

MISSION OF HOPE, BOLIVIA NEWSLETTER

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Nurse Sonia helps a patient try out her new reading glasses.

On April 21, 2014, the audiology team arrived at the Mission of Hope hospital to screen patients for ear surgery. They gave hearing tests to 109 patients, and 48 of those patients received **the gift of hearing** as each one received a free solar-powered hearing aid! **These hearing aids never need batteries!** Still others received the gift of hearing when Surgery Team #22 arrived a few days later to do a week of free ear, nose, throat, and thyroid surgeries.

On September 3, 2014, the “advance team” of Surgery Team #23 arrived. They held our second eye clinic, and many patients received **the gift of clear vision** as 84 patients were fitted for brand new eye glasses! One man that works as a taxi

driver said that he had been trying to save up money for 8 years just to buy a pair of reading glasses. He said that every time he had money saved up, one of his children would get sick and the money he had saved for glasses would get spent on medicine. He said there was never any extra money for things like eye glasses. The same is true for most of the patients that we see in our clinic...They barely have enough money for food, so **reading glasses are a luxury that they cannot afford.**

Mission of Hope is **so grateful to the surgery teams** that come **twice a year** to provide a week of **free surgeries** to our patients in need. These surgeries are **life-changing** to patients who have suffered for years with problems that they did not have money to do anything about!

\$100,000 Matching Gift Challenge

The **\$100,000 matching gift challenge** is now in effect. **Every dollar** that we receive between now and December 31st up to \$100,000 **will be doubled** by an anonymous donor. This money will be used to provide free medical care to the poor in Bolivia during the year 2015. Mission of Hope, Bolivia takes its financial stewardship very seriously. We are a **debt-free** mission and **almost 100%** of all **donations go directly into our Bolivia program!** Mission of Hope is now ending its 12th year of operating its free medical clinic in Santa Cruz. Praise the Lord!

Emiliana's Story

Emiliana, 27 years old, is a quiet young lady who lives with her husband and 2 children on the outskirts of Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Emiliana's **mother died when she was only 5 years old** and her **father abandoned her**. Left to fend for herself, she had to eat **whatever food she could find in the streets**.

Finally, a woman took her into her home and used her as a servant. By age 9, she was cooking for the family and cleaning the entire house. She was not allowed to go to school. She was also not allowed to eat with the family, but was only allowed to eat whatever was left over after the family had finished eating. At age 12, **she began**

having pain in her side, but the woman she worked for just ignored her complaint. Emiliana recently **found her way to the Mission of Hope clinic** and was diagnosed with gallstones. Following a successful surgery, **she is now pain free for the first time in 15 years!**



Emiliana after surgery



Cristhian before surgery

Cristhian's Story

Cristhian is a 27 year old who lives with his wife and 2 young children in Santa Cruz. About 2 years ago, he noticed a small, round **growth on his shoulder**. It gradually increased in size until he **could no longer turn his head** to the left. In order for him to see anything on his left side, he had to turn his entire body. It was difficult for him to sleep, and the weight of the tumor was very uncomfortable. But more than the size and the weight of the tumor, the thing that bothered him most were the **stares of the people** who saw him. He **became very self-conscious and very depressed**. He said he could not even think about the future. He found a

job chopping wood out in the countryside where no one would see him. He also worked at home with his wife making piñatas to sell.

Cristhian did not have money for surgery. He heard about Mission of Hope from his mother. Cristhian had a very successful surgery, and the benign **tumor weighing more than 2 ½ lbs.** was removed in its entirety. When Cristhian saw himself for the first time after the surgery, he could not believe his eyes! He got all choked up! He told us that he spent a lot of time during the past 2 years evaluating his life. He is so thankful to God for this chance to start over. He told us that **this surgery has totally changed his life!** He told us that he could hardly wait to go home and start a new life!



Cristhian after surgery



Juan after surgery

Juan's Story

Juan is a 10 year old boy who lives with his family high up in the mountains of Sucre. His **family is very poor** and did not have money for medical care and treatment of Juan's chronic ear infections. Everything changed when a neighbor told them about the new **Mission of Hope clinic in Sucre where everything is free**. After successful treatment of ear infections in both ears, Juan was referred to the Santa Cruz clinic for surgery to repair his **perforated ear drum**. Juan and his mother rode the bus on winding, dusty, dangerous mountain roads for 16 hours to come to the Santa Cruz clinic for surgery. Following a **successful surgery**, a dream came true for Juan. With the generous

offerings of the surgery team members, Juan and his mother took a plane ride back to Sucre...a 45 minute flight!

Thank you for partnering with Mission of Hope to serve the poor in Bolivia. If you are an Amazon.com shopper, please consider designating Mission of Hope, Bolivia as your charity of choice. AmazonSmile Foundation will donate a percentage of your purchase price to Mission of Hope. Please understand that this is not an endorsement of Amazon or their products.

Together, we are making a difference both now and for eternity. To God be the glory! Great things He has done and great things He continues to do through Mission of Hope!

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