

Dear Project Supporters.

This is the last email update for our Global Grant to supply medical equipment to a clinic at Chiquimula University that serves the poor and trains doctors. We have spoken to many of you during the zoom presentations we have made at individual club meetings and at the D7080 Club Leadership Training – International session. I think we have covered most donor clubs, but if there is anyone who would like a presentation to their club about this project then please let us know! We have lots of pictures we can share.



Once we got official approval, the funds were accumulated in record time! Then things moved very quickly in early 2021 with the purchase of all the medical equipment.

We were delighted that this project prompted other donations from community members. The clinic front doors and washrooms were paid for by local donors. As a condition for Rotary supplying the medical equipment, Chiquimula University added air conditioning, painted the walls, and provided new flooring.

Due to the large size of the project, we were required to have an interim site inspection. This was conducted virtually in July 2021. The Technical Cadre member was very thorough, but ultimately very happy with the project and it passed with flying colours!

Our club member, Bruce Friesen, who used his Spanish skills on this project, flew down to Guatemala for an official opening of the clinic in June 2021. An outdoor ceremony was held in front of many social-distanced, medical students. University officials expressed how grateful they were for the support and proclaimed they now had the nicest teaching clinic in Guatemala! Bruce learned on this trip that cervical cancer is the largest killer of women in Guatemala. Our clinic will provide preventative healthcare, including cervical cancer screening and treatment, prenatal monitoring and cardiac monitoring, along with the treatment of illnesses.



Members of the Chiquimula Rotary Club, University Medical Faculty, Bruce Friesen (2nd from left), and Rotarian Kathy from Honduras (far right, who represented our club for this project). Veronica (3rd from right) was the project leader from the Chiquimula Rotary Club.



Above - Bruce cuts the ribbon opening the Clinic. On his left is Dr Retana, Dean of Medicine, on his right Engineer Folbert Coy Cordon, Dean of CUNORI University

Below - Bruce gives his speech at the opening ceremonies.



Despite all the Covid delays, we are happy to report that we were able to buy all the medical equipment at the price on the original quote. We were able to spend the unused 10% contingency on Medical Diagnostic Mannequins that are used for teaching medical students. They can be pulled apart for teaching purposes and hooked up to monitoring equipment.

All that remains is for the final report to be filed with the Rotary Foundation. This is anticipated to be completed in March 2022.

Thank you so much for your support. We couldn't have done this very satisfying project without you. At some point we will be visiting Guatemala again. Please let us know if you want to come along.



Yours in Rotary service,
 Claire Conway, Bruce Friesen, Lauri Asikainen
 Rotary Club of Oakville Trafalgar, Global Grant 2096753 team