RESPONDING TO COVID-19 IN HONDURAS

HONDURAS CURRENTLY HAS THE SECOND-HIGHEST NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES IN CENTRAL AMERICA. To date, a nationwide curfew remains in effect: based on the last digit of your ID, you are allowed to go out to buy supplies Monday to Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Companies and stores in some economic sectors have returned to work with 40% of their employees, but public transportation is still not available and many have lost their jobs. This situation is made still more frightening by the fragility of the Honduran health system, which not only fails to give proper protection to medical staff in public hospitals and treatment to COVID-19 patients, but even fails to provide basic medical care for patients with chronic diseases or pregnancy, all due to high levels of corruption.

In Honduras, where more than half the population is poor, the situation is uncertain and grave. Most of CAMO’s patients come from the most vulnerable communities, living on less than a dollar a day: they cannot afford to buy masks, are illiterate, and lack access to public transportation. For all practical purposes, they have simply been confined to perish in their homes. This pandemic has caused a 70% decreased in CAMO’s income, putting at risk the sustainability of the organization and of the more of 115,000 life-saving medical services provided each year. But our team is looking for creative ways to navigate through this pandemic—we owe it to the poorest and most vulnerable Honduran populations to keep hope alive. Our medical programs are slowly reopening as we adapt our services with schedules and biosecurity procedures. We still have a long way to go, but this pandemic hasn’t stolen our passion to serve the forgotten. Our medical programs are slowly reopening as we adapt our services with schedules and biosecurity procedures. We still have a long way to go, but this pandemic hasn’t stolen our passion to serve the forgotten.

CAMO is providing masks and education to our patients. We started a highly effective new pediatric cardiology program thanks to our counterpart Doctor Paola Pagoaga: within three months of its opening, the program has treated 27 patients. More broadly, donations continue to be dispatched from our distribution plant to public hospitals and health centers in western Honduras so that medical supplies are available for patient care.

COVID-19 knows no borders and neither does your compassion. We know most are not in a position to support our work right now, but if you can, please consider sharing our mission or making a kind donation.
CAMO AT A GLANCE
MAY–JUNE 2020

THE PAST TWO MONTHS IN NUMBERS

7,915 patients served
984 boxes of medical supplies & PPE donated
44 pieces of medical equipment donated in the USA and Honduras
82 volunteers in USA and Honduras

UPCOMING EVENTS

SALSA SIZZLE UPDATE
We are currently reimagining Salsa Sizzle due to the social distancing measures necessitated by COVID-19. Details to follow.

We are grateful for the Pines, golfers, and all of our volunteers who took part in our 15th Annual Golf Scramble on June 13th. All of you are vital parts of CAMO. Thanks to your support, we can continue “Bringing Hope to the Forgotten.”

Honduras is experiencing a shortage of PPE and medical supplies, but thanks to our generous donors and volunteers, more containers full of these donations are arriving in Honduras.

Due to the public transportation difficulties caused by Covid-19, doctors from our gastric cancer program are now voluntarily traveling to the poorest communities to monitor and deliver patients’ medication and provide follow-up care.

INTERESTED IN DONATING?
www.camo.org
CAMO, 322 Westwood Ave.
Orrville, OH 44667

SHOP CAMO
More ways to support our mission from home at: shop.camo.org