

1998

Fundación “Yo Te Amo”, Colorado and Buen Samaritano Clinica had its beginning through the work of Elizabeth and Richard Engkjer when Elizabeth went to El Floron, Ecuador in the fall of 1997 with Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church women’s mission group to assist missionary Pastors Pedro and Rosa Del Hierro with their missionary work in Ecuador. It was in front of the church that Elizabeth heard Daniel Macias ask the Lord to please heal his arm (he was born with a congenital defect and had no arm below his left elbow) so that he could play the drums and guitar in his church.



Returning home, Elizabeth shared Daniel’s situation and contacted the Dale Clark Prosthetic Clinic in Iowa. We arranged to have him flown to Denver where we were referred to NOVA CARE Prosthetics who provided that arm as well as the rehab needed for Daniel to learn how to use his new prosthesis. From that time forward we decided that God had a mission for us.

We formalized our involvement in Feb 2001 by forming a board and filing with the state of Colorado as a non-profit corporation and then with the IRS to become a 501c(3) tax exempt organization. We were certified by the IRS on July 19, 2002 to be such an organization, dating back to our incorporation by the State of Colorado which was Feb 6, 2001.

Daniel, age 14

As you can see, our humble beginnings were with Daniel. We have since been privileged by God to continue sharing Christ

through medical missions in Ecuador.

“.....Daniel Macias asked the Lord in front of his church to please provide him an arm so that he could play the drums and guitar in his church.”

May 1998

When it was time to return Daniel to his home in Ecuador, El Niño hit hard! Flood waters were everywhere and delayed his return! We subsequently received a request from the government of Ecuador through their embassy in Washington DC to provide a medical team (our first!) to work in the El Floron area to assist them in working with the health problems caused by the disease ridden waters. By the grace of God, we provided a 19 member team of doctors, nurses, an EMT and interpreter. This effort was miraculously organized in a month. We returned Daniel with this team to his village of El Floron — which was now devastated by the months of El Niño’s persistent rains.



El

Nino Mission Team after El Nino devastation to El Nino



The Medical Mission team requested by the Vice-President of Ecuador due to El Nino

October 1998

After viewing the slide presentation of the El Nino medial mission, a church member and friend asked how he and others could help the people of El Floron. It was obvious the contaminated water was a major problem. We took our friend Gordon Lewis (a Rotarian and architect) to Ecuador to help evaluate the unsanitary living conditions. He was convinced that a water project was necessary and proceeded to apply to International Rotary for a much-needed grant. For that visit we also took suitcases full of pens, pencils, and paper and other basic school supplies, of which the local school had little or none of these items. Two years were spent by Gordon and Elizabeth writing and rewriting a Rotary Grant request.



Free roaming cows/poultry add to unsanitary conditions



Much of the farming is primitive



Ecuador following the war



Friend Gordon Lewis inspects the archaic bridges in Ecuador