



Flying Samaritans

Mother Lode Chapter

Clinic Report - April 2018

Primary Care Clinic

Cold and windy weather greeted us at Placerville Airport on Friday morning as **Chris Nelson**, pilot, took off for San Quintin clinic with **Dianne VanOrder**, **John Messner** and **Mariana Locke**; pilot **Todd Makiyama** flew from San Jose with **Gayle Beasley** and **Wende Bohlke**; pilot, **Randy Sharp**, flew from Lincoln with **David Boldt** and **Gordon Worley**; and pilot, **Charley Santoni**, flew from Sacramento with **Doug Wirzberger**, **Robin Berrin** and **James Padgett**. This was Charley's first trip to Baja with Flying Samaritans. Thank you for helping us out. We had tail winds all the way, and made it to San Quintin before noon on Friday.



Weather in San Quintin was sunny and 70+ degrees, as usual. We arrived at clinic before 8 in the morning on Saturday, with a full parking lot and people waiting patiently in line for our medical, dental and optical clinics. We had three medical practitioners, a nurse practitioner, a physician's assistant and a chiropractor, between the three of them they saw 89 patients with various medical issues. We saw multiple chronically ill patients who come to every clinic, many have disabilities like cerebral palsy, along with those with diabetes; we also saw garden variety skin problems, colds and earaches, wounds in various states of healing, and, of course pregnant ladies. Mariana Locke, our nurse practitioner saw a 10 year old boy with a history of seizures. He has never been on medication, nor seen for a medical workup. His older brother apparently died from a seizure disorder. He was started on medication and we will follow up next month. We are optimistic assuming proper follow up with consistent return visits to the clinic or other appropriate medical care.

Donations courtesy of Vitamin Angels going to local patients

We have a substantial supply of medications that we dispense free of charge. On occasion, we also distribute used clothing; this month we also had little girl's dresses made by Dress A Girl Around the World, a part of Hope 4 Women International, an organization promoting dignity, health, joy and love, to girls and women everywhere in the world. Hope 4 Women helps empower women who are suffering from poverty, disease and low self-worth to become self-sufficient with businesses of their own. The dresses range from size 2 to size 12. The smiles on the girls' faces says it all. (site: www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com) The weather flying home gave us some head winds and clouds.

-Dianne VanOrder, RN

Clinic Coordinator

Co Pilot

Thanks to our Sponsors!

A SPECIAL THANKS to some of our many important program sponsors without whom The Flying Samaritans could not make the significant humanitarian impact delivered to those in need. Both monetary and non are essential to the operation of our clinic.

- Celeste Roseberry-Mckibbin with "Love, Talk, Read" generously donates children's books for each of the backpacks.
- Soroptimist International: Placerville, Cameron Park and Folsom
- Rotary Club International: Folsom; Folsom Lake; Placerville; Arden-Arcade; Pocket-Greenhaven; Loomis; Roseville-Sunrise; Orangevale, East Sacramento
- Rotary Interact Clubs; Casa Robles High School; Oak Ridge High School
- Ann Hively
- Lions Club International; Folsom Lake; Placerville; Embarcadero; Sacramento Senator
- Cris Gerard
- Dee Farmer
- Dr Bob Haining
- Dr Nancy Archibald and her Dental Team
- Folsom Project For The Visually Impaired; Don Ring
- Sister team, Dianne Vanorder and Margaret Sanderson
- Restoring Vision
- SOLO Eyewear
- Vitamin Angels
- SHARE Institute; Dr. Soheir Stolba
- Jack Olson; Folsom Lake Bank
- Tanya Moran
- Marlyn Pino-Jones
- Bank Of America Retiree Group
- Folsom Prison "Hooks And Needles"
- Placer County Corrections, Women's Division
- Sharron Flynn and neighbors
- Rolling Hills Church
- Brenda and Sterling Daley
- Cheri Throckmorton
- Trish McCum, American Sewing Guild
- German Club of Stockton
- Debi Amaral/VSP
- Maria Boyd
- Barsotti Family/Fran Ward
- Barbara Goyette
- Karin Aguilar
- Fiber Fanatics Knitting Group
- Lofti Lou Knitting Groups
- Joyce Hansen
- Elena Munoz-Plaza
- Lena Miguelgorry
- Eloisa Ciancaglini, RN
- David Herrmann
- Theresa Dao-Makiyama
- Todd Makiyama
- Alexandra Hansen
- Patricia A. Nelson
- Brian Claassen
- Dr John Demshar
- Lonnie Davis/Hope Haven West
- Anthony Pineiro and Wife
- Anu Rau M.D.
- Renfro's Bridal Shop
- Falco Family Foundation



An additional THANKS from the children, women, and men in rural Baja for all of your thoughtful humanitarian contributions!!!

Backpacks for Baja

April was the first month since the "Backpacks For Baja" program was founded in 2014 that we were not able to distribute backpacks. This was due to a lack of planes to be able to accommodate both necessary passengers as well as supplies such as backpacks. All medical/health related supplies were transported.



Volunteers distributed many donated items and sundries such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo and lotions. In addition there were special handmade dresses that were made and/or acquired in support of the "**Dress A Girl Around The World**" initiative. This initiative is designed to provide at least one nice dress to as many young girls as possible to build Dignity, Health, Joy and Love. Each dress was personally fitted to a happy recipient. Over 100 of these dresses were distributed. The **Rolling Hills Church** sewing team also contributed handmade children's dresses, dolls and other children's items, including shorts for young boys, which were greatly appreciated!!!

There was also a distribution of hundreds of men, women and children's clothing items which were greatly appreciated by

the thankful recipients.

With the weather still being cool we also gave out a large supply of handmade hats and scarf's as well as socks. These items were all made by the "**Hooks and Needles**" team of men at Folsom Prison. This team also contributes handmade stuffed toys and other impactful items each month. The items were greatly appreciated by all and the recipients asked that their thanks be passed along!!!

Linda Nelson makes many of the backpacks/handbags and manages the coordination of the items that go into them as well as putting them together and ensuring they are ready for transportation/distribution. She also coordinates the packaging and transportation of all the other items distributed, including the monthly supply of women's and children's vitamins. Thanks for your caring and thoughtful efforts!!!

Cheri Throckmorton along with help from members of The Rolling Hills Church, once again, contributed handmade backpacks and other meaningful and much needed items. THANKS!!!

Great teamwork takes place every month in helping make this impactful initiative happen!!!!

A special thanks from the women and children in Baja for everyone's humanitarian contributions!!!



Optical Clinic

In April 107 exams were completed and 100 of these patients had glasses fitted and left the clinic with greatly improved vision!!!

We were fortunate to have assistance from Carlos de la Torre, Optometrist from San Quintin and Blake Shaw, ophthalmologist from San Diego to work with difficult patients. This was a first for us and they were awesome! We had 7 children who had more complex prescriptions for which we could not fit and a return young mother of 3 with an extremely high prescription whose new glasses were not helping her. Some of them were given dilated exams when needed and others received a thorough check for the accurate glasses prescriptions and glasses were then ordered. Sadly the young mother's vision could not be improved and she needs to see a retinal specialist for laser treatment. We are researching a way to get her help.

Over 94% of the patients needing glasses were fitted on the spot this month thanks to an improved work flow instituted by Margie Wilson as well as the diligence and training of the entire team!!!

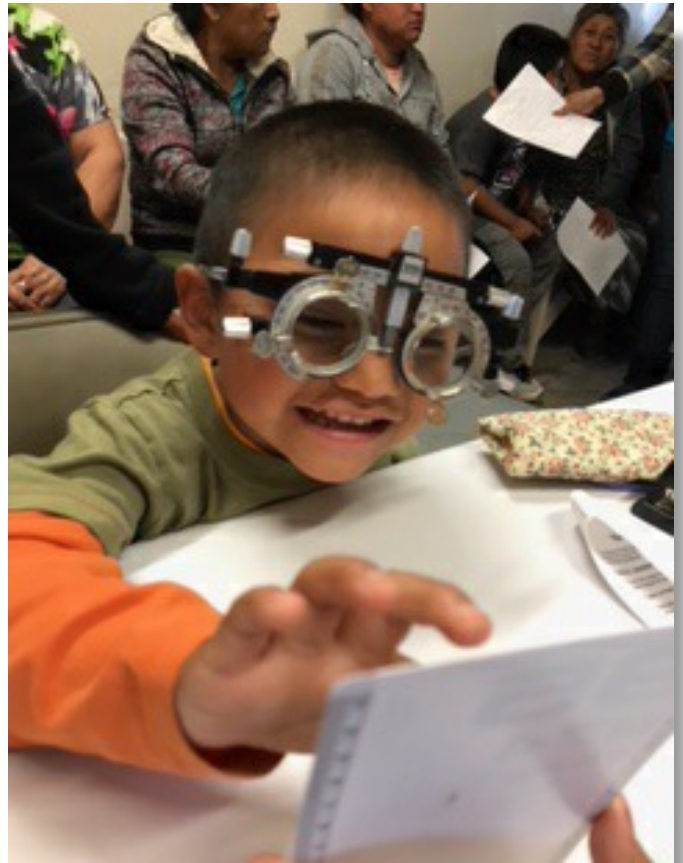
Historically, we have been able to fit about 94 percent of the patients with glasses on the day of the clinic and we then order the remainder online for delivery by one of the pilots the following month. Thanks to the knowledge and patience of Margie Wilson, John Messner, Charley Santoni, Randy Sharp and Doug Wirzberger in the fitting/evaluation area nearly all patients needing prescription glasses were fitted on the spot!!! This is very significant in our effort to assist those in need of vision care on the day they are evaluated. The patients that we could not fit the day of the clinic will have their glasses ordered for pick up in May.

This was a team effort with Joe Zachwieja, interpreting and assisting with training and utilizing the new Spot Vision equipment in the initial evaluation. Ynez and Cinthia both local volunteers, taking responsibility for some of the Auto Refractor exams and Judy, another long time local volunteer managing the intake of new patients and assisting with exams as well as providing knowledgeable assistance to all. Judy's son Jesus and a friend, Victoria as well as Candy Castro, a local student and the daughter of one of our long time volunteers, gave oversight to the distribution of children's and adult sunglasses. We had a pre exam and initial patient intake forms completed by Judy and other local volunteers including Melanie the daughter of long time volunteer Imelda. We continue to train/utilize everyone that was capable to ensure timely service for those in need.

The total number of patients seen was well over 225 with over 107 exams using the Auto Refractor and/or Spot Vision. In addition we gave out 32 pairs of readers and 3 pairs of glasses ordered from months prior. We also distributed approximately 275 pairs of sunglasses. This included Men's, Women's and Children's sunglasses. The children's sunglasses were a big hit as many of the recipients had never had the opportunity to own a pair in the past and the styles were current and "cool" with themes that they could relate to such as Spiderman, Batman and Ninja Turtles for the boys. The children's sunglasses as well as some of the readers distributed were provided by The Restoring Vision organization as well as The Lions Club...Thanks!!

A special thanks to Don Ring of the Lions Club and Folsom Lake Lions for providing the prescription glasses and sunglasses. Also the generous donation by Solo Eyewear and Restoring Vision of reading glasses and children's glasses was appreciated by the thankful recipients. We also received a donation from Chris Morris with VSP of 100 pairs of high end sunglasses that were a huge hit particularly with the Women who appreciate the styles and quality that we would not normally be able to provide!!!

Another special THANKS to Jim McKay and the Central Valley Chapter of the Flying Samaritans. They helped us with the funding to purchase a much needed Lensometer and also loaned us a Spot Vision set of evaluation equipment. Dr John Demshar also made the generous donation of a Slit Lamp. MANY THANKS to everyone that made this clinic an impactful humanitarian effort!!!



Dental Report

April 2018 Dental Clinic Report It was a busy clinic! Due to a lack of sufficient pilots this month, the overall Mother Lode Sams volunteers were clipped short and we were all a bit short handed this month. **Wende Bohlke, RDH, Robin Berrin, DDS, David Boldt** and myself along with our two translators worked tirelessly this particular clinic. Unfortunately, we knew we were going to be unable to see all who wished to be seen. Within 15 minutes of our arrival, we were informed we had over 75 extraction/infection signups, over 75 filling/restoration signups, and over 50 cleaning signups. Against wishes and goals, we

had to make the lists more reasonably sizable and had to refuse service to many people. Throughout the day, the dental staff extracted 39 teeth, completed 34 fillings and 18 cleanings. The equipment worked great for the day and other than some power issues to the clinic that we had solved by mid-day, it was a great and productive clinic that helped many – all in good weather. Incredible thanks go to Wende, Robin, and David for spending their weekend, time off, money and effort to help and volunteer this past weekend.



-Todd Makiyama, DDS

Wende Bohlke, DDS and David Boldt busy at work in the dental clinic



Robin Berrin, DDS performing an extraction

Expanding Optical Services

"Hecho Por Amigos Para Amigos - Abril 2018"

Thanks again to the Rodriguez family, we have expanded our clinic floor space by taking over the space adjacent to the dental clinic where Valentin used to live. We are in the process of finishing the refurbishing of the space, and will make an announcement once the renovations are totally complete. We are getting very close!!! With our ever expanding array of services and growing needs of clients, every bit of space is needed!

The space is now our new Optical Clinic which will allow us to better serve a greater number of optical patients as well as free up much needed space where Optical was located. This frees up much needed space for the Medical team to expand and add an additional patient room.

The project has taken a number of months so far and is planned to be a collaborative effort including members of the Flying Samaritans, as well as other participants as needed. Victor Castro, a local volunteer and "jack of all trades" has made a significant contribution using his cabinetry and carpenter skills.

In April, with a significant amount of clean up and construction completed, including the removal of a wall as well as electrical upgrades, the new space was used for the third time by the optical team. There is still work and refinements to be completed but the clinic ran smoothly and with greater efficiency due to the added space that allowed for workflow enhancements.

Other improvements made over the past month were the addition of a walled in patient reception area for confidential patient intake and interviews. A new patient room was also constructed in the old optical space. This was used by Dr James Padgett, Chiropractor.

A special thanks to everyone who has assisted with this project. In particular Rick Wilson the project leader and Margie Wilson who did everything from painting to assisting with the massive cleanup efforts as well as designing signage and creative wall decorations. Richard Lenyk also made a major contribution not only taking responsibility for all the necessary electrical upgrades but made a special trip, along with his son, to Los Pinos to build out the new patient room.

Rick Wilson, worked tirelessly all weekend on the electrical upgrades necessary to operate efficiently as well as other important repairs.

Thanks!!!! It would not have happened without the great teamwork!!!!

