutrition and a compromised immune system. The missionary doctors began treating parasitic infections with medication; however, this is only a short-term solution. The parasites return when the medication is finished because of the contaminated water.

There is a limited supply of clean water in the village due to insufficient and damaged infrastructure, and very few people have access to this clean water. Those who do not, oftentimes the very poor, especially children, become ill and in some cases die because of the lack of clean water. Clean water, a basic necessity for life, is something we in the United States may take for granted, but for the people of Santa Maria in Guatemala, it is a daily struggle.

Recognizing the debilitating effect contaminated drinking water was having on the poor who inhabited the area of Santa Maria de Jesus, a team led by Doctor Michael Brezinsky proposed a solution.

“I have treated many patients with parasitic infections due to contaminated drinking water, but as a result of many generous souls, in the fall of 2014, we will be providing a long-term solution through a new filtration system”.

In 2013, Dr. Mike and his team worked with the local ground team in the region to locate water filtration companies that could produce a simple yet effective filtration system that people could use in their homes. They discovered a company in Guatemala called EcoFiltro. This company will assist with all the logistics necessary to establish the project on the ground in Santa Maria de Jesus and the surrounding areas. In the fall of 2014, Dr. Mike and his team will provide over 200 families with these water filters.

We will update the status of this effort in the January 2015 Living the Mission Experience segment of the newsletter.



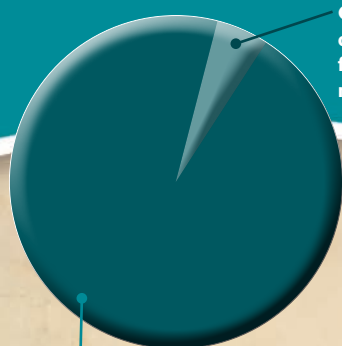
Spotlight On The Missions



Lupita's letter highlighted that our 2013-2014 year saw an increase in missionary participation. Also in 2013-2014, our alliances and partnerships continue to strengthen and build, throughout the US and the world.

We welcomed a new mission chaplain from the Society of Saint Peter, Fr. Philip Wolfe, FSSP. We have also partnered with St. Joseph Health System in Topeka Kansas to bring a number of healthcare professionals from Kansas on missions in 2015. Along with God's grace, we believe the growth in unity is a direct result of many years of successful missions, perseverance and continued promotion throughout the various Catholic parishes and communities by our faithful missionaries.





Only 6 Cents of every dollar goes toward fundraising and management

94 Cents of every dollar given to HHMM goes toward program services

Mission Statistics

Below are some of the 2013-14 mission stats and all-time stats over the past 18 years.

Medical Missions Completed

Total Since 1996 – **119**

Mexico.....	44	Philippines	8
El Salvador	26	Ghana	6
Guatemala	21	Venezuela.....	3
Brazil.....	10	Dominican Republic.....	1

Mission Participants

Total Since 1996 – **3,484**

2014.....	260	2004.....	203
2013.....	207	2003.....	147
2012.....	181	2002.....	132
2011.....	217	2001.....	174
2010.....	270	2000.....	180
2009.....	205	1999.....	91
2008.....	273	1998.....	79
2007.....	316	1997.....	50
2006.....	235	1996.....	37
2005.....	227		

Surgeries Performed

Total Since 1996 – **3,218**

2014.....	173	2004.....	189
2013.....	142	2003.....	198
2012.....	113	2002.....	179
2011.....	140	2001.....	206
2010.....	261	2000.....	166
2009.....	165	1999.....	144
2008.....	229	1998.....	107
2007.....	270	1997.....	74
2006.....	189	1996.....	91
2005.....	182		

Dentistry Patients

Total Since 1996 – **14,541**

Ophthalmology Surgeries

Total Since 1996 – **154**

Selected Financial Information

Complete Audit Report
Available Upon Request

Independent audit conducted
by Carlos Reynoso, CPA

OPERATING REVENUE

	2012-13	2011-12
Mission Fees	\$ 110,538	\$ 104,204
Donations	\$ 99,920	\$ 109,823
Medical Volunteer Services	\$ 896,695	\$ 708,350
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 1,107,153	\$ 922,377

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services	\$ 1,050,131	\$ 728,844
Administrative and General	\$ 54,855	\$ 46,369
Fundraising	\$ 12,511	\$ 11,249
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,117,497	\$ 786,462

Living the Mission Experience – A New Initiative Encouraging Other Missionaries, Past, Present and Future

The bi-monthly publication of Living the Mission Experience continues to be a great source of inspiration and encouragement to our missionaries, past and present, as well as the greater HHMM community. These one page publications include a commentary from the Founder, Lupita Assad, as well as testimonials from our missionaries. It is our hope that people stay connected and inspired through these stories. Additionally, we have had a number of missionaries who had not attended a mission in sometime be encouraged through these stories to attend another mission in 2014. For more information about current and past issues of Living the Mission Experience please visit the HHMM website at www.hhmm.org.



Advisory Board Members

Jim Becker, M.D.
Michael Brezinsky, M.D.
Mark Knabel, M.D.

HHMM Staff

Lupita Assad, RN, **International Missions Coordinator**
Gloria Madrigal, **National Secretary**

HELPING HANDS Medical Missions provide a unique life-transforming experience for doctors, nurses, medical and non-medical personnel. We have missions almost every month of the year. Serving over 2,000 poor patients per mission ... our missions last from 9–10 days, depending on geographic location.

HELPING HANDS Medical Missions

Mission Schedule 2015

LOCATION	DATE
Philippines: Tanauan-Batangas	February 12 - 21, 2015
Guatemala: Escuintla	February 27 - March 7, 2015
El Salvador: Chalatenango	March 12-20, 2015
México, Chiapas: San Cristóbal	May 22 - 30, 2015
México, Chiapas: Copainalá	July 24 - August 1, 2015
México: Zacatecas	Summer, 2015
El Salvador:	
•San Salvador	October 23 - 31, 2015
•Santiago Texacuangos	October 30 - November 7, 2015
Guatemala: Santa María de Jesús	November 6-14, 2015

Contact Information

If would you like additional information on dates and locations please contact:
 Gloria Madrigal, **National Secretary 972-253-1800**
 or visit us at **www.hhmm.org**



HELPING HANDS Medical Missions

P.O. Box 171088, Irving, TX 75017
 972-253-1800