

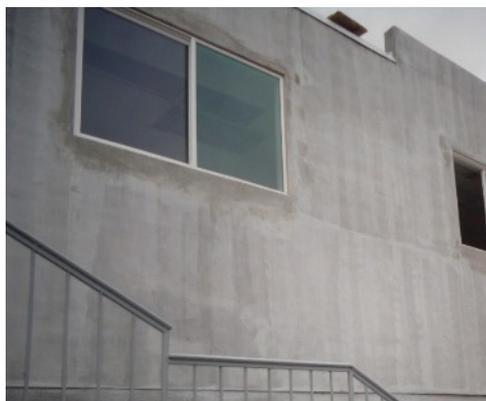


Thousand Smiles Foundation

Changing Lives One Smile at a Time

P.O. Box 606, Bonita, CA 91908-0606

New Construction Proceeding Apace



The nearly completed outer wall of the TSF clinic annex under construction. It will house two operating rooms, a prep room, recovery room, sterilization facility, and changing rooms for surgeons and nurses. Above right: The dental floor will provide for 13 chairs vs. the nine we have now.

Audiology A Critical Step In The Treatment Of Cleft Palate Patients

Audiology is the science of the evaluation of hearing defects and the rehabilitation of those who have such defects. Inasmuch as a high percentage of clefted persons have their hearing affected to some degree, the audiology department at the Thousand Smiles clinic is a key component of the treatment process. In the photo, Dr. Linda Oliver uses an audiometer to measure the sharpness and range of hearing through the use of con-



trolled amounts of sound as her patient sits in front of her in a soundproof booth. Another useful device is the otoscope, which can provide a look into the ears and detect the presence of wax, shed skin, pus, or any foreign object that can obscure a view of the eardrum. She will then fit a hearing aid as a computer verifies that it is working properly. All hearing aids at the clinic are donated from otologists, user discards, or other sources.



The size of the waiting room in the Thousand Smiles clinic building can accommodate only a small fraction of the total number of patients and their families who come for treatment. Accordingly, the excess must wait outside in the street. The Ensenada Centenario Rotary Club arranges with the local authorities for closure of the street with barricades and provides canopies for protection from the sun and the possibility of inclement weather. The club also furnishes tables and chairs for the comfort of the families.

Clinic Report:

February:

**6 major surgeries,
5 sets of ear tubes**

May:

**11 major surgeries,
11 sets of ear tubes,
140 dental patients seen.**

Monica Spollansky Literally Goes The Extra Mile For Thousand Smiles

Monica Spollansky is one of the most remarkable volunteers in the Thousand Smiles family. Raised in Argentina, she utilizes her language skills to translate for our Spanish-speaking patients and their parents after cleft palate surgery to ensure that they perfectly understand the maxillofacial surgeons' orders and instructions for post-op care. To illustrate her dedication to these children, Monica has served at every clinic but five for the past 20 years. What makes her service all the more impressive is that she lives in Auburn, California, which is located 33 miles northeast of Sacramento. Monica's drive from her home to Ensenada totals 611 miles and typically takes her ten hours--one way! Thank you, Monica, for your extraordinary commitment to those in need.



Rental House Provides Much-Needed Rooms

Due to a lack of space in the main clinic building for support services, TSF has rented a small house a few steps from the clinic to provide working areas for ENT and X-ray. Panoramic and cephalometric full-face X-rays for orthodontics can be taken there and then transmitted electronically to monitors on the clinic floor. Cone beam X-rays produce three dimensional (3-D) images of one's teeth, soft tissues, nerve pathways, and bone in a single scan. Cone beams are especially helpful in the treatment of cleft patients.

Go By Bus!

Reluctant to drive in Mexico? You don't have to. Enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow volunteers during a pleasant bus ride to Ensenada. The bus leaves from the Chula Vista shopping center early Friday morning (August 4 for the upcoming clinic) and returns Saturday evening. **Reserve your seat and hold it with an advance payment of \$40.** For more information, check our website.



Rotary clubs from throughout California will from time to time send a contingent to a clinic to provide hands-on assistance and financial support. The Rotary Club of Fallbrook, California did just that at the clinic last February. Above, member Joe Reavis and club president Dale Mitchell present a check for \$4,375 to Thousand Smiles board secretary Kim Muslusky. As grant money from The Rotary Foundation cannot be used for clinic-to-clinic operations, donations such as this are critical to maintaining a high level of service to patients.

**To volunteer or donate please visit us at
www.thousandsmiles.org**