



# Belize Mission Project



**Announcing the Fall Trips**  
**October 25 to November 2, 2013**  
**November 2 to November 10, 2013**

2012 was another great year for our project which involved the 90 plus participants seeing almost 10,000 patients. Of this number, almost 6000 were involved in our two year old fluoride program. Since 2012 was the 20th year for the project I thought it might be interesting to ask participants some questions as to why they participate in mission projects. These answers will be part of an article written by the American Dental Association and will be sent to other professional groups.

My answers turned out to be a nine page essay and in general not surprisingly, the answers were all similar from those who responded. It seems people initially volunteer out of curiosity or a sense of wanting to help others. Most participants feel blessed and want to be of help to others less fortunate. They expect to be the one giving the blessing in the form of dental, medical, audiology, or what ever the service they are bringing to the location. But especially in foreign locations, they discover they end up being the one receiving the blessing. They see the way others live and it helps one appreciate their own blessings. They feel the warmth and friendship they come into contact with and see the sincere appreciation by the people who's lives they touch even if it is no more than holding their hand. They appreciate your effort. In turn that gives those who participate a sense of satisfaction, contentment, peace, and a recharging of one's life. This helps goes a long way in discovering God's purpose for your life. These feelings are what drives people to return to this and other mission projects year after year.



## WEB SITE INFORMATION

The BMP web site now has video information that will give people interested in our work an almost first hand view. On the initial page of go-to tabs there are two video tabs. One is a youtube tab that will show a lot of detail about the trip .



## 2013 TRIP NEEDS

The biggest segment of the trip deals with dentistry, so dentists, assistants, hygienists, and of course lab techs are in need. We can also always use physicians including dermatology. We would like to restart the eye glass program so please pass the word about our effort to any of your eye care professional friends.



## The Dental Lab

The making of removable partial dentures was started several years ago and the need keeps expanding. Since 2010 we have been making full dentures . We can use more lab people in our efforts.



**Please help us keep the  
Trip going.**

We would always like to have the names of people who might be interested in our project. Please pass the information on about the trip and then give me a call so I can include their name on our mailing list. Remember our web site.

[www.belizemissionproject.com](http://www.belizemissionproject.com)

## Purposes For The Project

Up to this I haven't said why we do the project. In general we are trying to honor God by helping those less fortunate. Many scriptures admonish us to help those in need and we strive to do just that. While we don't evangelize directly we share God's word as we can. We seek to be good Christian examples in our daily lives. The project probably ministers more to those who go on the trip in that they see the love expressed to them by all the people they come into contact with. Most people return home with a renewed sense of purpose and outlook on life.



**“ As a newbie, I didn't know anyone– which was nerve-wracking and actually a little frightening. As I sat in the Houston airport , I questioned why I had even started on this venture. Then the crew started to gather for the flight to Belize and I was welcomed as though I had been a part of the group for the past 17 years. Before finding the BMP, I was introduced to the quote by Gandhi,” Be the change you wish to see in the world.” Being a part of the BMP, I was able to put these words into action. It was very rewarding to see over 60 patients and to get to know some of the world's most incredible people. What was most fulfilling was not what I was able to give , but what I received. Witnessing the joy the Belizean people exude was amazing as well as those who were so grateful for us coming to use our God given gifts to help them. My life has been changed because of this experience and I can't wait to “Belize It “ again!**

**Marc Orjansen DDS Periodontist**



**“It was a n awesome experience– one I will remember forever with a smile on my face and warmth in my heart.”**

**Darleen Cooper - Dental Assistant**

**“Marilyn and I have been very blessed throughout the 40+ years as I have practiced dentistry. During this period, I experienced a desire to share the dental talents God has blessed me with by participating in a dental mission. Ten years ago I decided to sign up. We have attended every year since and have been accompanied by three of our four children, each on a different year. Observing younger family members work beside us and other team members is very heartwarming. Those who return annually, as well as first timers, become part of our extended family with the common desire of using our talents to help families less fortunate. An increased faith and spiritual growth are realized, each and every year, as God’s Plan is accomplished in Belize. Friendships are made for life as we all work together, share life experiences, and build on each other’s testimony.”**

**John Wright DDS and Wife Marilyn**



Dental clinics concentrate on restorative dentistry (fillings) and preventative dentistry. Dental technicians make removable appliances. There is a great need for dental techs, hygienists, and assistants.



Medical clinics are always busy with patients with various needs. The medications distributed are so valuable and difficult to obtain in Belize. For physicians and their assistants, we focus on family practice type clinics. Where possible, we try to utilize specialists in their treatment areas.

**This trip is very comfortable and non-threatening. The citizens of Belize are very welcoming. We are now announcing our next Belize Mission Projects, which will be Oct 25 to Nov 2, and Nov 2 to Nov. 10, 2013. This mission will be both medical and dental. Anyone is welcome.....Dentists, Physicians, P.A.’s, N.P.’s, hygienist, dental assistants, non-medical help, and everyone in between. If you would like more information concerning this experience or if you want to sign up, contact the following:**

**Dr. Frank Whipps  
1020 Jonas  
Centralia, IL 62801**

**618-532-1821 (days) OR 618-233-5364 (nights)**

**Unfortunately, we have to limit the number of participants and there are a lot of people that enjoy going each year so.....DON’T WAIT!**

**Please see our web site at [www.belizemissionproject.com](http://www.belizemissionproject.com)**