

How can YOU help? - "Please Join Our Team"

Join the Heart Care International team. Become a part of this life-saving organization through YOUR contribution. Without donations from generous individuals, like YOU, children, like Hector, may not have access to the surgery and treatment they need.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Please help us bring hope and health to the lives of these children.

Your gift is a tax-deductible contribution that will transform the life of an individual. Donate generously, on behalf of the healthy children in your life AND on behalf of the sick children you can help heal.

*Give a gift from the HEART
to mend a HEART.*

Heart Care International's IRS tax exemption application and information statements will be furnished upon request at the address below.



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Caring For Young Hearts



Heart Care International (HCI), a non-profit organization, provides high quality and compassionate surgical and medical care to children and young adults with heart disease in developing countries. HCI also trains host-country medical professionals to perform diagnostic and surgical therapy on an on going basis.

Heart Care International helps heal young hearts.

One of Our Stories - "Changing the Course of a Life"

Hector, a boy living in rural Guatemala, had a damaged heart valve as a result of rheumatic fever. His quality of life was severely compromised, as his fatigue was so great that even walking was a challenge. At the age of 14, he dropped out of school because he was unable to function.

Hector needed open-heart surgery to repair his heart and save his life. His options were limited, as the life-saving surgery was not offered in his home country (at that time), and a trip to the U.S. was not economically feasible. Fortunately for Hector, he was one of over 40 children helped by HCI during its annual visit to Guatemala.



Today, Hector is back in school, participating fully in life and planning to become a doctor. In part, due to HCI's efforts, cardiac surgery for children, like Hector, is now performed regularly in Guatemala.

Goals - "For NOW and For the FUTURE"

The short-term goal of Heart Care International is to provide cardiac diagnosis and open heart surgery for children and young adults in developing countries. To date, the team has traveled to both Guatemala and the Dominican Republic resulting in the surgical treatment of over 400 children and cardiac diagnoses of over 1000 children and young adults.



A long-term goal of HCI is to train host-country health care professionals in the medical and surgical management of congenital heart defects. By enabling local professionals to provide

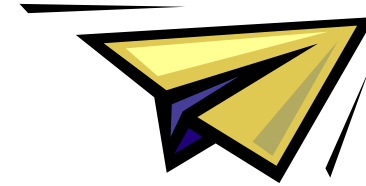
heart care within their own country, Heart Care International wants to leave a legacy of hope and self-sufficiency.

Who is Helping Now? - "Individuals and Companies who MAKE a difference"

In 1994, heart surgeon Dr. Robert Michler brought together a team of ## health care professionals from New York to travel to Guatemala for Heart Care International's first mission. Today, HCI's team of ## dedicated specialists come from over 20 major

medical centers across the United States as well as several other countries. These individuals donate their time and services, both on-site during the mission and for follow-up care throughout the year, to medically and surgically treat over 50 patients each year.

Our partners at over 40 companies across 5 industries (including surgical, pharmaceutical,



Caption describing picture or graphic.

airline, lodging, office supply companies and others) generously donate supplies, services and funds to support HCI's

missions. Without their support, the cost of HCI's missions would be prohibitive.

Thanks to the contributions of these health care specialists and partner companies, HCI is able to perform its life-saving procedures and surgeries at a fraction of what it would cost in the United States. (Each surgery costs HCI approximately \$2500 when performed in the host country, versus \$25,000 for a similar surgery performed in the U.S.)