

#### **Health Issues in Latin America**

Over half the children in the developing world are severely deprived of basic necessities, including adequate shelter, proper nutrition, safe water and quality health care.

- Almost half of the people in Latin America live in poverty which contributes to low levels of health care.
- Across Latin America 1.5 million people live with HIV/AIDS.
- Insect and water-borne diseases present large medical challenges across the region.

# **Country Facts**

- BOLIVIA: Only 42% of people in rural areas are using adequate sanitation facilities.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: 62% of children 6-24 months do not have a minimum acceptable diet.
- EL SALVADOR: 70% of children indicate they have been abused in their homes
- GUATEMALA: Each year an estimated 67,000 children are born mentally impaired due to iodine deficiency.
- HAITI: 40% of the population has no access to an improved water source and 80% has no access to sanitation facilities.
- HONDURAS: More than 50% of children 6–24 months are anemic
- MEXICO: Has declared the epidemic of diabetes a national emergency an estimated 13 million people have the disease.
- NICARAGUA: 40% of the population has no access to health care.
- PERU: The risk of major infectious diseases is very high.

Sources: The CIA World Factbook, The World Bank, and UNICEF



# **Making an Impact**

Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) means "Our Little Brothers and Sisters" in Spanish. Founded in 1954 by Father William Wasson, NPH has transformed the lives of tens of thousands of the most vulnerable children and young adults, providing a nurturing family environment, education, health care, and vocational and life skills training.

NPH USA helps children in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru achieve their full potential, becoming productive, caring leaders in their communities and breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

NPH also fills a vital, lifesaving role with its operation of St. Damien Pediatric Hospital, the only hospital wholly dedicated to pediatric and high-risk maternity care in Haiti, and the only Haitian hospital equipped to provide pediatric oncology care.







#### **Health Care at NPH**

Prior to joining our family, many of our children have never visited a doctor or dentist and are often suffering from malnutrition and/or preventable diseases. All children receive a health check upon arrival and are vaccinated as needed. If a child is ill, or has a chronic condition, the NPH medical staff ensures that he/she receives evidence-based treatment, safe cost-effective medicines, and any necessary therapy, including physical, occupational, art, speech and psychological. The staff also focuses on establishing healthy lifestyles so children can do well in school and excel as members of the NPH family. Each home emphasizes wellness programs that include nutrition, hygiene, health education, sports and recreation programs.

In addition to ensuring the good health of the children, NPH performs outreach for surrounding communities. For example, St. Damien Pediatric Hospital in Haiti treats more than 100 children per day, and the One World Surgery Centers in the Dominican Republic and Honduras provides outpatient services for NPH children and the rural poor as well as medical training. Overall, thousands of children inside and outside the NPH family receive quality medical care each year through our healthcare programs.

### 2023 NPH Health Services at a Glance

**17,020** Medical consults

**2,018** Vaccine doses

**7,057** Therapies (physical, occupational, speech, psychological)

**1,579** Dental treatments

**444** Children and adults with chronic conditions, disabilities or special needs living at NPH

# **How You Can Help**

NPH spends nearly \$6.5 million annually on providing the quality care necessary to keep children healthy. Your gift can help children grow into caring and productive adults.

**\$500** supplies basic vaccines for 20 children

**\$1,666** provides eye exams for 100 children

**\$2,800** provides dental care for 20 children for 1 year

**\$5,920** pays for comprehensive care for a child with a disability for 1 year

\$10,296 provides emergency room services for 40 patients at St. Damien

Costs listed are samples from the NPH homes. Each gift represents a contribution to the entire program of NPH USA and will be used where most needed.

NPH USA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, Federal Tax ID# 65-1229309. Donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. All donated funds are diligently appropriated and an audited financial statement is available upon request.