

SURGEONS OF HOPE

SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

We are excited to announce that our upcoming mission to Mexico is now scheduled from July 19-22 when we have been invited to visit the Hospital Infantil de Mexico Federico Gomez in Mexico City, Mexico. Under the leadership of Dr. Antonio Cabrera, our team has been asked to make a thorough assessment of the hospital's pediatric cardiac program. We are thrilled to assist in this effort. Watch for postings of stories and photos on our FB, Instagram and website.



Updates from the field

It Takes a Heart to Save a Heart

Surgeons of Hope continues to support the work of the skilled medical team in Paraguay focusing on building capacity within the public health sector. Through close collaboration there is sustainable progress. Since 2019, over 600 children with heart problems have been helped.

Progress in Paraguay and in other countries is exactly what Surgeons of Hope seeks to bring to Latin America, so that children afflicted with heart conditions that they are born with or acquire in their early years can receive first-world treatment for those conditions without needing to travel great distances to other countries to receive treatment. The benefit is obvious for the children and their families.

Reports from the Paraguay team indicate a higher volume of less-invasive, but effective, catheterization procedures, as well as open-heart surgeries with no complications. These reports from April and May are gratifying to the local medical team and to the team leaders at Surgeons of Hope. Here is a selection of the success stories documented by the Paraguayan Public Health Ministry.

Meet our Heart Heroes



Lizzeth, at 9 years of age, was suffering from arterial aneurysms and had undergone various corrective procedures. Results of a follow-up catheterization in early April showed the good news that the arteries were now functioning normally with proper diameters. Our support of a well-supplied and maintained catheterization department at the hospital has been essential.

Surgeons of Hope has supplied equipment and training to the local team during past missions. We celebrate along with Lizzeth and her family.

Little Evelyn, at 3 years of age, was suffering from a heart valve problem that had been limiting her life since birth. In late May, Evelyn underwent a therapeutic catheterization using a balloon catheter. The procedure was accomplished without complication and she is happily at home now.

Thanks to her local medical team, she was cared for close to home in her local hospital, where Surgeons of Hope has supported needed upgrades.



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Training activities

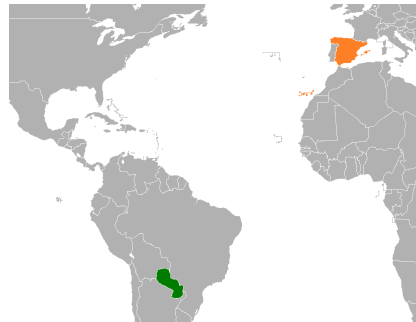


International Quality Improvement Collaborative
for Congenital Heart Disease (IQIC)
Improving care in low- and middle-income countries

Surgeons of Hope is collaborating with the team at **The Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón** in Madrid to invite and accommodate nurses from the **Hospital General Pediátrico Acosta Ñu** in Paraguay for training. Nurses will be trained in cardiac hemodynamics, perfusion and critical care for children with congenital heart defects



We are happy to announce that our team in Paraguay has been invited to be part of the International Quality Improvement Collaborative (IQIC) for Congenital Heart Disease (CHD). This program was launched in 2008 to provide benchmarking data for congenital heart surgery in the developing world with the overall goal of guiding quality improvement efforts and reducing mortality for CHD. Assembling data from over 70 sites in more than 25 different countries, the principal goals are to 1) create tailored quality improvement strategies to reduce mortality and major complications in emerging programs and 2) employ a telemedicine platform to facilitate distance learning, dialogue, and to disseminate knowledge and skills.



Board Updates



Congratulations, Eduardo da Cruz, MD

Eduardo will join Boston Children's Hospital in September as Chief, Division of Pediatric Cardiovascular Intensive Care and will hold the Peter Lang Chair of Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care. He will also be a Professor at Harvard Medical School. Surgeons of Hope congratulates Eduardo on this new chapter in an illustrious medical and teaching career. Eduardo will continue his service as Co-Chair of Surgeons of Hope and has indicated that moving to the East Coast from Colorado will make it easier to travel to SoH in New York City. Among his professional humanitarian accomplishments, Eduardo also serves as Expert Advisor, European Commission. SoH has been fortunate to have had Eduardo at our helm over the last 10 + years. We are confident this new role will help expand our network of

supporters and further enhance our work in Latin America.

Transitions



The Board would like to acknowledge and express deepest appreciation to Ann Garraud for her years of dedication to Surgeons of Hope and its mission. She has contributed her talents freely and fully to SoH. Ann stepped down from the board at the end of June 2022.

HELP US SAVE ONE MORE

Surgeons of Hope will continue to expand our work in Latin America. We are organizing four missions before the end of 2022 to Costa Rica and Paraguay. Thanks to donors like you, we've made remarkable progress this year—but we also have a long way to go. By clicking here and giving what you can today, you are helping to save a child's life.

[Donate](#)

