



The Boletín



Medicos-en-Accion Antigua Guatemala Surgical Team

Summer 2017

Escape the Rain and Snow in 2018!

And help make a difference to someone's life.

Planning is well underway for Medicos-en-Accion's 2018 mission to Antigua, Guatemala. This will be the team's nineteenth mission to the Guatemalan city.



The hearing clinic has become an important service.

The size of the team varies from 30 - 35 people and includes surgeons, surgical assistants, OR nurses, PAR nurses, audiologists, translators and general volunteers. The scope of work depends on the make-up of the team. If you are considering joining us, please complete an application ASAP as it helps enormously with planning the mission.

How do I apply?

The easiest route is to send us an email at medicoscanada@gmail.com and we'll forward you the application package. The application package is also available on our Facebook site. After your application is received, it is forwarded to the appropriate team leader

for review and approval. Please enclose copies of all the required documentation.

Medicos-en-Accion generally works on a money in/money out model with expenses fully covered by participants. The team also relies on the donation of some surgical supplies, hearing aids and batteries. The team also pays a fee per surgical patient to the hospital to cover overhead expenses such as oxygen and post operative care. Through fundraising, we have also received financial support from members of our communities who share our goal of improving the lives of Guatemalans. For many, volunteer medical teams are their only option for medical attention.

Fundraising for your 2018 mission

The dedication of the team is very much appreciated as it is a big commitment to travel to Guatemala. Medicos missions operate on a full cost recovery model and for our team that adds up to \$800USD per person. The costs do creep up and the current exchange rate adds to the burden.

This year we were impressed with the imaginative fundraising ideas demonstrated by many team members. Congratulations! Please remember that if you do receive direct donations to cover the cost of your trip, you must keep track of donors' contact information and amount so that person will receive a tax receipt.

How to make a donation?

Direct:

Some people ask friends and family for donations to support their mission. Cheques can be sent to Medicos en Accion at our Kamloops address. Please ensure that the donor identifies that their cheque is to support you. Cheques are payable to Medicos en Accion.

Indirect:

Medicos en Accion is also listed with Canadahelps.org - on their home page the search term is 'Medicos en Accion Society.'

- ◆ Under "donate to the charity now", enter the amount
- ◆ In the message box, please enter "Guatemala Surgery" for general team donations. If it is for a specific person, please enter the volunteer's name. Please include **Mission 2018**.
- ◆ After following the onscreen instructions, Canada Helps will issue a tax receipt to the email address provided by the donor.

Note: For 2017 tax receipts, donations must be made before December 31, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact us at medicoscanada@gmail.com



2018 Mission: Friday, January 26 - Saturday, February 10, 2018

Mission Report: Flores (San Benito)

Hospital Shalom, Flores Guatemala.

At the end of March, a small team (8 volunteers) launched an exploratory mission to Hospital Shalom to provide ENT clinic and surgical services and a Hearing Clinic. The hospital, located in Flores, is about a 13 hour drive from Antigua or about a one hour flight from Guatemala City. It is also the jumping off point for visitors to Tikal.



During the five working days more than 120 patients were seen in the ENT clinic and 30 patients were seen in the Hearing Clinic. Fifteen surgeries and ten ENT procedures were completed; 33 hearing tests were conducted and 14 new hearing aids issued.

Residents of the Peten have challenges accessing medical/surgical services due to the distance they have to travel to central locations like Antigua. One of the goals of this mission was to assess the potential at Hospital Shalom for expanded volunteer surgical services in the future.

The team provided the hospital with suggestions for equipment and supplies that would be needed to develop the facility for future medical missions by Medicos en Accion and other teams.



About Medicos-en-Accion Canada

Formed in 2001, Medicos-en-Accion's volunteers provide surgical services, community health and education support in Guatemala and The Gambia.

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Kamloops, British Columbia
V2C 1N9

Medicos-en-Accion/Guatemala
1431 Frontier Place
Nanaimo, BC V9X 1P5

Medicos-en-Accion Board

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FB: [medicosenaccion](https://www.facebook.com/medicosenaccion) Antigua surgical team
URL: www.medicos-en-accion.com

Medicos-en-Accion is a registered charity in Canada.

Plan now for the 2018 Mission January 26- February 10

Applications are now being accepted for 2018 on a first received basis. This means a fully completed application form, signed waiver, certificates and for physicians, a copy of your degree, specialization certificate and current license. If your license will be renewed after your application is posted, please send a renewal after you receive it.



The application package is attached to this newsletter.

Please ensure your application is complete *before* you mail it. Your application must include a cheque for \$300 CDN, payable to *Medicos en Accion* or it will not be considered. If you are not accepted to the team, you will be notified via email and your cheque will be shredded. For those accepted to the mission, the amount will be deducted from your final donation and expenses.

We regret that because of limited team accommodations, friends and family visiting with team members should make their own hotel arrangements.

Application deadline: June 30, 2017



For information about the mission or fundraising, please contact us at

medicoscanada@gmail.com



To help us with planning,
please apply by June 30th!



Waiting area, Hospital Hermano Pedro, at the end of a long day.

YES, I want to make a difference to someone's life!

I am sponsoring _____ surgeries X \$75 each: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Make cheques payable to: Medicos-en-Accion
Thank you. Tax receipts will be issued for donations received to support this project.



Please mail your donation to:

Medicos-en-Accion (Antigua Team)
c/o 450 Greenstone Drive
Kamloops, BC V2C 1N9