

Medical Boat Clinics on the Guama River



Nursing and dental staff making home visit at Conceição

The last week of October we held nursing and dental clinics in the communities of Bujaru and Conceição. Our staff included nurses, nursing students and a dental student. We were able to see 40 patients, hold workshops on hygiene and water treatment and give fluoride treatment to all the children that came. Behind each smiling face there was a story of broken homes, absent parents, abuse, and often drug involvement. Only Jesus can change the living situations of these beautiful children and young people and raise up a generation with a new hope of freedom from the vicious cycle that their families have been enslaved in.

In December we held a medical clinic attending to 32 more patients. Many of the people that our medical and nursing teams treated had not been able to get medicines or much needed treatment for years.

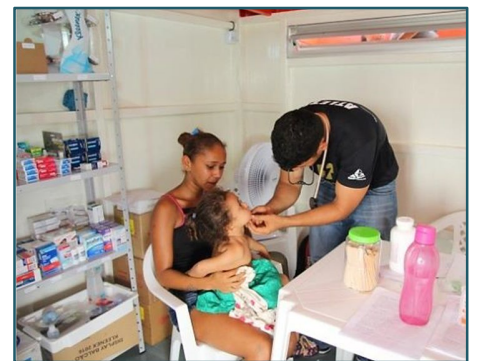
Among the most serious cases we saw during our clinics was a 5 year old boy who had broken his foot 3 months ago. A local health facility had sent him home twice with no treatment. The bones have now healed crooked leaving him with a bad limp. Our medical staff was able to make a special appointment for him in a hospital in the capital city of Belem where he will be able to have surgery to correct his foot. There was also a 13 year old girl with complications from a miscarriage she had 2 months ago when she was only 12. The staff was able to give her medical treatment and counsel.



Medical Boat arriving at river community



Bethany, Christina and Deborah fill out patient records



Higor (Christina's husband) doing medical assessment



Christina and Higor attending patients at clinic



Children waiting to be seen by doctor



Patient receives prayer and counsel while waiting for doctor



Pr. Marçal, Benedito, Bené, and Gabriel at Bené's baptism

Bené and Julia are a young couple from the river community of Itabira that have been coming to our Bujaru church since February. Bené and Julia both received Jesus and were baptized in May of this year. Julia's mother testified about the change in Bené's life saying, "Bené used to drink all the time but he doesn't drink anymore. He used to beat Julia and she was always crying. Now he never hits Julia anymore and she is always smiling."

In September Julia suffered complications after a C-section at a city hospital during the birth of their 3rd child. She had come home to her river community but was in excruciating pain. Our medical boat docked near their home and sent

a team to visit Julia. The team gave her medicine and prayed for her. The pain left immediately and today both she and the baby, Joshua, are doing wonderful. Every time we see him, Bené talks about one day having a church in Itabira to help win his relatives and friends to Jesus.

We come into this special time of the year celebrating Jesus, the Hope of All the World!

Jesus is the only answer to people like Bené and Julia and the many young people we see in the clinics. There is no other hope – no other possibility of a better future. You are helping us bring hope to the people along the rivers through your prayers and your giving. Please pray with us that God would multiply our time and resources to reach the communities where He has called us. For those of you who can share financially, our greatest need right now is for funds to send out medical and ministry teams. While doctors and nurses and students are volunteering their time, there is still the cost of transporting teams to the rivers, boat fuel and medicines. We are also raising funds for the medical and dental equipment that we need for the boat. Your gifts make a tremendous difference in enabling us to go!



Julia, Bené and 2 children on baptism day

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." John 3:16

May you and your family be blessed this Christmas!

Love,

Scott and Michelle Toth and family

**Address for donations:
Hope Ministries
P.O. Box 77
La Porte, TX, 77572-0072**

Website – www.hopeministriesbrazil.org

hopeministries@uol.com.br

"May your unfailing love rest upon us as we put our hope in you." Psalm 33:22