

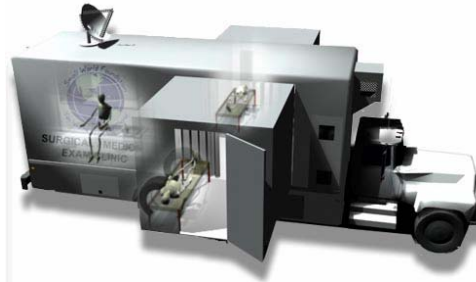
Small World Foundation

PO Box 39692, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33339



Good News!
September 2006

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SWF Mobile Hospital I continues to be our vision for 2006!

There is a great need to help those in remote areas who have no access to medical care. It will be a fully equipped self-sufficient medical-surgical unit staffed by American doctors and nurses. Your donation toward this very special project will be greatly appreciated. We are 60% toward our goal!

Please refer to our website for more details.

Call to Africa

In August, our Medical Director Dr Michael Tolle, his wife Lorena and their son, Sebastian, relocated to the small southern African nation of Lesotho to work with HIV/AIDS patients. This is a special program designed to deliver modern antiretroviral therapy to infants and children with HIV/AIDS and their families. As many know and appreciate, southern Africa is in the grips of a terrible epidemic of HIV/AIDS which has led to widespread suffering and death in the region. Life expectancies have been rolled back to 1950s levels and premature mortality is now the rule rather than the exception in this part of Africa. Antiretroviral therapy, like an antibiotic directed against the HIV virus, offers an opportunity to fight the virus's effect on the body, reversing the immune system destruction caused by the virus. Up until recently, this treatment, while widely available in the Western world, was not available to the poor and suffering of Africa. The program the Tolles will be working with, Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative, a subsidiary of Houston, Texas' Baylor College of Medicine, is the first of its kind in the world specially devoted to the pediatric population. They hope to increase 100-fold the number of children being treated for HIV in Africa, as the program will be deployed in several countries across the continent. As well, they hope the program will help reverse some of the disastrous effects HIV/AIDS has had in the region, including the creation of millions of orphans. The Tolles will be in Africa with BIPAI for a year, and ask for your prayers for their family and the people they will be serving. Dr. Tolle will remain as Small World's Medical Director while deployed in Africa. The Tolles hope to move to Central America in full-time capacity with Small World after returning from Africa, as Small World prepares to launch its mobile hospital project and increase its role in the region.



"For I am mindful of the plans I have made concerning you-declares the Lord-plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a hopeful future."

Jer 29:11

Editor: Laurence I. Arnold MD
President/CEO
Small World Foundation
PO Box 39692
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33339

Mission to Nicaragua

In March, SWF sent a medical/surgical team to Nicaragua to work in the impoverished area of Pochoton, a section of Carazo province south of Managua. The group included three students from Jesuit College Prep in Dallas, continuing SWF's recent legacy of providing students an opportunity to see first hand what mission work in the field is like, and hoping to see a calling to the mission field in some of these fine youngsters. The group worked hard for several days, fielding both rural clinics in the area and work in the Mission Hospital in the nearby city of Diriamba, where Dr. Arnold carried out several surgical procedures with local staff. Highlight cases included removal of a bullet from the eye of a young boy who had been shot and a delicate eyelid operation removing a tumor from a man who had been refused service over the years for a lack of local surgical capacity. In the rural clinics, the teams served hundreds of people from local families who mainly perform agricultural work for \$2/day. These families lack regular medical service; never have an opportunity on a regular basis to see a physician; and suffer from high rates of malnutrition and general neglect. Small World has been pleased to begin working in this area of Nicaragua, having made several trips to the region the past two years. SWF plans to continue its efforts in the Pochoton area – efforts which have been very well received by the local population.



Dr Tolle and Lorena attend to baby in rural clinic



Dr Arnold prepares to work with Nicaraguan surgeon as students look on

Mission to El Salvador

In May, SWF carried out an exciting mission back to El Salvador, where our surgical team, led by Dr. Arnold, returned to work with our old friends at Hospital Benjamin Bloom in San Salvador, the nation's principal children's hospital. Dr. Arnold, worked closely with Bloom pediatric plastic surgeon Antonio Bonilla, MD, and assisted a team of surgeons from Boston. Dr. Tolle worked closely with Dr. Bonilla, the Bloom administration, and the Salvadorean Ministry of Health's leading statistician, to develop a presentation for a comprehensive pediatric burns center at Bloom. SWF's involvement in this vital development project runs deep – we have helped with the project since its inception, with a key contribution being the grant application we drafted for the project. El Salvador suffers from a high rate of pediatric burns morbidity, and, lacking a specialized center to properly care for these burned children, sees much unnecessary loss and suffering as a result. SWF, via its grant proposal and its moral and political support, fully supports the effort to realize a burns center at Hospital Bloom. Other activities during this mission included our continued support of orphanages throughout El Salvador. Dr. and Mrs. Tolle made several visits to orphanages, donating medications, as well as offering education and basic medical services. We are proud of our support of these important entities in El Salvador, and plan to make support of the medical programs at local orphanages a key part of our wider mission when we launch large scale operations in El Salvador in the years to come.

A special thanks to Mr. Alonso Garcia and Ms Sandra Garcia for their pre-mission organization and development work in El Salvador and Nicaragua. We couldn't do it without their help!

Visit our website:

www.smallworld.org

There you can read about some of our past missions, sign up to volunteer your services, and even make a tax-deductible contribution online to the mission of your choice!

How you can help

- \$50 will buy medication that will allow a man with a badly burned hand to go back to work
- \$200 will buy the necessary surgical and anesthesia supplies to restore the smile of a child with a cleft lip and palate deformity
- \$500 will help purchase necessary medical equipment and supplies to help set up a clinic in a remote village in a developing country
- \$1000 will ensure that 20 patients with limb amputations will receive the prosthetic care they need in order to walk again

Thanks to Barbara Wolf, Esq. for her tax and accounting assistance!