

Trip Report October 13 -31 2014.
Anne Ruch - October 13, Oct 31
Randy Ruch - October 24-Oct. 31
Lisa Roddis - Oct 17-Oct 24

Cervical Cancer Program - It was incredible to have Lisa on this trip. She was able to read all the paps from the week before she arrived as well as the week she was there. Therefore, we were able to provide treatment for all of those patients on this trip.

Total paps done - 440.

Abnormal - 41

4 cases of invasive cervical cancer.

Good follow-up on the abnormalities we found on the last trip.

LEEPs - 5

Cryo - 14

Biopsies - 25

We had jornadas in

a. Our clinic in Santa Ana

b. Anita's clinic in Sayaxche

c. Fire station in La Libertad

d. Red Cross in San Benito

e. Govt. Health Clinic in Poptun

f. Municipality building in Las Cruces

g. Macanché - a very poor village in the department of Flores. The mayor there is very supportive of our work and very interested in working with us on public health projects.

Meeting with the **president of the Banrural** in Santa Elena. He is eager to have us become one of their primary providers for cervical cancer prevention in their region. He said that he would send us a copy of a contract. Also said that perhaps we could have a meeting with their leadership team in Guatemala City. He first learned about our work in the Prensa Libre article last year.

Met with **Eduardo**. We went to his home and he wasn't there but he surprised us by showing up at our hotel that night. He is doing really well - he is clearly so close to God. He continues to give so many thanks to Dr. Zakeri and to Carol and Paul Doerffler who cared for him during his stay. We called the Doerfflers and sent an email to Dr. Zakeri who was so touched by this communication.

Clinic Construction -

Randy and Ismael and Hanssel staked out exactly where the clinic will be positioned according to the plans.

We brought the latest plans that Tim had drawn up. Had a meeting with the head of the Construction team that will be doing the work on the clinic. He had many great questions and seems to clearly understand the project. He gave us a budget which is within reason. In order to stay within our budget of 50K-60K, we are going to start

with a little more than half of the original plan. It will include the northwest side of the building and will include the central waiting area. It will be designed in such a way that the rest of the building can be added on later.

Randy and Ismael visited the home where the floor and bunkbeds were put in on the last trip. They are doing really well and now they are building a place for a separate kitchen and they also built another building for more housing. The bunk beds were moved into there. Randy describes it as "camping fulltime!"

Santos Home - Randy and Ismael and Hanssel worked on the home putting in fill material on the floors. They rented a tamper to compact the floor. We went to visit the house one evening. Ismael didn't think anyone would be there but sure enough, one of the sons was there planting. And within a few minutes, Santos came. She was delighted to see us. She looks about 20 years younger and has a beautiful and bright smile! Ismael hopes the home will be finished within the next month and they can move in. There has been constant rain making it difficult to complete the home.

Other clinic issues - Unfortunately, Carmen has not been doing the job that we asked of her regarding the diabetic patients. One of the patients in the group showed up in DKA. Anne contacted Coral and we decided that starting her on insulin in an uncontrolled setting would be fruitless. However, we visited her 2 days after she came and she was swinging on her hammock and said that she had improved greatly because of boiling an herb which she drank!! Anne will follow up with Coral on how we should proceed with goals for our clinic.

Orfe and Ismael feel that Carmen is more of a job for them than she is a help. However, she can be helpful in doing very specific tasks such as cleaning the clinic and preparing the food for the children. They are going to talk to her about this.

Randy's Birthday - You could all only wish that you could spend your birthday in Guatemala! It was full of fireworks, a great piñada, and the best tres leches cake you could eat!

Randy and I ran a **12 K race** that started in Paxcamon. Randy came in 3rd for the masters and so he had a photo taken with **Juan Carlos Sagastume** who is a world class ultra-runner and a member of the Guatemala Olympic committee. We talked to him about our organization and he offered to help us with future runs. We were surprised to find out that now there is a running event every month (if not every week!) since we had our event this year!!

Water Purification units - We are looking for new villages to put these systems in where they will be cared for. Randy and Ismael went to Mango to talk to one of the community leaders about putting in another water purification unit. Also, the mayor of the municipality of Flores (who is a doctor), said they would really need one in Macanché. In that village, the water is extremely polluted and the people are very motivated to have a water system.

Education

Anne spent a day with the children at the beach. It was so much fun for them and a great way for us all to get to know each other better. We gave them Chicken Campero which they acted like was the best meal they ever ate! They treasured the bathing suits that we brought that were given by donors. They swam for at least 4 hours despite the chilly temp and rain!

Anne finished up the testing of the children on the math and reading skills. The math tests were in groups and the reading tests were individual. It was a really wonderful opportunity to get to know the children and continue building our relationship with them. The tests were recorded and given to Roxanne who is working on recording their advancement.