



# Thousand Smiles Foundation

*Changing Lives One Smile at a Time*

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

## TSF Volunteer Dr. Benito Luviano Practices Excellence in Orthodontics

Every maxillofacial surgery patient needs orthodonture to correct irregularities with the teeth and establish a proper bite. Dr. Benito Luviano, one of the most highly regarded orthodontists



in the Ensenada dental community, has been in practice for 40 years. He has been volunteering at Thousand Smiles clinics since the beginning of the organization in 1986. Every patient he sees requires multiple visits, some as few as two or three, others as many as 14 or 15.

Dr. Luviano is married and has three children. His oldest son is also an orthodontist and joins him in practice in Ensenada. His younger son is studying to be a

dentist and hopes to pursue orthodontics as a career as well. Says Dr. Luviano: "It is gratifying to help people to improve their lifestyle and make them feel better about themselves through improving their appearance." Thank you, Dr. Luviano, for your many years of service to those in need!

## TSF Mission Statement

*Thousand Smiles Foundation provides underserved children with cleft lip/palate deformities with Free Comprehensive Medical Services, including multiple surgeries, dental/orthodontic treatments and hearing/speech therapies that would otherwise go untreated.*

## Clinic Report:

**Feb. 2018**

**8 Major Surgeries**

**10 Ear Tubes**

**120 Dental Patients**

**May 2018**

**6 Major Surgeries**

**10 Ear tubes**

**144 Dental Patients- A Record!**

## Clinic News

Historically, the Thousand Smiles program has dedicated itself to the care of pediatric patients. However, once in a while an adult appears who is desperately in need of help. One such case arose during the most recent (May) clinic. A 49-year-old woman came to us who was born with a hole in the roof of her mouth, a condition she had lived with her entire life. During all of that time she had had to consume food and liquids without them entering the cleft and subsequently her nasal passages, not always successfully. On Saturday, May 5, our exceptional maxillofacial surgical team accepted her as a patient and repaired her palate. The outcome literally made her delirious with joy.

Making differences like this in the lives of people is truly rewarding!



For the past several years, Thousand Smiles has maintained a table at Rotary's Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott Hotel. The purpose of the conference is to provide presidents-elect from the Southwestern U.S. with the knowledge and training they need to become effective Rotary club leaders when they assume office in July. Many of the attendees have no understanding of TSF or what it does to serve the maxillofacial and dental needs of the poor in Ensenada. Striving to increase awareness at the most recent PETS event last February are, from left to right, TSF Secretary Kim Muslusky, Chula Vista Sunrise Rotarian Trish Rogers, TSF Board Member Ron Verneti, and Lake Arrowhead Rotarian Jack Winsten.

## Dr. Sreenivas Koka and His Team Add Rich Dimension to TSF Clinic

Prosthodontics is that branch of dentistry dealing with the replacement of missing teeth as by bridges or artificial dentures. Dr. Sreenivas Koka brings twice a year a team of five or six prosthodontists and support personnel to our Ensenada clinic for an intensive one-day session providing numerous patients with much-needed care. As one can imagine, pediatric patients with cleft issues have numerous missing or deformed teeth and can be effectively served only by specialists in that field. In the photo, Dr. Koka appears on the far right with wife Dot at his side. On the left are a dental assistant and a patient.

Dr. Koka is a Fellow in the Academy of Prosthodontics, serving as president in 2014-15. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the International College of Prosthodontists. In addition, Dr. Koka is currently the chair of the Department of Restorative Dentistry at UCLA and is recognized as one of the top practitioners in his field in California.



### Check Presentation . . . .



On May 4, 2018, Thousand Smiles board member Dale Proctor (left) presented a check for \$2,000 on behalf of his home club, Route 78 Rotary in Escondido, California. Receiving this most welcome donation is TSF Board President Stan Vogelsang. Mrs. Lupita Proctor, Dale's wife, looks on. Donations like this from individuals and organizations alike are critical to the success of the Thousand Smiles program.

**Volunteer To Serve at the Thousand Smiles clinic  
on August 3-4, 2018!**  
Visit [www.thousandsmiles.org](http://www.thousandsmiles.org)

## Never Too Young To Pitch In

Mrs. Lili Houseman brought her three young children Elliott (age 12), Catalina (age 9) and Nicholas (age 6) to the clinic



on February 2 and 3. They entertained patients and their brothers and sisters in the Children's Activ-

ity Center. In the upper photo, Nicholas carries a toy cart to the Center. Below, Catalina supervises



a young artist as she works on her project. Elliott helps to distribute lunches to patients and their families and also serves as an interpreter. What a fine example of youngsters reaching out to serve others!

## Take The Bus!

Not fond of driving 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 3 for the upcoming clinic) and returns Saturday evening). Details are available on our website.