

## **EARTHWISE SURGICAL FOUNDATION**

### **2006 Summary**

I would like to thank all our generous contributors. It has been approximately two years since Earthwise Surgical Foundation was granted 501(C)(3) non-profit status by the Internal Revenue Service. I am very happy with our progress towards achieving the Foundation's goals, namely, to deliver surgical care to the poor of the world by means of manpower, equipment and education. The following are some of the highlights of the past year:

1. On June 1, 2006, our surgical team left for our yearly humanitarian surgical trip to the Nigerian Christian Hospital in Nigeria. The team included Brian Camazine, MD, Jose Ramirez, CST, Alisse Camazine, JD, Charlotte Williams, MD, Stella Atiba RN, Christine Edwards, Swagoto Mukhopadhyay, Brian Laiderman, Nilka Olton, and Danny Ellebrecht. During a three-week period, we performed 133 major operations, including 46 hernia repairs. Donations allowed us to provide high protein meals to many of the patients to assist in wound-healing. The surgeries were facilitated by equipment donated by the companies below.
2. William Heyns, MD, a pathologist at Henderson Memorial Hospital, processed the pathology specimens from our trip to Nigeria. The information was emailed to Dr. Mike Enyinnah, Chief of Surgery at the Nigerian Christian Hospital, in order to determine further treatment for our patients.
3. During our stay, we had eleven visiting general surgery residents from Abia State University Teaching Hospital and the University of Benin Teaching Hospital who scrubbed on our cases (see attached letters). These residents were particularly interested in learning about gastrointestinal staplers for bowel work and mesh for hernia repairs. The residents had no previous exposure to these techniques. The experience they received during our visit is critical to their training. We brought donated surgery textbooks to these residents.
4. Earthwise awarded nineteen volunteers with the President's Volunteer Service Award, a national honor offered in recognition of volunteer service. Two of the volunteers received the President's Call to Service Award, given to individuals with 4000+ hours of volunteer service, the equivalent of two years of full time service.

Established in 2003, the Awards are available to individuals who have outstanding records of volunteer service. As a certifying organization participating in the national program, Earthwise conferred the awards to recognize the achievements of these volunteers.

These inspirational men and women have collectively dedicated tens of thousands of hours volunteering overseas in developing countries that are in need of vital healthcare and training. The recipients of the President's Volunteer Service Award are Amanda Bonvicino, MD, Alisse Camazine, Scott Camazine, MD, Jeff Durgin, MD, Christine Edwards, Daniel Ellebrecht, Paul Ellebrecht, William Heyns, Brian Laiderman, Barbara Maufas, RN, Swagoto Mukhopadhyay, Nilka Olton, Theodore Pratt, MD, Jose Ramirez, Greg Ramsey, Charlotte Williams, and Marilyn Worsham. Drs. Henry Farrar and Brian Camazine received the President's call to Service Award. These volunteers have worked tirelessly to address global health issues in Nigeria, Bolivia, and Guatemala

5. Ethicon Inc. donated a huge amount of mesh for hernia repairs, which were critical to our surgeries. Ethicon also donated nearly 2000 sutures worth over \$12,000, as well as numerous staplers for gastrointestinal surgery. With grant money supplied by Ethicon Endo-Surgery, we were able to give didactic sessions as well as hands-on experience in mesh repair of hernias to surgery residents and attendings from Abia State University Teaching Hospital and the University of Benin Teaching Hospital.
6. Ambu Inc. supplied laryngeal mask airways for anesthesia. This form of airway has not been used routinely in Nigeria and Eric Ojhe, the Nigerian Nurse Anesthetist, was very excited to get this equipment.
7. Mark Clardy of Temple, TX, supplied 20 laryngoscopes which replaced the old and broken scopes used in Nigeria.
8. The OR staff at Henderson Memorial Hospital in Henderson, Texas, diligently collected unused operating room supplies to contribute to Earthwide Surgical Foundation.
9. Cardinal Health donated sterile surgical gloves and various other supplies for our procedures in Nigeria.
10. During past years there has been a shortage of Levothyroxine (thyroid replacement) in Nigeria. With Levothyroxine donated by Americares, we were able to give a year's supply of this drug to all of our thyroidectomy patients. Americares also donated antibiotics, which were life-saving.
11. Hospira (via Americares) supplied enough Precedex to use on all our surgeries. The Precedex was used for anesthetic induction and sedation and our Nigerian nurse anesthetist found that it works remarkably well.
12. Laerdal Medical Corporation donated one of their new portable Laerdal Suction Units. This unit was critical in the operating room and the delivery suite, and will certainly save many lives.
13. Welch Allyn donated a Welch Allyn Atlas Monitor Unit. This portable unit will enable us to monitor blood pressure, heart rate, temperature and pulse oximetry both in the operating room as well as the wards. The hospital in Nigeria has no intensive care unit. The Welch Allyn Spot Vital signs Unit helped us to observe patients who have undergone complex surgeries. These patients would normally be observed in the intensive care unit but, unfortunately, must be observed in a ward with up to 30 patients and only 2 nurses.
14. Friends of Ostomates Worldwide (F.O.W.-U.S.A.) donated three shipments of ostomy supplies. Now our patients with ostomies will have proper ostomy equipment rather than being forced to use rags or newspaper. Several past patients with ostomies were ecstatic to receive these supplies.

15. Atrium Medical Corporation donated chest tubes and chest drainage systems. These were invaluable for treating the various chest diseases we encounter in Nigeria such as Tuberculosis.
16. Sage Products, Inc. donated 1000 Safety Plus Gloves. These gloves are extra thick and provided extra protection when doing wound care and handling contaminated materials.
17. Baxter Medical donated a supply of FloSeal, a very effective hemostatic agent. This agent was critical in controlling bleeding on several cases.
18. Zimmer, Inc. donated an electric dermatome and mesher. These items will be critical for performing complex reconstructive surgery.
19. Ellen Lewis, RN, donated hundreds of surgical instruments which were taken to Nigeria by Dr. Henry Farrar during his yearly visit in February 2006.
20. Lynn Nacol RN donated an "Iron Intern" retractor system and sigmoidoscopy set used by her late husband Sam Nacol, MD, prior to his untimely death. Dr. Nacol was a very respected and cherished surgeon in Henderson, TX.
21. The Lions Club of Henderson donated 300 pairs of eyeglasses. These were distributed to needy patients during eye clinics. One pair of sunglasses was given to an albino boy who was unable to go outside because the sun caused him so much eye pain.
22. The Rotary Club of Henderson donated innumerable toiletry items and tote bags. These were a favorite of the patients and nurses.
23. Merrill Lynch & Co. gave a generous donation through their matching Gifts Program.
24. Dr. Camazine presented a PowerPoint presentation on Earthwide Surgical to the Lions Club of Henderson, TX, the Rotary Club of Henderson, TX, the Optimist Club of Henderson, TX, the Kiwanis Club of Henderson, TX and the Rotary Club of Overton, TX.
25. Dr. Camazine published two articles, "A Surgeon's Tale: Back to West Africa" in Contemporary Surgery and "The Rewards and Risks of Surgical Missions" in Texas Medicine, about his volunteer work.
26. Amanda Bonvicino, fourth year medical student and participant in the 2005 Nigerian humanitarian surgical trip, made several paintings of Nigerian scenes, which she made into gift cards. To date she has raised approximately \$1500 from the sale of these beautiful cards, all of which she donated to Earthwide Surgical Foundation. Earthwide donated a portion of these funds to the International Healthcare Foundation.
27. Danny Ellebrecht, participant on the 2006 Nigerian humanitarian surgical trip, made gift cards depicting the Children of Nigeria. He plans to sell these cards and donate the proceeds to the Earthwide Surgical Foundation.
28. Earthwide Surgical received generous donations from the following individuals:

1. Ed Alverson, PA
2. Joseph Antkowiak, MD
3. Rubie Baxter
4. Alisse Camazine
5. Tom Carr
6. Louise Cites
7. Mark Clardy
8. D.M. Edwards
9. Kay Ethridge, RN
10. Sandra Gilhousen
11. Charles Graham, MD
12. Curtis/Laura Grote
13. Martha Highfield, RN
14. Ash Hilmy, MD (RGV Surgery)
15. Pete Kaplan
16. Ted Hopens, MD
17. Harry Jones, MD
18. Lloyd Jones, MD
19. Kaplan, Pete
20. Rose Lafond
21. Ellen Lewis, RN
22. Barbara Maufas, RN
23. Judy/Gerry Miller
24. Fleta Mooney
25. Phalguni Mukopadhyay, MD
26. Marty and Hop Paden
27. Donna Palmer
28. David and Linda Smith
29. Clarence and Patty Wilson

29. Earthwide Surgical received generous donations from the following organizations:

1. Ambu, Inc. (Debbie Yakubchik)
2. Baxter Medical (Trey Oliver)
3. Cardinal Healthcare ( Paul Stewart)
4. Coppers Cove Christian Church (Mabel Harrison)
5. Ethicon, Inc. (Aileen Gillespie)
6. Ethicon Endo-Surgery (Kate Neylon)
7. Ethicon Endo-Surgery (Bridgett Golden)
8. Henderson Lions Club (Lynn Nacole)
9. Henderson Memorial Hospital
10. Henderson Rotary Club
11. Hopes and Dreams Foundation (Steve Laiderman)
12. Kilgore Rotary Club
13. Merrill Lynch & Co.
14. Potters Sunday School Class/Trinity Baptist Church (Sherry Harris)
15. Regent Medical (Michele Love)
16. Zimmer, Inc. (Bradley Bishop/Sylvia Aguirre)

## WHAT DO WE PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH?

1. The next surgical trip to Nigeria is planned for June 2007. Dr. Farrar, founder of the hospital in Nigeria, will be joining the group. As always, we plan to operate as much as possible. In addition, we hope to increase the time we spend training local General Surgery and OBGYN residents. All the local residents are interested in learning about mesh repair of hernias.
2. The Foundation has invited Dr. Mike Enyinnah, Chief of Surgery at the Nigerian Christian Hospital, to the U.S. for advanced surgical training. He will receive training in minimally invasive surgery such as laparoscopic cholecystectomy and appendectomy.
3. We are in the process of developing a logo and website, both of which should be completed by the end of the year. We plan to produce a video from our last trip as well as CDs of our digital pictures.
4. We have identified two students in Africa who we feel would be excellent candidates for Medical School. We want to support their studies.
5. We are intensifying our efforts to get needed supplies and equipment. Many companies have been very generous.
6. We are currently exploring the possibility of volunteer surgical trips to a new hospital in Bayelsa State, Nigeria as well as a hospital in the Dominican Republic.

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