## **Season's Greetings**

## The Healing Hands Foundation Family

**Happy Holidays!** 2016 was another great year for The Healing Hands Foundation! (THHF). Our volunteers were able to participate in mission trips to Ecuador, Guatemala and Bolivia. THHF conducted and/or participated in three mission trips this year spreading healing powers around Latin America. In addition, THHF partnerships with other organizations increased, thereby reinforcing our power of giving.

Here are some of the highlights:

- THHF's Executive team traveled to Riobamba, Ecuador in January of 2016. This trip was a triage mission trip to select the candidates that were going to receive free surgeries. Riobamba is located on the south side of Ecuador (four hours south of the capital city of Quito) in the Andes Mountains at 9,000 feet above sea level. In February the THHF team returned to Riobamba on its second annual Ecuador Mission. The medical team led by Dr. Flores was able to perform 52 surgeries on 47 patients in 5 days.
- THHF's eighth annual mission trip to Patzun, Guatemala took place in the beginning of November 2016. A group of 38 volunteers from Baltimore, DC, Miami, Tampa, Seattle, Fort Worth, Houston, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and California participated in this mission. We are proud to say that this mission surpassed our 2009-2015 missions, and we can say once again that this was the best, most successful mission completed by THHF. With the creation of our branch "The Healing Hands Foundation-Guatemala (THHFG)" or "Fundacion Manos Sanadoras Guatemala" led by Steven Gandara, once again the 2016 mission reached another level. THHF & THHFG were able to perform 95 surgeries, and performed 610 dental procedures (Patzun, Finca de Margaritas and Livingston). In addition, this year THHFG and THHF were able to fund the transport of 6 Operating Room Lights that were donated by Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. These OR lights were installed before our team arrived in Patzun. Our team was able to use the new OR lights.
- Partnerships:
  - **DIRECT RELIEF:** Direct Relief has partnered with THHF to provide annual medical supplies for our missions. We are thankful and fortunate to have Direct Relief as part of our Healing Hands family.
  - **STC:** Scientific Technologies Corporations has partnered with THHF and we are very fortunate to have STC provide volunteers as part of the THHF Family.
  - <u>WALK IN MY SHOES:</u> Walk in My Shoes Global projects also partners with us to provide shoes for the children during our mission trips.
  - <u>THE RTS FAMILY FOUNDATION:</u> They have been a great partner by providing annual funding for our missions and projects. We are very fortunate to have them as part of our Healing Hands Family.
  - <u>THHFG:</u> Our partnership with Healing Hands Guatemala has been superb for the last seven years. We are very fortunate to have a group of dedicated and giving people in Guatemala. We look forward to continuing our relationship with THHFG.
  - **THHFE:** Our partnership with Healing Hands Ecuador was established this year in February 2015. We are happy to report that we have started the process of registering THHFE as foundation in Ecuador and we will get the certification soon. This partnership has been a blessing for THHF and we will be able to continue our annual missions in Ecuador and South America. We are very fortunate to have a group of people that are willing to help the Ecuadorian and South American people. We look forward to continuing this relationship for years to come.
  - FRIENDS FOUNDATION: Special THANK YOU to the FF for selecting THHF this year to be the recipient at their annual holiday gala. They worked very hard to make this event a success on December 2, 2016 in Annapolis. Proceeds from their FF event will help THHF fund missions in 2017. We are very fortunate to have FF as a partners this year. Thank you, thank you thank you. HIDDEN VILLA RANCH: THANK YOU for your donation!!! Some of the funds were used to subsidize some of the key volunteers that could not afford to pay for their airfare.
  - **PERRIGO** We are grateful to Perrigo for donating essential medications to our cause.
- THHF had many fundraising events including our Orioles events, a Half Marathon in DC, the Ragnar 200 mile relay race with Team Hereford (Stays In the Zone), and several events in Miami. Please keep checking our web site for more details.

Without the support of all our volunteers, friends, family, co-workers, sponsors, and donors, these amazing missions would not be possible. The Board of Directors would like to thank you for all your support and contributions in 2016. We look forward to your continuing support, and can't stress enough that we will need your help to continue with our mission.

Would you consider giving a gift in any amount to support our future missions? Help children in need. They deserve a chance! <a href="https://www.thhfoundation.org">www.thhfoundation.org</a>.

May this holiday season find you and your family in peace, happiness and good health! HAPPY HOLIDAYS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Marco V. Ávila, P.E.

The Healing Hands Foundation

Healing Our World... One Child at a Time!