

Southwest Medical Aid continues to have all the makings of another productive year. Many hands contribute to the success of our mission here in Tucson. We have accomplished an additional miracle by getting one more large shipment of medical supplies to Haiti. Through our partnership with The 3000 Club, we have a continuous source of medical supplies and equipment to sort and distribute.



### *Mission Trip to Peru*

Our group of 32 traveled to Peru for 10 days in April. We were so taken by the warmth of these wonderful people and the opportunity to help them. The altitude was the biggest challenge we faced! We staffed medical clinics and saw 150 patients during the week. Another group helped to build a greenhouse which is now planting its first crop.

We recently received pictures and a thank you from the people

*“Mr. Joseph Kelly, apologies for the delay in my response, photos of September where we began recently with the planting of plants (onions, lettuce, radishes, beets, chard) in fitotoldo. Please, extends greetings to all the staff “*

*Abel Molina Valdez  
Medical P.S. Ccorca*

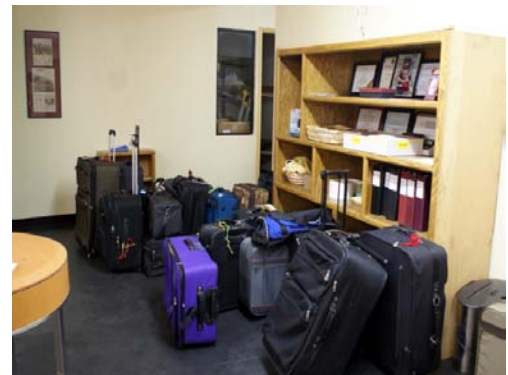


From the ground up, SMA participants began the work on the greenhouse



One of the recently sent pictures shows the fruits of our labor

In order to bring the much needed medical supplies to Peru, we enlisted donations of large suitcases. We filled them to capacity!



Volunteers Ruby Mondor and Regina Parks empty one of the suitcases as they set up a clinic day in Ccorca



Our group accomplished a great deal in the time we spent in Peru. We received so much in return from the people we served.

The focus of this issue of *Connection* is to consider who do we help? How is SMA fulfilling our commitment to serve the disadvantaged in all ways possible?

Sometimes we don't see the forest for the trees. Weeks go by, the volunteers spend their hours sorting and packaging a never ending mountain of donated medical and personal care items.

To find out who makes up the trees in our forest, our data entry volunteer, Gail Topolinski, did an audit of those who receive our assistance. The recipient sites are in diverse locations, from here in Arizona, to Mexico, Haiti and Peru. That was just the last 12 months! Individuals receive our help as well through many other volunteer organizations sharing similar goals, reaching out to those in need. We have cited 5 organizations out of the last 46 to demonstrate our shared values.

*The Poverty 24/6 Trust exists "to foster pastoral and educational outreach to migrants who have been deported from the United States of America. There are numerous orphanages, senior homes, rehab centers, and deportee centers who Poverty 24/6 helps on a regular basis. There are also a growing number of families now living at the Nogales city garbage dump whom are visited, clothed and fed.*

*Our shared Value of Prayer* is demonstrated by the Deacons from the Diocese of Tucson who work to make the lives of these unfortunates better. SMA regularly provides personal care items, vitamins, dietary supplements and First Aid supplies to Poverty 24/6.



Donations make their way to help the people at the Nogales Dump, the Rehab Centers and other centers listed on this page.

*The Values of Community and Spirituality* are shared with *The Giving Tree*.

SMA works closely with the Giving Tree providing a wide range of donations; diapers, formula, personal care items, First Aid supplies, and food supplements. Their outreach includes several homes they maintain to keep homeless families together.



*"The mission of The Giving Tree is to support and improve the quality of life for children, families, elderly and disabled individuals. We are committed to breaking the cycle of poverty, homelessness, and abuse in this community of marginalized people. It all starts with the very basic necessities: food and shelter."*



One of SMA's first associations was with the organizers of **St. Andrew's Children's Clinic**. We share with them the *Values of Simplicity and Celebration*. All children deserve to be cared for; their lives are a celebration of our faith in humanity. This clinic accomplishes so much with so little.

*"St. Andrew's Children's Clinic is a non-denominational, non-profit organization that provides medical and surgical care to impoverished children living in Mexico. Approximately 200-250 children are seen the first Thursday of each month except July. All medical staff members are volunteers. They provide medical specialty care to our patients. Every October, in cooperation with Children's Surgery International, approximately 40 children have cleft palate/cleft lip surgery in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. This mission has become a special project because it involves enthusiastic volunteers on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border who work with the medical team to give patients smiles and a much better life."*

We are able to provide them with needed medical supplies to accomplish their mission and aid them in caring for children in great need.

*No More Deaths* is an organization whose mission is to end death and suffering on the U.S./Mexico border through civil initiative: the conviction that people of conscience must work openly and in community to uphold fundamental human rights.



**The desert shrine created by No More Deaths and Samaritans to remember fallen migrants.**

SMA is grateful for the opportunity to assist them in their mission. Our shared *Values of Justice, Apostolate and Providence* are exemplified in the work this group accomplishes. We regularly provide medical supplies, first aid supplies and personal care items. There is a never ending need for support.



Southwest Medical Aid is proud to be "green." We share *Values of Universality* with *World Care*. *"The pillar of World Care is "Recycling and Reusing for Humanity First." Thus, EVERY REUSABLE ITEM brought into our doors is fixed, polished, and redistributed into the community. Items that can be of no further use are broken down into their raw materials and are recycled using responsible methods."*

**Nothing** is wasted at SMA. All surplus glass, paper, cardboard, and plastic is taken to World Care each month to be recycled.

\*\*\*\*\*

In addition to the organizations featured, attached is a detailed list all 46 recipients and the dollar value of goods received. It's pretty awesome when you look at the numbers!

\*\*\*\*\*

SMA's annual Rummage Sale was held in October. It was another successful fundraiser for us. We raised \$1400. A special thanks to Faye Coffeen who managed this project again.

## *Our Upcoming Events*

*Market on the Move* to be held in conjunction with The 3000 Club at parks in the City of South Tucson. The first will be Saturday, December 18. Free produce will be distributed, up to 50# per family.

*Dinner and Silent Auction* with Bishop Kicanis to be held April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. It's not too soon to call for tickets! \$35 per person and includes meal and drinks. Featured in our Silent Auction will be pieces from Fr. Mike Kendall's art collection (donated to SMA after Fr.'s untimely death) We have a mini gallery displaying the collection at SMA's office. Please call for an appointment to view or check it out online

<http://salvatorians.com/sma/default.htm>. We will preview the Silent Auction Sale November through April 10<sup>th</sup> at HALF PRICE to anyone who would like to purchase an article on display before the party. Come in; check it out. Call Jan 577-8500 or 955-3620 for an appointment.

## *2011 Mission Trip to Belize*

We are in the process of planning our 2011 Mission Trip. This year we will be traveling to Belize. Our mission will be helping the people on the western edge of the country in the town of Benque located on the Mopan River. Belize is a beautiful lush country with many excursion possibilities after the mission, from ancient ruins to snorkeling. During the mission there will be opportunities to help build homes, work with children and of course, work in the medical clinic.

The group will leave Tucson Friday, February 25, 2011 and return Sunday, March 6, 2011. You are welcome to plan individual trips before or after the mission. The cost is expected to be much the same as our previous trips. The next informational meeting about the Belize trip will be on Sunday, January 9 at 1 pm at SMA. Please call for additional information.

There is room for approximately 25 people. A deposit of \$1500 will be required to hold your spot. Please feel free to call Cheryl Cecil at 520-869-4083 or SMA 520-325-3965.

## *Wish List*

- New Computer
- Carpenter labor and/or supplies for a new work table for our volunteers



*From the Director:*

Our thanks to all of you who read this for supporting us financially, by volunteering in our office /warehouse, for sustaining us by attending our programs and fundraisers, and by serving on our Board of Directors and committees. Without you we could not do what we do. Because of you, we ship over \$1 million of supplies each year to help ease the lives of those poor who are ill and have no other means of receiving medical aid.

July 2009 - June 2010

Vincent Abramo  
Miriam Abramoske  
Barrio Brewery  
Jan Bitzan SDS  
Rodney Caramella  
Carondelet Health Network  
Cheryl Cecil  
Fr. Peter Coffey SDS  
Faye Coffeen  
Fr. David Cooney SDS  
Lin Cross  
Kathleen Daily  
Monica Fugit  
Heartland Hospice  
Davis Kitchens  
Mark Fay  
Bill and Stuart Goettsch  
Diane Goetzinger SDS  
Fr. Don Loskot SDS  
Ethel Luzario  
Maintenance Services  
Dr. John Miller  
Most Holy Trinity Parish  
Peppi's House TMC Hospice  
Fran Kahl Ricci  
Steve Roberts  
Society of the Divine Savior, Joint Leadership Group  
St. Cyril's Parish  
St. Thomas' Marian Club  
St. Thomas' Quilt and Toy Ministry  
Sr. Clarice Steinfeldt SDS  
Sunflower Market  
Tanque Verde Swap Meet  
Lon Taylor  
U Store It  
University Medical Center  
Sr. Elizabeth Vetter SDS  
Dr. John Wagner  
Marilyn Worth

*In the Spirit of the Salvatorians, Thank You All!*