



CAMO

A different kind of aid organization



Spring 2025 • Volume 34 • Issue 1

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



Founder's Note

Kathy Tschiegg, CAMO Founder and Executive Director

CAMO: A Commitment to Sustainable Impact Amidst Funding Challenges

Recent concerns have surfaced regarding the pause in USAID funding and whether it has affected CAMO's operations. The answer is simple: CAMO has felt no impact from the withdrawal of USAID funds in this region or within our organization.

WHY HAS CAMO REMAINED UNAFFECTED?

The reason is clear: CAMO has always focused on real, urgent, life-and-death needs—not on donor-driven or first-world priorities. Our approach is grounded in Honduran-led needs assessments—not external agendas. The people of Honduras identify their own most pressing challenges, and we respond with sustainable solutions that empower, not impose.

We do not take jobs from the communities we serve; we work toward independence, ensuring that skills, education, and opportunities are passed on so people can thrive without perpetual foreign aid. Every initiative is built on mutual respect, self-reliance, and long-term development.

THE DEVASTATING REALITY OF CENTRAL AMERICA'S NEEDS

In contrast, many large NGOs and government-funded initiatives operate with a top-down approach, often pushing external cultural values rather than truly understanding the realities of life in Central America. The result? Wasted resources, ineffective programs, and communities left in the same desperate conditions year after year.

While some organizations prioritize bureaucracy, paperwork, and donor-friendly statistics, the people of Honduras and Central America are facing dire, immediate crises:

- **Malnutrition & Hunger**

Many children suffer from chronic malnutrition, affecting their growth, learning, and health.

- **Lack of Healthcare**

Rural hospitals lack basic supplies, leaving many without lifesaving medical care.

- **Unsafe Water**

Contaminated water causes disease and death, especially in children.

- **Education Gaps**

Schools lack books, trained teachers, and electricity, trapping generations in poverty.

- **Violence & Instability**

Without opportunities, many risk dangerous migration for a better future.

Meanwhile, millions of dollars flow into development projects that fail to address these fundamental problems—instead serving as a vehicle for administrative costs, short-term publicity, or personal gain. This is the real tragedy.

A CALL FOR RESPONSIBLE GIVING

Too many nonprofits are created out of guilt, vanity, or short-lived enthusiasm, treating humanitarian work as a personal project rather than a lifelong commitment. But true change requires long-term dedication, accountability, and a deep understanding of the communities being served.

At CAMO, our mission is not to create dependency—it is to equip people with the tools to build a better future for themselves. Our focus is on self-sufficiency, education, and economic empowerment because that is the only way to break the cycle of poverty.

FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO SEE REAL CHANGE IN CENTRAL AMERICA, THE ANSWER IS CLEAR:

Support organizations that prioritize sustainable impact, not short-term optics. It is essential to shift our focus from ineffective spending to investing in meaningful solutions that directly improve lives and create lasting opportunities for people to succeed.

A New Smile, A New Future

Some 50 patients were evaluated and 23 underwent surgery during the International Medical Brigade.

The Plastic Surgery Day began at the Hospital de Occidente with the evaluation of approximately 50 patients with cleft lip, cleft palate and other conditions requiring surgical intervention.

After selecting the patients, a team of doctors and volunteers performed the surgeries for five consecutive days.

The brigade, made up of US doctors Albert Suk Woo and Solomon Swartz, in collaboration with Honduran doctors Javier Pérez, Juan Ramon Osorio and the hospital team operated on 23 patients with different conditions.

MARIA LOURDES REGAINS CONFIDENCE AFTER TUMOR REMOVAL

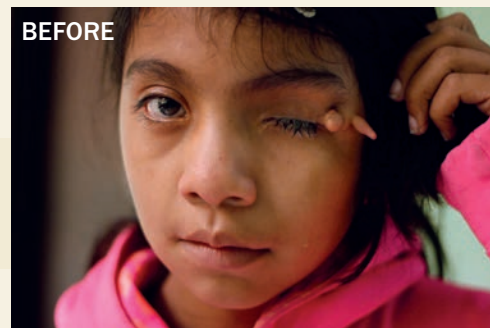
One of the most significant cases was that of María Lourdes López García, an 11-year-old girl from San Antonio, Cortés.

She was born with a femoral skin tumor and without her left eye, which kept her isolated and from attending school.

After the surgery, Lourdes regained her confidence, stopped hiding her face, and is now smiling and hopeful. She is getting ready to go to school for the first time. In two months, she will be receiving her fitted glass eye from the Robles Ophthalmology Center.

These before-and-after images capture more than just a physical transformation — they represent hope, confidence, and a brighter future.

For 23 individuals, plastic surgery was more than a procedure; it was a life-changing opportunity to eat, speak, and smile without pain or stigma. Each surgery restores dignity, self-esteem, and the chance to live without limitations.



María before and after canthopexy surgery and femoral tumor removal.

Thanks to the dedication of medical teams and volunteers, these children now have the opportunity to thrive, embrace life fully, and face the world with confidence.



Kevin before and after cleft lip surgery.



María before and after cleft lip surgery.

No Woman Should Die of Cancer: Expanding Access to Life-Saving Care

The impact of volunteers like Kimberly Masters and Dr. Jorge Romero extends far beyond their time in Honduras.

By training local doctors and improving healthcare infrastructure, their knowledge and skills will continue saving lives for years to come.

No woman should die from a preventable disease simply because she lacks access to care. With continued support, investment, and international collaboration, we can expand women's health programs and ensure that every woman has a fighting chance. Because every life matters. Every mother, daughter, and sister deserves hope.

Breast and cervical cancer remain leading causes of preventable death among women in Honduras, yet thousands of low-income women lack access to essential diagnostic tests and treatments. Without routine mammograms, cytology exams, and early interventions for precancerous lesions, many cases go undetected until it is too late.

THE POWER OF EARLY DETECTION & INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

To combat this crisis, international volunteers and local professionals joined forces to expand women's healthcare services. Mammography technician Kimberly Masters worked alongside CAMO-trained staff, enhancing screening techniques and performing 35 mammograms—a critical step in the early detection of breast cancer.

Dr. Jorge Romero, an American gynecologist and CAMO volunteer, spent a week working side by side with Honduran specialists in Gracias, Lempira, and Santa Rosa de Copán to strengthen gynecological care.

During the International Medical Brigade, his team performed:

- ✓ 13 procedures to treat precancerous lesions, including colposcopies, cryotherapies, and loop diathermic conization.
- ✓ 46 ultrasounds, improving early detection of gynecological conditions.
- ✓ Training for nine doctors, enhancing their knowledge and skills in women's health.



Dr. Jorge Romero with Honduran gynecologists and nurses in the health center's procedure room.

SAVING LIVES, PROTECTING FAMILIES

A single screening or procedure can mean the difference between life and death, between a mother being there for her children or a family suffering a devastating loss. When cancer is detected early, treatment is more effective, less invasive, and significantly increases survival rates.

By ensuring that low-income women have access to these essential diagnostic services, we are not just treating diseases—we are giving women the chance to live, to care for their families, and to thrive.



Kimberly Masters and Flor López perform mammograms at the health center.

Restoring Smiles, Relieving Pain, Changing Lives

In Honduras, thousands of children endure daily pain from untreated dental issues, simply because they lack access to care.

One of them was 10-year-old Juan Manuel from San Pedro de Copán, waiting in line for his first-ever dental visit. “I have two broken teeth and I’m in a lot of pain,” he said. Sadly, his story is far too common.

With the help of volunteer dentists and hygienists from the U.S. and Honduras, —Dr. Nathan Springer and Dr. Nick Relle—alongside Dr. Gissela López, Dr. Carmen Fajardo (volunteer), and Social Service dentists, CAMO’s team treated 248 school-aged children in La Labor, Ocotepeque, and San Pedro de Copán. Many of these children had never seen a dentist before, suffering from severe oral health issues. The team provided:

- ✓ Urgent dental treatments and pain relief for 248 children
- ✓ Cleanings and hygiene education to prevent future suffering
- ✓ Equipment repairs and essential supply donations, ensuring care for 6,000+ patients annually

Beyond treatment, we identified gaps in dental training and responded. Seven Honduran dentists received hands-on instruction in anesthesia and abscess treatment, strengthening their skills to serve more patients.

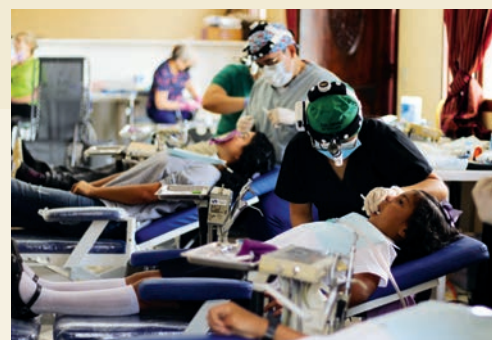
This is what it means to care — to listen, to act, responding with hands-on training and resources is key to creating sustainable healthcare solutions.

Because of these efforts, more children will have access to essential dental care, ensuring that no child has to suffer in silence. Together, we are building a future where every child can smile without pain.

SUSTAINING LONG-TERM DENTAL HEALTH

To improve future care, Gary Brown (U.S. volunteer) and Gustavo López (Honduras) repaired air compressors in schools and health centers, restoring critical dental equipment. Additionally, thanks to Patterson Dental and Dr. Nick Relle, essential materials and supplies were donated, benefiting more than 6,000 patients annually.

Volunteer Patricia Wood also helped update patient records, allowing for better tracking and follow-up care for those treated during the International Medical Brigade.



Dentists provide care in La Labor, Ocotepeque, and San Pedro de Copán



Gary Brown and Gustavo López repair the dental module at a school.



Social service dentists apply techniques taught by US volunteers during a brigade.

Advancing Respiratory Therapy Education in Honduras

Proper respiratory care is essential for saving lives, especially in ICUs, NICUs, and pediatric wards.

However, Honduras currently lacks a formal career path for respiratory therapists, leading to preventable deaths due to the absence of specialized professionals. Establishing this field is critical to improving the country's healthcare system.

To address this need, American volunteers Karen Schell and Dana Henscheid led a collaborative initiative to establish a Respiratory Therapy career track in Honduras. Their efforts included visits to key hospitals and academic centers in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, where they assessed facilities and identified opportunities for hands-on clinical training.

In Tegucigalpa, they visited San Felipe General Hospital, the School Hospital, and the IHSS, evaluating ICU units and ventilator availability. They also explored the facilities at CEUTEC Prado to assess

its potential for health education programs.

In San Pedro Sula, alongside Dr. Roberto Newman and Dr. Ricardo Bulnes, they toured Mario Catarino Rivas Hospital, gaining support from the Medical Association to advance training for future respiratory therapists.

As a result of this initiative, CAMO is making significant progress in developing a Respiratory Therapy curriculum in collaboration with UNAH and UNITEC. This program will equip future therapists with specialized skills to care for critically ill patients, ensuring better respiratory care and saving more lives across Honduras.

We have been promised the implementation of this curriculum and career path by January of 2026. We are also grateful for the Collaboration of the University of Kansas Medical Center.



Karen Schell tours the Neonatal ICU at Hospital Escuela, Tegucigalpa.



The Respiratory Therapy team discusses the study plan for UNAH and UNITEC.

Strengthening Audiology Services

Access to quality audiology services is essential for diagnosing & treating hearing impairments, yet many patients in Honduras face limited access to specialized care.

Recognizing this need, the International Medical Brigade focused on improving audiology services through equipment upgrades and specialized training.

During the brigade, audiology equipment at the Inversiones Solidarias (INSSA) clinic, a company owned by CAMO, was carefully evaluated and reviewed by audiology specialist and volunteer Steve Wood, alongside an audiologist with a specialty in speech therapy and biomedical engineering staff.

This assessment ensured that the clinic's technology was functioning optimally to provide accurate diagnoses and better patient care.

As part of this effort, a donation of state-of-the-art equipment was made by e3 Diagnostics, the company where Steve Woods works.

A big thank you to e3 Diagnostics for their generous contribution, which includes:

- ✓ Audiometers for precise hearing assessments
- ✓ Tympanometry to evaluate middle ear conditions
- ✓ Evoked Acoustic Emissions (OAE) device for newborn hearing screenings
- ✓ Video Otoscope for enhanced ear examinations



Steve Wood trains biomedical technicians Diana Dubón and Gustavo López.

Beyond new technology, hands-on training was provided to audiometry and biomedical staff, ensuring that they can properly use, calibrate, and maintain the equipment—leading to more accurate diagnoses, better treatments, and long-term sustainability of audiology services.

With these improvements, patients in Honduras now have greater access to high-quality hearing care, making early diagnosis and treatment more effective and life-changing.

Nutrition: The Foundation of Health, Healing & Hope

Good nutrition is not just about food—it is the foundation of health, recovery, and the ability to thrive.

Without it, children struggle to grow, heal, and learn. In Honduras, malnutrition is a silent crisis, affecting not only physical development but also a child's ability to fight disease, succeed in school, and build a future.

Understanding the critical role of nutrition across all medical and educational programs, CAMO is committed to integrating nutritional support into every level of care. This program sees more than 6,000 patients per year.

A LIFELINE FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

Joe and Deb Marino, in collaboration with Bianca Ramirez, conducted nutritional assessments at San José Home in Santa Rosa de Copán, ensuring children receive proper nourishment to support their development.

At the CAMO Nutrition Clinic, 31 children with complex needs—including those with infantile cerebral palsy and other serious conditions—were evaluated for specialized nutritional care. These children require tailored interventions to strengthen their bodies, improve cognitive function, and enhance overall quality of life.

NUTRITION AS A CORE PILLAR OF CAMO'S MISSION

Across all of CAMO's programs, nutrition plays a vital role:

- ✓ Patients in medical programs cannot recover from surgery or illness without proper nourishment.
- ✓ Children in educational programs cannot focus or learn without adequate food and nutrients.
- ✓ Mothers, newborns, and the elderly need essential vitamins and nourishment to survive and thrive.

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF MALNUTRITION

Without intervention, malnourished children face stunted growth, weakened immune systems, and lifelong disadvantages. With proper nutrition, they gain strength, energy, and the chance to live full, healthy lives.

By ensuring that every patient, every student, and every child in CAMO's care receives the nutrition they need, we are not just treating symptoms—we are building a foundation for a healthier future.



Deb Marino assists a child with microcephaly and malnutrition.



Joe Marino and Bianca Ramirez care for children at Hogar San José.

A child who is well-nourished is a child who can heal, grow, and dream.



DONATE NOW

Please join us for Food for Healing Campaign the month of April.

Restoring Mobility, Transforming Lives

Through our partnership with the FAKS Foundation, children from low-income families now have access to life-changing prosthetic and orthotic devices—giving them the freedom to move, play, and thrive.

- 14 children have already received prostheses and orthoses
- 4 more devices are currently in production and will be delivered soon

Every child deserves the chance to walk, run, and live without limits. Join us today and let's help change a life!



Emir Gabriel Cáceres receives an orthosis.



Ophthalmology: Restoring Sight, Changing Lives

Access to vision care can be truly life-changing, especially for those with limited resources.

During a recent ophthalmology brigade, 103 patients regained their sight through cataract surgeries performed by Dr. Eric Snyder and a dedicated team of U.S. volunteers—Cheryl Bosch, Michelle Wiberg, Julie Meyers, Michael Sarber, Lindsey Warner, Kirk Leindecker, Jill Johnson, and Amanda Thomas—working alongside specialists from Robles Eye Center.

This multicultural team of professionals not only transformed the lives of their patients but also eased the burden on the family members who care for them every day.

In another remarkable effort, nine patients received corneal transplants, made possible by the dedication of Dr. Laura Lucía Ponce, Dr. Pablo Robles, and their collaboration with University of San Francisco professors Jay Stewart and Julie Schallhorn.

Through their efforts, CorneaGen's generous cornea donations gave these individuals the priceless gift of sight.

These initiatives serve as a powerful reminder of the urgent need for accessible vision care and the profound impact that compassionate medical volunteers and donors and partnership with the Robles Eye Center facility and Robles family have in restoring independence and improving lives.



Dr. Eric Snyder, Dr. Marco Robles, and the surgical team treated 103 patients.

Wheelchairs: Restoring Mobility and Dignity

Access to properly fitted mobility devices is life-changing for individuals with disabilities.

During the International Medical Brigade, American volunteer Christy Kennedy, a specialist in wheelchair adaptation and repair, worked alongside Honduran counterpart Adonys Tróchez to improve wheelchair services.

Christy not only assisted in wheelchair fittings but also trained CAMO's wheelchair program staff on the specific needs of those who rely on mobility devices. Providing wheelchairs is not just about distributing

equipment—improperly fitted wheelchairs can cause harm, leading to additional medical complications. Just as people need properly sized shoes for comfort and support, those with mobility challenges require wheelchairs tailored to their specific needs.

Following this specialized training, staff applied their knowledge by assessing patients' mobility levels and medical conditions, ensuring that six individuals received properly fitted wheelchairs with adaptations

to enhance comfort, prevent further health issues, and improve daily mobility. This work not only restores independence to patients but also provides much-needed relief and support to their families.

This initiative highlights the critical need for properly fitted mobility devices and the dedication of trained professionals in ensuring that every patient receives the care and equipment they truly need.



Christy Kennedy, Adonys Tróchez, and Eloísa Vargas adjust wheelchairs to meet patients' individual needs.



CAMO: Advancing Life-Saving Training & Emergency Preparedness

For nearly a year, CAMO's Training Center worked to achieve recertification from the American Heart Association (AHA), ensuring high-quality CPR training for healthcare professionals in Honduras.

Under the guidance of AHA Director for Latin America, Wanda Miranda, and Dr. Alejandra Mori, CAMO instructors completed intensive coursework at Rafael Landívar University in Guatemala.

After a thorough assessment, AHA officials confirmed CAMO meets international standards with top-tier equipment and expert instruction.

CREATING THE FIRST CARDIO PROTECTED ZONE IN WESTERN HONDURAS

In Central America, sudden cardiac arrest is often fatal due to lack of AEDs and trained responders. Too many people die waiting for help that never comes. Recognizing this urgent need, CAMO is now the first Cardio protected Zone in western Honduras, meaning:

- ✓ AEDs are available on-site.
- ✓ Personnel are trained to respond immediately.
- ✓ Public awareness is growing, inspiring action.

By setting this life-saving standard, CAMO is creating a model for hospitals, businesses, and schools to follow.

A COMMITMENT TO SAVING LIVES

From May 2024 to February 2025, CAMO trained 867 individuals in BLS, ACLS, PALS, and First Aid. With its modern, air-conditioned training center at the trade school, CAMO can now expand education efforts while reducing costs.

This initiative is more than training—it's empowering people to act when every second counts. Thanks to leaders like Wanda Miranda, Dr. Alejandra Mori, and CAMO's dedicated instructors and volunteers, Honduras is now better prepared to save lives.



When it comes to emergencies, every life matters.



Emergency doctors at Hospital de Occidente receive BLS and ACLS certification.

The Power of Screening: Giving Children the Health & Tools to Learn

In Honduras, thousands of children struggle in school—not because they lack intelligence or motivation, but because undiagnosed health issues stand in their way.

Poor vision, hearing loss, dental pain, and malnutrition often go unnoticed, leaving children unable to focus, read, or thrive. Thanks to SG Foundation, Danilo's Care, Pasitos on a Journey, and our loyal donors, CAMO is breaking this cycle by ensuring early detection and intervention through comprehensive health screenings in some of the most underserved communities.

REMOVING BARRIERS TO LEARNING

Through strong partnerships, CAMO has:

1. Screened children for vision, hearing, dental, and nutritional issues, ensuring they receive care before small problems become lifelong struggles.
2. Provided essential treatments and support to improve focus, comfort, and overall well-being:
 - ✓ 6,334 health evaluations and treatments across 39 medical brigades
 - ✓ 3,436 food packages delivered to 133 families facing food insecurity
 - ✓ Eyeglasses, dental treatments, hearing aids, and nutritional supplements for at-risk children
3. Equipped 51 teachers with training and resources to recognize early warning signs and support children's needs, while also improving literacy education:
 - ✓ 1,710 children benefited, gaining stronger reading skills and better academic outcomes
 - ✓ 1,500 school kits and 1,000 backpacks distributed to ensure students have the tools they need to succeed

WHY THIS MATTERS

A child who can't see the board, hear the teacher, or concentrate due to hunger or pain is a child who falls behind. But with early screening and intervention, these barriers disappear—giving students the chance to learn, grow, and reach their full potential.

These efforts go beyond simply providing books or school supplies. They inspire a love for learning, open doors to new possibilities, and empower children to break the cycle of poverty through education.

Through compassionate partnerships, we are ensuring every child receives the health, education, and support they need to build a brighter future.



Top: A student from Corquín accesses donated books.

Middle: A child in El Hichoal, Copán, reads donated books at his rural school.

Left: Adriana Sofía, a nutrition patient, with Blanca Ramírez.



A Call to Transform Lives: The Urgent Need for CAMO's Capital Campaign

A ONCE-IN-A-GENERATION OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE LIVES

Imagine needing urgent medical care, but the nearest clinic is hours away—without essential equipment, trained professionals, or even basic supplies.

Imagine your child suffering from malnutrition because food is scarce.

This is daily life for thousands in Honduras. For over 32 years, CAMO has been a lifeline, providing critical medical care, education, and community development. Now, we have a historic opportunity to expand our impact—but we need your help.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Many in the U.S. focus on domestic causes, but global challenges affect us all. Lack of healthcare and opportunity in Central America drives forced migration, strains resources, and fuels instability—issues that ripple beyond borders.

By supporting CAMO's Capital Campaign, you're not just helping Honduras—you're investing in compassion, leadership, and global stability.

FUTURE

NEW WAREHOUSE SITE AND CONSTRUCTION



CURRENT WAREHOUSE WITH RENOVATION



Design we want to build and the design of the current CAMO building located in Santa Rosa de Copán, western Honduras.

WE ARE RAISING \$2.8 MILLION TO

1

Build a new warehouse & distribution center to manage \$2.6 million in donated medical equipment annually. Just last week, this equipment saved two lives.

2

Expand medical services by adding 11 new specialty clinics (last year alone, we provided 218,000 services).

3

Create an educational training center to equip local healthcare professionals with life-saving skills.

4

Renovate CAMO's headquarters to improve diagnostics and reduce patient wait times from three months to just 1-2 weeks.



The land leveling work has already begun.

Architect Andrew Ripp and the Honduran team review expansion project designs.



This is more than a building project—it's a commitment to saving lives and creating a future where healthcare is accessible to all. Join us. Be part of this transformation.

THE URGENT NEED & OUR SOLUTION

CAMO's facilities are stretched beyond capacity. Patients wait months for critical care while vital medical supplies sit undelivered due to space limitations. We must act now.

REAL IMPACT, REAL LIVES

Your donation to this Capital Campaign will change lives:

- ✓ Angelica, a young cancer survivor who regained mobility through CAMO's care.
- ✓ Juan Angel, a farmer who thought he'd never work again—until CAMO restored his sight.
- ✓ Thousands of children and families finally receiving essential healthcare, prosthetics, and specialized treatments.

PROGRESS & OPPORTUNITY: HELP US CROSS THE FINISH LINE

We are thrilled to share that \$1,163,750 has already been received or pledged, along with significant in-kind donations. While most funding comes from generous U.S. donors, we are also deeply grateful for support from Honduras.

To date the Municipality of Santa Rosa de Copán has generously contributed by waiving permit costs and providing excavation services for the building site. Additionally, volunteer architects Andrew Ripp (U.S.) and Andrea Núñez (Honduras) have played a key role in developing the architectural plans, while Ramon Flores has kindly donated 1 acre of the land for the project.

The local prison is supporting the effort by providing labor to secure the building site, and we are partnering with contractors from large government projects to repurpose construction forms that would otherwise be discarded, allowing us to utilize wood for our

project at no cost. Local coffee companies have also stepped in, donating a container to serve as our construction site office.

This project is a testament to the incredible generosity and collaboration of the Honduran community. While in-kind donations have been instrumental in reducing costs, there are critical expenses—such as skilled labor, materials, and infrastructure—that cannot be covered without financial contributions. Unlike in the U.S., the financial resources available for charitable projects in Honduras are extremely limited, making outside financial support essential to complete this life-changing initiative.

We are deeply grateful for all who have stepped forward to help, and we invite others to join in ensuring that this project reaches completion—bringing sustainable healthcare and education to those who need it most.

JOIN US—BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

Your support today will build a future of accessible, sustainable healthcare. This is more than a building project—it's a commitment to saving lives and creating a future where healthcare is accessible to all. Join us. Be part of this transformation

This is more than charity—it's an investment in dignity, stability, and hope. Stand with us.

THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Empowering Tomorrow: Sustainable Health and Education for Honduras

- Scan code at right or visit camo.org/capitalcampaign
- Write a check to CAMO with "Capital Campaign" written in memo line

DONATE TODAY & BE PART OF THE CHANGE!



Transforming Communities Through Partnership

As we begin 2025, CAMO is deepening its collaboration with eight municipalities to bring essential healthcare and education services closer to those in need.

Through newly signed agreements, we will provide:

- ✓ Dental and medical brigades
- ✓ Medical supply and equipment donations

These efforts will reach communities in Las Flores (Lempira), Santa Rosa de Copán, Dulce Nombre, San Pedro, La Unión, San Agustín (Copán), and Sinuapa and La Labor (Ocotepeque).

Last year, 11,510 individuals received medical and dental care through CAMO's brigades, including comprehensive evaluations for school-aged children.



Students at a rural school in La Labor, Ocotepeque.



Women and their children attend a medical brigade in La Unión, Copán.



Elderly man receives care at a medical brigade.

By strengthening these partnerships, we can continue delivering life-changing healthcare and education to those who need it most.

Maintenance and Biomedical Support

During the International Medical Brigade, teamwork made a life-changing impact.

Volunteers, interpreters, and professionals worked side by side to repair and maintain essential medical equipment, ensuring better healthcare for thousands.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Thanks to volunteers Allen Dicks and Robert Warner, along with Hospital de Occidente's team—Ligia Pérez, Gabriela Barahona, Santos Lara, and Gustavo Pérez—major repairs and maintenance were completed at CAMO's Maintenance and Biomedical Center, a facility established in October 2023.

- ✓ 26 medical devices inspected, including infusion pumps, ventilators, vital signs monitors, and electrosurgical units.
- ✓ 19 pieces of equipment fully restored, improving hospital operations and patient care.



Another inspiring effort was led by American volunteer Scott Anderson, with interpreter Edgardo Peña, alongside Dagoberto Pineda CAMO staff. Their work focused on:

- ✓ Structural maintenance & equipment repairs at Casa Hogar, a shelter for women affected by violence.
- ✓ Repairs at Hospital de Occidente, a facility serving nearly one million people in western Honduras.



Allen Dicks and Robert Warner repair equipment at Hospital de Occidente. Scott Anderson and Dagoberto Pineda perform maintenance at a women's shelter.

This dedication & collaboration demonstrate the power of solidarity, proving that when communities unite, real and lasting change happens.

A Shipment of Hope: Saving Lives Through CAMO's Network of Care

Less than a week after CAMO donated incubators and trained nursing staff at Juan Manuel Gálvez Hospital, two tiny lives hung in the balance.

THE CAMO WAREHOUSE: A CRITICAL LIFELINE

This life-saving intervention did not happen by chance. It was the result of a well-orchestrated system of compassion, logistics, and expertise. The CAMO warehouse, managed by dedicated staff and volunteers, plays a vital role in receiving, sorting, and distributing millions of dollars worth of medical supplies and equipment to hospitals across Honduras. Without a fully operational warehouse and the tireless work of CAMO's team, lifesaving incubators like these would never reach the hospitals that need them most.

A SHIPMENT THAT CHANGED LIVES

A container of medical supplies and equipment set sail from the U.S., carrying three incubators bound for Gracias, Lempira. Within days, these incubators became the difference between life and death for fragile newborns. But CAMO's impact goes beyond just delivering equipment.

TRAINING THAT SAVES LIVES

Alongside the donation, American volunteers Mary Sayler and Wendy Anderson trained nurses on newborn care and the importance of exclusive breastfeeding. Meanwhile, respiratory therapy specialists Karen Schell and Dana Henscheid worked to enhance neonatal care and develop this critical field in Honduras.

A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

The hospital's Head of Neonatal Care, Deysi Arely Vásquez, shared heartfelt thanks: "Every donation we receive becomes a warm hug for these babies and their families, helping them face difficult times with a little more light and comfort."



Staff at Hospital Juan Manuel Gálvez receive two of three donated incubators.



Jeremías and Nehemías are placed in incubators donated by CAMO.

THE POWER OF DONORS, VOLUNTEERS & LOGISTICS

This story is not just about equipment—it is about an entire network of people coming together to save lives. From the volunteer who shared the story with a donor, to the generous individuals in the U.S. who donated the incubators, to the shipment of these incubators from the West Coast to Orrville, Ohio, and finally to the dedicated CAMO staff and volunteers who coordinated logistics and training—every effort matters.

Each act of support, no matter how small, is a vital link in the chain of hope and healing. This incredible network of compassionate people makes a profound difference in the lives of those who need it most. Because when we work together, lives are saved.

MORE THAN A DONATION—A MIRACLE IN THE MAKING

With continued support, CAMO's warehouse, staff, and network of volunteers will ensure that more premature babies, like Jeremías and Nehemías, have a fighting chance at life.

Every shipment. Every training session. Every donor. **Together, we are making miracles happen.**



PLANNED GIVING

SCOTT & GLENDA LEHMAN ERVIN ESTABLISH THEIR LEGACY TO CAMO

- HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING CAMO FOR MANY YEARS?
- HAVE YOU BEEN VOLUNTEERING FOR CAMO FOR YEARS?
- DO YOU WANT TO HELP CAMO CONTINUE TO SAVE LIVES IN HONDURAS INTO THE FUTURE?

Consider a Planned Gift to CAMO and ensure the people in the greatest need receive ongoing support for years to come. By including CAMO in your estate planning, you can make a lasting impact. Recently, we received the news that Glenda Lehman Ervin and her husband Scott have included CAMO in their estate planning. Glenda, a CAMO Board Member states:

“We have known Kathy and the wonderful work of CAMO for decades and believe firmly in the work that CAMO does to change lives —this is our small way of contributing to that legacy after we are gone.”

This generous donation will help secure the future of CAMO’s services for thousands of people. If you’ve included CAMO in your estate plans, please let us know. We want to thank you and ensure your wishes are met. Your contributions are vital to our mission, and we encourage others to follow this example. Together, we can continue to make a difference in countless lives.

For more information on how your planned gift or bequest can play a meaningful role in CAMO’s future, please contact Kathryn Tschiegg, CAMO at (330) 683-5956 or one of our Foundation partners:

Melanie Reusser-Garcia
Wayne County Community
Foundation
(330) 262-3877
Name Fund:
CAMO Opportunity Fund

Lisa Lynch
The Columbus Foundation
(614) 251-4000
Name Fund:
Central American Medical
Outreach Growth Fund

Brenda Cummins
The Cleveland Foundation
(216) 615-7158
Name Fund:
Central American Medical/
Education/ Development Fund



EVENTS



1. Capital Campaign

DONATE
NOW



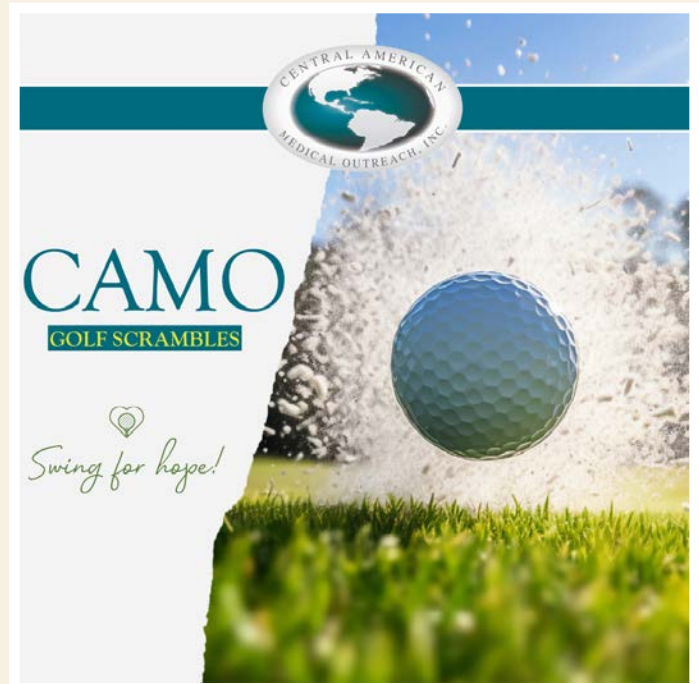
3. Food for Healing

Month of April dedicated to Food For Healing

Donations can be made by check to CAMO with Food for Healing on the memo line in the web www.camo.org/foodforhealing



DONATE NOW



2. Golf Scrambles

Two Scrambles, One Great Cause!

- Saturday June 7th • Pines Golf Club
- Sunday July 13th • Oak Shadows Golf Club



DONATE NOW



4. CAMO Collection

Did you know we accept more than just medical supplies and equipment?

Join us for a year-long campaign to collect new or gently used items to support our medical, educational, and community development programs.

Visit: www.camo.org/collection



DONATE NOW

CAMO
Central American
Medical Outreach, Inc.
322 Westwood Avenue
Orrville, OH 44667

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Spring is Here. Time to Spring Into Action!



Help CAMO continue to provide life-saving and life-changing services in Honduras. Throughout the year, be thoughtful about your purchases and consider investing in something that has an impact. Give the gift of caring by re-imagining gift-giving for yourself and for your loved ones. Think about that expensive cup of coffee: one cup could buy a book for our literacy program. Honor a friend or family member by making a memorial gift.

Your help is vital to keep providing life-changing services to those in the greatest need.

Beneficiary of CAMO's literacy project.

Visit **CAMO.ORG** or call the CAMO office **330-683-5956**

ADDITIONAL WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Make a donation • Host a fundraiser!

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

Volunteer onsite or offsite • CAMO needs volunteers!

Your legacy could include CAMO!

Please consider including us in your estate planning.

Know someone who would like to learn about CAMO?

Please send us their contact info!

Find CAMO on Facebook Invite your friends to learn about what we do!



Like **Central American Medical Outreach** on Facebook and SHARE with your friends!



See CAMO's story as it unfolds. Follow **camobringshope** on Instagram



Be a part of CAMO's exciting journey by subscribing to the **CAMO USA** channel



Follow **Central American Medical Outreach** on LinkedIn



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

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