

### Primary Care Clinic

Clear blue skies awaited us as we started our clinic trip to San Quintin, Baja, and tail winds welcomed us as we began Friday morning. **Chris Nelson** flew **Dr. Bill McDavid**, **Jana Reyes-Moore** and her son **Cedric**; **Randy Sparks** flew **Dianne Van Order** and **Torin La Day**; and **Joel Prosser** flew **Phil Lancaster**, **Mariana Locke** and **Gwen Douglass**. **Joe Zachwieja** drove from Oceanside, CA with **Nora Feddal** and **Rick** and **Margie Wilson** drove from San Diego. Several of us met with **Dr. Alejandro Gonzalez** at Buen Pastor Hospital in San Quintin, as an introduction to his hospital and what help we can be to him and vice versa. He is able to facilitate our delivery of supplies across the border.



We arrived early Saturday for our medical and optical clinics at Los Pinos Ranch, but there were few cars in the parking lot, and only about 30 to 40 people waiting. This is highly unusual because usually there are hundreds. The medical clinic only saw 57 patients and optical about the same. We weren't able to figure why so few patients participated in the May clinic. But we were able to serve those who came.



Oliver's grandma had some medical problems and she brought him with her, of course. He is healthy and walking like the happy 14 month old boy he is. It is such a wonderful outcome after a very bad start in life. The boy with seizures did not return to the clinic as Mariana (our nurse practitioner) was hoping, she had done some research and wants to continue to provide needed medication for him to control his seizures. We hope his father brings him back to the clinic next month. He was started on medication and we have another one to add to the treatment regimen.

Sunday morning was clear with a few scattered clouds, but we took off coming north and to home. A very successful clinic and looking forward to doing it again in June.

# 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
- Revamps Hair Salon, Lucy and Andrea
- 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

May's Clinic celebrated reaching over 3,058 "Backpacks For Baja" distributed to those in need since the program began in 2014!!!



**Chris**, with the assistance of several local volunteers, distributed over 60 special backpacks to children attending the clinic. Each backpack included a special gift, sunglasses, important sundries such as tooth brushes and toothpaste as well as school supplies and a first aid kit. In addition each backpack includes a book donated by **Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin** of "Love Talk Read". Women attending the clinic also received handmade handbags that include personal care items, sunglasses, and a special gift.

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 75 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 May 65 exams were completed and nearly all of these patients had glasses fitted and left the clinic with a smile and greatly improved vision!!!

We were fortunate to have assistance from Blake Shaw, ophthalmologist from San Diego to work with challenging patients. This was the second month in a row that he assisted us and he was awesome! We had a few children who had more complex prescriptions for which we could not fit. All received a thorough check for the accurate glasses prescriptions and glasses were then ordered.

Over 95% 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, Jana Reyes, Cedric Moore, Randy Sharp and

Chris Nelson 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.



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 100 with over 65 exams using the Auto Refractor and/or Spot Vision. In addition we gave out 22 pairs of readers and 2 pairs of glasses ordered from months prior. We also distributed approximately 200 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!!!

The service was efficient and the success rate of fitting was excellent due to the efforts/diligence of the entire team!!! 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 125 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. The new equipment greatly improved our ability to accurately and quickly evaluate patients and help them with the appropriate optical solution.

MANY THANKS to everyone that made this clinic an impactful humanitarian effort!!!

## Expanding Orthotic Services

"Hecho Por Amigos Para Amigos - Mayo 2018"

We are in the process of refurbishing the current garage space to accommodate a patient area where Orthopedists can better assist those in need.

With our ever expanding array of services and growing needs of clients, every bit of space is needed!

The project will take a number of months and is planned to be a collaborative effort including members of the Flying Samaritans, the East Sacramento Rotary (who have assisted significantly in the past with premises and other challenging issues) as well as other participants, both local and from the U.S. as needed.

The space is approximately 30' X 15' and is in need of a new roof as well as flooring and a complete interior build out.

Resources are being evaluated as the need for assistance with this project is significant.

A special thanks to everyone who has assisted with this project to date. In particular Rick Wilson the project leader.



Thanks!!!! It will not happen without great teamwork!!!!