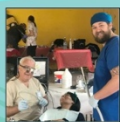
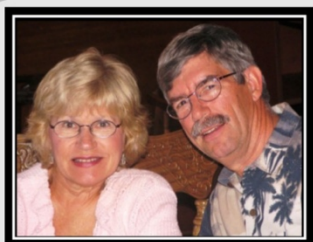


BELIZE MISSION PROJECT



ANNOUNCING FALL 2018 TRIPS
OCTOBER 19- 27, 2018 AND OCTOBER 27-NOVEMBER 4, 2018



Founders Reflections

Bonnie and I were pleased with both weeks of the 2017 Belize Mission Project (BMP) even though it rained a lot. Special thanks go to Gordon Gates who ran the first week and Phil Bangle for running the second. Of course there were a lot of participants who stepped up to make the project a success. There were new clinic sites that went over well and we will be repeating.

This year we did something that we had never done before. We put a street value on the work done while using average US stats. Dentistry did 978,726.00 US dollars, medicine treated patients at a value of 57,125.00 dollars with only one physician this year, and the total for audiology was 199,010.00 dollars giving a grand total of 1,234,145.00 US dollars.

This is a lot of effort for the two weeks we were there. It shows that the people who go are dedicated and work very hard to help as many lives as they can. People come on the BMP year after year in order to help and to get the self satisfaction it gives one.

If you have never tried to give yourself away I would urge you to give it a try. People first come thinking they are just going to help someone else, and they do. But they end up getting so much more in return in the form of satisfaction with life. People come for a variety of reasons but most find it helps with the stresses of life and it helps give them grounding into what is really important. You become your own psychologist. So if you haven't been on such an adventure I urge you to give it a try. You **WILL** be transformed. We are always looking for dental related people, especially dentists, we need more physicians, and audiology always has a big need. So what are you waiting for? If you have been before, help us keep growing by spreading the word. I have found that the best way to attract new people is personal contact. If you need ideas on how to do that we can help. So give us a call.

As many of you know Bonnie and I have not been for the past two years mainly because of Bonnie's post polio symptoms. That plus that fact we are getting older and at some point will need to step back, led us to start looking for new leadership. In 2014, we had a mini convention with about 35 people who really want this effort to continue. We had people answer the call but still had no one person to be the "go to" person.

In late November 2017, Marc and Sara Orjansen sent me a long email saying they felt called to help lead the project. They are a delightful young couple who have been on the project multiple times and many of you know them already.

Marc has been a periodontist since 1998 practicing in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Sara has a degree in Human Development and Family Life and a Master Degree in Theology. They have five children, all of whom have been to Belize two times. Two of their children were adopted from Haiti. Marc started going on the BMP in 2009 and Sara has been for the past two years. Sara is also a writer, a speaker, and has a parenting blog. Bonnie and I are delighted and honored to be making this announcement.

With this in mind, Gordy and Jan Gates, Phil Bangle, Marc and Sara, Courtney and Beau McFarlin (our daughter and son-in-law who do the web site), Bonnie and I met in St. Louis for a day meeting to discuss the BMP. It was a very productive meeting and I gave Sara her first task this year. I asked her to freshen up the newsletter for which she has done an outstanding job. You might want to comment to her at saraorjansen@gmail.com.

This project will now be able to continue well into the future as it has been done in the past. Of course Gordy, Phil, Bonnie, and I will still be helping to lead while they are learning the process but at some point they will be the leaders.

Of course each of you can help them get started by talking to your friends, colleagues, and others about going with the BMP and praying for Marc and Sara.

Frank and Bonnie Whipp's



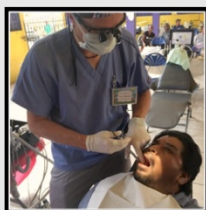
DENTAL TEAM



ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2017

Dental Exams
Restorations
Sealants
Fluoride Treatments
Extractions

Hygiene
Medical Exams
Audiology Evaluations
Hearing Aids Placed
Lab Dentures

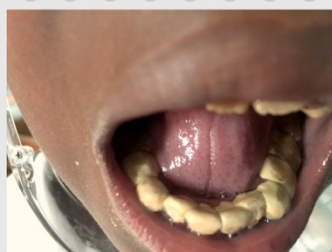


This child, age 11, had calculus covering every surface of her mouth. Jordan Snyder cleaned her teeth while she laid on her back on the school library floor, with tears streaming down her face. She was a strong and inspirational little girl!

The people we treat in Belize leave imprints on us, often for a lifetime. We may never know the impact we have on their lives as many times we only have the chance to see them once. However, there are instances when we have the privilege to treat people year after year and when we get to see them, we are filled with joy.

Jordan Snyder, hygienist, had one of those experiences this year. "Two years ago I met a boy with really messed up teeth and his mother wanted us to pull them out. However, we advised her not to and some of the dentists on the trip put funds together to give him braces. We lost contact with him over the last two years...this year I was at a school with over 400 kids. As I was leaving a little boy came up to me to hug me and it was him.

By God's grace he recognized me, came up to me and pointed at his teeth. They were straight! When I first met him two years ago he would not smile, covered his mouth, and had a hard time eating. When I saw him this year he got his life and confidence back and is able to be a kid. It is crazy that you never know how much you are influencing or changing someone's life."



DENTAL LAB TEAM



The Lab Team offered their talents that produced stunning results. John Treasure reminisced about his experience, "The best part of the trip for me has been to help my brothers and sisters be able to smile and feel good about themselves. It is very rewarding when they thank you and start smiling with their new front teeth or dentures. I have to give credit to Dave Dorman for making the lab techs a close group. He is good at bringing us together to accomplish much good."



MEDICAL TEAM

Dr. Craig Holzem shares his passion and experience as a long-time participant. "We went on our first BMP in 1994 as a one time experience. We were so blown away we have been back every year since then with the exception of one. I'll be the first to admit that as a physician I was starting to get burnt out and frustrated with the current medical climate. It seemed that medicine had become little more than assembly line care with filling out forms or appeasing insurance companies. On top of that, patient's expectations continue to rise to greater and greater levels often leaving you tired and unappreciated. Belize changed all of that.

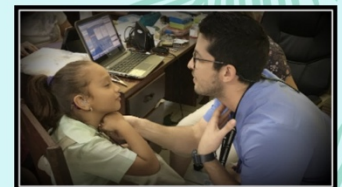
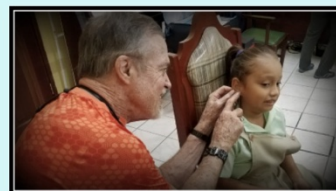
I was able to practice real medicine. I did the best I could with what I had and patients were happy and appreciative. I received more "God bless you"s in one week in Belize than I get in a year in private practice. I know my patients do appreciate me at home, but if I am not there they could be seen by one of my partners, the group next door or down the street, the Urgi-care or Emergency room. In some of the places I have been to in Belize I may be the only doctor they will see for another year or longer. Belize has become a second home and part of our life as long as our health remains good we will continue to make the journey."

AUDIOLOGY TEAM

The Audiology Team brought new enthusiasm for their efforts with the inclusion of three audiology students. Nathan Romero recounts his experience, "At the "Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports," one of my roles was to do patient assessment. In the waiting area, there was an adorable 7-year-old girl waiting alone. After introducing myself in sign language, she stared at me with a stationary look as if I was from another planet. Tears start to build on the corner of her eyes, followed by a river of tears. She was born with a degree of hearing loss. Buddy removed an impression mold to



be made into a custom ear piece for her new hearing aids. You could see she was nervous at this point. Once the programming stage was completed the hearing aids were turned on. Her eyes lit up like a Christmas tree. Quickly, she began to produce vocal noise; finally, she could hear herself.



The next step is the process of speech therapy and aural rehabilitation. This is where I had the opportunity to exercise what I had learned as an undergrad student and apply it to practice; teaching speech discrimination sounds with tactile cues, by placing her hands over her neck to feel for vocal fold vibration, distinguishing between voiced and voiceless consonants. I was shocked and moved by how quickly she had progressed in 25 minutes of speech therapy. Most of all, I was shocked on how her emotions switched from being frightened and confused to enthusiastic. This is when I realized how great of a need there is in Belize for amplification, speech therapy, dental and health care."

FLUORIDE VARNISH TEAM



1. Corozal
2. Belize City
3. Burrell Boom
4. Maskell
5. Ladyville
6. Hatteville
7. Biscane
8. Sand Hill

Teamwork =
9393
Fluoride
Treatments!



SPECIAL Thanks

to MaryAnne Berry
for the organization and
leadership of the fluoride
teams

our fluoride team is often the first exposure to dental health professionals the school children of Belize experience. We strive to make it positive and fun while teaching the importance of dental health. our crew of volunteers, from hygienists and dentists to non-medical helpers, demonstrate how to brush using songs and games, and offer lots of hugs and high-fives! Dr. Ben Foley, an oral surgeon, contributed one afternoon with fluoride. He said, "turns out that working with kids is a lot more fun than taking out teeth."



TEAM EXPERIENCE

Participating in the BMP produces what you expect; an opportunity to help, to use God given abilities, and the chance to meet like minded people on the team.

It also gives unique, often surprising, life-changing moments.

Participants remark how the BMP establishes a camaraderie where teamwork allows for terrific production while shared experiences

bond us together as more than teammates

We become family.

Serving the people of Belize is an honor and privilege. Serving with the BMP creates joy beyond comprehension that carries over into who we are and how we live upon returning home.

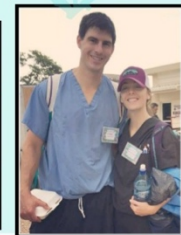
"BMP hugs at my heart...talking to BMP members is like talking to family" Jordan Snyder

"We have made friends for a lifetime and bonded together by doing the Lord's work" John Treasure

"Devotions are the culmination of all we do here - our beginning & our ending out on the pier, centered in Christ. That time spent together bonds us more than any other experience." Marc Orjansen

"I love getting hugs from happy patients, bonding with the team, and Larry and I had a wonderful bonding experience with Lenny." Connie Mulder

Belize provides favorite experiences. After serving together in 2016, Dr. Ben Foley brought Anna Sonneland back to their favorite spot in 2017 and proposed! Best Wishes to the happy couple!



MISSION IN ACTION

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven"
Matthew 5:14-16

BEANS AND RICE PROJECT

Residents of San Mateo and San Peditro were recipients of our largest Beans and Rice Project with nearly 4,000 Pounds of food donated and distributed. Local residents joined with BMP members to load carts with groceries. One young man, Alex, led our group to find the "really poor" in San Mateo, insuring that those most in need were included. Smiles were captured and hearts forever touched in our time shared with those that inspire us to continue to give. They have become our "why."



DRESS A GIRL INTERNATIONAL

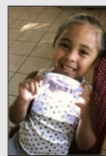


Suzanne Stanish, in affiliation with Dress A Girl International,

an organization that facilitates the creation and distribution of 'pillow case' style dresses around the world in an effort to reduce sex trafficking, made 350 dresses. With the help of the team, dresses were distributed throughout the country with a majority going to girls in San Mateo.



SHINE A LIGHT PROJECT



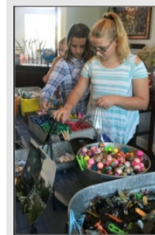
162 Inflatable Solar Lights were given to people to use at work, home, or school

Raquel, village nurse in Mahogany Heights, now has a light in her clinic to do exams



Many teachers have a light in their classrooms to use during outages

GOODIE BAGS



Assembled by Kids for Kids, 1,000 Goodie Bags filled with crayons and paper, a pencil and sharpener, a toy car, a ball, and a bracelet, were given out to children after seeing the dentist and to kids in San Mateo.



BMP BELIZEAN PARTNERS



Thank you, Belizean Partners!
The BMP is successful for countless reasons. However, none of our efforts would be possible without the generous service of our local partners. We are taken care of with help translating, security, clinic coordination, transportation services, laboratory assistance, helping with food distribution, and coordination of leisure activities.



BELIZE MISSION PROJECT

THANK YOU BMP LEADERS



Thank you to
**Gordy Gates and
Phil Bangle**
for their outstanding
leadership

Dr. Frank and Bonnie Whipps, the founders of the Belize Mission Project 26 years ago, were unable to join the group this year in Belize. We have come to appreciate their unrelenting efforts to provide a solid foundation of leadership and organization skills. It is their compassion and Christian beliefs so ingrained in those that participate that have solidified this mission project to endure and thrive.

As the facilitators this year, we saw first hand how well their endeavors have helped the people of Belize. When we enter and travel around the country with our familiar BMP name tags we always get the question "are Frank and Bonnie coming down this year?"



We do our best to communicate their love for them and how much they miss being there. Thank you both for setting the standard high in demonstrating love and compassion for the people of Belize.

Gordy Gates and Phil Bangle

JOIN THE BMP

THE BELIZE MISSION PROJECT PROVIDES BOTH MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES. THIS TRIP IS VERY COMFORTABLE AND NON-THREATENING.

THE CITIZENS OF BELIZE ARE WELCOMING AND GRACIOUS.

WE ENDEAVOR TO CREATE A RESPECTFUL, COLLEGIAL, AND FAMILY-ORIENTED WORK AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



**General
dentists and
physicians are
especially
needed.**

For for information, please visit our website,
www.belizeproject.com
or contact:

Dr. Frank Whipps, frank1020jonas@gmail.com
1020 Jonas Centralia, IL 62801
618-532-1821 (days) or 618-233-5364 (nights)

Space is limited...so Don't Wait!
Many have already signed up for 2018.

To see the BMP in action,
follow link below to view the 2017 trip video
<http://www.belizeproject.com/Video2017.htm>

