

CARE IN ACTION A GLOBAL, ONGOING RESPONSE TO COVID-19



Communities in Honduras and the Dominican Republic continue to be heavily impacted by the spread of COVID-19. Despite these challenges, our teams are finding ways to provide safe, comprehensive care.

In Honduras, the Holy Family Surgery Center (HFSC) team partners closely with NPH leadership to ensure an effective response for the children, staff, and patients. Many clinical teammates have volunteered to remain onsite to help as needed. NPH staff are using the Moscato Visitor Center to quarantine prior to reporting to work. Supplies, medications and equipment for response and quarantine also continue to be provided.

At HFSC, the clinical staff has resumed performing elective surgery up to three days a week! A detailed

reopening plan is in place to increase patient capacity while mitigating infection risk. Weekly consults are focused on wound care management and orthopedic needs. Virtual consults are offered to patients unable to travel to the center, and to OWS and NPH staff and their families as needed for COVID-19 response.

In August, CEO Claire Cunningham and her family returned to their home in the Dominican Republic as the country began lifting restrictions and resuming commercial flights. With her support, construction on the new medical center is underway. Our local medical team continues to care for patients with ongoing or urgent health needs.



One of those patients receiving care is Eugenia Ilisa. For five years, Eugenia experienced itchy, watery eyes; eventually this became more serious and her ability to see was compromised, making it difficult to care for her family and her home. Through OWS's Patient Assistance Program, she was diagnosed with a pterygium that required surgical removal. A volunteer surgeon visiting through NPH Germany provided the surgery through OWS funding. With her eyesight restored, Eugenia says her life will be different now. "Thank you to God and the people who helped me receive this care and may God bless them and the doctors."

VIRTUAL SOLUTIONS TO MEDICAL CHALLENGES: Volunteer Virtual Consults



While medical missions are on hold, our U.S. clinical volunteers are making an impact virtually through the OWS virtual consult program. This bidirectional collaboration between our Honduran and Dominican physicians and our U.S. clinical volunteers results in expert patient treatment plans. During two-hour, on-call shifts, specialists receive calls from our local physicians to discuss patients' complaints and collaborate on the best course of action. After finishing the first virtual consult, Dr. Jhomairy Miller, OWS local physician, said, "As a Dominican doctor, having this collaboration available allows me to learn the medical point of view of foreign doctors and perhaps other ways of evaluating the patients and treating their comorbidities...I believe that with both points of view, an excellent service can be provided, which represents the OWS community."

We are recruiting volunteers to support our Dominican clinical team. **To help, visit www.oneworldsurgery.org/medical-mission/** if you are a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant who specializes in internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, cardiology, rheumatology, or dermatology. Stay tuned for the launch of virtual consults with the team in Honduras!

For additional questions, contact medicalmissions@oneworldsurgery.org or 847-267-3539.



YOU'RE INVITED!

One World Surgery is going virtual! Aligning with **best practices** for the health of our guests, we welcome our entire global OWS community on October 30th for a **spectacular night** of new and familiar faces, **compelling stories**, and **news** from our teams in Honduras and the DR. Our Virtual Gala is **free** to attend.

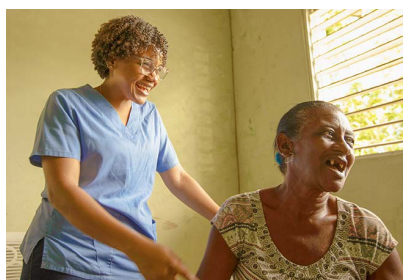
OCTOBER 30

RSVP at
oneworldsurgery.org/gala/
to obtain the event link.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT
DR. JHOMAIRY MILLER & HEALTH PROMOTER TEAM

The beginning of July marked a milestone for One World Surgery with the hiring of Dr. Jhomairy Miller, our first local physician in the Dominican Republic! Born and raised in the DR, Dr. Miller received her medical degree at La Universidad Central del Este in San Pedro de Macoris. Since graduating, she has worked as a physician and part-time English teacher. Dr. Miller served as



a volunteer interpreter on multiple OWS medical missions. She now conducts home visits with patients who have chronic illnesses, as identified by volunteers during medical missions. She also leads follow-up care for patients with urgent or specialized needs, as identified by the Patient Assistance Program.

Dr. Miller partners with our health promoters, Ramon and Angela, who accompany her to the bateyes during follow-up consults. Ramon and Angela help navigate the community and locate where each patient lives. They educate the community about key chronic health conditions, particularly diabetes and hypertension. By providing patient education, our health promoters create a continuity of care that ensures better health outcomes. Both Ramon and Angela live in the bateyes and worked previously for OWS as health surveyors, gathering information about the health needs of the various bateyes surrounding our future clinic and identifying future surgical candidates and patients requiring immediate medical attention.

Miguelina, a nurse for OWS, accompanies the team and supports the Patient Assistance Program. Every day, she helps patients who require immediate attention. From helping them get to medical and lab appointments to following up on their medications, she is a true advocate with a heart for our patients and mission. She has even helped acquire blood for patient surgeries because this is a patient requirement at local hospitals.

The entire team ensures ongoing support and treatment in the community, as well as assisting during medical missions. They are One World Surgery's onsite leaders and healers who are creating a sustainable impact in communities with urgent medical needs.

