

2015 has been another incredible year for
Christian Health Service Corps!



Dr. Mendonca, Christian Health Service missionary surgeon, Bangalore India

Historic First Surgery in India done by Christian Health Service Missionary Surgeon

As the director of the Christian Health Service Corps, I am amazed at the talented people God continues to call to serve with us around the world. Our missionary staff can serve for as little as 2 years to a life-time! They are often the only access to care for young families in poor communities. In 2015, I had an opportunity to spend time in Bangalore India with our missionaries Dr. Derick and Dr. Vivienne Mendonca. It was incredible to see the transformation in the lives of so many children! One of the child surgeries represented a historic first for both Christian Health Service Corps and for India. In 2015, Dr. Derick Mendonca was the first surgeon to perform endoscopic cranial surgery on a child in India. This procedure, which separates fontanelles that close prematurely on infants is commonly done in the USA. However, it represents a first for healthcare in India. Dr. Mendonca remains the only fully trained pediatric craniofacial surgeon in Southern India. I look forward to returning in August of 2016 to help Dr. Mendonca facilitate a cleft palate outreach in a remote under-served area. It is estimated more than 200 children need cleft repair surgery in this remote area.



Here is a brief list of what we do and where:

Thanks to you, we were able to bring compassionate, life-saving health services to thousands of families across the world. We were recently taking inventory of what the Lord was doing through the Christian Health Service missionary staff around the world in 2015. We are amazed at where the Lord has taken us since we started in January of 2010.

USA - Texas Headquarters

- General operational, logistical and financial support for our long-term field staff around the world.
- Training and equipping healthcare professionals for healthcare missions service around the world.
- Hosting and providing missionary care to all of our missionaries.

Asia

- Family medicine and village healthcare services - in and around SailKot, Pakistan
- Pediatric plastic and reconstructive surgery services – Bangalore, India

Eastern Europe

- Physical therapy/ spinal cord Injury care and training – Ukraine

Latin America

- Primary healthcare nursing services - Balfote and Rio Viejo Honduras
- Emergency medicine services; adult, pediatric and neonatal critical care - Balfote, Honduras
- Inpatient and outpatient family and pediatric medical services - Balfote, Honduras
- Medical special needs pediatric home care - Balfote, Honduras
- Hospital logistical support services Balfote, Honduras
- Family and emergency medicine services - Curahuasi Peru
- Inpatient medical and ICU services - Curahuasi Peru
- Physical therapy services - Curahuasi, Peru
- Dental services - Curahuasi, Peru
- Family and emergency medical services – Dessalines, Haiti
- Short term surgical services– Dessalines, Haiti

Africa

- Obstetrical/ Gyn surgical and vesico-vaginal fistula services- Kalukembe, Angola
- Emergency medicine, inpatient and outpatient primary care services – Kalukembe, Angola
- Community Health Development - Cote d'Ivoire - national level
- Pediatric inpatient and outpatient services – Nyankunde, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Child - Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) referral center – Nyankunde, Democratic Republic of Congo
- General surgical services/training – Nyankunde, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Emergency, family and critical care medical - Soddo, Ethiopia
- Obstetrical/Gyn Services-- Soddo, Ethiopia
- Training of family practice physicians and development of family practice residency - Addis Ababa Ethiopia
- General Surgical/Obstetrical and pediatric surgical services – Saboba, Ghana
- General surgical services/training- general surgery residency – Kijabe, Kenya
- Training of Christian nurses at the university level - Swaziland
- Community health development – health related agriculture training- Uganda

C-section delivery of healthy twins by CHSC missionary physicians Dr. Michelle Yates and Dr. Kavitha Simpson serving in Ethiopia.



Heal the sick who are there, and tell them

'The Kingdom of God has come near you.' Luke 10:8b

Here are a few notes from a few of our staff serving around the world.....

From Dr. Daniel and Dr. Priscila Cummings (ER Physician and Obstetrician) Serving with Christian Health Service Corps at Kalukembe Hospital in Angola



Lately, we've had lots of very sad stories recently.... with moms and babies dying.... but even in these time God is faithful to give us glimpses of hope. Zamaica Dungula is a baby who brought us so much hope recently! His mom died a few days ago and he too was looking like he was about to die also... but with more intense nutritional supplementation, antibiotics and more love he's doing really well! Nurse Esperanza (HOPE!) was holding him this morning and I asked "why?" (She doesn't even work in this ward and wasn't feeding him) she said "well I think he was needing some love" ... then a few minutes later a short very dark lady walked in and brought him a fresh diaper... I asked who she was and she said (without a moment's hesitation) "He's my son!" I was confused and asked "well didn't his mother just die?" and she nodded and I asked again "well who is he to you?" she said again without a hesitation "He's my son!"-She's taken him as her son (even while she has an 8 month on her back)! There is now a lot of hope and love for this little boy, and God has used him to restore our hope.



From Carrie Moss Physical Therapist, Serving with Christian Health Service Corps in the Ukraine

Vladik, Mark, and Timur spend one hour together on Fridays. Sveta plans and directs the session. Vanya and Ira learn how to facilitate, stabilize, guide, stretch, etc. And I provide the toys, take pictures, and encourage. Yes, there are 7 of us in the room together, but the boys seem to enjoy it, as Sveta says they smile more frequently than in their individual sessions. And it gives the moms one hour of respite and a chance to just sit and talk with another adult.



From Dr. Lindsey Cooper Pediatrician serving with Christian Health Service Corps at Nyankunde Hospital in Democratic Republic of Congo - Sifa and her baby

"My eyes picked them out from across the room at the outpatient malnutrition clinic, a very young girl holding a very small 5-month old baby. They were admitted last week with severe anemia and malnutrition. The mother was barely able to communicate how she was feeling, but nodded when asked if she felt dizzy. When asked if she was willing to stay in the hospital, she said without hesitation, "Yes!" They both remain critically ill and have received life-

saving transfusions. Now we begin the difficult process of re-feeding and providing the social support required. It seems that the mother has pellagra, a deficiency in Vitamin B3 (Nicotinic acid) one of the more common vitamin deficiencies in adults. This likely explains a lot of her mental dullness. It seems that this young mother lacks family support and we are struggling with how to provide for all of their needs. There are so many difficult aspects to this case. Pray for a home visit to occur this next week and that we would have wisdom in how best to care for this young girl, that she would experience the love of Christ through the hospital staff. Pray that we would treat her like we would treat our own family members. Pray for rapid healing."

**From Verlin and Debbie Anderson
Community Health Specialists service with
Christian Health Service Corps in Cote d'Ivoire,**

Carl is an Ivorian nurse who attended one of our CHE (Community Health Engagement) trainings in 2013. He is now leading a fledgling CHE effort in a village, I recently visited to see how things were progressing. Transport took more than three and a half hours to get there (just 45 miles, but 38 passengers on a vehicle

planned with seats for 22!) Carl was off to a great start with a CHE program, but he hit some challenges in learning to involve the community. Despite the missteps, the church has grown, advancing in obedience to King Jesus. He shared that he feels led by God to be content where he has been placed.



The sheep and goats pictured are a microenterprise idea that Carl copied as God spoke to him following the CHE training in May 2013. He raises them because there's less investment required to make a profit than with chicken. The animals are in pens rather than freely roaming for both obedience sake and keeping the stock alive.

To feed the growing herd, families that do not have funds for school supplies or books, are blessed by work with their hands. They gather grass and other food from the surrounding forest land, feed the animals, and get compensated. This develops skills and knowledge about how to care for and manage livestock in a way that supports health. It also gets kids to school, and helps the village nurse at the same time. It's a classic win-win that happens when CHE principles are applied. Of the more than 1,300 patients under his direct or surrogate care last month, over 50% came because of malaria. Another third visited because of respiratory disease. Our discussion focused partially on how to re-focus some of the CHE efforts toward those issues. I reviewed with Carl some of the basic CHE analysis tools that help communities grow in their understanding of how physical and spiritual problems are often related. The visit seemed to help Carl visualize a way to revitalize the community's engagement. I also made him aware of fellow Ivorian's nearby who want to help CHE advance in the region.

The face of Christian Health Service Corps is changing but our commitment to bring lifesaving healthcare to poor families around the world will never change.



Say so long to our old look!



Say hello to our new look!

PO Box 132 * Fruitvale * Texas 75127
United States 210-888-9182, United Kingdom 0151-324-2935, Australia 02-8005-6892

www.healthservicecorps.org