

MISSION OF HOPE, BOLIVIA NEWSLETTER

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HOSPITAL UPDATE

As we celebrate our **two-year anniversary** as a mission, we **praise the Lord for what He has done, for what He is doing, and for what He is going to do!** Dr. Ortiz, the previous owner, officially moved out and handed over the keys to the hospital on the morning of February 3, 2002! Since then, we have been busy cleaning and painting. We have also begun **construction** on the first and second floors. The large altar and shrine to the Virgin of Urkupina, an idol that is worshipped in Bolivia, has been removed and we are constructing a **waiting room** for patients in its place. The second floor above the shrine and altar was open space to allow sunlight to shine down on the “virgin.” We are flooring in that area and constructing a **nurses’ station**. We are also converting the “snack shop” on the first floor into a **pharmacy**, since the hospital has no pharmacy.

Meanwhile, **we are already seeing patients!** The clinic is not yet open, but the word is out! We have about **15 doctors in Santa Cruz** who are **volunteering their services** to work with our mission. They are currently seeing our patients in their private offices **at no charge**. During January and February, they took care of about 50 patients for Mission of Hope, Bolivia, including two young ladies who had surgery.

Patty’s Story

Patty Choque is 22 years old. She has no memory of her mother or father. She grew up in orphanages. In the orphanage where she lived as a teenager, Patty met Donna Arceri. Donna had come as a volunteer from New York to work in the orphanage for one year. Through this experience, Donna came to realize that when the girls finished high school, they had to leave the orphanage. Because these girls were without family and resources, many of them ended up on the street with no place to go. In 1999, Donna started “Casa de Esperanza,” which means, “House of Hope,” in order to help these girls further their education and get a good job. Patty was one of the first girls to come to Casa de Esperanza, and she is now an honor roll student in a private university.

In January of this year, Patty felt something that resembled a hard ball in her abdomen. She was referred to one of our Mission of Hope doctors. An ultrasound revealed that **Patty had a very large tumor in her ovary** that was growing rapidly. **Immediate surgery was needed**. Two of our doctors, Dr. Borda and Dr. Turner, performed the surgery at no charge. **Mission of Hope, Bolivia paid for all of the lab tests, medications, and the use of a private clinic**. Patty had a **very successful surgery and recovery**. Patty said she was impressed with how quickly our doctors arranged everything. She was also impressed with the time they took to come and visit her every day.



Patty (far left) with the girls at Casa de Esperanza

Jenny's Story

In October of 1999, Jenny and Walter were expecting a baby. The full-term baby died in utero and was delivered. Walter then tried to take Jenny to a hospital in Santa Cruz, but was turned away because he had no money. They went to a second clinic, and again, they were turned away because they did not have money to pay. By now, Jenny's life was in danger as she had begun to hemorrhage. Finally, at the third clinic, Jenny was admitted and received treatment.

Recently, Jenny found herself in a similar situation—needing medical care but without the money to receive that care. Jenny was having **severe abdominal pain**. Walter took Jenny to a hospital where she received an injection for the pain. An ultrasound revealed a **large stone in her gall bladder**. Jenny was told that she **needed to** stay in the hospital and **have surgery**, but she **did not have the money** to stay in the hospital any longer, much less pay for a surgery. The pain continued and Walter was desperate to find help for his wife. Then Walter heard about Mission of Hope, Bolivia.

Jenny was seen by a team of our doctors, including a surgeon, Dr. Tapia, who volunteered to do the surgery free of charge. Dr. Tapia made all the arrangements at a local hospital, and **Mission of Hope, Bolivia paid for all of the lab tests, the use of the rooms, and the medicines needed for surgery and recovery.**

Jenny has now recovered from a **very successful surgery**. Walter is so thankful that his wife was able to have the surgery she needed. Walter says that he has seen many people die because they did not have money for medicine. Jenny told us that when she heard that Mission of Hope, Bolivia had paid for everything, she started crying and praising God. Jenny says now she knows that **everything is possible with God**. Amen!

Mission of Hope, Bolivia was created to help people like Jenny and Patty. We have made a commitment to provide free medical care for all the girls at Casa de Esperanza as they have need. **We praise the Lord that we are already making a difference in the lives of many** who have no resources of their own.



Jenny, one week after surgery

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**A BIG "THANK-YOU" TO ALL WHO GAVE TO THE \$75,000 MATCHING GIFT
CHALLENGE. THE \$75,000 WAS MATCHED!
PRAISE THE LORD!!**