

PARAGUAY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

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"And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God, and to perform healing." Luke 9:2

HEARTBEATS OF LOVE

Tatiana lleva latidos de amor a su casa



Imagine—your daughter of seven years has long been diagnosed with heart failure. You live in a poor country which offers little economic or medical hope. You travel to Europe frantically searching for assistance, but word arrives that your little one has entered a terminal phase. You must return home. Hopelessness, despair and devastation threaten to crush you.

Then in the midst of this darkness comes the news—from a hospital who, will not only coordinate the intricate and complex procedure to replace her heart, but also will completely cover the entire cost!

This was the reality that Lilian and Sebastián Benítez lived this past summer. Then, at the critical moment, a donor heart was selflessly provided by a couple whose daughter had died from neurological complications. On September 1st, Tatiana Benítez received a new heart as over 68 medical professionals intervened at Centro Médico Bautista.

"God directed everything. We never lost faith!" declared the mother at a special thanksgiving service the hospital hosted on the day of Tatiana's discharge.

Helping the helpless and unfortunate is the business of CMB and so it has been for over half a century. Dramatic cases like Tatiana's represent thousands of others on a lesser scale—but in each one God is glorified and the love of Jesus Christ is made visible. As Chaplain José Lezcano preached in the thanksgiving service, "God is the Supreme Donor. He did not donate just an organ, but rather the whole life of His own Son."

HEARTBEATS OF LOVE *continued*

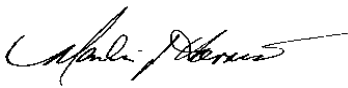
The Bible promises in I Samuel 2:30, “For who honors Me, I will honor...”. I can attest from personal knowledge, involvement, and experience that this institution of health is a beacon of God’s Light in a dark land. Powerful rays of Truth and Light such as related above emanate regularly. The Baptist Medical Center exists solely to serve God and man. They desperately need our help to continue. Earlier this year, they “stepped out” on faith to expand and upgrade the antiquated Radiology and Imaging facilities, investing over \$100,000 to provide the infrastructure. They are asking our help for an additional \$100,000 to acquire the needed equipment.

The cost of Tatiana’s transplant easily represents a significant equipment purchase, but it also clearly demonstrates the leadership’s determination to maintain the original purposes of CMB to help others and depend upon God for the rest.

I consider it a great privilege to be an advocate for Centro Médico Bautista. They receive no other assistance other than what our foundation can raise. So many of you understand their need, identify with this cause and have selflessly given to this incredible mission. Thank you for your example and challenge to us all.

As we conclude this year please, prayerfully consider a gift to Centro Médico Bautista to help fund this vitally needed project—which is their “heart transplant” to continue quality diagnosis and care to thousands in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior.

Please accept my deepest wishes for a very blessed Christmas,



Marlin Harris
President, PBMCF

A Letter From Paraguay

Blessing to you and your family. I hope all of you are doing well.

I just wanted to let you know that after the heart transplant that was performed August 31st/Sept. 1st on the 6 year old girl Tatiana, another transplant was performed on October 30th/31st on a young man 19 years of age, Jose Antonio. He is from San Lorenzo and is from a very poor family. He worked with his father selling baked goods their mother prepared in their home and also did some work on small appliances. That is what he was studying for; however he fell ill after a severe viral infection.

He is slowly recovering but we are confident the Lord will heal him. The Lord provided a donor heart from a Mennonite gentleman that had suffered a severe head trauma after a fall.

CMB is absorbing all costs associated with this procedure. I ask you to be in prayer for the resources and also, as you know, the world does not always view CMB with good intentions and continues to try to attack us in many ways.

(Next paragraph shortened from original text)

I also wanted you to know that our Foundation here at Centro Médico Bautista is trying to raise funds but so far we have raised very little. Our costs have gone up and the exchange rate of the dollar has been low.

It hurts me that we cannot do more because the needs are so great.

I ask for your prayers regarding these points.

Mirtha Monges
Executive Director,
Fundación CMB

Dear Prayer Warriors,

Through your encompassing compassionate prayer, you were present during the first Global Medical Alliance encounter at the International Learning Center as your IMB medical missionaries from around the world met together and rejoiced with God's results and prayed together about barriers and persecution.

The Global Medical Alliance was quite an exciting time as I met the 75% of our IMB medical colleagues serving behind closed doors with their young families in dangerous areas yet following the Lord wherever He leads. As you read the daily news about dangerous countries closed to the Gospel, pray for your IMB missionaries reaching those people groups.

They need, deserve and appreciate your sacrificial support in prayer and giving. You may never read or hear their names associated with their assignments. They cannot appear on the missionary birthday calendar for security reasons. They are in harm's way sharing God's love in homes, treating tuberculosis and other dreaded diseases, of people who have been forbidden to listen to the Gospel.

In Paraguay on Tom's 71st birthday, November 18 during Baptist Medical Center mobile clinic, in an area where the Gospel had not yet been heard, 17 trusted the Lord. Moreover Paraguayan Baptist churches are seeing people continually coming to Christ as never before. Numerous new outreach groups have been started and simple churches planted.

What a mighty God we serve! What a wonderful way for Him to bless so abundantly and visibly!

Judi Kent

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your support during 2007. An opportunity to give a tax-favored gift from an IRA to a charity such as the Paraguay Baptist Medical Center Foundation is set to expire on December 31, 2007. The IRA Charitable Rollover Provision was enacted into law last year.

This provision allows individuals who are at least 70½ to make a tax-free gift of up to \$100,000 from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified 501 (c)(3) public charity without including the distribution in their gross income. The distribution will also qualify toward the IRA required distribution rules, and does not count toward the 50% adjusted gross income limitation on charitable gifts of cash.

Now is a great time to consider using this mechanism to make a charitable gift. If this provision does not apply to you due to your circumstance, please share it with someone for whom it does.

Thanks for your consideration.

Al Hethcock
Executive Director

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year*

*Feliz Navidad
y
Próspero Año 2008*



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