

Lipscomb University Spring Break

Chichicastenango

March 11-18 2023

Team Members

Nathan Russell (DDS - WA), Tim Silvas (DDS - WA), Brian Cress (MD - MN), Andrew Marshall (DDS - TN), Melissa Marshall (TN), Elisabeth Bernard (PA - TN), Eric Lander MD (TN), Alan Bradshaw PhD (Lipscomb Faculty Leader), (Univ. Students) Reece Collie, Aamariah Crow, Cleyci Aleman, Millie Knewikow, Libby Gould, Jaeden Hansen, Madalyn Lambert, Kelly Lander, Abbie Marshall, Mackenzie Meadows, Nour Moussaed, Hannah Mulzer, Lorelei Self, Olivia Sibly, Maddie Smith, Sammy Smith, Angela Steidl, Maddy Stephenson, Edmund Zhu, and Bode Teague (HTI Team Leader).



Because of the flight schedules, our arrival times were varied. Those coming in from Seattle arrived on Friday as well as Dr. Cress and myself. Most of the Lipscomb team members arrived mid Saturday afternoon of the 11th which required a nights stay at the Barcelo in Guatemala City. We ate dinner at Pizza Hut and enjoyed a good nights rest before a busy weeks schedule.

On Sunday, the 12th, we were met at the hotel by Kemmel and Lisa and were quickly on our way to Chichi. We arrived at the Casa Del Re Hotel in time for lunch and a quick meeting before heading out to see the city and do a little shopping. We met back up for a brief meeting on what to expect for the week and then attended the Chichi Church for the evening worship. The service was filled with great singing, preaching, and a memorable communion service.

Monday began with breakfast and a short gathering to assign roles and destinations. Most of us traveled the 2 hour drive to San Jorge while a small team served at Clinica Caris for the day. The San Jorge clinic was set up just off the town square in a large community facility. We set up 4 dental stations and 3 health evaluation stations for the large crowd that had gathered for the day. By the end of the day, we had served 40 ABC students and 47 other patients. It was a very successful day and productive day and for most of us, our introduction to black salt.

On Tuesday, we divided the team into four groups. While one smaller team went to Clinica Caris, other teams went to Saquilla, Chiche, while the larger team traveled back to Paxot. This was a very successful day in that we were able to service 50 ABC students and 38 others. I would like to add that the Lipscomb team was asked to be prepared to offer kids constructive things to do while waiting. There was lots of face painting, story telling and coloring happening at each clinic. The students did a wonderful job of engaging the kids and creating a bond of friendship.





Wednesday began like most every day with breakfast and a quick meeting for assignments and loading up gear. This day provided three destinations for the team. By now the team was filled with excitement knowing that there would be patients awaiting their arrival at each destination and that each person would be a blessing to them. By the end of the day we had successfully treated 47 ABC students and 45 others.



On Thursday morning, we were divided once again into three groups. One smaller group staying in Chichicastenango and setting up a clinic in the church building, while another small team returned to Clinica Caris and the larger group returning to Paxot. I stayed back at the hotel with one team member who was not feeling well and had been up much of the night with stomach issues. She needed the rest. By the end of the day, the teams had collectively seen 37 ABC students and 66 others.

By the end of the week, having set up clinics for four consecutive days, we serviced a total of 174 ABC students and 196 other patients for a grand total of 370. The patients were grateful for the care they received while the team members were blessed by the patients in so many ways.



The next morning, our team split yet again with two of our members returning to the airport for flights back to Seattle, while the remainder of the team were shuttled to Antigua for a few hours of shopping, eating, and site seeing. Later on that afternoon we reconvened at the hotel where the ACU team was staying and were transported back to Guatemala City and the Barcelo for a very short nights rest. At 3:30 AM, we shuttled back to the airport where we returned home on 6:00 am flights.

All in all, it was a very productive and fruitful week. The team members and Lipscomb students were very excited for the experience and many Guatemalan people were aided by their service.

Thank you to all who lifted us up in prayer while on our trip. Your thoughts and prayers were felt and greatly appreciated.

Bode Teague

