





Mission Doctor, Dr. Gastelum working with another missionary doctor, performing the first cesarean section at Santa Clotilde in seven years.



A young mothers first look at her newborn baby following her cesarean. In the past, she would have to wait for a seaplane to fly to the capital for surgery.



Mission Doctors, Dr. Kritzberger and Dr. Goh with two medical students. Mission Doctors care for patients while providing training



# Delivering Hope and Life

The sweet cries of a newborn baby can fill a room with relief, joy, and gratitude. Because of your generosity, there are more of these sounds at Santa Clotilde Hospital in rural Peru.

Mission Doctors Dr. Zach Gastelum, Dr. Lucy Goh, and Dr. Chad Kritzberger are on the ground providing life-saving medical care. And this month, they provided the first cesarean section at this mission hospital since 2016. Seven years without this essential surgery! A life-saving surgery made possible with your support.

"The doctor's presence gives them hope and reassurance that there are people who do want to help them and do not abandon them as they feel abandoned in these places as far away as the Amazon jungle. Each one who supports a medical missionary saves thousands of lives each year in far away and abandoned territories."

We spoke with the Santa Clotilde hospital administrator Gabriela Filonowicz and she told us "This surgery is so important to us because we have many women that need c-sections. Unfortunately, we had cases in which a woman lost her baby because there was no doctor to perform a cesarean section in Santa Clotilde. **C-sections save two, and sometimes, three lives. Without Mission Doctors here, a woman having problems giving birth naturally could be sent south to Iquitos. This delay has cost lives. So this is a huge help to us.**"

Mission Doctors in Peru are also treating patients with dengue fever, malaria, malnourishment, leukemia, snake bites and so much more, providing compassionate care following Christ's call to heal the sick.

Gabriela wanted to also share "Having this great opportunity to have doctors from Mission Doctors Association in Santa Clotilde, we give the 24,000 people living on the Napo River the opportunity to be treated for illnesses and now attain, c-section. The doctor's presence gives them hope and reassurance that there are people who do want to help them and do not abandon them in these places as far away as the Amazon jungle. Each one who supports a Mission Doctor saves thousands of lives each year in far away and abandoned territories."

Your continued support of Mission Doctors like Dr. Chad Kritzberger, Dr. Lucy Goh and Dr. Zachary Gastelum, is vital today. They continue to care for all patients - the mothers and their children, the young and the elderly, continuing Christ's call to "Heal the Sick", and you make this possible!

We are receiving more requests from Bishops, Religious Sisters and Hospital Administrators. Your donations allow us to say "Yes!", supporting life-saving Catholic healthcare around the world. Thank you.



You make these smiles possible! Dr. Kritzberger with a happy mother and baby, ready to go home after treatment for burns to chest and face.

Jou inspire Us

We sat down Jeff and Vicky Harbison, long-time supporters of Mission Doctors, and asked about their support of MDA and the James Carey Memorial Fund.

"1 Corinthians teaches that we may have among other things all knowledge, but without love it is nothing. More than a feeling, love is often a decision and many times for us as Christians it is the command form of the verb, demanding that we demonstrate His love.



Vicky and Jeff Harbison

Mission Doctors exemplifies this as its physicians and nurses have decided to love those in need of their knowledge throughout the world where the need would otherwise go unmet. This is why we support the James C. Carey, MD, Jr. Fund and urge you to make a decision to be a supporter too."

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to Jeff and Vicky for your years of generous support.

And to all of YOU, who give whatever you can, your partnership in sending Mission Doctors is truly a tangible way to share the love of God with our brothers and sisters around the world. Thank you!



Run to provide life-saving healthcare! Run to support Mission Doctors serving! Run for compassionate, quality Catholic healthcare!

## Register today and join us September 10-17 for 'On a Mission to Move', a virtual run/walk to support the life-saving work of Mission Doctors.

You can run, jog, or walk on the road, on the trail or on the treadmill. Run your own race, at your own pace, and time it yourself. Your medal will be shipped directly to you.

Your support of Mission Doctors' 'On a Mission to Move' is tax-deductible and provides compassionate, life-saving medical care and essential training for local professionals.

Visit bit.ly/MDArunwalk or scan the QR code to register and learn more!

**Upcoming** Events

#### September 5, 2023 Informational Session and Q & A

Join us online on September 5th at 5 pm PT/8 pm ET for a brief Informational Session and Q & A about short-term service with Mission Doctors. Executive Director Elise Frederick and Program Coordinator Amie Garcia will be online to share information about our program and take your questions about service with MDA and our next Retreat/Seminar. Email Amie at agarcia@missiondoctors.org to reserve your spot!

#### October 23, 2023

### Annual Mass for Health Care Professionals

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles and Mission Doctors invite all Catholic medical professionals to join us at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels and allow us the opportunity to thank you, and bless the work of your hands.

For more information on the event and to RSVP, go to www.CatholicWM.org.



## MISSION DOCTORS ASSOCIATION

Following Christ's call to heal the sick, Mission Doctors Association provides life-saving medical care for the poor and training for local healthcare professionals around the world.

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