

SCALPEL'S EDGE

A GIFT OF LIGHT, HOPE AND SURGERY TO PERU

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PM

BY PETER A. COLE, M.D. - *President, Scalpel At The Cross*

In a smoldering cleft of a Caribbean island 18° latitude above the equator was a young doctor clawing for significance from the bottom of the surgical training totem pole in Port Au Prince, Haiti. It was around 2009 and this young man was simply drawn to helping people, inspired by his service-leaning faith and family values. He was very green in the craft of fixing broken bones. Learning was rudimentary, supplies were slim, education was autocratic, but God gave purpose.

On a steamy patch of the Amazon jungle at 8° latitude below the equator was a growing orthopaedic medical mission groping for a better model of patient care after surgical campaigns in Pucallpa, Peru. The past two decades have been challenged by attempts to improve patient triage, O.R. flow, hospital relations, inventory, and outcomes of surgical interventions. The model was crude, but God gave purpose.

Within icy labyrinths of the U.S. northern plains around the same timeframe, lived a giant in the realm of medical education strategizing to elevate orthopaedic care worldwide. He worked at the state University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The need was endless given epidemic patient injury from road-traffic accidents in 3rd world countries. His ideas were far-fetched, but God gave purpose.

One of the worst natural disasters in recorded history struck with a vengeance on January 12, 2010, razing Haiti's populated capital. Mayhem was instantaneous and the world's wealthiest country descended upon its poorest with relief efforts of every stripe within hours. One was the deployment of a floating hospital, USNS Mercy Ship, moored off the island coast to operate nonstop on trauma patients who were pretzled under fallen buildings from

the 7.0 Richter-scaled quake. On board this floating Naval hospital was Dr. Marc Swiontkowski from Minnesota, the subject of paragraph three above. He was taken by the devastation and committed to help.

Dr. Swiontkowski traveled with intention as a guest of the 2013 Haitian Annual Orthopaedic Conference in Port Au Prince, and over the next few years began to teach surgeons how to operate on fractures. He would tell the surgeons, "I'm not going to do this case, you are going to do it and I will help you." Over dozens of cases, education was effectively transferred. The young trainee of paragraph one above took particular notice and soaked up the master's advice. They discovered common faith in God and drew great hope from the relationship. Swiontkowski saw an angel of surgery, authentic with intention, selfless and sacrificial, just a pure doctor and a budding surgeon, Pierre Marie Woolley (PM). An apprenticeship was born, and the two committed to stay connected.

Back in Minnesota, Swiontkowski told me I must meet PM and figure out a way to bring him to America to learn fracture surgery at Regions Hospital where I run training programs in orthopaedics. "Teaching PM will be the most strategic educational investment you will ever make, one which will transform fracture surgery for an entire island--no one in Haiti does the cases you do. We'll figure out how to pay for it--six months in Saint Paul."

PM cobbled together some dollars to travel to Orlando for the Annual Orthopaedic Trauma Association in 2018 to meet me. I recall a young round-faced lad getting off the shuttle bus and walking toward me at the monstrous meeting venue entrance. Sporting black

Continues on page 2

PM

pants and a back pack, PM was a fish out of water, but a bright soul, “Hello, you’re doctor Cole, Dr. Swiontkowski told me all about you!” he exclaimed. “I am so glad to meet you.” We went inside for a café and I listened with curiosity to the young wonder-kind. PM was idealistic, naïve, and exuberant regarding the possibility of coming to Saint Paul. On a tipoff from Swiontkowski, I did some fundraising from a potential donor that same meeting and secured a grant for sixty grand to make the idea happen. These awkward encounters highlighted for me that God was working.



PM traveled from Port Au Prince to Saint Paul in 2019 and we experienced a whirlwind of exchange for six months. He endeared himself to the people of Minnesota and fell in love with the northland. PM operated endlessly with our whole trauma team, a few hundred trauma cases including the most complex variety, honing techniques steeped in principles of the art of orthopaedic trauma surgery. PM became a teacher to the younger residents and a friend to the staff; indeed he was beloved. The ladies taught him how to make a snowman and introduced him to hot dish and “Juicy-Lucy” burger; they spoiled him “good.” PM’s faithfulness to his wife ‘Mannou’ (Emmanuel) and his daughter Ellana emerged with pride in every conversation... how he wanted to share with them the Minnesota experience.

PM went back to Haiti and used his skills to do things other surgeons had never seen. There were minefields of politics and mountains of trials, but God gave purpose. PM trained other surgeons to operate on complicated fractures, began Grand Rounds and X-ray conferences modeled after his experience at Regions Hospital, mentored young surgeons the way he was mentored, and grew in his Christian faith coming to know Jesus personally as his Lord, Savior, and life-guide. Though PM literally erected a self-sustaining orthopaedic trauma program at Haiti’s Hopital Universitaire La Paix by 2021, Port Au Prince was falling into anarchy as a result of widespread corruption stemming from post-hurricane money which flooded the country. Gangs and violence ravaged any semblance of civilization and ultimately PM had to move Mannou

...having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. - Acts 17: 27



and Ellana to Miami in 2022 because they were endangered and traumatized, but he himself was faithful to the mission to provide complex fracture care to the hurting, Haitian populace. PM was patient, faithful, and long suffering.

On Monday March 8th of this year, I received a WhatsApp text from PM, *“I am in Miami. Currently there are no flights back to Haiti as the airport is closed and taken over by gangs. I was lucky to leave on the last commercial flight. My hospital is working as best it can and is now the only one standing, but not for long. I am extremely worried for my own safety and if this continues even financially I am not sure how I can make it. I have given Haiti everything and my patients everything and now I don't know...Your words reminded me again in a moment of doubt why we make so much sacrifice. In the end it's to serve Him and to do His work during this time on our planet...I will continue to pray and hope for a miracle. Thank you for your message and prayers, it really means a lot. I will keep you posted.”*

On April 4th this year, I received another WhatsApp text from PM, *“I am still in Miami and there is no way in or out of Haiti and the capital is under siege. My mother-in-law and my dad stay in their houses fearing for their lives and I talk to them daily. Mannou and I pray many times daily for a miracle. I talked to Peter Jr. who has been a great support and I am looking into joining your Scalpel campaign at the end of the month. In the coming weeks without a military intervention, I will have to make a very hard decision for the sake of my family, but before I do I really need your guidance. For now I pray for God to help me through this, but if you are in Miami soon, please let's get together. If not, I will go to Minnesota to talk with you and Dr. Swiontkowski in the coming weeks. I need your prayer and support more than ever.”*

It is astonishing that despite the stress in PM’s life, he went on the April surgical campaign with Scalpel At The Cross to Pucallpa, and God’s confirmation and favor was pervasive. Pierre Marie fell in love with the mission, the model, the city of Pucallpa, the Peruvians, and The Purpose, “To be a lighthouse for Christ through a medical mission in the Peruvian Amazon.” I had updates during the campaign from leaders, “PM is just amazing, he makes everything better!” He was embraced by the team as a natural

leader, and his skillset and medical context from Haiti quickly made him a totally unique surgeon asset. The surgeons at Hospital Amazónico could identify with PM; they knew that he knew their plight. I hastily met PM in Miami upon his return to the U.S. and he was effusive about his fondness for Scalpel’s work. “I want to be able to go again and to help you any way I can.”

PM shifted solemnly back to his new reality, “What am I going to do about work? I can’t go back to Haiti to make money and I can’t work in medicine in the U.S. without a license.” Then he said, “Even if I could work in medicine in the U.S. I wouldn’t want to, because America doesn’t need me.” In that moment the Holy Spirit swelled in my soul and God spoke words which came from my mouth, “So come work for Scalpel--it’s clear as crystal, Pierre Marie. Look what’s happened!” Tears came to our eyes.

The medical mission on that patch of Amazon in paragraph two was in desperate need of a medical director, one who could live between Miami and Pucallpa, one who understood fracture care in America and the developing world, one who could speak Spanish, one who was interested in education, mentoring, patient outcomes, research, and one who would roll up his sleeves and worry about the means another day. Praemium Milaculum--PM, Dr. Pierre Marie Woolley, has become adored by the U.S. Scalpel team and continues to surpass expectations over his first two surgical campaigns. He is on fire for the cause with peace and conviction and the unbridled support of his lovely Emmanuel.

If you feel moved by this amazing story, perhaps you would be motivated to help support Dr. Woolley and his family's practical needs as they begin to establish life between Miami and Pucallpa. Please specify your gift for PM when you make your donation to Scalpel At The Cross. ■



A FAMILY AFFAIR

THE SCALPEL AT THE CROSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Mark Hedrick, Board Member and Physician

The Board of Directors and administrative staff of Scalpel At The Cross met in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, from June 6-9 for the 2024 Board Retreat on the 20th anniversary of the mission. Participants traveled from five different states and multiple cities to attend. President Peter Cole and Missions Director Kara Rodriguez once again masterfully guided the participants through an extensive and robust agenda with great enthusiasm and purpose.



Agenda items included a new governance structure with new board membership criteria and responsibilities, a state of the mission assessment in the USA and Peru, and updates in advancement including donor relations, creative design, and operations and development. The board approved and wholeheartedly embraced Pierre Marie Woolley as the new Peruvian Medical Director. Formation of a new U.S./Peru Scalpel Advisory Board was discussed. Finances, missions travel, and the Miracle Campus project were extensively evaluated. The meeting concluded with multiple round robin topics

and an inspiring discussion of building a ten-year vision for the mission. Times of spiritual encouragement and prayer were led by a local pastor and a local experienced mission-focused orthopaedic physician.

God's providence, purposes, and presence were clearly evident throughout the weekend. President Peter Cole appropriately stated, the Board "looked backward, looked forward, looked inward, and looked upward."

Board member Clay Nelson and his lovely wife Meggie were amazing and gracious hosts in their uniquely western Americana hometown and sprawling metropolitan city. Inbetween and after long hours of meeting time, they gave visiting board and staff members a wonderful opportunity to experience the beauty and history of Oklahoma City.

As a mission trip participant for 13 years and board member for 8 years with Scalpel At The Cross, I must say that board retreats have become a highlight of my calendar year. People often ask me why I look forward so much to getting together with the Scalpel At The Cross board members and staff, and my response is usually, "Well, when I'm with these people, it just feels like family." This begs the question – why is that? Why does my relationship with a diverse group of individuals from across the country feel like family?

Scalpel At The Cross did **begin** with a family – the Peter Cole family. Peter and Nancy Cole, with children Danielle, Peter Jr., and Channing in tow, began the mission over 20 years ago, and all family members, now with the children all grown, remain very active in different capacities within the organization to this day. That family bond permeates throughout Scalpel At The Cross trips, meetings, and gatherings.

Yet, the real reason that the Board of Directors feels like family, I've grown to

realize, is much greater than that. Each member of the Cole family and each board member share a unique and special bond that supercedes even that of the closest biological family. We are all members of the family of God. We share a family bond that is unbreakable and eternal, with a unified purpose – to serve and glorify God through Kingdom work in the jungles of Peru. The Apostle Paul told the new believers in Christ at the church in Ephesus, "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." As we have all put our faith and trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit now indwells in each of us as believers and binds us together. Romans 8:14 tells us that, "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons (and daughters) of God." We are justified by our faith in Christ, are adopted into the **family of God**, and are being sanctified daily in our Christian walk together. "He predestined us for adoption to Himself as sons (and daughters) through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will." (Ephesians 1:5) We are united in pursuing God's purposes and seeking His will together through Scalpel At The Cross. It is a distinctive, personal relationship with each other, rooted in love and service that is hard to describe in worldly terms. It is transcendent and transforming in its impact. It has become a major focus of my spiritual life – being part of something much bigger than myself with others who passionately follow the greatest commandment of Jesus, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39) This family of God extends well beyond the board of directors and staff to its volunteers and supporters of Scalpel At The Cross who are believers in Christ. It is a family for which I am most grateful, joining hands and hearts in service to the people of Peru. ■

WELCOME MUELLER FAMILY TO TEAM SCALPEL

BY KARA RODRIGUEZ

SATC Executive Mission Director

It is an honor to welcome the Mueller family to team Scalpel. Daniel, his wife Rebeca, and their four young daughters arrived in Pucallpa the first part of August. Having trained in Heidelberg, Germany, Daniel began his career as a prosthetist over 20 years ago. Always drawn to the challenge of new beginnings, and driven by an entrepreneurial spirit, Daniel enjoys creating something new. This calling led Rebeca and him to serve as missionaries in Albania for three and a half years, starting an orthotics and prosthetics clinic from the ground up. Most recently, they were serving at the missionary hospital Diospi Suyana in Curahuasi, Peru, for over five years, where Daniel and his colleagues established a functional prosthetics workshop, outfitting amputees from all across Peru.

Rebeca, whose background is in cosmetology, is a vibrant and outgoing person who discovered and developed a passion for storytelling having worked at the Diospi Suyana radio station. She put together youth music programs and enjoyed finding creative methods to share the gospel in engaging ways. These programs were broadcast throughout five departments across Peru.

However, their journey to the mission began long before August 2024 and is nothing short of miraculous. How did this incredible family who is loved, respected, and deeply enmeshed in their community, connect with Scalpel and decide to move their family to Pucallpa? In late 2022, Daniel was attending a wedding in Curahuasi, a town situated in the Andes 2.5 hours outside of Cusco, where he offered to give a tour of the hospital and his workshop to the out-of-town wedding guests, one of whom was Timoteo. Timoteo, as you may know, is from Pucallpa, and he was working with Scalpel as the lead contractor for the Miracle Campus, building a state-of-the-art orthotics and prosthetics workshop. This is the genesis of the Mueller's journey to Scalpel.



The story continues in early 2023, when their pastor in Curahuasi returned from a retreat held where? You guessed it. Pucallpa. He described their group's trip down the Ucayali River and marveled at the Spirit-filled work taking place in the bustling port city at the edge of the Amazon. He encouraged church goers to go, see, and experience it themselves. Rebeca's reply? Not me! But others should go.

Since their initial meeting, Timoteo had encouraged Daniel to connect with Scalpel leadership and facilitated an introduction. Three days after Daniel's pastor's recounting of his experience in Pucallpa, he met with Scalpel leaders. The call ended with Dr. Cole saying to Daniel, "We need an expert in orthotics and prosthetics who knows how to develop a clinic and offer this care in Peru." Daniel's reply, "No problem. I know a bunch of people. I'll help you find someone." Rebeca's stance, "I'm not interested, and I'm not going to the jungle." Daniel knew if they were to join the mission, the Lord would have to change Rebeca's heart, and they didn't speak about Scalpel for three months!

In June of 2023, Dr. Cole and his son Peter traveled to Curahuasi to visit Daniel and invited him to join them in Pucallpa for a site visit. Two months later, the entire Mueller family was scheduled to travel to Pucallpa to explore the area, meet other missionaries, and see firsthand the gospel centered work happening there. Could this be a place the Lord was calling them to?

At the time of both travel opportunities, they faced significant financial obstacles and doubts that could easily have

kept them from going. In August, transportation strikes rendered the roads impassable making it impossible for the Mueller's to drive to Pucallpa. In this moment, the Lord provided tickets for their family of six to fly, but where would the money come from for their daily expenses? They had checked their account balance online and knew the amount they needed was not there. Rebeca threw up a prayer in frustration as she approached the ATM a couple days before their flight, "This is the last chance. If we're to go to Pucallpa, the money has to be there." She inserted her debit card, clicked the amount she needed to withdrawal, and to her surprise, the funds were there! In that exact moment Rebeca knew. Her heart was changed and it was confirmed for their whole family – they were going to the jungle. Her doubt and frustration have since been replaced with joy, and she considers it an honor that God has chosen their family to be a part of His work in Pucallpa.

Their story is a testament to prayerful obedience to the Lord's call on their lives, listening for His still small voice to guide their steps. We are thrilled to have them on our team. Please join us in praying for their transition to the Amazon, as Daniel assumes his leadership role as the Program Director of Orthotics and Prosthetics, and Rebeca joins the communication team, helping tell the life-changing stories of the gracious patients who receive both physical and spiritual care through the mission. To Daniel, Rebeca, and their 4 daughters, Kimberly "Kimy" (17), Kylie (15), Rachael (8), and Devyn (4): **Bienvenidos; we're glad you're here! ■**

HOME COMING

A STORY OF FAITH, LOVE AND MEDICINE

Luzmila Cahua Sessions, Physician

My name is Luzmila Sessions (Cahua Cruz). I was born and raised in Peru where my dad is an orthopaedic surgeon. I have always looked up to him and decided to follow in his footsteps and pursue medicine also. Through an opportunity arranged by my dad in January 2014, I began to volunteer as a Spanish interpreter with Scalpel At The Cross – a Christian medical organization that provides care to the people of Pucallpa, Peru. This organization has tremendously influenced me throughout the years, showing me about the love and hope of Christ. Today, I attribute my salvation to the grace of God who used dear friends from the organization to teach me about Jesus.

I finished medical school in Lima wanting to become a doctor who would use medicine for the glory of God. As a young believer, I struggled finding a church or Christian community in Lima. In February of 2019, on a Scalpel At The Cross trip I met the man who became my husband, Cody. Amidst the campaign, he shared his testimony which cemented my personal desires to serve God in the area of medical missions. Over the next four years we got to know each other better as he would travel down to Peru annually as a part of an orthopaedic team. During this time, I worked as a doctor in Peru while attending Mil Palmeras, a local church in Pucallpa, where I witnessed multiple accounts of medical care's connection to spiritual well-being. God

was teaching me a lesson in preparation for an upcoming change of roles in my life that I did not see coming...

Several years later Cody and I attempted long-distance dating (literally over 4000 miles apart) before he proposed in April 2022 under a tree in the Amazon bearing our carved initials. I subsequently moved to Bemidji - a small town in northern Minnesota – where Cody was planning to work under the mentoring of Jason Caron, one of Scalpel's orthopaedists, who Cody respected.

Moving to Bemidji meant giving up practicing medicine which felt a little crazy at the time. However, God knew what He was doing and gave me an amazing job as an office coordinator at Calvary Chapel Bemidji. This created an environment in which to grow my faith and afforded Cody and me amazing fellowship and ministerial opportunities – the very things I loved most about medicine!

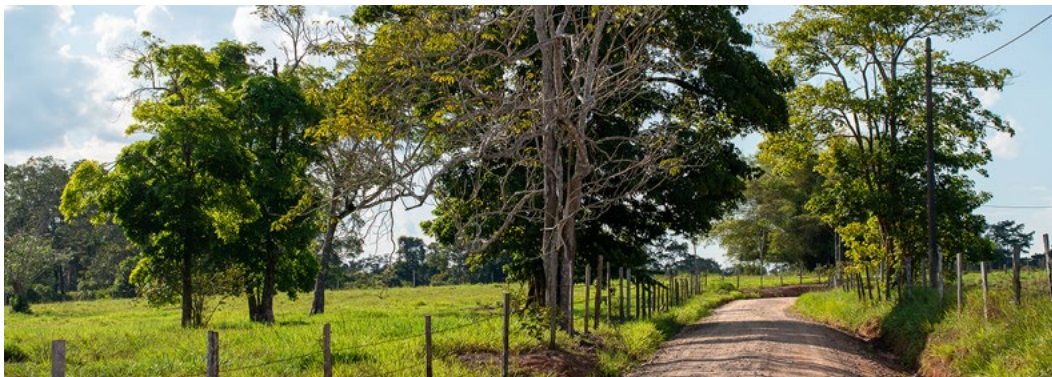
This year Cody and I were able to go to Pucallpa for the first time as a married couple! While Cody and I love living in Bemidji and traveling yearly to Pucallpa on surgical campaigns, we have always known that would not be enough. We continue to pray through God's will in our lives as we seek to transition to living in Peru full-time, working to provide care and God's love to those who need it most in my home country of Peru. ■

“

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.”

”

Isaiah 6:8



A MISSIONARY'S STORY

BY LEE ULMER - *American missionary*

INTRODUCTION BY KARA RODRIGUEZ - *SATC Executive Mission Director*

As a medical mission in the Peruvian Amazon, part of our vision is to "serve the physical and spiritual needs of Pucallpan Peruvians, tribal populations, and the missionaries who serve them." On January 31, one day before departing on the first medical campaign of the year, I (Kara) received a WhatsApp message from a missionary in Pucallpa. His son was injured in a soccer game and his leg was clearly broken. In what can only be explained as the Lord's sovereignty, included in the team of surgeons departing the following day for Peru was a pediatric orthopaedic surgeon. I forwarded the surgeon a picture of the x-ray with the caption, "We've got your first patient confirmed!" He promptly replied, "I'll grab the casting supplies we need right now. What color would he like?" Although it's preferable to meet under more positive and less painful circumstances, it was a privilege to get to meet this dear missionary family, and see first-hand how the Lord places the right people, with the right skills, in the right place at just the right time. We are all grateful for the Scalpel family who gives of their time, talents, and resources to help Scalpel have a positive impact for God's glory in the Peruvian Amazon.

Please enjoy the recounting of the story by Lincoln's father below.

My name is Lee. My family and I serve in the Amazon jungle of Peru. We moved here in 2021 with our six children at the calling of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and with the goal of reaching the isolated peoples of the Peruvian Amazon. Upon moving here, we had to learn to live in what sometimes feels like a different world. It's a place where you could be refused medical care if you don't have

the ability to pay. It's a place where even if you can pay, there might not be a qualified doctor available to help you.

My son Lincoln was recently playing soccer with a group of friends. As he approached the ball to kick it, an older and larger kid from the opposing team was doing the same. In their efforts to win the ball, they collided shins and my son's leg broke. When I got to the field his leg was visibly broken and bent. We took him to a local clinic where after paying, we were able to have x-rays taken of his injury. The x-rays showed what we already knew to be true. His leg was broken and the bones were not lined up well. We then had to approach the front desk again to request an appointment with a doctor. However, we found that there was no doctor to see. We had to find a splint for ourselves, and then splint his leg alone in the waiting room of the clinic and without medication for the pain. The splint was now in place, but the bone was not in alignment. We didn't know what to do. Then our friend Rebecca remembered that a team from Scalpel At The Cross was coming the very next Friday! Through a series of text messages we received instruction on



how to care for Lincoln in the moment, and reassurance that they would properly treat his injury in just a few days. Instead of needing to fly Lincoln somewhere with a broken leg, God was sending them to us! The following Friday we had our appointment. After waiting in a long line with other people with serious injuries we were able to see Dr. Lewis and a team of other medical professionals. They cared for Lincoln and casted up his leg with materials they brought specifically for him. Their care allowed us to stay on the ministry field where we belong. Dr. Lewis remained connected with us through the healing process. Through WhatsApp, he guided us from step to step as Lincoln healed.

We are grateful to God for sending Scalpel At The Cross and Dr. Lewis to us, exactly when we needed them. Their love has allowed us to continue reaching into the darkness with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. ■

PRAISES & PRAYERS

BY NANCY COLE

Director, Prayer Posse, Scalpel At The Cross

PRAISES

- God's provision of Dr. Pierre Marie Woolley, leading orthopaedic trauma surgeon, as Peruvian Medical Director to oversee our patient care and facilitate education and knowledge exchange amongst our Peruvian colleagues; as such, Dr. Woolley will help transition Scalpel to a full-time operational model in Peru focusing on patient outcomes and system development.
- Highly fruitful administrative trip with Peter, Nancy, & Peter Jr. Cole for oversight of construction on the Mueller home, the rehab center, and a storage area for medical equipment/supplies, as well as identification of key auxiliary legal and financial partners in the build out of our Miracle Campus and assembly of a five member Peruvian board of directors (as per non-profit status requirements in Pucallpa for Scalpel Peru). Once Scalpel Peru is officially registered in Pucallpa it will operate in parallel with Scalpel USA.
- Productive Oklahoma City Scalpel Board retreat in June, graciously hosted by Dr. & Mrs. Clay & Meggie Nelson.
- Successful 18 member summer medical campaign traveling to Pucallpa from 7 states (August 1-11), under the leadership of Dr. Mark Hedrick, Dr. Pierre Marie Woolley, and Dr. Dani Ellerbe...giving their time, talents, and resources to serve the underserved. Dr. Ben Sheffer (pediatric ortho specialist) traveled with the team as a surgical leader apprentice. The team evaluated 72 patients in clinic, performed 25 surgeries, and conducted a myriad of "informal consults" throughout the duration of their trip.
- Safe passage of Daniel & Rebeca Mueller family through



the rugged Andes terrain while moving to Pucallpa from Curahuasi, with Daniel assuming the newly created role of Program Director of Orthotics & Prosthetics of our center for rehabilitation and Rebeca collaborating as a Peruvian associate to our communication's team. We completed the construction of housing for the Muellers with a slight addition being made to the existing structure to more comfortably accommodate their needs.

PRAYERS

- Full recovery and follow-up's of patients served during our August medical campaign.
- Transition for the Mueller family as they settle into Pucallpa life, forging connection with the local church, missionary, and medical communities...and that each of their daughters adjusts well to their new scholastic setting and are able to make friends quickly. This marks the first time that the 2 older girls, Kimberly (age 17) & Kylie (age 15), will have their studies (at SAM Academy) taught in English, so pray for confidence in language facility; the 2 younger girls, Rachael (age 8) & Devyn (age 4), will be educated by the Swiss Mission at the Miki School. Pray that the community might fully embrace this beloved family by welcoming them with open arms, and that we as a mission might steward them well as we help support them financially alongside their sending organization in Germany.



- Dr. Cole & Kara Rodriguez's travel to Pucallpa (August 17-24) to: finalize and sign documents regarding Scalpel Peru; provide onboarding support to the Mueller family; & meet Dr. Rojas, the new Chair of Orthopaedics at Hospital de Pucallpa Regional to explore future opportunities for expanding medical campaigns with them as we have in years past.
- Scalpel leadership in guiding the mission through this season of tremendous growth as we anticipate opening the rehab center at year's end; protection for the construction team as they work diligently to complete it before the rainy season sets in.
- Investment in the Miracle Campus land to make it habitable for the structures built upon it (grading & drainage of property, electrical infrastructure, sewer treatment facilities, water storage area for fire suppression, public restrooms, entrance portico, campus pavement, landscaping), and timeliness regarding permits and approvals necessary for completion.
- Diligence in outfitting the center for rehabilitation's orthotic & prosthetic space with necessary machinery, some of which is being procured in Germany and other which may be purchased in Peru at lower costs. Solid relationships with custom's officials regarding logistics around the importation of containers of imported supplies. ■

JANUARY - AUGUST 2024

MISSION VITALS



Number of Trips

3



Surgical Patients

78



Team Members

50



Estimated Value of Care (1)

\$801,700



Estimated Value of
Volunteer's Time (2)

\$153,521



Estimated Value of
Medical Supplies Donated (3)

\$131,360



Number of patients
evaluated in clinic

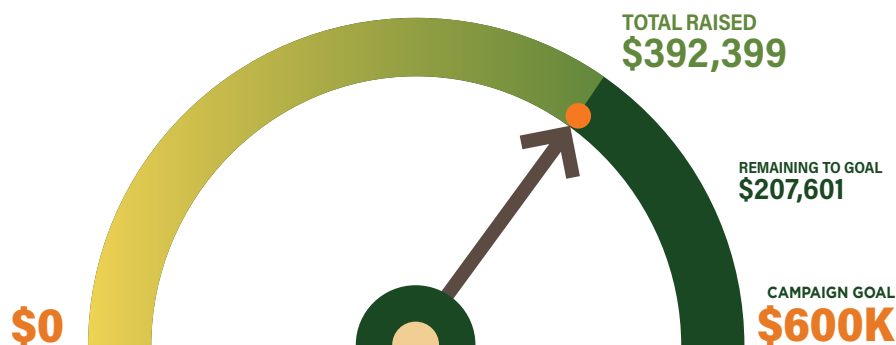
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Mission Vitals are reported to demonstrate objective estimates of contribution to patient care. This tool is only one measure of ministry vitality.

Scalpel At The Cross acknowledges and believes in the immeasurability of the Spiritual Impact of our teams' efforts in this domain.

We hope, rather, that the focus is appreciated in the reflections, anecdotes, and expression in the Scalpel's Edge editions which point to the incalculability of the Lord's hand at work. Spiritual Impact reports from each trip are available upon request.

2024 GENERAL FUND GIVING CAMPAIGN



(1) Estimated Value of Care:

Value of Patient Care = Assigning dollar value to each surgical/clinical procedure performed, categorized by procedure type. These values, though approximations, are conservative by U.S. standards.

(2) Estimated Value of Volunteer's Time:

Opportunity Cost of Medical Professionals = (Daily Mean Income of Medical Professionals) x (Number of Days Spent on Campaigns)

(3) Estimated Value of Medical Supplies Donated:

Value of Medical Supplies = Valuation Assessments provided by (Contributing Medical Device) + (Surgical Supply Company)



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