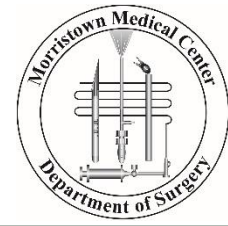




UNIDAD HOSPITALARIA MOVIL LATINO AMERICA (UHMLA)

SPRING OF 2018 UPDATE



ESTABLISHING A SURGICAL CENTER IN HONDURAS



In its initial phase, UHMLA operated with the short-term goal of

simply covering the expenses of each upcoming trip. Today with six years of experience, UHMLA has moved on to long-term planning and building a reserve of funds. UHMLA closed 2017 with credits exceeding \$100,000 and expenses slightly over \$80,000. After recently completing one of the three planned mission trips of 2018, we have maintained a reserve of over \$40,000.

UHMLA aims to deliver a quality of surgery equivalent to what is offered in the US, which requires transporting equipment and supplies to each site for each mission. In order to avoid the movement of equipment back and forth to the US, our initial thought was to move equipment through Latin America while various UHMLA teams travel from the US to consecutive locations. While this is still a possibility, we are now considering installing equipment

on a permanent basis at certain sites.

On our recent trip to Honduras we identified one such site for establishment of an UHMLA surgery center in La Frontera. La Frontera is a mountainous area in the Southwest region of Honduras bordering with El Salvador. This is one of the most underserved areas of the country, which is second only to Haiti as the poorest country in America. Shoulder to Shoulder, a US-based organization that has assumed the primary care for this entire region through 18 medical clinics, is staffed by 24 partner institutions from the US including university hospitals such as Johns Hopkins, Brown, University of Chicago, and Rochester.

Shoulder to Shoulder has already approached the health authorities in Honduras, who have expressed great interest in a surgery center in La Frontera. The exact location has yet to be decided. In the meantime, we have also approached hospitals in the US in order to obtain retired equipment that remains perfectly functional for our use.

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Contact Us @

www.UHMLA.com
hellouhmla@gmail.com

Phone: 908-200-8482

Mailing Address:

UHMLA, Inc.
1575 River Road East
Bedminster, NJ 07921



UHMLA RETURNS TO LA ESPERANZA, HONDURAS

The decision to embark on the Honduras 2018 mission trip was delayed due to concerns of violence after the presidential election. The final decision was made on January 27th, 2018. We held two Thursday evening meetings, February 1st and 8th in preparation for our departure on February 10th. A team of attending surgeons and anesthesiologists with prior experience on UHMLA trips in La Esperanza was assembled. The team included Ted McLean, Rolando Rolandelli, Isaac Spiteri, and Dan Chung. We also had a third anesthesiologist already ticketed to travel, but unable to attend due to a family emergency. Since we were already planning to travel without recovery room nurses, this loss was devastating. Fortunately, Gerry Lefever, with less than 24 hours' notice, boarded the plane with the rest of the team. Two chief residents also joined us on their first mission trip: Lyly Nguyen and Anand Shah. Operating room nurses included Kristyn Fabyanski (UHMLA Guatemala 2017), Lorene Caroleo, and Carolyn Neier. Furthermore, I was approached by Yuri Jaramillo and Dayanna Grau, two young nurse assistants who



The operating team at HEAC

work in Surgical Access in the Main OR at Morristown Medical Center. Both had just obtained their degree in nursing but had never practiced. We welcomed them into the group, trained them in circulating functions at MMC, and planned on Baptism by fire. Four additional members completed the team: Susie Kaye, Maggie Claudio, Suki Dewey, and Mercedes Rolandelli; all four had prior experience in UHMLA missions.



The team outside the hospital in La Esperanza, Honduras

The trip from Newark to La Esperanza was relatively uneventful, without any incident of violence in Tegucigalpa. On Sunday we made the usual transfer of duffle bags with supplies from

the hotel to the Hospital Enrique Aguilar Cerrato (HEAC) and began setting up the equipment while we screened the patients scheduled to undergo surgery on Monday. Upon unpacking we realized that we had left behind the light source for the camera. Fortunately, we were able to replace it with one available at HEAC. Since we only had one tray of laparoscopic instruments, we had to interpose a smaller case in between cholecystectomies so we could sterilize the set of instruments.



One of many patients with a team member

The schedule Monday through Thursday consisted of three cholecystectomies along with two minor cases in room 1 and five open cases in room 2. By Friday, we were left with a number of cholecystectomies but no smaller cases to interpose, so I decided that we would only complete one cholecystectomy in room 1 and remain available for any special cases in which our team could offer a distinctive

advantage over the local team (for example, cases involving pediatric anesthesia). We also participated in the care of an acute emergency on a physician colleague.

With two prior trips to La Esperanza under our belt, we had the advantage of knowing the hospital, the nurses, and some key physicians. We even had some returning patients. Every phase of the process went very smoothly. Patient selection, movement in and out of the operating room, surgery, and recovery were flawless. All physicians and nurses performed at their usual high level. The team members that stood out in this trip were Yuri, Dayanna, Maggie, Suki, and Mercedes. Yuri and Dayanna absorbed a lot and really

began to connect the dots between nursing school and clinical practice. By the second day both looked as if they had been practicing nursing for many years. Maggie successfully filled her usual role of social worker and scheduling officer. Suki continued her charge of turning over instruments between cases with professional expediency. Finally, Mercedes has really become an effective troubleshooter between the UHMLA team and the hospital employees. Nurses, secretaries, sterilization technicians, and many others relied on her mediation.

All operations were accomplished as planned without any complications. We finished the week with the

usual ceremonies: Shoulder to Shoulder expressed their appreciation for our work and we recognized the great effort they make to support us. Typically, at HEAC there is only one or two elective general surgery cases; during this particular visit we increased this amount to 10-12.

After all our hard work we even had the opportunity to enjoy some sightseeing on Friday afternoon. Luckily, on Saturday morning, we left Honduras just ahead of a snowstorm. No matter how many of these trips one makes, there is always a great deal of emotions to “unpack,” as well as luggage. Our next mission will take place in Yantaló, Perú June 23rd through June 30th, 2018.

METRICS

UHMLA Fall 2015 – Spring 2018 All-Time Metrics

Patients Screened	470	Team Members	92
Surgical Procedures	307	Nurses	23
Office Procedures	30	Residents	8
Emergency Consults	7	Clinical Assistants	7
Trips	6	Anesthesiologists	5
Honduras	3	Surgeons	5
Guatemala	3	Nurse Anesthetists	2

ABOUT: LA FRONTERA, HONDURAS



Intibucá is a Department in the western region of Honduras on the border with El Salvador. It covers an extension of over 3,000 square kilometers and contains mountainous terrain with very few roads. The population stands at just less than 250,000. The capital of the Department is La Esperanza with 13,000 inhabitants. The hub of Shoulder to Shoulder in Intibucá is Concepcion. Through donations obtained by Dr. Susan Kaye, STS has built a medical facility that already provides dental and obstetrical care, as well as preventive medicine. STS provides services in Intibucá to nearly 70,000 people through the use of 22 Health Centers.



Above: Shoulder to Shoulder Campus in Concepcion. Left: Drs. Kaye, McLean, and Rolandelli assess the physical plant. Right: Visiting Agua Salada an Aldea with a Shoulder to Shoulder Clinic



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

We began 2017 with a Spring cocktail and hors-d'oeuvres event in which UHMLA honored Dr. Gerry Lefever for his long-time commitment to missionary surgery and to UHMLA's mission. Prior to the Fall event we were low on funds necessary to embark on the 2017 Guatemala trip, so great effort was made by several loyal UHMLA supporters. The Diehl family planned a surprise birthday party for Billy and requested donations to UHMLA in lieu of presents. This was an incredible feat by Maureen, Timarie, Emily, and Ryan Diehl. The request resulted in over \$15,000 in donations. Zubin Bamboat also set up a "Gofundme" page which drew the attention of his friends and family from Dubai. The "Gofundme" ultimately raised \$11,000.

Significant donations came from other dedicated team members as well. A MMC chief resident, Ben Schroer and his wife Francesca, volunteered to go to Guatemala in September 2017. A condition of attending any UHMLA mission is a contribution of \$500 per team member. The amount may be donated or fundraised individually. Surgeons and anesthesiologists must also pay for their own airfare. Residents and nurses usually receive funding from a grant on behalf of the Benjamin Josephson Foundation. The Schroers were able to raise \$5,000 from Scott and Tracey Pester on behalf of the Meerwarth Family Foundation. Lyly Nguyen attended the recent trip to Honduras and raised \$1,000. We have also received \$1,800 from The Benevity Community Impact Foundation, which collects money donated through various entities such as Amazon when consumers indicate UHMLA Inc. as their charity choice; hence, thank you to those who have done so. Over the Christmas holiday, the Tamburro family collected checks among family members in attendance, as well. Thank you to all for donating and participating in UHMLA fundraisers.

2017		Credits	Debits	Total
Fund-raising Events	Spring	\$11,040	\$(4,170)	\$6,870
	Summer	\$1,422	\$(201)	\$1,221
	Fall	\$26,537	\$(14,608)	\$11,929
Standing Supporters		\$20,259		\$20,259
Team Members		\$14,825		\$14,825
Other Foundations		\$11,082		\$11,082
In Lieu of Birthday Gift		\$15,444		\$15,444
		\$100,609	\$(18,979)	\$81,629



Casino Royale Event October 2017

On October 27th, 2018, UHMLA hosted a Casino Royale event at the Grand Summit Hotel. The James Bond-themed evening inspired guests to dress the part as they enjoyed blackjack, craps, roulette, raffle prizes, and an auction. The "winner" of the evening in terms of elegant dressing was Carl Stopper. Patty Stopper and Hillary Rush proposed the initial idea of a Casino night to the group. For those who had never attended a fundraiser based on casino gambling, it was difficult to imagine how it would work. It turned out to be a great success: people had fun and made generous donations as they tried their chances at different games. Nearly every attendee left with a gift basket, rug, painting, etc. The evening resulted in a net gain of nearly \$12,000 and will take place again in 2018.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring of 2018: *Art, Wine, and Acknowledgement*

Date: May 18th, 2018, 7:00 PM

Venue: Knights of Columbus Club, 13 South Street, Morristown, New Jersey

Offering: Drinks and hors d'oeuvres, sales and auctioning of art and wines

Proceeds Will: Expand surgical resources in Honduras

Ticket: \$50 per person

Fall of 2018: *Casino Royale*

Date: November 2nd, 2018, 6:30 PM

Venue: Grand Summit Hotel, Summit, New Jersey

Offering: Open bar and hors d'oeuvres; blackjack, craps, and roulette; raffles and auctioning of art and entertainment

Proceeds Will: Benefit future missions including Honduras and Guatemala 2019

Ticket: TBA

To benefit the Unidad Hospitalaria Móvil en Latino América (UHMLA)



Paul Christopher Conticelli

You are invited to an evening
of
**Art, Wine &
Acknowledgement**

UHMLA is hosting a special evening open to all in Mo'Town to celebrate our supporters and raise funds to expand surgical resources in Honduras and enhance UHMLA's local capabilities and efficiencies during missions.

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served while enjoying a multi-artist display and wine tasting, both with options to purchase. Fundraiser admission \$50 per person

Tickets available at UHMLA.org

Knights of Columbus
13 South Street, Morristown

May 18, 2018
7-10 PM

Art

Tim Smith -

<https://www.theartworkoftimsmith.com>

Paul Christopher Conticelli -

<https://www.paulchristopher.nyc>

Todd Monaghan - <https://www.tminism.com>

Mike Bell - <http://www.belldogstudio.com>

Avra Art Gallery - <https://www.avraart.com>

40% Proceeds will go to UHMLA

Wine Tasting

Cambridge Wines

Cases for a cause

All profits will go to UHMLA

Acknowledgement

2018 UHMLA Volunteer of the Year for past, present and future contributions (TBA at the event)

Venue Knights of Columbus: the Stoppers

Art Curator James Richards

Food La Strada Millburn

Drinks Bottle Co

We look forward to seeing you at the Art, Wine, and Acknowledgement Night on May 18th!

2017 – EARLY 2018 NOTEWORTHY DONATIONS

Founder's Circle

Gifts of \$5,000 - \$10,000

- ♦ Benjamin Josephson Fund (Overlook Medical Center)
- ♦ Meerwarth Family Foundation (Scott & Tracey Pester)
- ♦ Morristown Medical Center Medical Dental Staff
- ♦ Nora Kurtz Family Foundation

Lempira's Circle

Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999

- ♦ Henri & Jennine Caro
- ♦ William Diehl
- ♦ Edward McLean

Túpac Amaru's Circle

Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499

- ♦ Bamba & Bissli Consulting Services
- ♦ Ariane Dewey Dannasch
- ♦ Christina Dewey
- ♦ Suki Dewey
- ♦ Kennedy & Karla Gabre
- ♦ Vadim Koshenkov
- ♦ Michael & Kathleen Kuchera
- ♦ Gerald Lefever
- ♦ Lyly Nguyen
- ♦ Charles Smart
- ♦ Guy & Angela Taylor
- ♦ Donald & Nancy Vardaro
- ♦ Dorothy Waddleton

Tecúm Umán's Circle

Gifts of \$500 - \$999

- ♦ Kenny & Susan Ardrey
- ♦ Christel Bauer & Walter Lewis
- ♦ Mitchel & Naomi Carter
- ♦ Stavros & Moira Christoudias
- ♦ Mary & David Cobb
- ♦ Carey Dolgin
- ♦ Paul Figlia
- ♦ Zachary & Michelle Helms
- ♦ Nabil Jacir
- ♦ Joel & Joel, LLP
- ♦ Richard & Patricia Laudino
- ♦ Stuart Levy
- ♦ Michael Most
- ♦ Zoltan Nemeth
- ♦ Paypal Charitable Giving
- ♦ Steven & Cindy Porbunderwala
- ♦ Farhad Rafizadeh
- ♦ Jonathan Reich
- ♦ Keith Riabov
- ♦ Rosemarie Sauerzopf
- ♦ Peter Tamburro

Donate today at

www.uhmla.com

**Thank you to all our
wonderful donors!**



It's all about the people in need