March 19th, 2020

Thousand Smiles volunteers, families and patients,

Regretfully, we have decided to cancel the May 2020 clinic.

As I am certain you are aware, we are in the midst of a very serious worldwide pandemic. In an effort to limit the spread of the COVID-19 infection and minimize the loss of life, public health agencies in the U.S. and Mexico have restricted travel, large group gatherings, and in many cases mandated strict quarantines. Monday evening, during a conference call, our board of directors discussed the alternatives of limiting the scope of our services, postponing our decision, or cancelling the clinic. Today, both UCSD and UCLA Medical Centers discontinued all surgical services that are considered elective and have decided to limit nonessential services.

We recognize how important the services of the Thousand Smiles Clinic are to the patients and their families, so the decision to cancel is difficult, but necessary at this time. We intend to resume with our regularly scheduled August clinic unless this pandemic extends throughout the summer. Updated information will be provided on our website.

We hope that you remain healthy and safe during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors for the Thousand Smiles Foundation,

Michael Nussbaum, President