

25 YEARS
1998
2023



THE LEAST OF THESE
MINISTRIES
MATTHEW 25:40

Sharing HOPE
amidst poverty.

November 2023

Happy & WHOLE

WE MET ANTONIO* AND HIS MOM in October 2022, while looking for patient candidates for a medical team that was visiting. Interplast West Virginia, led by Dr. Dave Fogarty, brought an 11-member Plastic Surgery team to the Jaime Mota Hospital in Barahona. The team set out to perform reconstructive surgery to treat issues such as cleft lips, palates, post-trauma face injuries, burn reconstruction, and wound coverage.

Antonio was about 2-1/2 years old at the time, and was born with hypospadias, a condition involving his urethra. His family did not have the financial resources needed to travel to Santo Domingo for the procedure.

Antonio's mom had heard about the plastic surgery team and hoped they could provide the surgery to correct his condition. Unfortunately, Antonio's procedure was not a good fit for the team due to follow-up surgeries that would have to be performed.

Wanting to help, we promised the family we would do what we could to get Antonio treated. This spring, we contacted Solid Rock International (SRI) (solidrockinternational.org), to ask if

they could help with Antonio's need. SRI supports a private, Christian clinic in San Juan, which is about 90 minutes north of Barahona.

After a couple of initial calls, then a consult with Antonio at the clinic, they agreed to perform the procedure. Antonio had his first surgery on July 4, has been seen for a couple of follow-up checks, and is doing well.

We are grateful to SRI and The Christian Clinic for Integral Health for providing the services for Antonio at no cost to his family! Our staff (Ricardo & Wilton) has provided transportation and assisted with pharmacy needs. Wilton has connected the family to his church for Antonio's school and other needs, and will continue to follow up with the family.



Please pray for Antonio's continued recovery and for God's providence and blessing on his life!

*Name changed to protect privacy.



(L-R) Antonio's mom; Antonio;
Sarah Heinz, SRI Medical Coordinator;
Wilton Gomez;
Jeff Bucher, SRI In-Country Director

A New Home!

A TEAM OF 12 MEMBERS of Westminster Baptist Church's Young Adult Group traveled to the Dominican Republic in late July to serve with The Least of These Ministries. The team, led by Catherine Vandervalk and Pastor Matt McMillan, served in Batey Cuchilla during their week-long visit. Board member Randy Huver and our Executive Director, Marty Hogan, accompanied the team.

The team's service project was to build a new house for a family in the community. Alberto and his family, who we introduced in our August 2022 newsletter, were living in a house that was literally falling down. Ricardo, our local Manager, had become concerned about the condition of the house and recommended it as a team project.

The house was nearly completed by the end of the week, with only a few finishing details remaining. Alberto, his wife Luche, their two grandchildren, and their son were able to move in! The remaining details of the house were completed within a few weeks by local carpenters.

The team also led bible school for kids in the community and participated in the daily food distribution in Cuchilla and other communities throughout the week.

They served well, sharing the love and hope of Jesus both in their words and their actions!



More Pics from Our Summer 2023 Mission Team!



"Twists & Turns" VBS
in Spanish!



Games with the kids!

See
more
photos
on our
website!



Food distribution in
Batey Altigracia



Community visits in
Batey Isabela

**REGISTER
NOW!**

SIGN UP AT:
leastofthesemin.org

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

MISSION TRIP

JANUARY 13-20, 2024

We need you! Registration is still open for our January Mission Trip. This team's work project will again be at our Ministry Hub. Work will begin on the ground-floor modifications to move the tool room to the front of the building and construct the large room that will be used as a conference room and dining area. The team will also conduct a kids' bible school and serve with the Food Distribution throughout the week.

Teams are open to anyone 16 and older (13-15 with parent/guardian), and no experience or specific skills are required!

For this team, we will be doing concrete block work, so experience with that is helpful, but not required. There is always plenty of things to do for people with any skills or interests!

Of course, we always need people who love to work with kids and people with a servant's heart to help keep the team well-fed and hydrated.

Information and registration is available on our website (leastofthesemin.org). Contact us if you have any questions!

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—Romans 12:12

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Visit our website for more
photos from the event!

\$24,000 Raised for our Food Distribution Program
= Nearly 200,000 Meals!

“Thank You”
to all of this year’s
sponsors, donors, and
116 Golfers!



Photos courtesy of Joshua Southern

Sharing Hope through Tributes

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If you would like to honor or remember a friend or loved one through a donation to The Least of These Ministries, simply provide the information on the enclosed form, or send a note with your gift!

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