



CAMO

A different kind of aid organization



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CAMO is a non-profit, faith-based organization.

In This Issue:

- Honduran Nurses
Coming To Aultman 1
- Gaining Support and
Recognition 2-3
- Audiometria Brings
Sounds And Smiles 4
- Donation Will Help
Save Lives 5
- A Good Save 6-7
- USA Volunteers 8
- New Director for CAMO
Honduras 9
- Feb. - April Teams 10
- Salsa Sizzle/Golf Outing . 11

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Improving Care Through Partnerships

Honduran nurses coming to Aultman College this summer for training

ORRVILLE — Central American Medical Outreach is all about bringing better care through partnerships. In July, Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences will partner with Central American Medical Outreach with the goal of bringing an improved standard of nursing care to Honduras.

“One of the issues here in health care in Honduras is there is no standard by which doctors and nurses are measured when they get out of school. So, there is inequality of skills upon graduation,” notes CAMO’s founder Kathy Tschiegg.

With the support of the Honduran Ministry of Public Health, CAMO has announced a four-phase project to develop, implement and sustain a nationwide nursing continuing education program. Aultman College will participate in Phase One of the project by hosting four Honduran nurses for a month-long transcultural, multidisciplinary training course.

“The nurses will become immersed in learning updated nursing practices, teaching methodologies and adult learning theories as well as developing an orientation program for beginning practitioners in Honduras. Phase One helps meet the overall goal of this program by elevating the quality of nursing care and creating consistency and standardization of training and continuing education,” the college stated in a printed release.

The training will focus on needs identified in a survey of 200 Honduran health care providers at Hospital de Occidente in Santa Rosa de Copán.

“What they were asking for is more help in managing their sickest patients,” noted Deb Marino. An associate professor of nutrition and dietetics at the University of Akron, Marino conducted the survey with her husband, Joe, a doctor of internal medicine at Suburban South Family Physicians in Akron.

The Honduran nurses’ training at the college will focus on four areas of strongest need identified in the survey.

“A lot of the needs had to do with critical care patients, respiratory illnesses. Use of mechanical vents came up frequently, among all the different staff members,” Deb Marino said. “Some other areas were being able to read EKGs and to manage critical conditions.”

The four nurses coming to Aultman College are Haide Hernandez, 42, Kenia Calderon, 37, Norma Puerto Pacheco, 49, and Leticia Sanchez Bardales, 49. They bring to Aultman a total of 82 years of hospital nursing experience. Hernandez is subdirector of nursing. The other three are supervisors.

“These four nurses are real leaders. They are going to be able to come back and share what they have learned. The new employees will come in and have to meet a standard,” Deb Marino explained.

Marino emphasized that the goal of the four weeks at Aultman College is not so much to teach the nurses how to care for patients, but more to teach them how to implement standard, cohesive practices they then will be able to teach their co-workers in Honduras.

“They will be going through nursing manual and reviewing their standards and protocols, so that they can all meet basic standards of nursing care,” Deb Marino said. “This fits into Kathy’s vision of the counterpart role. We’re working with Aultman, and with our counterparts in Honduras, to build something that is desired by the staff in Honduras.”

Joe Marino envisions a longer-term goal for the project.

“Since the country does not have those (nursing) standards, perhaps CAMO can be instrumental in setting those standards. CAMO can bring a new level of standards and a new level of skills,” he said.



Nurses from Santa Rosa will be traveling to Canton this summer for training.

Gaining Support and Recognition

Work in the Area of Domestic Violence of Particular Interest for Lawmakers

SANTA ROSA – With two congressmen considering its request for \$250,000 a year, Central American Medical Outreach may soon get more help from the Honduran government than it ever has in the past.

CAMO executive director Kathy Tschiegg met with Congressmen Hugo Pinto and Jorge Pinto earlier this week. She said the congressmen, who serve the region of Copan, stated they were willing to promote the request in light of CAMO's contributions to Honduras. CAMO annually gives more than \$2 million in in-kind donations and more than 160,000 medical services.

This unprecedented support from the Congress would be an endorsement of CAMO's work, its mission and its value to the people of Honduras, Tschiegg said.

"We are asking the Congress to be 16 percent of the total help to Honduras," Tschiegg said.

Tschiegg also learned last week in a meeting with the Honduran vice minister of security that Honduras has received funding from the United States to increase security in the area of domestic violence and youth. CAMO was given the opportunity to share its model of domestic and community education.

"The vice minister was very interested in using the model of CAMO as they are just starting to address the area for the first time, ever, in the history of Honduras," Tschiegg said.

"CAMO has at least eight years of experience in this area, and we appear to be ahead of all (Honduran) agencies in this area," she added. "They have stated that the model we have developed will help them to



The courtyard at the domestic violence shelter includes a playground for children.

develop their strategy and be the model for the country."

CAMO's model not only has included training more than 500 peace officers, it has also built a network of more than 15 organizations that work from elementary school to college level to educate the public on prevention and intervention in the area of gender-based education to prevent domestic violence.

"(The US Agency for International Development) also has met with CAMO and is interested how CAMO has been developed. Four of the directors of USAID were in the meeting and said they were impressed with what we have done in health care and community development," Tschiegg said.

Tschiegg also received support for CAMO's Medical education initiative from the Honduran Secretary of Health – something she said has not happened in the 20 years she has led

CAMO. She said it appears Honduran health officials are refocusing on standardization of medical education.

CAMO has proposed a pilot program in cooperation with Aultman Hospital. In July, four Honduran nurses will receive advanced training with the goal of beginning an orientation program for all new nurses entering the public health system in the region of Copan. The support from the Honduran leadership on this key issue shows true progress for the health care of the poor of Honduras.

Tschiegg also met with the Honduran Secretary of Health. She said she left the meeting optimistic funds would be allocated to finish renovations to the public health system. She said she was told the Ministry of Health had designated the \$250,000 within its budget and it was "just a matter of paper work." The project was originally slated to wrap up in April 2014. CAMO's winter 2013 newsletter



estimated \$250,000 was needed to see the project to completion.

“There is money there to finish the public health center,” Tschiegg said.

Tschiegg finished her meeting in Tegucigalpa with the general manager of the largest cable company in Honduras. She requested for cable be donated permanently to the public health system to link into the phone system of the Hospital and CAMO Honduras, creating a public facility with a direct hospital connection.

“What this will mean is patients who are referred to the public health center will not be sent home due to lack of communication with the referring doctor, which in the past has resulted in deaths,” Tschiegg said.

Cable Color agreed to donate this service along with free Internet access once the public health facility is completed.



Above: The courtyard at the domestic violence shelter includes a playground for children.

Left: Children always have friends and supervision when staying at the shelter.



The rooms for women staying at the shelter include bunk beds.

Audiometria Project Brings Sounds – And Smiles – To Teenager

SANTA ROSA de COPAN, HONDURAS – When Olga Tabora talks about how happy she is to be able to hear in class, her classmates have a heartwarming response.

They smile, and clap, and cheer.

“I’m very happy with this. Thank you,” Olga relates through an interpreter as about 40 students around her applaud.

Olga, 13, was born deaf. When she was 4, she got a cochlear implant. The device was fine for one-on-one interactions, but a challenge in the classroom because of background noises.

So Olga’s parents contacted Central American Medical Outreach to see what could be done. The family’s answer came in the form of Steve Wood. He works for Gordon Stowe & Associates in Cuyahoga Falls. The company sells and services hearing testing equipment. Wood also heads up Audiometria, CAMO’s audiometrics initiative.

Wood developed a system for Olga. It is housed in a box that looks like a bird house placed high on the school room wall. A red wire encircles the room near the ceiling and attaches to the box. The box and the wire activate Olga’s cochlear implant when she enters the room. The teacher wears a microphone,



Olga Tabora is all smiles after CAMO’s assistance in helping her hear in her classroom.

and when she talks, the system allows Olga to hear what the teacher is saying.

“Basically, it’s meant to amplify just for her, at a volume she needs” in addition to taking out the background noise, Wood explained.

Wood’s Honduran counterpart in Olga’s care is Gloria Gabora. An employee of the Social Investment Group, (INSSA) Gabora is a technician with Audiometria and works with Olga, helping her to adjust to the system Wood designed for her.

“(Olga) must go through implant therapy to learn how to hear,” Wood explained.

Without Wood’s system, a speaker system would have to be used, with the speaker volume turned very loud. The technology Wood put in place allows Olga to get an education that will empower her to one day support herself.

If anyone can do it, Olga can, says Roberto Salgado, director of Alfa y Omega, the school where Olga attends 8th grade. She’ll have a lot of help from her friends, he adds.

“Olga is a very good student. The students are very supportive of her,” he said through an interpreter.



Gloria Gabora of Audiometria pins a microphone to Olga’s teacher, Mirna Hernandez.

Donation Will Help Save Lives In Honduras

An ultrasound examination at Hospital Regional de Occidente brought good news, and bad news, and good news for Maria.

Good news — She wasn't pregnant.

Bad news — She had cancer.

Good news — The ultrasound detected the tumor early, enabling CAMO surgeons to save her life.

CAMO-Honduras's improved ultrasound abilities are a tribute to Connecticut-based ATS Laboratories. ATS designs and manufactures tissue-mimicking phantoms. Phantoms are used "to monitor performance changes which may occur during normal operation of an ultrasound imaging system," according to the company's website.

The phantom was donated by ATS president and CEO Lynda Hammond.

"Your biomedical engineer had contacted us wanting to have some pricing and information on how to purchase one," relates Hammond.

"I Googled your organization. And I thought, 'no no no no no. This is going to be a donation,'" Hammond said.

The donation from ATS has helped staff in Honduras to monitor ultrasound equipment in use there and ensure it is working effectively. The equipment



Honduran staff perform fetal monitoring on a patient at Hospital Regionale de Occidente. A recently donated phantom by Connecticut-based ATS Laboratories assures ultrasound equipment provides consistently accurate images. The phantom helps staff deliver the best possible diagnostic ability.

donated by ATS is valued at \$3,000.

"Thanks to ATS laboratories and the phantom they donated, we are going to be able to improve the ultrasound maintenance and installation service ...we can check all the systems' image quality and performance," said German Barcenas, biomedical engineer for CAMO-Honduras.

Barcenas' work involves teaching doctors how to use the equipment. The donation from ATS will make his job easier, he said.

"It is going to be easier to teach the doctors how to draw a circle, measure with the caliper and perform measurements," he said.

He added that ultrasound machines in use in Honduras are used in OB/GYN, cardiac and general radiology applications.

"Thanks, Lynda Hammond, for donating such a great tool," he said.

Contributing By Searching And Purchasing

Goodsearch is a simple way contribute to CAMO. Each time you search the web (though Yahoo!-powered Goodsearch), shop online (at the 2,800+ stores on Goodshop) or dine out (at 10,000 Gooddining restaurants), Goodsearch makes a donation to your favorite cause. Visit www.goodsearch.com.

com and choose your cause. Create a user profile that will allow you to keep track of your individual amount raised.

Use the search box on our homepage or download a Good-To-Go add-on to search the Internet just like you normally would, with the added bonus that you are earning a donation for virtually every search.

Another easy way to support CAMO at no cost to you is through AmazonSmile. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same low



prices, selection and convenience as amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. To find out more about the program, see www.smile.amazon.com.



“A Good Save.” Eye Doctors And Plastic Surgeons Work Together To Improve The Life Of A Young Honduran

SANTA ROSA de COPAN, HONDURAS – Mario Murcia was just 9 years old when his life was changed horribly, quite literally in the blink of an eye.

He was riding in the bed of a pickup truck five years ago, coming home from a wake. The driver lost control and the truck flipped. Mario was thrown from the bed of the pickup.

Now 14, Mario sits silently, his chin and forehead in a slit lamp, not flinching or blinking as American ophthalmologist John Thomas, one of the many volunteer doctors with Central American Medical Outreach, adjusts the light and gently prods and stretches the scarred skin around Mario's damaged left eye.

As Thomas works, he shares observations and thoughts with his Honduran counterparts, ophthalmologists Hector Robles and his son Marco Robles, also an ophthalmologist. American plastic surgeon Linda Camp joins in the consultation.

“All we can hope for is better, not normal,” says Thomas, examining Mario's eye as he and the rest of the team lay out the care plan for Mario: Grafting to replace the part of the eyelid that appears to be missing and surgery to release the scar tissue that is making the area tight and painful.

The team talks not only about Mario's physical state, but also his mental health -- the boredom and loneliness Mario feels after dropping out of school as well as the mixture of emotions Mario feels following the encounters with school bullies who teased him so mercilessly about his appearance.

“It will be a good save,” Camp offers.



CAMO volunteer doctors, ophthalmologist John Thomas and plastic surgeon Linda Camp examine Mario Murcia's injured eye.



Thomas and Camp join in a rare joint operation to repair Mario's injured eye.

“Good saves and making lives better are a big part of what drives the partnerships that empower CAMO.”
- Kathy Tschiegg



Mario recovers shortly after surgery.

Good saves and making lives better are a big part of what drives the partnerships that empower CAMO. Founder Kathy Tschiegg says the organization strives to be more than just a “Band-Aid brigade.” The teams of American providers come down twice a year to enhance what is already in place.

“Dr. Robles presented this case to

Dr. Thomas, then because it involved plastics too, the plastics team comes in also. It is a great collaborative effort to resolve these problems,” she said.

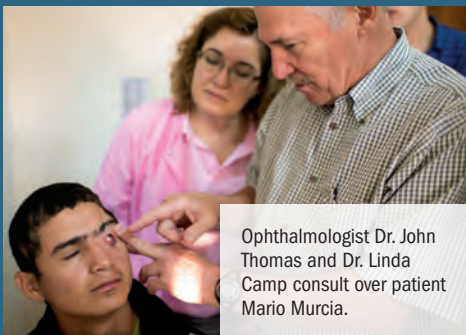
The same kind of cross-cultural exchange that preceded Mario’s surgery Wednesday will follow him through his physical and mental recovery, Tschiegg said.

“We have spoken to the (boy’s) mother about getting psychological counseling so he can get back into school,” Tschiegg said, noting CAMO’s Honduran staff includes five social workers, and of course Dr. Robles.

“The treatment doesn’t stop when (the American) team leaves. “We continue to follow this case and follow this family,” Tschiegg said.



Mario at home after the operation.



Ophthalmologist Dr. John Thomas and Dr. Linda Camp consult over patient Mario Murcia.

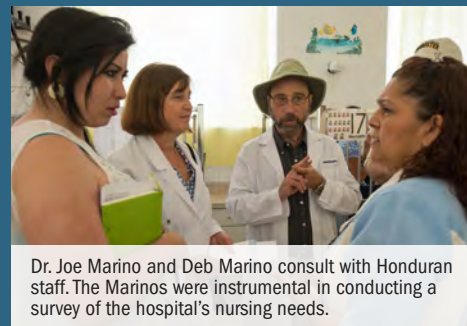


The February 2014 dental team and their Honduran counterparts.



Dentist Mark Gustafson and hygienist Cindy Mullet work together as part of the dental team.

It takes a village of people to support the arrival of the American teams. The USA volunteers are welcomed warmly, with music, food and lots of smiles and hugs. CAMO's volunteers are no longer viewed as outsiders. They're seen as good friends who roll up their sleeves and dig in with the help of their Honduran counterparts. More than 20 years of hard work and nurture have built these relationships in 31 medical specialties.



Dr. Joe Marino and Deb Marino consult with Honduran staff. The Marinos were instrumental in conducting a survey of the hospital's nursing needs.

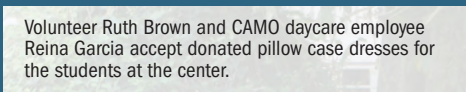


Author Barbara McKee travels with the dental team. Children receive her books as part of their visit.

The board in Honduras has a close relationship to the board in the USA. We work together with mutual respect and admiration to meet the great needs of those who often seem unheard. Through teamwork we have achieved great progress. Our message is coming through. We seem poised on the frontier of a promising new era, with more progress to come by pooling our resources and working together.



Dental hygienist Marilyn Humrichouser assists a Honduran counterpart.



Volunteer Ruth Brown and CAMO daycare employee Reina Garcia accept donated pillow case dresses for the students at the center.



Ophthalmologist Dr. Anson Miedel examines a patient's eyes with a slit lamp.



Emergency room crew Melissa Greavu, Jen Kugler, Kristen Beichler, Julie Brown, Michael Rode.



Pathology tech Susan Borocz works with Honduran counterpart.



Dr. Jorge Romero and Honduran counterparts.



Emergency medical volunteers Tim Larson and Dr. Tony Lazzano.

New Director Chosen For CAMO-Honduras

At this time CAMO's founder, Kathy Tschiegg, holds three positions. She is director of CAMO-Honduras, director of CAMO-USA, and is also President of CAMO's for-profit company in Honduras.

Many of CAMO's donors have expressed concern about Tschiegg's succession. We have worked in both Honduras and in the USA to assure the sustainability of CAMO for the long term. With this we have formed five committees. A board member leads each committee. Future board members are selected from these committees.

One of these committees is the Succession Committee. April 23, the Succession Committee named the future director of CAMO-Honduras.

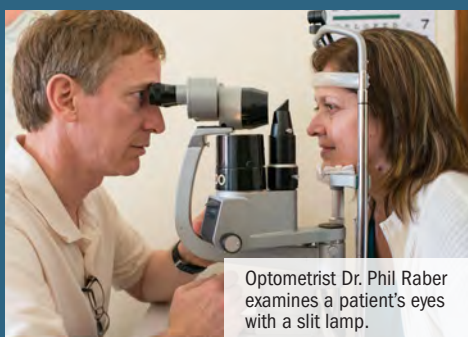
He will work with Tschiegg for the next two years as assistant director. He will move into the director position in 2016. The committee's second selection phase from 2016-2018 will include the selection of a new director for CAMO-USA.

Our candidate in Honduras "has shown complete interest and confirmed his nomination to become director of this organization," Tschiegg said. She noted the candidate is familiar with CAMO as an active board member and volunteer of CAMO-Honduras for many years. He also has been very active in Honduran government.

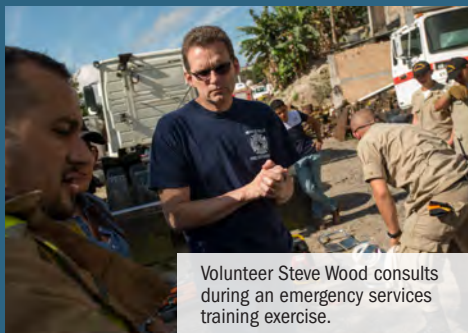
Tschiegg said his nomination is confirmed and he will start working with CAMO-Honduras in October 2014. The fall newsletter will announce the candidate's name and provide more details.

Selection of a new director of CAMO-Honduras is noteworthy because it is an important next step in the organization's succession, Tschiegg noted. April 30th ends CAMO's fiscal year. CAMO-Honduras has completed its operational plan and budget for the next year. The organization looks forward to a very productive year of service to those in need, Tschiegg said.

Thank you for being part of our future.



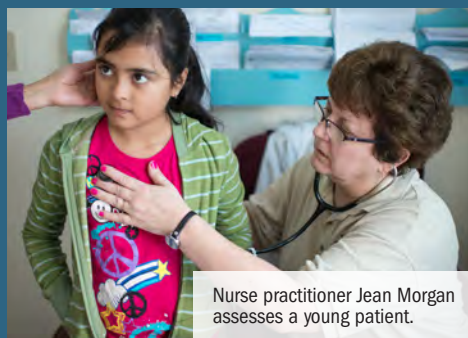
Optometrist Dr. Phil Raber examines a patient's eyes with a slit lamp.



Volunteer Steve Wood consults during an emergency services training exercise.



Dentist Juan Galvan works on a young patient.



Nurse practitioner Jean Morgan assesses a young patient.



ER nurses Melissa Greavu & Jen Kugler assess a young patient.



Dr. Tony Lazcano and interpreter Dr. Vera Gonzalez Anabis consult with Honduran counterpart.



CAMO USA and CAMO Honduras boards of directors.



Below is the table of 21 specialties and services rendered during the February-April teams.

Speciality	Services Provided	Value of Services
Audiometry/EMT	Equipment repair, and training	\$4,380.00
Dental	Exams, amalgam, prophylaxis, extractions, treatments etc.	\$149,465.00
Dental Equipment	Dental Equipment Repair	\$5,467.50
Eye Clinic	218 Consults, 17 Medical drops, 107 glasses	\$22,260.00
Eye Surgery	43 Surgical cases; 22 Cataracts, 5 DCR, 3 Pterygium Repairs, 3 Lacrimal Probing, 3 Ptosis Repairs, 3 Lesions	\$142,401.00
Marketing/Photos	Professional photos and marketing plan	\$4,550.00
Plastic Surgeries	Consults and Surgeries	\$119,180.00
Education	Education	\$12,800.00
Quickbooks	Quickbooks Training	\$1,460.00
Construction	Build false ceiling in X-ray	\$1,400.00
Literacy Program	Training	\$5,260.93
Biomedical	Medical equipment repair	\$0.00
Radiology	Teaching	\$542.50
Maintenance	Maintenance of equipment	\$2,352.00
Urology	Consults and Surgeries	\$28,950.00
OB/ GYN	Training	\$4,000.00
Fetal Monitoring	Fetal monitoring training	\$3,628.50
Respiratory Therapy	Teaching	\$4,000.00
ER Development	Worked with ER staff	\$25,192.00
Pathology Lab	Teaching	\$17,000.00
Prosthetic	Evaluations and fabrications	\$1,200.00
TOTAL		\$555,489.43



Get The Clubs Out And Help CAMO

Central American Medical Outreach hosts its 9th Annual Golf Scramble June 21 at the Pines Golf Club in Orrville. Please join us on the green for a great day of golf.

Registration/breakfast starts at 7:00 a.m. with shot gun start at 8:00 a.m. with lunch & awards upon completion of play.

Entry fee includes continental breakfast, 18 holes of golf with cart, driving range balls, goodie bag, hole-in-one contest and proximity awards. Sponsors are needed for Lunch \$500, Golf Cart \$150, Putting Contest \$150 Hole Sponsor \$100 and proximity awards \$100.



Please call the office if you're interested in signing up a foursome or sponsoring, 330-683-5956.

Printable registration/sponsorship brochure available at CAMO.org.



Basketballs, volleyballs, soccer balls, tennis balls or nets for these sports are always welcome donation items.



Visit CAMO's Facebook Page for Daily Updates!



Go Green!

Donate your old cell phones and empty ink/toner cartridges to CAMO. Please call the office for more information, (330) 683-5956 or (330) 313-1000.

CAMO PUTS THE *fun* IN FUNDRAISING!

This year's Salsa Sizzle has an exciting new twist. Latin dance instructor Joseph Rittenhouse offers an 8-week Salsa Lesson Series starting June 19th! For more information call 330-683-5956 or 330-845-0106, or go to www.josephsballroomdancing.com. Joseph will contribute \$20 to CAMO for each student who completes the series. Thanks Joseph! And students who complete the series get free admission to Salsa Sizzle! Of course you don't have to take dance lessons to join the party!

**Salsa Sizzle is August 9th
from 6-11 p.m. at the Wooster Inn.**

Cost is \$40 per ticket.

Salsa Sizzle supports the Women's Shelter in Santa Rosa. Domestic violence is the number 1 cause of death for women in Western Honduras. Help us continue to support the Women's Shelter as a safe haven for victims of abuse.

Food, music, dancing, celebrity bartenders & auction items... help us put the fun into fundraising!



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



CAMO

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Upcoming Events



End of School Year:

Throwing away your old school supplies?
Donate them to CAMO. We serve local schools and
daycares who are in need of these items!

- May 17th** Kathy Tschiegg addresses Rotary District 6650 Training Assembly
- May 21** Kathy Tschiegg addresses Alliance Rotary
- May 28** Kathy Tschiegg addresses Holmes County Rotary
- June 19** Kathy Tschiegg addresses Orrville Exchange Club
- June 21** 9th Annual Golf Scramble at the Pines
- August 9** 6th Annual Salsa Sizzle at the Wooster Inn. Call 330-845-0106 for more information on 8-week Salsa Dance series starting June 18.

Visit our website www.camo.org call our office 330-683-5956 for more information for more information

When you are done with this issue, please pass it along to someone you know who may be interested in our mission.



CAMO is
accredited by the
Better Business
Bureau and meets
all 21 standards.