

# MISSION OF HOPE, BOLIVIA NEWSLETTER

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The **Mission of Hope clinic** in Santa Cruz, Bolivia is still **going strong!** We are taking care of about **100 patients each day**. Many of the patients who come to us have been turned away from other hospitals because they are poor and do not have money. To date, **more than 40,000 patients have received free care** at the Mission of Hope clinic! Praise the Lord!!

## **Benita's Story**

Benita lives in Santa Cruz with her two children, 10-year-old Fernando and 15-month-old Lucy. Her husband works as a bricklayer, and they are **very poor**. Benita managed to save up enough money to take Fernando and Lucy to a doctor, who diagnosed both children with congenital cataracts. The doctor told Benita that **both children** were gradually **losing their vision** and **needed surgery**.

**Benita was desperate** to find help for her children. She went first to a children's hospital, but was turned away because she had no money. She then went to a second hospital, where she was also turned away. But as she was leaving the second hospital, a lady came to her and told her about Mission of Hope.

**At the Mission of Hope clinic, Benita found the help she needed.** Mission of Hope staff arranged for Benita to see a specialist, who told her that the children's vision could be saved with immediate surgery. Mission of Hope then paid for both children to have surgery in a private clinic.

Mission of Hope staff also shared the Gospel message with Benita, and she has now placed her hope in Jesus Christ. We praise the Lord for the **successful surgeries**, which **saved the vision** of Fernando and Lucy, and for the **new life** that has been given to Benita!



**Benita with baby Lucy and Fernando**



**Lucy and Fernando after surgery**

## **\$100,000 Matching Gift Challenge**

**Mission of Hope, Bolivia has received a \$100,000 matching gift challenge. An anonymous donor will double every dollar we receive between now and December 31, 2004. This money will be used to operate our free clinic in Santa Cruz, Bolivia during the year 2005.**



**Pastor Eudal after successful heart surgery**

### **Update on Arturo**

Arturo is a 23-year-old who began having kidney infections when he was 8 years old. By age 22, he was in **renal failure** and was started on **dialysis treatments**. Arturo's father, Miguel, worked as a welder. In order to keep Arturo in dialysis, Miguel **sold everything he had**, including his tools.

Many of our readers were touched by the plight of Arturo's father and donated money to buy **new tools**. Miguel is thrilled with his new tools and very grateful for the opportunity to support his family again.

Mission of Hope is now supervising Arturo's care. Miguel would like to donate one of his kidneys to his son. We were in the process of arranging a **transplant** when Arturo contracted hepatitis. We are hopeful that Arturo can fully recover and have a successful transplant in the near future. **Please pray for Arturo.**

### **Mission of Hope, Bolivia**

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### **Eudal's Story**

**Eudal** is the 54-year-old pastor of a rural, evangelical church in Santa Cruz. He does not have a car, and he walks many miles every day. He developed a **serious heart condition** and needed a pacemaker to regulate his heartbeat. The **pain and fatigue were so intense** that he would have to stop at every street corner and pray for strength to go on.

In Bolivia, pacemakers are difficult to obtain and the cost of buying one and surgically implanting it is prohibitive for all but the very rich.

Eudal had **no financial resources** when he came to the Mission of Hope clinic asking for help. **He needed a miracle!** Mission of Hope staff prayed with Eudal that God would provide.

A short time later, the mission received a phone call saying that an American missionary in Bolivia had a pacemaker that he wanted to donate. Our staff then arranged for Eudal to have surgery in the best hospital in Santa Cruz at a very discounted price. **God answered Eudal's prayer**, and he is now one of the most active pastors in Santa Cruz!



**Arturo's father, Miguel, works with his new tools.**

**Mission of Hope, Bolivia would like to thank all of you for your faithful prayers and financial support. Together, we are making a difference!**