

## Medical Team Ministry



Medical Boat docked at Alegre Vamos

**“Heal the sick... Freely you have received, freely give.” Matt 10:8**

The week before Easter God sent a team of two doctors, a nurse practitioner, a psychologist, a drug researcher, two pastors and four youth from Ohio to go up the Amazon River tributaries to minister to communities on the Guama and Capim Rivers. It was an amazing trip. The team brought with them 22 duffle bags of medicines and medical supplies. All treatment was given freely to the 330 river people that came to the clinics.



Dr. Brian Zimmerman, son Ben and medical student Higor treat patient in Bujaru

Health staff and church workers from our family and our church here in Brazil accompanied the Ohio team. We travelled 9 hours up river in the medical boat stopping at three main communities for the clinics. Tables, chairs, an examining table, medicines and supplies were all carried into the village centers to set up the clinics in local school buildings. The people waited patiently in lines of 50 and 60 to be seen by the doctors and nurses.



Andy Vick organizes and gives out medicines at the clinic

The health staff worked untiringly in the tropical heat from early morning to late afternoon, not wanting to stop until the last person was attended to. While the doctors and nurses treated the patients, the church workers and the youth on the team visited with people from the communities, making friends, giving out Bibles and tracts and sharing the love of Jesus.



Pastors Art Haring and John Risner sharing the gospel with patients waiting for treatment at Alegre Vamos

Free medical consultation and simple surgeries were performed. The patients that were treated received medicine and vitamins at no cost to them. They felt so blessed because even the most basic medicines here in Brazil are unaffordable for the river people.



"Jungle doctors" – Dr. Anil and Jenny on the trail leading to the community of Livramento

During the clinics there was time to interact with the children whose families had come for treatment. The team brought evangelism bracelets with color-coded beads representing the Gospel message that they gave out to the children along with crayons and pages to color. Balloons, tooth brushes, tooth paste and shampoo were also given out to each child that came. It was beautiful to see the hope and joy that was evidenced on the faces of the children as they were showered with love and attention from the team.



Art Haring tells the story of David and Goliath to attentive children.



Youth from Castanhal Church make friends with children at Livramento

One of the most serious cases the doctors saw was a one-month-old baby who needed brain surgery because of hydrocephalus. We were able to refer him to a hospital in Belem where he is now waiting for surgery.



Art Haring goes through the salvation message with a young boy using evangelism bracelet



Schoolchildren at Alegre Vamos

### The most wonderful result...

One week after the team left we received a call from the community of Alegre Vamos. It was the community leader calling to say how much they appreciated our coming. She said that the community had met together and decided that they want a church. Her family owns the land right next to the school and they want to donate that land for us to build a church as soon as possible. Alegre Vamos is a community that is centrally located for about 7,000 people that live along the river. What a wonderful answer to prayer!

### Thank you!

It is difficult to adequately thank those of you who support this ministry with your years of faithful giving and your continuous prayers for us. This year there hasn't been time to write about the other river trips we have made or the monthly clinics in Bujaru or the beautiful youth camp in February with over 100 attending or the recent baptisms in our church in Açú. **But please know that your giving is bearing much much fruit and that God is bringing His Harvest!**

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](http://www.hopeministriesbrazil.org)

[hopeministries@uol.com.br](mailto:hopeministries@uol.com.br)  
[hopeministriestoth@gmail.com](mailto:hopeministriestoth@gmail.com)

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