

The RESOURCE

The Newsletter of Sharing Resources Worldwide

Spring 2026

20 Years and Counting...

by Mary Dowling, RN, and Sylvia Boomsma

Although SRW was founded 24 years ago in 2002, we have been working exclusively in Honduras for 20 years, and in Siguatepeque for 18 years. On March 1, 2026, our orthopedic mission team, friends in Honduras, and our partners at Providence World took a moment to celebrate this achievement with a beautiful and delicious SRW cake.

More than 2,662 children have received treatment by our mission teams during that time. More than 2,386 have received eye exams and glasses. And this year we increased from five to seven mission teams visiting Siguatepeque each year.

Prior to our arrival, news of a planned mission trip is spread far and wide by parents of former patients, churches, social media, and local medical professionals. Patients come from throughout Honduras for care by our teams; some travel up to 13 hours by bus.

Patients aren't the only ones who benefit from these missions. Over and over, team members are changed for life, as they see with their own eyes the needs that would not likely be met if they weren't able to serve. Medical professionals sign up for one mission after another because of the great joy that comes from lending their expertise to solve problems and improve lives, as well as meeting children and families and seeing their relief and happiness.

Our SRW Board, team members, and supporters thank our partners at Providence World in Siguatepeque for their part in our work there for the last 18 years. Thousands of children and families have been given a chance at a brighter future through our cooperative efforts.



SRW Celebration Cake



Upcoming Missions

- Sept 26-Oct 3, 2026– Lower Extremity Ortho Team
- Nov 7-14, 2026– Upper Extremity Ortho Team
- Nov 14-17, 2026– Pin and cast Team
- Jan 9-16, 2027– Eyeglass Team
- February 13-20, 2027– Strabismus Team
- Feb 27-March 6, 2027– Lower Extremity Ortho Team
- April 17-20, 2027– Pin and Cast Team

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Look for us on facebook!

Thank You Lisa!

SRW owes Lisa Imhoff a debt of gratitude for the many years of graphic arts expertise she has donated since 2002. For 24 years, Lisa has helped us get the word out by managing the layout and artistic aspects of our newsletter and other publications. We will miss her as she retires from her work with SRW, and we wish her success and fulfillment in her future endeavors.

Honoring Dr. David Mann

David Mann served as a Pediatric Orthopedic surgeon at the University of Wisconsin–Madison from 1988 to 2008. From the beginning of his career in 1988, Dr. Mann volunteered his time and surgical skills to help children with orthopedic issues in resource-limited regions around the world.

In 2002, as a co-founder and first President of Sharing Resources Worldwide (SRW), Dr. Mann directed the organization toward addressing children’s orthopedic needs in Central America by establishing a permanent base for pediatric orthopedic medical services. Visionary and inspiring by nature, Dr. Mann led the team in designing, building and equipping the clinics and operating rooms at La Providencia in Siguatepeque Honduras. This pioneering medical facility began serving children and families in 2007.

Over the years, Dr. Mann assembled and cared for the Wisconsin teams – nurses, residents, attending surgeons, and other volunteers. While clearly a leader, Dr. Mann remained a humble member of what grew into an ever-expanding group of medical professional united by a shared passion for children’s health.

Thank you Dr. Mann!

“Pediatric orthopedic surgery has been compared to throwing a pebble into a pond, causing ripples that continue outward for years. The child has decades to benefit from timely intervention. I believe pediatric orthopedic surgery in Honduras and other countries is more like a tsunami – the resulting waves spread over lifetimes, families, schools, and communities.” – Dave Mann, 2025



Orthopedics Mission: March 2026

by Mary Dowling, RN

From February 28 to March 7, 2026 our lower extremity orthopedic team operated in Siguatepeque, Honduras. Following a screening day on February 29, where we evaluated 95 children from across the country, our team scheduled 28 children for surgeries.

We had many new team members who integrated seamlessly, leading to a highly successful week with excellent patient outcomes. Seeing previous patients return to demonstrate their progress was a highlight of the trip and incredibly gratifying for us all. Lives are changed.

We are truly blessed– no power issues, no equipment problems and zero canceled cases. Thank you to this team for an unforgettable week!

Team members

- Dawn McComb, PA
- Pertter Li, MD
- Ken Noonan, MD
- Kristan Sodergren, RN,NP
- Marge Abegglen, RN
- Mary Dowling, RN
- Bob Machotka, RN
- Rebecca Evans, MD
- Jennifer Penston, PT
- Andrew Perkins, CRNA
- Tricia Ejzak, RN
- Laura Lins, MD

- Gina Waterworth, RN
- Rose Silveira, CRNA
- Cameron Trotter, MD
- Emma MC Kinney, RN/
Student
- Spencer Wilson, Student
- Kelly Kerkhoff, RN
- Kraig Squires, PA
- Brook Mortensen, RN, NP
- Nora Wells, Student
- Iveth Villatoro, MD
- Hugo Romero, Logistics

It Never Gets Old

Orthopedics Mission: September 2025

by Marjorie Abegglen, RN

I started going on mission trips with SRW in 2000. Since then, I have been on all the orthopedic missions we have accomplished. I'm a veteran!! That being said, it somehow never gets old and each time I go, the experience fills my heart for the rest of the year.

When we were in Honduras in January 2025 for the lower extremity orthopedic mission, we were overwhelmed by the number of kids that showed up for our screening day, almost twice what we normally had. We worked long hours and were able to help many children. But we left more than 10 kids who needed surgery that we didn't have time for, and that didn't feel good.

We decided to build a team and go back in September to hopefully catch up and help more kids in need. We had a relatively small group of 16 who went to do the work in September of 2025. Of that group, half were new to our mission. One of my most favorite parts of each

trip is seeing through the eyes of someone who is experiencing it for the first time. The people who were with us for the first time were outstanding! They jumped right in, learned our processes and helped screen kids and set up the operating rooms.

Because I've done this so many times, I'm shielded from the emotions that run rampant during this week. It is so rewarding for me to watch someone experience all the "feels" for the first time—the adorable kids, the parents who trust us to help their children, the people who support us by keeping us safe and providing us with great food, the nurses who watch over the kids while we rest at night. Seriously, the list could go on and on. There are always stories that go with every patient—long, arduous travel to get to us, heartbreaking home stories, conditions we're unable to treat. We get to experience all the emotions!!!

During our week, we screened 73 patients and operated on 30

children, which made it a very successful trip. I look forward to going back for another trip in 2026. The need is always there and it gives me another opportunity to fill my heart and use the gifts I've been blessed with to help others.

Team members

Ken Noonan, MD
Tracy Cotter, MD
Aaron Beck, MD (resident)
Rebecca Evans, MD
Marjorie Abegglen, RN
Shannon Conlin, CRNA
Kristan Sodergren, NP, RN
Sara Tokheim, CRNA
Cassandra Senzig, RN
Erin Johnston, RN
Jill Coyle, ORT
Christa Shanks, ORT
Pat Kreibich, RN
Mary Dowling, RN
Robert Machotka, RN
Marla Gropper, PT
Iveth Villatoro, MD
Hugo Romero, Logistics



Pin and Cast Mission:

November 2025

by Mary Dowling, RN

Healing is a journey that does not end when the surgery is over. From November 15–18, 2025, a small mission team returned to Siguatepeque to provide essential follow-up care for the pediatric patients who had surgery in early September. It was a busy and rewarding two days! We saw 22 children, successfully pulling pins, changing casts and making brace forms for the next six weeks of healing.

The smiles on the faces of the families reminded us why this follow-up care is just as vital as the surgeries themselves.

Team Members

Sara Galli, MD
Jenna Palzkill, CRNA
Jim Albrecht, CRNA
Dana Gruenfelder, RN
Elizabeth Shimon, PA
Mary Dowling, RN
Faith Colbath, RN
Jo Lippitt, RN
Christine Longoria, PA
Jennifer Colebourn, PT
Iveth Villatoro, MD
Hugo Romero, Logistics

Hand Team Mission: November 2025

by Kiana Stender, DNP, CRNA

The Pediatric Upper Extremity team returned to Siguatepeque from November 8–15, 2025, bringing a total of 19 team members. Thirteen members returned from last year and 6 new members were added to our team. Team members from Iowa, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania, met in Dallas Fort Worth, flew into the beautiful Palmerola airport, and enjoyed a brief scenic drive to our lodgings in Siguatepeque. The first day was spent connecting with the old friends made during last year's mission and the new volunteers.

Our work began on Sunday with travel to the medical clinic. Seeing the many waiting patients and families greeting us with smiles and waves certainly filled us with excitement for the week to come! The rest of Sunday was spent with a facility tour, evaluation of resources/equipment availability, screening patients in clinic, and making the surgical schedule for the week. Forty-two patients were screened on Sunday, with 23 patients indicated for surgery. Out of these 23, 21 patients had surgical procedures performed.

Some patients not indicated for surgery still benefit from the great work of our occupational therapy team, who saw over 30 patients and made over 30 custom splints. This year, we also continued the research project that was initiated last year, focused on safety and efficacy of surgical mission trips. This year, the research team followed up with last year's patients and enrolled new patients.

At the end of a very fulfilling week, our team was able to spend some personal time together debriefing and sharing our experiences. This 2025 mission was extremely rewarding and fulfilling. We all felt extremely blessed to be able to assist in the ways we can and have excitement for 2026!



Team members

Erica Lawler, MD
Jeff Feldman, MD
Apurva Shah, MD
Jennifer Bailey, ORT
Mary Dowling, RN
Kathy Fear, DNP, CRNA
Marisol Garcia, ORT
Yohannes Getachew, MD
Jessica Hanley, MD
Jodi Heth, DNP, FNP-BC
Brittani Hill, ORT
Elizabeth Hertzler, RN
Alison Lehman, PA-C
Sayaka Mori, BA
Hollie Pfeiffer, ORT
Sandy Schmiege, OT
Leanna Shaman, OT
Kiana Stender, DNP, CRNA
Anne Zaborkrtskty, RN
Iveth Villatoro, MD
Hugo Romero, Logistics



Pin and Cast Mission: April 2026

by Mary Dowling

Six weeks following our orthopedic trip to Siguatepeque (April 18-21, 2026), another team traveled to Honduras and Providencia to remove pins and change casts for 18 children operated on in March. Supported by new team members from Wisconsin and Utah, the two-day mission flew by. Parents expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity of a better future for their children and and by extension, the entire family. While some children were disappointed to remain in casts for another six weeks, the long-term reward of mobility is well worth the wait.

Team Members

Robert Machotka, RN
Heather Haver, RN
Elizabeth Shimon, PA
Samantha Fedorowicz, PA
Mary Beth Schneider, CRNA
Jessica Ebbert, CRNA
Mary Dowling, RN
Eamon Bernardoni, MD
Kari DePauw, PA
Francie Reichling, RN
Nella Bernardoni, PT
Stacy Sauer, CRNA
Iveth Villatoro, MD
Hugo Romero, Logistics



Eyeglass Mission: January 2026

by Kari Baker, ABOC

Returning to Siguatepeque, Honduras, for our annual eyeglass mission trip felt like coming home. From the moment we arrived, the familiar mountain air and warm smiles reminded us why this place holds such a special place in our hearts. Each year brings new faces and new stories, yet the spirit of the community remains beautifully constant — welcoming, grateful, and full of hope.

Our days were filled with vision screenings, frame fittings, adjustments, and countless conversations. There is something incredibly powerful about placing a pair of glasses on someone's face and watching their world come into focus. Clear sight restores more than vision; it restores confidence, independence, and opportunity. Seeing the joy on each person's face is a reminder that even small acts of service can have life-changing impact.

What makes this trip especially meaningful is the team. Serving alongside such dedicated, compassionate individuals creates a

bond that goes beyond the work itself. Each person brings unique skills and strengths, yet we move together with one shared purpose. The laughter, problem-solving, and teamwork throughout long days make the mission not only productive, but deeply fulfilling.

As we reflect on another year in Siguatepeque, we are filled with gratitude – for the community that welcomes us so warmly and for the incredible team that makes this mission possible. We return home inspired, already looking forward to next year, and carrying with us the powerful reminder that when we come together in service, we truly see the difference we can make.

The team screened 328 patients, 228 received glasses including seven children. SRW covers the cost of their glasses for the children.

Our thanks goes out to The Lions Foundation of Wisconsin for the glasses that we're distributed. Thank you to Clinica Betania for your continued help.



Team members

David Gamm, MD
Todd Murdock, MD
Neil Lucchese, MD
Kari Baker, ABOC
Mary Dowling, RN
Pat Kreibich, RN
Leslie Hill
Iveth Villatoro, MD
Hugo Romero, Logistics



With Gratitude

We couldn't do it without you

American Family Children's Hospital

American Society for Surgery of the Hand

Beloit Memorial Hospital

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Epic Systems

Hometown Pharmacy/Fitchburg

Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach

McFarland Lions Club

Mobile Instruments

SOS International

SSM Health Janesville

SSM Health Madison

SSM Health Monroe

Transformations

UW Hospital and Clinics

VanDen Wymelenberg Foundation

Verona Lions Club

Waunakee Senior Center

West Coast Medical Resources

Wisconsin Lions Foundation

A heartfelt thank you to the many more individuals and supporters who make our work at SRW possible.

Special thanks to Sylvia Boomsma for her editing expertise.

Strabismus Mission: February 2026

by Jessica Hoff Master, CRNA,
and Staci Kothbauer, CRNA

Our SRW Strabismus team returned home after a truly memorable week of service in Honduras. From February 13–21, volunteers from Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and the United Kingdom came together with skill, compassion, and seamless teamwork to provide care for children in need of eye muscle surgery (strabismus correction).

Our efforts brought hope and brighter futures to dozens of children and families—some of whom traveled more than 10 hours just for the opportunity to be seen.

A Week of Teamwork

From the moment we arrived, collaboration was effortless. Even when we briefly lost pipeline oxygen (a sentence that understandably raises eyebrows back home), the team calmly transitioned to backup tanks like it was just another Tuesday in the OR. No panic, no drama—just quiet competence...and a few anesthesia providers mentally double-checking their career choices for half a second.

Early equipment challenges with our sterilizer were quickly resolved thanks to an American biomedical missionary who came to the rescue—essentially the mission-trip version of a superhero. Though he asked for nothing, we insisted on compensating him for his time (and possibly for saving our ability to continue the mission). We are incredibly grateful for the relationships and connections we've built over the years in Honduras—they make moments like this possible.

And perhaps the most meaningful outcome of all: every child did wonderfully. Most showed remarkable bravery, and not one went to sleep in tears.

The Impact

The dedication of these families is hard to put into words. Some patients arrived in the middle of the night—2:00 AM—just to ensure they wouldn't miss the chance to be seen. One boy, Diego, was the very first to arrive and ultimately the last surgery of the week. He waited all night and day to be evaluated, and then another full day for surgery.

At 16 years old, Diego struggled with self-esteem and felt embarrassed to attend school because of his eyes. The morning after surgery, when the pediatric strabismus surgeon checked on him, his mother was in tears—thanking the team for changing her son's life. Surgery had never been an option for their family. The impact was immediate and profound. Stories like Diego's continued throughout the week.

One 6-year-old girl traveled 12 hours with a family friend for surgery. Her mother could not come because she had to work. She was stoic, kind, and incredibly sweet—her quiet strength and maturity reflecting the challenges she faces daily.

Screening & Surgical Success: by the numbers

- 93 children screened in two days
- 41 successful surgeries
- Zero no-shows
- Zero illness-related cancellations
- Zero power interruptions in the OR (a small miracle that we did not take for granted)

Families traveled incredible distances:

- 7 families traveled 3+ hours
- 8 families traveled 9–13 hours, including:
 - 9 hours – 1 family
 - 10 hours – 3 families
 - 12 hours – 3 families
 - 13 hours – 1 family



Word continues to spread—through social media and through the families themselves. When people are willing to travel 13 hours for care, it's a powerful reminder that this work matters.

The Ripple Effect

Each surgery reaches far beyond the operating room. Restoring eye alignment helps improve:

- Confidence
- Academic performance
- Social connection
- Family well-being

Community participation

The impact extends to families, schools, and entire communities. It's the kind of outcome you can't measure on a monitor—but you know it when you see it.

Team members

Robert Bechtel, MD
Kim Decker, RN
Staci Kothbauer, CRNA
Mara Schaefer, CRNA
Jessica Hoffmaster, CRNA
Pat Kreibich, RN
Mary Dowling, RN
Lloyd Bender, MD
Alexis Chaudron, RN
Ann Marie Rinker, ORT
Tony Dillon, RN
Lauren Mahun, RN
Jacqueline Schmidt, RN
Iveth Villatoro, MD
Hugo Romero, Logistics

The SRW Team

Dr. Rob Bechtel

The February 2026 strabismus mission was Dr. Rob Bechtel’s final trip with SRW following his retirement this past December. A founding member who served in Honduras for 18 years, Dr. Bechtel’s contributions are invaluable. His leadership, dedication, and steady presence have shaped this mission in lasting ways.

We wish him all the best as he begins this next chapter—one we hope includes plenty of travel, adventure, and well-earned relaxation.



Pat White, CRNA — Celebrating a Volunteer’s Service

Pat White, CRNA, was recruited by fellow colleague, Pam Smith, in the mid-1990s to join what would soon become Sharing Resources Worldwide. Pat’s participation remained steady, launching decades of service providing life-changing care for children in Guatemala, Peru, and Honduras.

Prior to SRW’s current partnership in Honduras, teams worked in hospitals and clinics with widely varying resources and support—sometimes facing overt resistance. Despite these challenges, the mission never changed: delivering the best possible care for children. As Pat reflects, “Many of the procedures were truly life-changing, offering a rare opportunity to make a profound difference in a child’s life.”

Her experiences with SRW inspired continued service into her retirement as Pat served as SRW Board President for many years.

Pat describes a memorable moment that captures the essence of her SRW experience: a mother offering a small stone from her garden as a thank-you gift, apologizing that she had nothing

more to give. It was a humbling reminder of the impact of compassionate care.

Pat sums it up simply, “You will fall in love with the kids—and it may be the most meaningful contribution you ever make.”

With sincere appreciation, we thank Pat White for her contributions to SRW, her extraordinary compassion, and lifelong dedication to improving the lives of children.



MISSION

Through the delivery of excellent health care, Sharing Resources Worldwide (SRW) endeavors to improve the quality of life disadvantaged populations around the world.

VISION

By organizing and supporting medical teams, SRW will provide surgical, medical, dental care, and eye care for disadvantaged people. When possible, SRW will work closely with in-country partners to deliver these kinds of care. SRW will provide on-site medical professionals and institutions with donated supplies and equipment, and allow them to consistently offer needed services for these needy populations. SRW’s primary concern will be meeting the needs of children 18 years old and younger.

VALUES

SRW’s board, director and medical team members will provide needed care and treatment internationally, while consistently demonstrating the following core values:

- Excellence
- Respect
- Compassion
- Accountability

Sharing Resources Worldwide
Mary Dowling, RN, Director

Governing Board

Neil Lucchese, MD, President
Jessica Hoffmaster, MSN, APNP, CRNA
Mary Beth Schneider, CRNA, DNP, APNP
Kristan Sodergren, MSN, PCNP, APNP



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Executive Director
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See how SRW is bringing hope and healing to children in Honduras and beyond. For more stories and updates, visit us at www.SharingResourcesWorldwide.org

Thank you for your support!

Sharing Resources Worldwide is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin and is a qualified 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, making your contribution tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

SRW gratefully accepts gifts of appreciated stocks and mutual funds. Donating securities directly allows you to bypass capital gains taxes on the increase in value, while qualifying for a deduction based on the current full market value.

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