



**'Bringing Hope and Healthcare to Guatemalan Families'**

**December 2022**

## **Delivering Discounted and Free Medical Care to Families in Need**

Since 2005, your partnership has been instrumental in underwriting more than **\$1,350,000 in free and discounted care to patients** in emergency situations - from accident victims to women in difficult labor to small children in respiratory distress or weak and dehydrated from intestinal disease. We thank you for joining us to make this possible.

Families with limited financial resources meet with our social worker, who completes a socio-economic evaluation to determine the patient's eligibility for assistance, discounting 25 to 100%.

Every day HA serves patients who would otherwise not have access to medical care. Your gift ensures quality care is accessible to these vulnerable families.



*AnaMaria weighed three pounds at birth. Our pediatrician provided a prosthetic to help her nurse and gain weight. At 20 pounds, she was eligible for reconstructive surgery.*

Hospitalito has come a long way. Yet there is so much more we can and should do.

We ask that you partner with us, help us continue to grow and deliver the precious gift of life to a population long neglected and deprived of medical care. Every donation will be gratefully welcomed, wisely invested and deeply appreciated.

## **Visit to Rural Clinic Saves Life of Boy with Pneumonia**



*Three-year-old patient with pneumonia.*

Hospitalito Atitlán works every day to improve the health of the Tz'utujil and Kaqchikel Maya - not only within the walls of our building, but also through community outreach to families in rural impoverished communities. Our medical teams travel to some of the most hard-to-reach areas in the region.

Hospitalito offers monthly medical services to remote villages and plantations, transferring patients who need emergency medical care to the hospital, as in the case of this little boy. These services are essential to achieving our mission to reduce maternal infant mortality. The work is 100% paid for by small grants and donations.

Your partnership helps maintain HA's current programs as well as families in rural areas who need specialized care.

## **Patient Care by the Numbers 2005 - 2022**

**49,517 individual patients, 32,875 Emergencies, 6,413 Surgeries**

**Your Donations Make Emergency Medical Care Possible**

**Every Gift Makes a Difference!**

**Give online at [www.hospitalitoatitlan.org](http://www.hospitalitoatitlan.org)**

**Send checks to Amigos Hospitalito Atitlán 2220 Shallow Well Rd. Manakin, VA 23103**

## From Dr. Andrew Smith, Chair of Amigos Hospitalito Atitlán

Dear Friends,

2022 has been a busy year at Hospitalito Atitlan! As the world tries to figure out the new normal, the staff and leaders at Hospitalito continue hard at work to address the health needs of the people of Santiago and Lake Atitlán.

Emergency and preventative services – including obstetrics, pediatrics, internal medicine, dental, ophthalmic and orthopedic care - continue to be accessible to the community every day. Visiting surgical groups are once again coming regularly to perform much needed surgeries. A new ophthalmologic service has started. Hospitalito's capacity to perform high quality digital x-rays, ultrasound, and expanded laboratory testing close to home saves people time and money.

Thanks to your generous support, we see Hospitalito emerging from the pandemic stronger than ever. The challenges of the COVID-19 have provided us with a renewed perspective on the indispensable role that Hospitalito plays in meeting the essential health needs of the community. It has also challenged us - as a hospital and a community - to expand our vision and strategically consider how we can continue to provide life-saving care for years to come.

In August of this year, Hospitalito broke ground for the Expanding the Vision campaign, our first major construction project since the new hospital was built over a decade ago. The new annex will provide urgently needed space to complete laboratory services with a blood bank, add four new consultation rooms, and create classrooms for a new nursing school.



*Construction began on August 1, 2022.*

HA's capabilities and services have been slowed by the lack of a blood bank. The unavailability of blood hampers surgical services and puts lives at risk.

The nursing school will increase the number of auxiliary nurses who speak a Maya language in Sololá. There are no accredited nursing schools in the department. The program hopes to graduate 30 students annually, improving access to medical care and the economy of families.

Please, join together with the people of Santiago and Lake Atitlán and help support our ongoing mission to provide access to high quality care for all.

With gratitude,  
Andrew Smith, M.D.  
Chairman, Amigos Hospitalito Atitlán

## Spanish and Cultural Immersion - Open to All Learners

In 2010, HA began offering CME credit for physicians through the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2023, the course will be open to anyone interested in learning about a living Maya culture. The five day course includes one-on-one Spanish language classes, tours, films and discussions. The first class begins January 29th. Sign up to experience Holy Week, the patron Saint Day fair or Day of the Dead. Learn more about the week's activities on our website.

Your gift to Hospitalito Atitlán will be used to purchase medicine, provide lab tests and cover medical expenses for families with the greatest need.



## Join Hospitalito Atitlán's International Volunteer Team



*Pediatrician Lon Duby in Cerro de Oro.*

Volunteers are an essential part of the hospital team. Working with staff within the hospital and in rural clinics, medical volunteers provide free medical care for pregnant women, children and the elderly. Our volunteers travel to outreach clinics and coffee plantations, where migrant workers have no access to healthcare and the living conditions are extreme. These rural clinics aim to protect the most vulnerable.

Volunteers, and the expertise they bring, reduce the barriers to accessing medical care.

We believe that good medical treatment should be available to all. You can help make this a reality.



*Resident conducts a post operative check.*

## Health and Early Nutrition Programs Cover the Department of Sololá



Primary prevention has the potential to change the health of our communities. HA works to encourage, inform and mobilize actions to improve the quality of life for Maya families and reduce the burden of preventable disease. This year, 210 women, all community leaders, from six towns participated in ten trainings aimed to learn about healthy lifestyles. More than 2,500 mothers have participated in cooking demonstrations on babies first foods, avoiding obesity in children and learned about improved nutrition from a home garden. The rate of chronic malnutrition in Guatemala is 64%. Indigenous populations are disproportionately affected by type 2 diabetes. The trainings are funded by the IZUMI and World Diabetes Foundations.

Amigos Hospitalito Atitlán accepts donations of stocks and mutual funds. [www.hospitalitoatitlan.org](http://www.hospitalitoatitlan.org)

## Sponsor a Woman for Prenatal Care and Her Child for a Healthy Start



*Hospitalito's Maternal Infant sponsorship program began in 2005. Since then, more than 500 women and children have benefited by free medical care and education, saving and improving quality of life for families without access to medical care. Sponsors give less than one dollar per day to help reduce maternal mortality and chronic malnutrition..*

*Isaias' mother is sponsored in the program. When he was born with a clubfoot, she didn't have to worry about how to pay for medical care. He received all care at HA at no cost.*



*Sponsoring a woman and her child is an easy way to stay involved with Atitlán's families.*

## SPANISH AND CULTURAL IMMERSION CME / CNE AT HOSPITALITO ATITLÁN

Cultural competence is a major asset in diagnosing and treating Spanish-speaking patients. What better way to enhance your skills and knowledge than a week in beautiful Santiago Atitlán?

"This course exceeded my expectations, it was tailored for my needs and my level and everyone went above and beyond to make sure I had the best experience."

**Dr. Mohammad Salah Agha**, Dayton's Children's Hospital

**ACCREDITATION:** In support of improving patient care, Penn Medicine is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

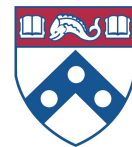
**PHYSICIANS:** Penn Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of **26 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**NURSES:** The program will award 26 contact hours.

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS:** AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ from organizations accredited by ACCME or a recognized state medical society.

PAs may receive a maximum of **26** Category 1 credits for completing this activity.

## Continuing Medical Education



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