



CAMO

A different kind of aid organization



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CAMO is a non-profit, faith-based organization. Bringing Hope to the Forgotten

Water Please!

“Baby” Steps Change Mindsets

When Heidi Unzicker and Mandy Ivanov arrived at the NICU in the Santa Rosa public hospital as part of CAMO’s February 2017 Volunteer Team, they knew something had to be changed – FAST. They observed horrible conditions for new mothers whose babies were being treated in the NICU. These new mothers had already been discharged, but they were forced to sleep on the floor or to share beds with other mothers while they waited for their babies to be treated. They were also in need of clean drinking water and food.

Heidi Unzicker and Mandy Ivanov knew that they alone could not change ingrained procedures. After observing and speaking with NICU staff, they spent three days with nurses in an open forum, first exploring issues and then working together toward simple, economical solutions.

Going forward, nurses will implement a ticket system for women who miss tray meals due to nursing. Breast pumps and training will be available to women who need them. CAMO also

will ensure that a year’s supply of water for both the maternity ward and the breast feeding area will be provided along with drinking water dispensers. Heidi Unzicker received a generous donation from her church which will be put toward these costs. Other donations accumulated, and by the end of the Feb. 2017 team week, CAMO committed to provide 6 additional months of water. Further, thanks to Mandy’s efforts, money to purchase at least one water dispenser was already collected by the time the team left in March.

CAMO also purchased 20 extra beds and (in collaboration with the Women of Saint Paul) converted a large area in the hospital into a sleeping area. As a result, a new mother discharged from the hospital will no longer have to sleep on the floor or in the street while her baby is being treated in the NICU.

After Heidi returned to Ohio and shared this story with her church, the congregation immediately took up a collection to further fund the water supply for mothers of NICU babies for the rest of the year. And each one of these “baby” steps helps change a culture and teaches medical staff how to treat people with dignity.

These seem like simple solutions, but if people do not see their own need, how can that need be met? THANK YOU to everyone who not only sees the need, but takes action to make real changes possible. YOUR donation truly does have impact.



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CAMO volunteers witnessed horrible conditions at the public hospital for new mothers whose babies were being treated in the NICU. In this tiny area, new mothers anxiously waited without food or clean water.

Maria Francis's Incredible Journey

How the CAMO Model Treats the Whole Person

Maria Francis was born with a severe cleft lip and palate. From that day, her family started saving up for her surgery. When Maria Francis was two, her family made the long trip with their savings, but were turned away by another organization. After that, they lost hope. But despite extreme poverty, Maria Francis's father continued to save every penny to pay for corrective surgery for his daughter. When a rural clinic nurse named Carmen came to vaccinate the residents of the small group of houses where Maria's family lived, she instantly felt for Maria. At 11 years old, Maria was constantly taunted by other children because of her appearance. Nurse Carmen is nothing short of an angel; she later caught sight of a sign announcing the coming of the CAMO brigade, wrote down the number and made another 5-hour journey to speak with Maria Francis's father. Just getting to that particular area was a 5-hour walk from the clinic where Carmen worked! Maria's family decided to take a leap of faith and HOPE that CAMO would be the answer.

Even with their savings, though, the family could never afford the journey to get to Santa Rosa (a 5-hour walk to get to a place where they could catch a bus, then a 7-hour bus ride, followed by an overnight stay in Gracias, followed by a 2-hour bus ride and finally a taxi ride to the hospital). So, for the next 4 months, the 10 neighboring families (all living in extreme poverty) pulled together enough money for the journey.

Maria Francis was one of 65 people, mostly children, hoping to be considered for a life-changing surgery from the February 2017 CAMO Plastics team. Of the 65 people who were screened, 31 were chosen to receive surgery that week, including Maria Francis.

Under the leadership of seasoned surgeon, Dr. Les Mohler, the CAMO Plastics team from the USA "counterparted" alongside Honduran doctors in surgery, so THEY can continue to learn techniques

and procedures they could never otherwise experience in Honduras. CAMO makes this possible using supplies and equipment donated from people JUST LIKE YOU.

After the surgery, Maria's mother cried when the bandages were removed. The CAMO Team was concerned, however, because Maria still needed follow-up care and extensive dental work. If Maria and her mother journeyed all the way back to their rural home, realistically they may not have been able to return for further care. And THIS is what makes CAMO unique. CAMO does not merely take a mission trip, perform surgery and send patients home. Everyone involved in CAMO aims to treat the WHOLE PERSON. When Founder and International Director, Kathy Tschiegg, spoke with Maria and her mother to find a solution, Kathy noticed that both of them were severely malnourished. Maria Francis had struggled to eat her whole life. At 11 years old, she weighed only 55lbs. So, Kathy suggested they remain in Santa Rosa until Maria could heal enough to have her dental work done. The CAMO Nutrition Team was called in and quickly went to work, bringing Maria a few chocolate Boost drinks to start. Through her still-swollen face, Maria managed to



Maria Francis was subjected to years of cruelty because of her appearance. A compassionate rural clinic nurse, who was only in Maria's remote area of 10 surrounding homes to provide vaccinations, knew CAMO could help her.

try a smile at the taste of the chocolate and the new feeling of drink in her mouth. Her mother smiled not just because of the care, but because it was the first time she saw Maria actually interact with others.

Maria and her mother stayed the weekend at the CAMO-supported Women's Shelter and then were moved to Teletón (a rehabilitation facility in long-time partnership with CAMO) until she could heal enough to visit the CAMO Dental Program. Afterward, Kathy



11-year-old Maria Francis kept her hand clamped over her face to hide the disfigurement of a cleft palate. Hers was one of 31 life-changing surgeries performed by the CAMO Plastics Team in one week's time.

Right: Before Maria Francis's surgery, CAMO photographer Ken Cedeno told her she was beautiful, but she did not believe him. Today, she not only sees her beauty, but she also believes she, as a whole person, is a beautiful girl. Below: Post surgery with her mother.



Without Nurse Carmen, Maria's family would not have known about the upcoming CAMO team.

Thank you for helping CAMO post the flyers, ship the donated equipment and supplies, and provide the surgery and the follow-up care. But mostly, thank you for helping Maria Francis believe she is a beautiful person. You have been a part of changing a life.

arranged for CAMO-Honduras staff to use a CAMO vehicle for the long journey back to Maria's home.

On the way, they paid a visit to Nurse Carmen from the little rural clinic. Nurse Carmen teared up and hugged the "new" Maria Francis. Once she returned home, Maria caught the eyes of the same children who for years taunted her, but this time they peeked around corners in shy disbelief.

Their families were the very people who had helped give Maria an amazing gift.

It is noteworthy to reflect on the fact that CAMO was founded on Kathy Tschiegg's passion to make a change after she witnessed the senseless deaths of 31 babies in a single month back in 1980. And now in 2017, there is not nearly enough space in this newsletter to tell the stories of all 31 individuals who received life-

changing medical surgeries in a single week. CAMO would not be CAMO without YOU. THANK YOU for helping CAMO post the flyers, ship the donated equipment and supplies, and provide the surgery and the follow-up care. But mostly, THANK YOU for helping Maria Francis believe she is a beautiful person. YOU have been a part of changing a life.

CAMO's Heart for Relationships Beats Strongly at the Daycare

If you could have one wish for your students, what would it be?

As the Daycare USA-counterpart, Robyn McClintock forms relationship bonds with the CAMO-supported Daycare Center staff, learning what they truly need and taking time to HEAR their concerns. This daycare center in Santa Rosa de Copán, Honduras daily provides 90 extremely poor children with safety, nutrition and education from a certified teacher (named Reina).

Each year Robyn asks Reina, “If you could have one wish for something for your classroom, what would it be?” Last year, Reina asked for anti-bacterial dispensers because the children had to wash their hands in contaminated water. This year, in addition to bringing children’s medications, hygiene supplies and washcloths for Leidy, the daycare nurse, Robyn also purchased much in the way of school supplies, toys, diapers, and one amazing gift which brought tears to Reina’s eyes: a water cooler – arranged and delivered internationally THAT SAME WEEK.

But being a CAMO counterpart is more than being a “deliverer of goods and services.”

A few years ago, Robyn’s sister, Rynae Westfall (during her first trip with CAMO to Honduras) met a little girl named Ivana. Instantly, Rynae and Ivana formed a special bond. This year, Rynae learned that Ivana had been having health issues and needed an Echocardiogram which would cost 3000 lempiras

(\$130 USD) plus money to travel to San Pedro for the service. That was more money than Ivana’s mother made in a whole month. The situation tugged at Rynae, who shared it with Robyn, who then called Kathy Tschiegg, CAMO’s International Director. Together, they figured out a way for Ivana to receive the care she needed for her heart, including the travel to San Pedro, as well.

So, what would be YOUR one wish for a child? Clean water? Basic medical supplies? Arrangements to receive a needed medical service? A new roof and structural stability? The Mattel Foundation made the latter possible this year with recent structural upgrades to the daycare, including a new roof over the section supervising babies aged two months to two years. Two more areas (each estimated at \$10,000) of the daycare roof still need repair, including the sleeping area and class areas.

Little Ivana may not notice the new roof as much as she notices the daycare’s bright and cheery atmosphere. She doesn’t know how a host of relationships intertwine together to give her a fresh and wholesome environment every day at the daycare. And she had no idea that YOUR DONATIONS made it possible for her to receive the care she needed for her heart. When CAMO says it has a “heart” for relationships, THIS is what “heart” looks like. THIS is what makes CAMO unique.



This is what “heart” looks like. This is what makes CAMO unique.

Left: For daycare teacher, Reina, being a counterpart to CAMO means having a place to voice concerns on behalf of the children. As a result, CAMO made her wish of clean water at the daycare center come true. **Middle:** On her second trip to Honduras with CAMO, Rynae Westfall follows up at the daycare center with her young friend, Ivana. **Right:** For Robyn McClintock, being a USA counterpart means forming a relationship with daycare staff including Leidy, the daycare nurse. The counterpart relationship involves time and effort to understand real needs.

Opportunity For Future Income

Donors like YOU help CAMO shape generations

With Santa Rosa's unemployment rate of 63%, the CAMO-supported Trade School shines as a creator of opportunities for youth and a bolster to community growth.

Becoming three of the 600 annual trade school graduates will give Lesly Pineda, Neidy Henriquez and Dulce Maria Peña the chance to overcome extreme cultural obstacles. Since graduation, the women have used the skills learned through the culinary program to move confidently into the future and become more involved in their communities. Dulce Maria currently applies her training at a local restaurant while Neidy is pursuing further education in business management with the goal of one day opening her own establishment. Lesly uses her knowledge of food safety and preparation as she cares for her family.

During the February 2017 team trip, the Wood family gave a very special gift: \$150,000 to expand the trade school, of which CAMO has financially and executively supported since 2004. A result of collaboration between the Swiss Government, the Charles Wood Family and matching funds from the city of Santa Rosa, this 3-phase expansion will allow the trade school to accept more students and will build dormitories for students who currently have to walk hours every day to attend classes. In addition, the school will add more specialty programs.

Crowds and press gathered for a large event in February 2017 showcasing the laying of the first brick of the expansion. The trade school culinary class prepared hors d'oeuvres for the event, and both the

carpentry and the metal-working classes had beautiful items on display. The mayor of Santa Rosa thanked the community and CAMO International Director, Kathy Tschiegg for all their support of the trade school.

Just as education is not isolated solely to the traditional classroom, CAMO believes that total health is not solely isolated to the "traditional" medical field. That is why CAMO continues to hold a seat on the Trade School Board and continues to seek and implement effective financial support for the school, as well. CAMO's presence helps provide the necessary ingredients (even in the culinary program) for youth to overcome the barriers of class, gender and society in Honduras.



Top Left: Collaboration between the Swiss government, the city of Santa Rosa and a generous donation of \$150,000 from the Wood family has made an expansion of the trade school possible. Top Right: The city of Santa Rosa agreed to match the funds donated by the Wood family. Charlie and Lynette Wood and Kathy Tschiegg all donned their construction hats and went to work! Bottom Left: Carpentry is one of the programs students can learn at the Trade School. Bottom Right: Lesly Pineda, Neidy Henriquez and Dulce Maria Peña are culinary program graduates from the Trade School.



DID YOU KNOW

- COSMETOLOGY IS A NEW COURSE THAT WILL BE OFFERED AT THE EXPANDED TRADE SCHOOL - AND IT IS ALREADY FULL!
- THAT THE HONDURAN SCHOOL YEAR RUNS FEBRUARY TO NOVEMBER?
- THAT HONDURAN SCHOOLS OPERATE IN "EDUCATIONAL NETWORKS," WHICH LINK AREA SCHOOLS TOGETHER?

Thank You to the February 2

Every morning during team weeks, CAMO volunteers gather for breakfast and devotions at 6am. That short time is filled with tears, laughter and sharing of stories before the long days begin. This is the place where the impact of their visit and of their fellow volunteers is realized. Their eyes reflect compassion and humility as they talk about each case, each life touched. They see CAMO making a difference in the lives of real human beings, and that is why these volunteers continue to come back year after year.

It is often a challenge to share with newsletter readers the true spirit of CAMO volunteers in action. But it is nothing short of pure joy to see the team volunteers bring their time, talent and passion year after year, and this year was no different. Thanks to all of YOU, CAMO provided over \$600k in services and touched countless lives with extraordinary life-saving and life-changing ways. Your time, your talent and your passion are much appreciated!



Front: Ken Cedeno, Loretta Erb, Yeny Garcia, Mary Loder, Juan Galvan, Kathy Tschiegg, Mary Anne Perrone, Barbara McKee. **Back:** Les Mohler, Gary Brown, Gareth Morgan, Helene Moncman, Rynae Westfall, Stephen Fabry, Hannah Loder, Shaun Riggenbach, Deb Miller, Robyn McClintock, Nancy Likens, Linda Louttit, Patti Wood, Stephen Wood, Jean Morgan, Deb Marino, Cindy Mullet, Brian Miller, Joe Marino, Tanya Falcone, Austin Isaac, Maria LaMontagne.

SPECIALTY	SERVICES PROVIDED	VALUE OF SERVICES
Professional Excellence Workshop	Course preparation and training for 37 CAMO staff members and 18 professional leaders from western Honduras.	\$8,860.00
Nutrition/Education	Nutrition Education: 1. Conduct research about nutritional status of pregnant women in the Public Health Center and Public Hospital. 2. Conduct research about sanitation in the Public Hospital.	\$29,359.00
Audiometry/EMT	Equipment repair, software installation, maintenance and training of INSSA's audiometry clinic.	\$8,450.00
Data Entry/Quickbooks	Quickbooks training/Excel spreadsheet information.	\$2,291.73
Daycare	Quality control of education in the daycare with identification of future educational needs.	\$2,211.00
Dental	Provide dental treatments to 519 children from 5 rural communities. Treatments include: exams, amalgam, prophylaxis and extractions.	\$150,719.00
Dental Equipment	Dental equipment repair of 12 dental units in health centers and schools during dental brigades and at the criminal center.	\$3,931.25
Telephone System	Installation of new phone system in the Academy of Professional Excellence (ACEP).	\$12,329.39
Plastic Surgeries	68 evaluations and 31 plastic surgeries with cleft lip and cleft palate as well as ear reconstructions and other deformations.	\$202,389.03
Neurology Research	Independent research for project prep and grants.	\$1,983.75
Eye Surgery	48 cataract surgeries at the Cruz de Leones Fraternidad Hospital in San Pedro Sula and 50 Cataract surgeries at the San Felipe Hospital in Tegucigalpa.	\$79,200.00
Biomedical	Medical equipment repair.	\$9,125.00
ER Development	Continuing Education and ER Staff Development in EKG Interpretations and ACLS training.	\$16,065.00
Literacy Program	Distribute 450 books to 9 schools currently in the Literacy program. Visit 3 new schools to be added to the program next year.	\$12,325.00
Marketing	Professional photos, creation of marketing plan and compilation of articles, photos and interviews.	\$3,115.00
Colposcopy and Cryotherapy	Continuing education to CAMO counterparts and training of 10 doctors in 3 health centers.	\$7,670.00
Lactation/Nutrition for New Mothers	Instruction to new mothers about lactation and nutrition at the Public Hospital de Occidente.	\$4,106.50
Pathology Lab	QA/QC of 1500 slides, review new case consults, digital microscopy training, and educational lectures/CME.	\$18,763.00
Urology	32 consults and 19 surgeries.	\$34,900.00
Respiratory Therapy	Instruction about ventilators use/repair.	\$2,890.00
	TOTAL	\$610,683.65

2017 CAMO Volunteer Teams!



How do you say thank you for such dedication & passion?

There just aren't words to convey the gratitude for all you do. Thank you seems such a small way to express our heartfelt thanks, but from everyone at CAMO-Honduras and CAMO-USA, we say a heartfelt "Thank You!"



Front: Ken Cedeno, Loretta Erb, Mary Anne Perrone, Hannah Loder, Barbara McKee. Back: Virginia Adams, Susan Borocz, Tony Lazcano, Buzz Emanuel, Arun Masih, Glenn Bower, Bob Warner, Darby Cox, Heidi Unzicker, Paul Crowley, Nancy Likens, Kathy Tschiegg, Deb Marino, Mandy Ivanov, Tim Larson, Joe Marino, Cindy Mullet, Austin Isaac, Jorge Romero, Anabis Vera Gonzalez, Zipporah Evania.

HELP US KEEP GOING!

Watch for these Upcoming Events



WATCH FOR "CAMO IN A BOX"!

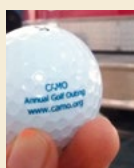
This DIY kit contains all the tools you will need to be part of CAMO's journey, wherever you live!



9TH ANNUAL SALSA SIZZLE

August 26, 2017 · Wooster Inn, Wooster, Ohio

"Leave a Legacy" and spend an inspirational evening with friends of CAMO!



12TH ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

June 10, 2017 · Pines Golf Club, Orrville, Ohio

Golf for Hope while enjoying old favorites and a new event, the Golf Ball Drop!



#GIVINGTUESDAY

GIVING TUESDAY

November 28, 2017

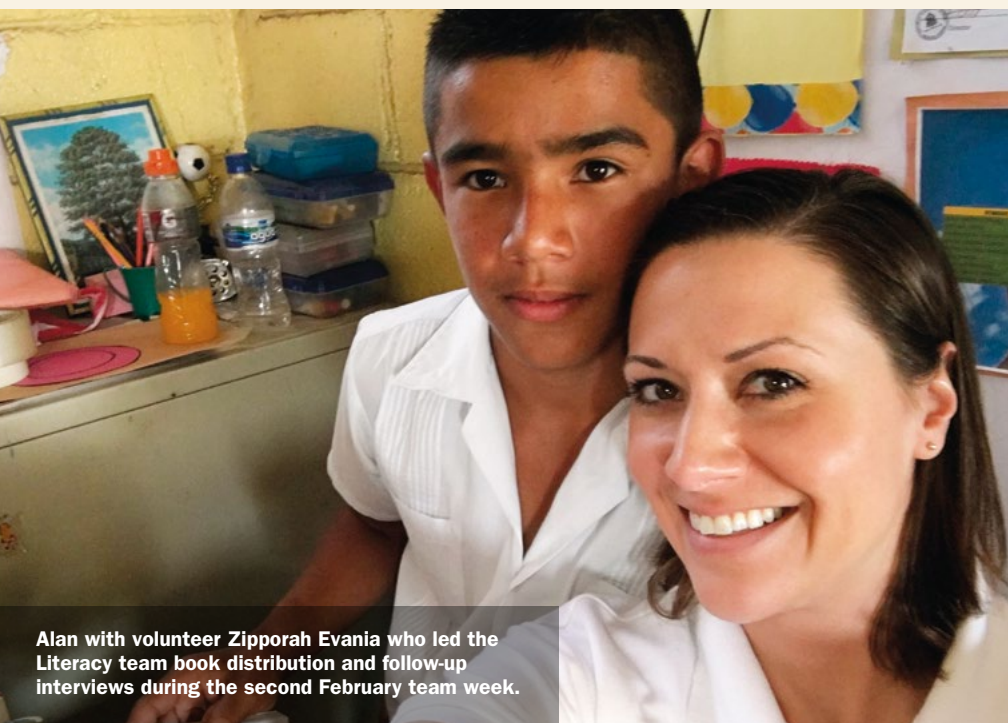
Help CAMO give HOPE on this global day of giving!

Literacy Program

Wow! A New Book!

New books are exciting for anyone, but 7th-grade Alan had more reasons than most to be excited. In February 2017, the CAMO Literacy Team delivered 50 new books to Alan's school, Escuela Ladislao Urbina. The school is one of ten currently supported by CAMO's Literacy Program. While striving toward a 300-book goal of building a Spanish-language library in select rural schools, the Literacy Program has celebrated its impact along the way.

Alan is a prime example. As one of the older students in a school for grades 1-9, Alan volunteered to be the student librarian responsible for the 250 books (to date) housed in the CAMO-made library cabinet. Alan's duties include maintenance of the books and supervision of check-out procedures. In fact, the books in his school already need new library cards because students have completely filled up the existing cards! The school also regularly hosts a "reading fair", where each student selects a book to read, writes a report and later presents it to the class. Often a drudging assignment for students in the USA, this "reading fair" activity is an excitement for Honduran students. For Alan, being student librarian is a perfect fit. He is bright, caring and eager for responsibility. He is also a passionate reader.



Alan with volunteer Zipporah Evania who led the Literacy team book distribution and follow-up interviews during the second February team week.

Some schools impacted by CAMO's Literacy Program now serve as central libraries for other schools in their educational network. One school library even regularly sees students of all ages coming in on Saturdays just to read. Other schools have taken their learning outside the classroom, like Escuela Miguel Paz, which implements gardening and raises chickens on-site. The value of having books available in this school in conjunction with its practical outdoor curriculum is immeasurable.

CAMO's Literacy Program is an ongoing collaborative effort of Global Mission Action Group, Third World Books and St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Cleveland Heights, OH). The cost of this program (per school) is \$3000, which includes purchase of Spanish-language books and biannual monitoring. Your donation of \$25 pays for 5 books and can have a powerful impact on a child's future.



Join CAMO Mouse Patrol (CMP)!

It's easy – just LIKE, COMMENT and SHARE CAMO's posts across all social media! Why should you LIKE, COMMENT and SHARE posts? Engagement matters, and with each click, you help to grow CAMO's audience! As the audience grows, we raise more and more awareness of CAMO's mission. Facebook, for example, will expand CAMO's audience based on the number of page LIKES and engagements – and how you engage is to LIKE, COMMENT and SHARE! You can also INVITE your friends to "LIKE" CAMO's page! Not sure how to do that? On your computer, find this option on the lower left part of the CAMO Facebook page. On your mobile phone, look under the "Community" section and invite your friends from there. CAMO's goal is to hit 5000 Facebook page LIKES.

Being a part of the "CMP" means you will be the first to read weekly contributions from "Kathy's Friday Reflection", a NEW feature for 2017.

Get Connected Today!



Central American Medical Outreach



@CAMOBringsHope



DID YOU KNOW

➤ THERE IS NO ADDRESS SYSTEM IN HONDURAS?

Education for ALL Ages

The first-ever Academy of Professional Excellence (ACEP) is ready for teaching medical standards, leadership and professional ethics in Honduras.



Sunset over the Academy of Professional Excellence during the inauguration held February 21, 2017 in Honduras.

Inaugurating the Academy of Professional Excellence (ACEP) was conceived as a dream, grew with the gifting of land and development of curriculum, and finally was birthed on February 21, 2017 during CAMO's Team Week. Quickly taking its first steps, the ACEP is now ready to become the institute for teaching medical standards, leadership and professional ethics in Honduras.

Through coordination and alliances with other entities, the ACEP will fill the gaps of learning and technology in the medical field in Honduras. It will also serve as the location of the ACLS, CPR, NALS and PALS programs. Further, the ACEP will be able to help support itself with some of its own coursework. And in true CAMO fashion, the ACEP will utilize a counterpart system of education through relationships.

In fact, the entire academy was made possible by a threefold relationship. The city of Santa Rosa donated the land, the Swiss Government donated \$250k for most of the building and the Wood Family from Wayne County provided \$100k for completion. Later, the phone system was donated by McClintock Electric.

During the first week of the February 2017 team, Lynette Wood and Connie Eicker (alongside their Honduran counterparts) gave a leadership course on professional excellence to over 59 people including CAMO staff. During the second team week, EMS counterpart doctors



Lynette Wood and interpreter Mary Anne Perrone teach a Leadership course to CAMO-Honduras staff.

Tony Lazcano and Darby Cox (with the assistance of Hannah Loder and Glenn Bower) trained local hospital doctors and nurses in CPR and ACLS. In early March 2017, Dr. Carlos Enrique Orellana taught a course in Fundamentals of Critical Care in Initial Support (FCCS) to an audience of healthcare professionals.

Although this sample course listing may seem typical for professionals in the USA, the entire concept of continuing education has been pioneered in Honduras by CAMO. Prior to the education provided during team trips by CAMO-USA volunteers, continued professional development simply did not exist in Honduras. With the ACEP, however, professionals have year-round opportunities to learn and maintain standards of practice and stay current in trends within their fields.

Jorge Romero, CAMO-USA Board Member and practicing doctor of Obstetrics and Gynecology agrees. "The new facilities with modern multimedia applications and capacity for large numbers of students is definitely going to move the staff of the surrounding medical facilities into a higher level of learning that will translate into better patient care."

This academy has been made possible as a result of the passion of CAMO volunteers, funds from donors and the vision of International Director, Kathy Tschiegg. Raising the level of professionalism in Honduras will ultimately have a direct impact on quality of care, and ultimately lives will be saved. Imagine the far-reaching effects this spread of knowledge will have and the impact Honduras will see as programs and courses at the ACEP continue.

The 2017 Nutrition Team is Witness to CAMO's Impact

Malnutrition Can Be Treated Simply By Having Access

CAMO's Nutrition Team, led by Dr. Deb Marino, began its February 2017 team week with a visit to the Public Health Center which CAMO built and completed in 2016. Since lack of nutrition during pregnancy is a known factor for birth defects, CAMO had developed and continues to implement at the Public Health Center prenatal care programs which include nutrition as part of the program. ALL of the soon-to-be mothers in that program were enjoying healthy pregnancies, solely attributed to their access to effective prenatal care provided by CAMO resources.

Then, the CAMO Nutrition Team left the Public Health Center and visited the Santa Rosa public hospital, where they saw a drastic difference. There, patients come from rural areas with poverty levels reaching 70% of the entire population of Honduras. Often for them, simply having food to eat is far more important than proper nutrition.

CAMO team volunteer Dr. Tanya Falcone saw first-hand the effects of malnutrition in the public hospital. She found it haunting to see 2-3 babies in one bed in the children's ward, all suffering from malnutrition. It is also not uncommon to see a child being



Left: In contrast, patients who come to the public hospital often live in rural areas and suffer from poverty and malnutrition. At 18 months old, this child weighed less than 25lbs. Right: The CAMO Nutrition team, Joe Marino, Tanya Falcone, Brian Miller, Deb Marino and Maria LaMontagne, evaluates a pregnant woman in the Public Health Center prenatal care program which includes nutritional resources provided by CAMO.



treated for one issue but also suffering from malnutrition, as well.

The CAMO Nutrition Team spent time with the nurses at the public hospital to help design a nutrition plan for the patients. They also worked with the public hospital kitchen staff, teaching them about patient needs regarding food and nutrition.

The Nutrition Team also helped poor mothers understand the nutritional needs of their children and sent them home with

packets of easily digested, high-nutrient "Plumpy-Nut" bars. Drs. Deb and Joe Marino brought a supply of Plumpy-Nut to Honduras after researching effective treatments for malnutrition. Your support for continued supplies of Plumpy-Nut would help provide treatment even outside CAMO's service area and would greatly impact the problem of malnourishment in rural Honduras. For more information on how you can help, please contact the CAMO office.

Where Are They Now?

"I don't feel like I'm the same person I was before [CAMO]!"

The front page of the spring 2011 CAMO newsletter featured a disabled Juventina sitting on the ground in front of her modest Honduras home. Members of the February 2017 CAMO team, however, found Juventina at home standing in her kitchen, making tortillas for her family. Aside from the duties of motherhood, Juventina now has two jobs: watching children in a nearby village and cleaning. It was her independent spirit that first led Juventina at age 10 to seek her own income making fireworks. But after a firework exploded, fusing the skin on one of her legs, she was forced to "duck walk" for the next 15 years. Plastic surgeon Dr. Linda Camp performed corrective surgery on her during CAMO's February 2011 team trip. Afterward, Juventina underwent two months of rehabilitation to recuperate the contracted

muscles. At 31-years old, she was finally free of her disability!

"It was an excellent change," she stated simply. She said that people used to call her names but today, no one even knows that she once crawled on her knees. She shyly laughed, even trying unsuccessfully to demonstrate her former duck walk. "Out of practice," she said with a smile.

Just one surgery had a tremendous impact on Juventina's life. Today, she washes and hangs laundry and cooks, all while standing upright. Even a simple action like walking up the hill in front of her house is special to her.

"I don't feel like I'm the same person I was before [CAMO]," she said. "I feel more valuable. When I was sick, I felt like I didn't have a value."



Juventina's surgery was not the end of her healing. The rehabilitation she received is due to a long-standing partnership between CAMO and Teletón, a rehabilitation facility in Honduras. This follow-up care and support she received is standard practice for CAMO. And the updates on these stories which YOU receive are small benefits of being a part of CAMO's mission. Juventina is very thankful for CAMO and to God for the gift of a life-altering surgery. THANK YOU for helping make her dream a reality!

Letter from Founder & International Director, Kathryn Tschiegg

by Kathryn Tschiegg

Extraordinary Day! One of Many!

These days are made possible by you the donor; you have made a great impact on the lives of many people. So, I want to share with you the joy I had one day and the scope of service your donation provides.

March 23, 2017: With a big smile, Dr. Marco Robles (a second-generation Honduras counterpart of CAMO's ophthalmology program) proudly stopped me in the hallway. He told me of his work the previous week with his USA ophthalmology counterpart, Dr. Kevin Waltz. Dr. Robles had been part of a traveling team with ophthalmologists from the USA and Europe teaching modern techniques for eye surgery to other ophthalmologists. Together, they performed 230 vision-restoring surgeries in one week, using every case to improve the quality of eye care in Honduras.

Only 30 minutes after this conversation, Dr. Roberto Alvarez (the Honduras counterpart of CAMO's neurosurgery program) entered my office and closed the door. He, too, wore a big smile as he told me that when he left his residency training, he felt he knew it all. Over time, he realized that he has learned so much more from his USA counterpart, Dr. JC Tabet and he is a much better surgeon as a result. Dr. Alvarez continued describing his recent case in detail, expressing unspeakable gratitude for the utility of the supplies, equipment and education provided by YOU, the donor. Those combined factors helped him to save a life the day before our conversation.

After lunch that same day, I had a meeting with Lillian Romero, a pediatrician who has worked with CAMO since 1994. I asked her how she was doing, and she replied, "Without CAMO and the resource of the ventilator, supplies and maintenance, my job would have been impossible." She expressed her gratitude for her counterpart, Tim Larson (NICU Respiratory Therapist) whose shared knowledge and training saved many babies' lives. And she shared her gratefulness not only for the daily access to CAMO's biomedical engineer, German Barcenas, but also for his willingness to respond to the needs. German, who learned from his counterpart, Allen Dicks, is yet another perfect example of the effectiveness of the CAMO model.

My day ended with a middle-aged Honduran woman asking to meet with me. She had worked with CAMO-Honduras board members and was part of the professional excellence courses provided by CAMO. And there she was – sitting in my office, asking if she could help and be a volunteer in the training of others in the area of professional excellence. Although this woman is not a doctor, nurse or biomedical technician like German, Dr. Alvarez, Dr. Romero and Dr. Robles, this seemingly "typical" Honduran woman is a perfect example of how the CAMO model functions and changes lives.

For 25 years, the CAMO model has kept to the mission of filling gaps in health care and community development. Today, we are reaping the harvest of all the seeds we have planted in the hearts of our counterparts. These seeds of good stewardship brought CAMO this far and will provide a transition to sustainability in the future.

This has all been due to your faithful donations. Today, I smile because of my confidence in our counterparts, in the CAMO model and in CAMO's future. All of you are part of our victories and the sustainable impact we have in people's lives every day. Because of you and your loyal support, many people every night look to the heavens and say 'thank you' for a need which has been met through CAMO.

This one day has been extraordinary, and tomorrow will bring more blessings of good people doing great things for the right reasons.



Kathryn Tschiegg's heart for helping the whole person is evident as she visits children at the CAMO-supported daycare in Santa Rosa.

DECENTRALIZATION UPDATE

Negotiations Continue

by Kathryn Tschiegg

CAMO is a constant presence in Honduras, which is what makes CAMO different from other organizations. It is largely because of CAMO's sustainable presence that we have been asked by the Ministry of Health to take over the management of the 4th largest public hospital in Honduras. As we negotiate the contract to take over the management of the national budget for this public hospital, we are moving slowly but intentionally so as to protect CAMO from risk. We are also separating CAMO to some degree, so if the national budget is insufficient, the organization will not be affected. As the International Director, I want our donors in the USA to understand that CAMO will not assume financial responsibility for any governmental deficit in funding. An enormous amount of corruption already exists within the walls of this public hospital, yet its service has a huge impact on human life. If CAMO does not intervene, the hospital will be in the hands of those whose sole purpose is self-gain and have demonstrated a disregard for human life. CAMO will not be bound permanently, but both Honduras and USA Boards of Directors still feel we need to enter wisely. The Governor of Copán, the Mayor of Santa Rosa, news media, general population and a large percentage of hospital staff is asking CAMO to take on the management. This being said, CAMO has accepted this request to be the organization to take over the management of this public hospital which impacts a population of over 1,000,000 people. We will keep you informed when and if we accept the terms of the contract being negotiated with the Ministry of Health.



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Upcoming Events

- Golf Scramble** June 10, 2017 • *SAVE THE DATE!*
Salsa Sizzle August 26, 2017 • *SAVE THE DATE!*
October Team October 21-28, 2017
Giving Tuesday November 28, 2017 • Commit to GIVE or VOLUNTEER



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Visit camo.org or call the CAMO office **330-683-5956** for more information.



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WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Make a donation!

Be a part of a CAMO Event!
Help us raise funds for our mission!

Host a fundraiser! Need ideas?
Call the CAMO office or email camo@camo.org!

CAMO needs volunteers!
Opportunities available on and off-site!

Your legacy could include CAMO!
Consider planned giving!

Know someone who would like to learn about CAMO?
Please send us their contact info!

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