

MISSION OF HOPE, BOLIVIA NEWSLETTER

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The Sucre Clinic staff celebrates two years!

CELEBRATING 2 YEARS IN SUCRE!

On **February 3, 2015**, the staff of the new Mission of Hope clinic in Sucre took time off from seeing patients to celebrate a **second anniversary!** They took time to reflect on all that God has done in these two years of providing **free medical care and medicine to 6,357 patients** in the Quechua community of Sucre and beyond!

During these two years, news of the clinic in Sucre has spread far and wide, simply by word of mouth. **Toribio is 82 years old.** He lives with his wife in Sorso, a very small and **extremely isolated Quechua community** high up in the Andes Mountains above Sucre. His children left Sorso

many years ago in search of a better life and never returned.

In Sorso, there are **no roads**. An occasional airplane flies overhead, but most of the people who live there have never seen a car. There are **no stores**. The nearest town is about 8 hours away on foot. Clothing is made by hand. The people wear sandals that are made by nailing strips of used tires together. The materials are brought back from town whenever one of the men takes his produce to the city to sell.

Life is hard. The people work the land, which is rocky and difficult to farm. The main crops are potatoes, corn, and wheat. They live in one room adobe (mud) brick dwellings with no indoor plumbing and no electricity. They use lanterns and candles to see when it gets dark.

There are **no medical doctors**. There are **no medical clinics**. When someone gets sick, they go to the witch doctor, who takes their lamb, or their goat, or their chickens, or their produce in exchange for promises that they will get better.

So how did Toribio, living in such total isolation, hear about the Mission of Hope clinic in Sucre? He heard about the clinic through a church outreach group who went to his village. At that time, Toribio was feeling very sick, so he decided to make the trip to the clinic. **He walked for 8 hours** to get to a road where he could catch a ride on a truck into the city. **He rode the truck for 3 hours, and then walked to the clinic.**

When he arrived at the clinic, he was seen by one of our doctors, who diagnosed and treated him for acute gastritis. He was given a good supply of medicine and was given advice about diet and hygiene. He was amazed by the medical attention he received, saying he was treated with such love and respect. Even more amazing to Toribio was the fact that he was not charged for anything. Everything was free! This was the **first time Toribio had seen a medical doctor in his entire life!**

Pastor Uvaldo, who works full time in our Sucre clinic, also explained the Gospel message to Toribio in his native Quechua language, and Toribio received Jesus as his Savior and Lord!



Toribio arrives at the clinic.

Juliana's Story



Juliana after prayer

One day, a man named Crispin came in to the clinic in Sucre. He said that doctors had given up on his wife, **Juliana**, and had given her **only a few days to live**. Juliana had cancer and diabetes. He said that Juliana had not eaten for quite some time and several days before, she had also stopped speaking and moving. **Crispin prepared for her funeral.**

Meanwhile, a neighbor had encouraged Crispin to go the Mission of Hope clinic, telling him that in addition to giving medical attention, they also help with prayer. He came to the clinic saying that he had taken Juliana to several different witch doctors, but all of them told him that she was going to die. He asked the clinic pastor if he

would come to his house that night and pray for his wife. He wanted to pray that God would take her and that she would not have to suffer any more, since **there was no cure for her.**

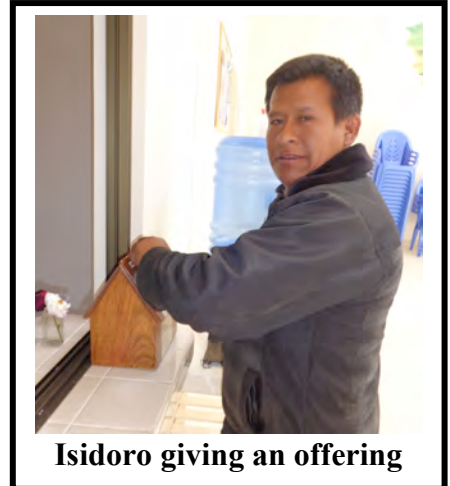
That same night, Pastor Uvaldo went to Crispin's house with an elder from his church. There were many people there smoking and drinking and acting as if Juliana was already dead. When Pastor Uvaldo arrived, someone shouted out loud to make room for the Christians who had come to pray. Pastor Uvaldo thanked them for the invitation and asked them if he could speak for a few minutes before praying for Juliana. Pastor Uvaldo then shared the Gospel message with everyone there. Even though Juliana could not move, tears ran down her cheeks as Pastor Uvaldo spoke of our need for a Savior.

The very next day, the family came to see Pastor Uvaldo. They said that after he prayed for her, she started to move! Then, that morning, she had woken up and asked for a drink of water! With each day that passed, Juliana got better and better. **Today, she is alive and well and living a normal life!** Many of her relatives are now attending church after seeing **the miracle that God did** in their midst.

Isidoro's Story

Isidoro and his wife, Carmen, came to the Sucre clinic with their 4 month old daughter, Nicol. While Carmen and the baby were seeing the doctor, Isidoro asked for counseling. He told Pastor Uvaldo that **his marriage was falling apart** and that **his wife wanted a divorce**. When Carmen and the baby came out of the doctor's office, Pastor Uvaldo tried to counsel them as a couple, but Carmen was not interested in talking.

Isidoro continued to come to the clinic every month for counseling with Pastor Uvaldo. Isidoro prayed with him to receive Jesus as his Lord and Savior, and they prayed together for the restoration of his family.



Isidoro giving an offering

Eleven months later, Carmen came back to the clinic with the baby. She and Isidoro had been separated for 3 months. She asked Pastor Uvaldo to pray that her husband would come back to her. So, Pastor Uvaldo again talked to them as a couple. Carmen said she was ready to receive Jesus as her Savior. She asked her husband to forgive all of her mistakes, and the two of them recommitted their lives to each other. A month later, they returned to the clinic to thank everyone for all the help they had received...both medical and spiritual! **Today, they are happily married** and growing in their Christian faith.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support of the clinic in Sucre. Together, **we are making a difference** for eternity!

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