

# 2023 Guaymas Mission Report



---

Erica Williams, PhD  
Robert Jensen, MS

Mesa West Rotary Club Meeting  
April 25, 2024

# About the Guaymas Mission ("Ayudame a Escuchar")

# Guaymas, Mexico



# Guaymas Statistics

- 44 % live in poverty (live on less than \$4.00 US dollars/day).
- Healthcare concentrated in large cities.
- Guaymas and nearby communities lack Audiology/ENT services

# Mission History

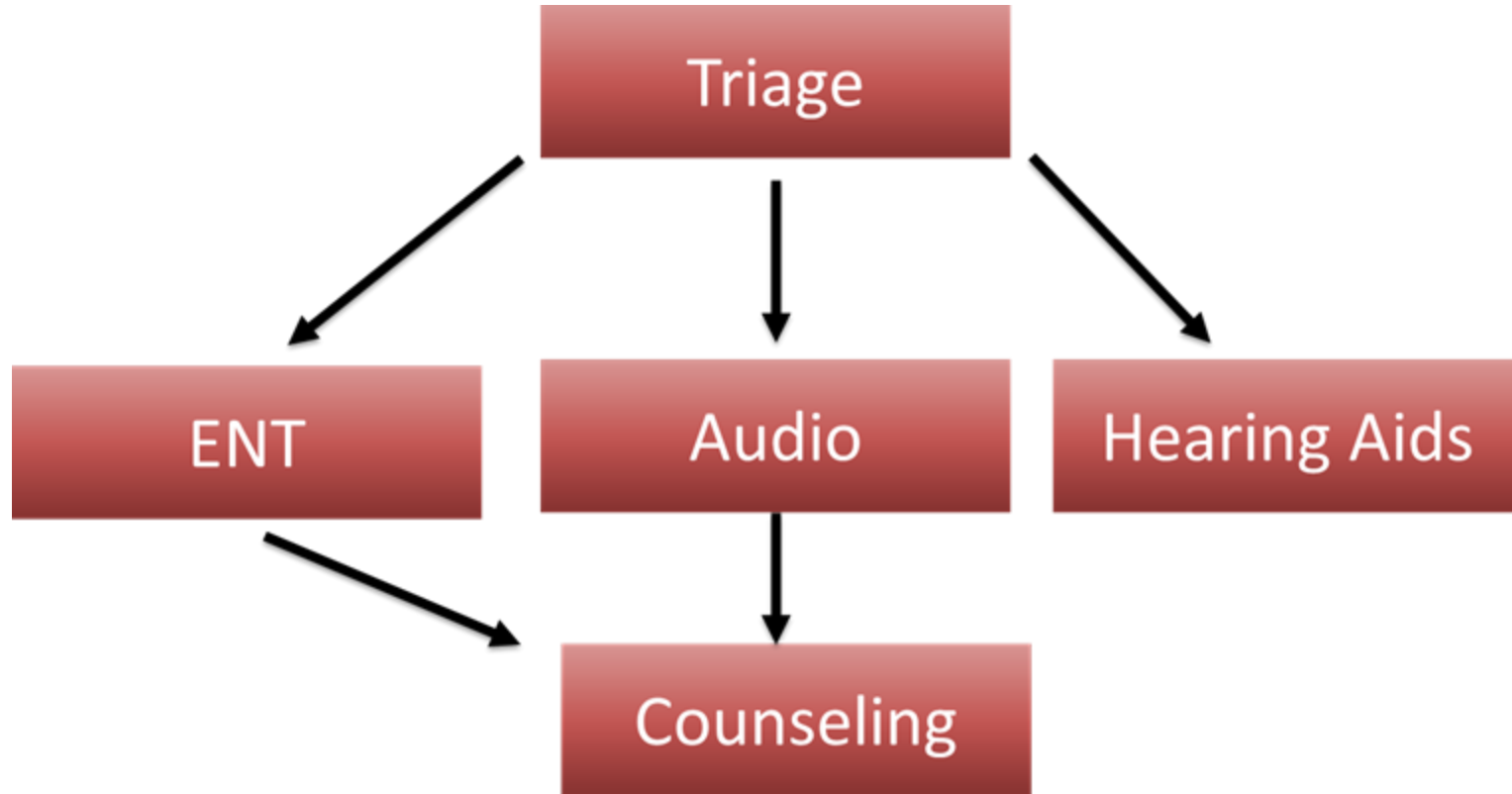
- Fact-finding trip in 1992
- First mission in 1993
- Addition of students in 2003

# Current trip status

- October or November each year
- 2 travel days, 2 work days
- ~30-50 volunteers each year
- Trained audiology tech from Alamos in 2018 to provide quarterly maintenance services in Guaymas



# Services Provided



# 2023 Trip Statistics

Dates:	Nov. 8-11, 2023
Patients seen:	Adults: 137 Children: 95
Earmolds made:	193
Hearing aids fit:	150



# Historical Trip Statistics

- 5603 individuals served, ages 6 months-108 years
- 2696 earmolds made
- 3300 hearing aids fit



# 2023 Trip Budget

Expense	Projected	Actual Expenses
Hotel Rooms	5000	5642
Food	5000	5634
Stipends to Alamos Doctors		300
Stipend to Rodolfo Fernandez+expenses		400
Medicine		195
Hearing Aids/Duty	15,000	13,123.46
Tufesa Bus	5000	5000
Driver Tips		250
<b>Total:</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,544.46</b>

# What would services cost if provided in US?

Cost of medical services	\$60,900
Cost of HAs fit	\$137,500
Cost of earmolds	\$9760
Hearing aid batteries	\$11,050 (cost for pt. purchase)
<b>Total of donated goods and services:</b>	<b>\$219,210</b>

The gift of  
communication

# Hearing loss in children can lead to...

- Delayed speech and language skills
- Learning problems in school
- Feeling bad about themselves
- Having trouble making friends
- Be unhappy in school

<https://www.asha.org/public/hearing/effects-of-hearing-loss-on-development/>

# Hearing loss in children result in...

- Difficulty learning abstract words
- Difficulty with words with multiple meanings
- Falling further behind as they get older without intervention
- Difficulty with grammar and complex tenses
- Falling multiple grade levels behind in school

# Adults with untreated hearing loss may have...

- Higher rates of depression, anxiety, and other psychosocial disorders
- Decreased social, emotional, and communication function
- Increased risk of dementia
- Effects of dual sensory impairment (e.g. visual loss) also need to be considered)

# Adults with untreated hearing loss may have...

- Isolation from family, friends, social gatherings
- Difficulty securing or remaining employed
- Challenges participating in their own healthcare discussions and conversations.



# Report from Rodolfo

## July 2023

**24** Consultations (5 cancellations due to weather)

**13** HAs fit

**10** earmolds made and fit, additional HAs  
repaired/cleaned/adjusted

**2** patients referred to ENT

# July 2023

**17** Consultations

**5** HAs fit

**10** earmolds made and fit

**10** HAs cleaned/repaired/adjusted

**3** patients referred to ENT

**Feb 2024**

**21** Consultations (8 adult, 13 children)

**6** HAs, 4 were replacement for ones lost or “eaten by dog”

**11** earmolds made and fit

**6** HAs cleaned/repaired/adjusted

**6** patients referred to ENT

May 2024

Anticipating 22 patients

# Projected Summary for July23-June24 Fiscal Year

**84** Consultations

**34** HAs (24 already fit, 10 projected)

**48** earmolds (36 already made, 12 projected)

**16** HAs repaired/ cleaned/ adjusted earmolds made and fit

**6** HAs cleaned/repaired/adjusted (more anticipated in May)

**9** patients referred to ENT (more anticipated in May)

What else does it  
take to keep us  
running?

## Audiology is dependent on technology

**Jim Armstrong** from e3/MSR West has been instrumental in keeping our aging equipment running for many years.

In 2023 he secured extensive donations of new equipment, installed, and calibrated it. This will allow us greater efficiency for many years to come, testing more difficult to test patients, and fitting hearing aids more accurately.



Thank you for your  
support of the Guaymas  
Mission

Questions?