

# MISSION OF HOPE, BOLIVIA NEWSLETTER

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**Eunice, 11 years old, can hear for the first time in her life with her new solar powered hearing aid!**

Mission of Hope patients in Bolivia were so blessed by the **two surgery teams** who **came from the U.S.** in July and September. Team members came from Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, New York, and Oregon. The surgery team members worked together so well that it was hard to believe that many of them had just met for the first time!

**More than 130 patients received the gift of a life-changing surgery!** Patients who had been shunned and rejected by society because of facial and ear deformities received hope as facial tumors were removed and ears were reconstructed. Hearing was restored as eardrums were repaired and ears blocked from birth were opened. Breathing was restored as nasal obstructions were removed. Pain was relieved as gallstones were removed. Women were set free from worry and anxiety as uterine and ovarian masses were removed. Men and women were able to return to work and support their families again after hernias were repaired. Many patients who had a hearing loss that could not be corrected by surgery received solar powered hearing aids.



**Luis, 8 yrs. old, after hernia surgery**



**Lisbeth, 6 yrs. old, in the recovery room**

## **\$100,000 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE**

**Mission of Hope, Bolivia has received a matching gift challenge. An anonymous donor will double every dollar that we receive between now and December 31, 2006. This money will used to operate our free medical clinic in Bolivia during the year 2007.**

## Carlos Guzman's Story



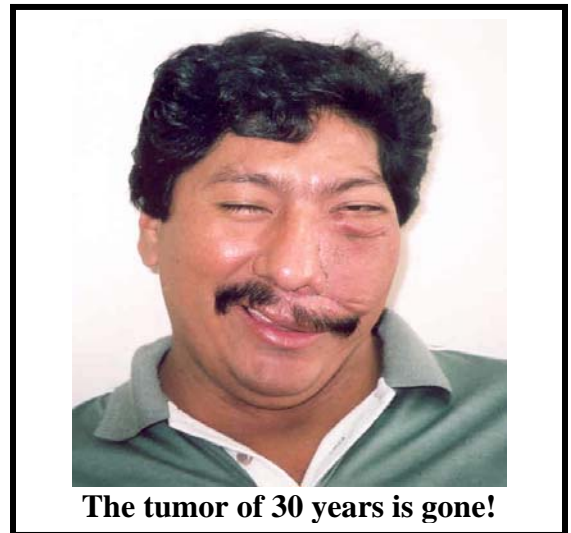
Carlos arrives at the clinic

Carlos Guzman is a 39 year old man who came to the Mission of Hope clinic in March of 2005 with a large facial tumor. When Carlos was 9 years old, his father took him to a soccer game. During the course of the game, one of the players kicked the ball right into his face. The blow was so severe that it knocked him out of his seat. A year later, his mother noticed that he was having trouble breathing. A tumor was slowly growing on the left side of his face. During the next 5 years, he had 4 unsuccessful surgeries as doctors attempted to remove the tumor. Finally, **when he was 15 years old, his father died** and there was **no more money for treatment**.

Carlos wanted to continue his studies but as the tumor continued to grow, he **found himself totally ostracized by his peers**. When he was 21 years old, he married a woman of great faith. Later, when children were born, he worried that his children would reject him. He began to work as a taxi driver. He worked at night so that people would not be able to see the tumor. Finally, **the tumor became so large that no one wanted to enter his taxi**. This created an economic crisis for him, and he became very depressed.

Carlos knew a family that had an auto repair shop in a very out of the way place. They gave Carlos a job working in a back room where no one would see him. Meanwhile, one of our Mission of Hope doctors took his car into that very same shop for repairs. After the car was repaired, Carlos was asked to return the car to the doctor's home. There he met Dr. Quinteros who told him the good news that a **surgery team was coming from the U.S.** and that he should come to the Mission of Hope clinic.

Carlos was scheduled for surgery, but the surgeons quickly realized they did not have the proper tools to completely remove the tumor. They removed as much as possible and told Carlos that they would be back in 2006 to finish the job. As the tumor grew back as big as ever, Carlos again became very discouraged. So many times, people had told him they would help, but in the end, no one could help.



The tumor of 30 years is gone!

He stopped coming to the Mission of Hope clinic. His wife began to fast and pray for his healing. Two months later, the Mission of Hope staff called Carlos and told him that the surgery team was returning. Carlos had another surgery. This time when the bandage was taken off, tears filled his eyes as he looked in the mirror and said, **"this is the face I have dreamed of."** Even more amazing was the fact that Carlos had no pain after surgery. He needed no pain medication. Carlos is so thankful to God that **his tumor of 30 years is gone!** He laughs and says he can now wear sunglasses for the first time in his life because his nose is not twisted! He says that now his children are not embarrassed to take him to their sporting events. His whole life has changed, and he is so thankful to you, our supporters, for making these weeks of surgery possible. **Thank you!!**

### Mission of Hope, Bolivia

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