

Medical clinic extends service



The launch of the on-site medical clinic in July was so successful that by February we entered into phase 2—inviting additional local citizens identified with chronic conditions to become patients of Dr. Martinez, bringing the total patient count to 25. The newest patients were identified by the Canadian medical team that visited Skylark in November. Another 35 potential future patients were identified by the medical mission team that visited in March of this year.

Patients receive not only health checks and medication, but education - both written and verbal -and health kits, both of which are small but significant pieces in promoting and

encouraging well-being. Dr. Martinez is currently providing education to patients and Skylark staff relating to the COVID-19 outbreak as well.

The clinic, focusing on those with chronic conditions, is key in a health model which allows Canadian and US-based mission teams the opportunity to evaluate and assess a broader base of the population. We are looking to expand services to include dental and gynecological care which are both in high-demand and even higher need. It's an exciting time!

Pastoral Conference

Over 75 Christian leaders were taught, equipped and encouraged during October 2019's "Follow Jesus" Conference. They attended general sessions on Pastoral leadership, and understanding the bible, and family-focused sessions on discipline and living out their faith. Each participant expressed deep gratitude for all who allowed for this conference to take place, testifying that many others would be touched in turn as they returned to their churches and ministries.

Video testimonies are available on [YouTube](#) (search for Threefold Ministries).

Many thanks to returning Pastors Steve Bourque and Deane Proctor for joining Wayne, and for your tremendous leading!



Photos: S. Bourque, D. Proctor



Construction mission

This ever-dedicated team worked alongside Skylark staff to complete significant projects during their November mission. The primary project was the expansion and reconfiguration of the workshop to meet new Nicaraguan Ministry of Labour standards. Improvements and repairs were made to the guards' station and in various places around the property. Work was done on the wood-burning stove prototype. Tremendous job!! A special shout-out to Chloe who did an amazing job reorganizing the pharmacy in readiness for the arriving medical teams. Thanks to her and to Peter, Ary, Joe, Ed, Don, John, Henk, Dave, Ray and Bob—the power team!



Medical missions



Thanks to the Drs Moquin, pharmacist Heather and keen volunteer Marg, who, in November, accompanied by Dr. Martinez, saw 328 patients with varying degrees of need—from one taken directly to hospital, to a young man with an unidentifiable rash, to an infant that was failing to thrive. Patients were identified to be included in the roster for the on-site clinic. Some were assessed for, and provided, reading glasses. It was a busy week, but oh so rewarding!

The specialist Foot-care team completed their inaugural mission during the first week of March. A great majority of the 175 patients received had diabetes or other chronic illnesses that contributed to, in some cases quite severe, problems 'below the knee'. Yet again, one was taken directly to the hospital. 35 were identified to attend the on-site clinic as space and resources become available. Dr. Martinez worked alongside Ontario nurses Linda, Donna, Maria, Catherine, Grethe, Judith and BJ. Specialist Debra focused her time on training 10 local young adults in basic footcare assessment and treatment, all of whom have gained invaluable and unique skills and education! Our goal, now, is to work to provide the necessary supports to these young people, allowing them to carry on the work of the team and support the health of the community. Thanks as well to team sponsor, Neubourg Skin Care.



Photo: G Johnson

We are very excited about what the work of both of these fabulous teams could mean for the future of health in the region. Greatest thanks to you all!!



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We are collectively part of something grand, something bigger than ourselves. God's handiwork is everywhere and evident!

We cannot forget to celebrate each day that programs run, that the Centre is used, that the lives of Nicaraguans are impacted.

We thank you wholeheartedly for your support. Most of all, we ask for your prayers as we journey through 2020 and beyond.

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Building Community, Empowering Communities, Following Faithfully