

MISSION OF HOPE, BOLIVIA NEWSLETTER

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On July 4th of this year, we celebrated our **2-year anniversary** of operating our free medical clinic in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. During those 2 years, **36,657 patients received free medical care**, including medicines, lab analysis, ultrasounds, and surgeries. Also, during those 2 years, **26,525 patients prayed to receive Christ** as their Lord and Savior in our waiting room! Praise the Lord!!

On August 21st of this year, a **third U.S. surgery team** from Virginia arrived at the Mission of Hope hospital to perform a **week of free surgeries**. By using both of our operating rooms for the first time, the team was able to complete 45 surgeries in 5 days, including our **first laparoscopic surgeries**.



Laparoscopic Surgery



On the operating table, 8-year-old Shirley is all smiles!



Valentina, 6 years old, developed a hernia. She lives in the mountains of LaPaz with her mother and father, who earns \$6 a day as a mason when he is able to find work. They made 4 trips to Santa Cruz by bus, which takes about 35 hours round-trip, so that Valentina could have the surgery she needed.



Silvia, 3 years old, was found in a garbage can when she was one day old. The orphanage where she lives does not have money for medical care. Surgery was not even a possibility for Silvia until someone at the orphanage found out about Mission of Hope, where everything is free.



Martha, 17 years old, is one of 9 children. Three of her brothers died of sickness because the family could not afford medicines. Martha began having problems with her gall bladder at age 3. By the time she finished 5th grade, the pain was so intense that she had to drop out of school. Martha was one of the first patients to receive a laparoscopic gall bladder surgery.



Manuel, 59 years old, is married and has 6 children. He works to support his family by farming rice, yucca, peanuts and corn. For 15 years, he has suffered with the pain of a large hernia. After having a successful surgery, he is now pain-free and looking forward to the next season of planting.



Erwin, 8 years old, pictured here just hours after surgery!



Virginia, 49 years old, is so happy to be free from the pain of a prolapsed uterus!



Additional photos and patient stories are posted on our web site at www.missionofhopebolivia.org

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