Midlife Men Saving Lives One Pill at a Time

A Charitable Act Can Touch the Lives of So Many In Need - Special Report

Mission staff Cruz and Eduardo help to unload the newly purchased medication that was so desperately needed.

It was with heavy hearts the Midlife Men of Fairfax, VA cancelled their yearly trip to visit the Fellow Man International project. Because of the volatile political situation in Honduras, it was determined a visit would be unwise.

Normally, the Midlife Men bring many suitcases filled with all kinds of medications for the clinic. There are antibiotics, anti-parasite tablets and pain medications among others. Their very special delivery is always a much anticipated event at the clinic. Yes, there were many reasons to be very sad the trip would have to be cancelled.

However, the Midlifer's were not to be deterred from helping with the purchase of much needed medication for the clinic's pharmacy. I was overwhelmed with gratitude when the ***men*** handed a check to me for $3,000.00 for the purchase of medication while visiting Fairfax Presbyterian in late January of this year. Such generosity despite the fact they would not have the pleasure of delivering the medicines in person! I tucked the check away in anticipation of a very special, well planned, medication purchase day in San Pedro which would surely fill our nearly barren pharmacy shelves to the brim.

The day started early with a trip to the Super Pharmacy Siman. It is a pharmaceutical wholesale house that gives special prices to non-government and other charitable organizations. There is a saying in Honduras, "if you can't find it at the Siman, it's not in Honduras". My list was long and the clinic's needs were many. None the less, I was happy to see the familiar face of the older woman who always takes my order at the Siman. She double checks brands and makes sure that we get the highest quality medications for the lowest prices. What's more, if they don't have it in stock, they will get it immediately from another pharmacy offering always the same, low, wholesale price.

Medication after medication whether it be inject able, suspension or tablet the answer was always the same, "si hay" or "yes, we have it in stock". My heart was beating so fast as the excitement of bringing back such an amazing purchase of medication filled my soul to overflowing. Dr. Marvin had been very conservative in his purchases during my absence. There were many medicines that were needed to ensure proper treatment for the many conditions seen at the clinic. I was at the Super Pharmacy for more than six hours total. Even the management came out to say hello assuring me they would also guarantee the lowest prices possible because of the nature of the clinic's work. The list was checked and double checked. Yes, we had everything on the list. And the total you ask? $3,078.42 What a blessing!

How Much Medicine Will Three Thousand Dollars Buy - A LOT!

Before and After - Clinic Pharmacy Shelves

30 Bottles of Amoxicillin
12 IV Bags of Lactated Ringers
12 Bags of Saline Solution
3 Boxes of 3cc Syringes
3 Box of 5cc Syringes
2 Gallons of Cough Syrup
2 Gallons of Anti-Acid Suspension
3 Boxes of Exam Gloves
2 Tubes of KY Jelly
1 Bottle of Hydrochlorothiazide (1000 pills)
1 Bottle of Lasix (1000 pills)
30 Bottles of Bactrim Suspension
2 Bottles of Folic Acid (1000 pills each bottle)
5 Boxes of Atenolol (500 pills)
4 Boxes of Glyburide (1000 pills each)
5 Boxes of Diclofenac Tablets (500 pills)
4 Boxes of Metformin Hcl (250 pills)
1 Box of Prednisone (1000 pills)
2 Gallons of Antiemetic Syrup
4 Boxes of Metronidazol (500 pills)
5 Boxes of Zantac (500 pills)
30 Bottles of Dicloxacillin
2 Gallons Parasite Syrup
2 Bottles of Amoxicillin (2,000 pills)
2 Bottles of Antiemetic (2,000 pills)
2 Nebulizers for Breathing Treatments
10 Boxes of Ibuprofen (5,000 pills)
1 Box of Salbutamol (1,000 pills)
1 Gallon of Antispasmotic Syrup
25 Pregnancy Tests
3 Gallons of Pediatric Vitamin Syrup
10 Vials of Dexamethasone
20 Vials of Metaclopramide
2 Gallons of Benadryl Syrup
5 Tubes of Triple Antibiotic Cream
5 Tubes of Clotrimazole Cream
2 Gallons of Scabicide Lotion
2 Infant Nebulizer Masks
2 Adult Nebulizer Masks
3 Gallons of Tylenol Syrup
5 Boxes of Propanolol (500 pills)
1 Bottle of Parasite Medication (1000)
1 Gallon of Rubbing Alcohol
1 Gallon of Iodine Tincture

Thank You!

1 Box of Diclofenac Injectable (100 vials)
20 Elastic Ace Bandages
5 Boxes of Erythromicin Tablets (500)
30 Bottles of Erythromicin Suspension
12 Bags of D5NS IV Solution
20 Bottles of Salbutamol Syrup
20 Boxes of Doxycycline Tablets (2000)
30 Boxes of Clotrimazole Vag. Supp.
30 Boxes of Sulfa Vag. Supp.
30 Bottles of Metronidazol Suspension
1 Box of Rocephin Vials for Injection (50)
30 Bottles of Parasite Medication for Kids
50 IV Catheters
2 Rolls of Gauze
2 Rolls of Cotton
4 Boxes of Rehydration Salts
2 Boxes of Prenatal Vitamins (2000)

This mother brought her two year old child to the clinic with a severe lower respiratory infection. Seen here, the child receives a breathing treatment using one of the new nebulizers.

Dentist Edmundo Ordonez proudly displays purchased medication.

Once I arrived at the clinic's door with the back of the pick-up completely filled with medication, the excitement spread like fire. Quickly patients and staff alike were unloading the heavy boxes of medicine and taking them in to the clinic's pharmacy. There was loud murmuring among the patients seating in the waiting area. Here and there you could here a "gracias a Dios" among other comments regarding the medication's arrival.

Dr. Marvin and Dr. Edmundo soon appeared in the pharmacy's doorway to see what all of the commotion was about. When Dr. Marvin saw the amount of medication being taken from the cardboard boxes he literally covered his mouth in shock. It was my great pleasure to inform him the donation had come from the Midlife Men.

As you can see from the list above, we now have a well-stocked pharmacy. Quality care comes only with enough of the right supplies. Most patients could never afford to purchase their own medication. Thank You Midlife Men on a Mission!!