



Solid Rock Missions

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Big News (Again ??)

Former President Ronald Reagan used to chide the press every time they stretched for a story or tried to make their own news headlines by saying "There you go again". Since this is our own newsletter, we can take the liberty of making our own headlines and report the things we feel are important. Almost every issue contains big news and this one is no exception. So, here we go again. Please read on.

Many of you know Dr. James Diller. If you have ever been with him for five minutes you will know about his firm commitment to God and you will also know about the vision God gave him. Five minutes is all the time it will take.

The vision Dr. Diller carries and communicates to anyone who will listen, is for improved health care in the west central region of the Dominican Republic. For many years the Dominican Republic has had the lowest per capita amount of money spent on health care in the world. According to the World Health Organization it was three dollars per person per year. That was even lower than the amount spent in Haiti. The per capita health care money spent in the U.S. is over \$1,800. That is quite a discrepancy, not only in the money spent but that also translates into a drastic difference in health and life expectancy. In North America, it is reasonable to expect to live until you reach your eighties. In the Dominican Republic, you are stretching your life to live to a ripe old age of forty-five. That is a big difference. You and I have been privileged to live in an area where healthcare is easily accessible and somewhat affordable. It is not hard for us to find specialists to help us through the list of maladies that use to cut our life expectancy.



Dr. James Diller—SRM Board Member since 1994

Have you ever thought or asked why we are so blessed?

And what about those poor people in the west-central region of the Dominican Republic. Why are they not blessed with longer, healthier lives? Are we more important than them in God's eyes? Not hardly. God even cares for the sparrows that fall. He most certainly loves the people in the Dominican Republic just as much as He loves us.

Dr. Diller's vision extends the vision first held by Jim and Dorine Smith and Dr. Isaias Melo and Dr. Osvaldo Canario. That vision is to provide for the physical health needs as we minister to their spiritual needs. Dr. Diller envisions taking health care to a new level and a new dimension. Dr. Diller's drive comes from a view of the past and a vision for the future.



30,000 people treated last year at the current facility in San Juan.

The Christian Clinic for Integral Health (CCSI) in San Juan opened its doors in 1989 to serve the poorest of the poor with low or no-cost health care. Work teams from North America provided teams and funds to construct the facility. Medical teams followed to provide medical care to those in need. Local Dominican professionals were hired to work with the teams and to provide services year-round. The health of the people improved. The infant mortality rate continued to drop. Both children and adults were becoming healthier as a result of the care of the clinic and the education of the people on how to become healthier. It was a holis-

tic approach that was working.

In 1998, hurricane Georges showed a little flaw in the clinic. It was built in a flood plain. Hurricane Georges dumped a huge amount of rain in the mountains surrounding San Juan. It turned the normally small river into a raging torrent that destroyed a large number of homes and took a large number of lives. It also put eight feet of mud and water in the clinic virtually destroying all of the equipment, supplies and records. It took a number of months to get things cleaned up, equipment replaced and new supplies in place before the clinic was able to re-open.

A portion of Dr. Diller's vision is to relocate the clinic to higher ground to prevent that from happening again.

His vision goes farther than that.

Yes, there is a government hospital in San Juan that is used. But most ill people were going there to die. The mortality rate was the same as if you did not go to the hospital at all. We recently heard of one government hospital in the region that did not even have running water in their surgical department. This is where Dr. Diller's vision comes in.

Dr. Diller envisions a mini-tertiary clinic/hospital that expands the holistic approach. This new facility will not only handle the current needs, it will expand into a regional facility. The new facility will have 50 beds, exam rooms, support services such as food service, central supply, x-ray, dental and optometric facilities, offices, surgical facilities, emergency room and facilities to handle medical training. There is hope of running a residency program to help doctors get started in their practices. There will also be the capability of having seminars and other training for medical personnel in the region.



Dr. Canario at the new site.

Dr. Diller also has the vision for telemedicine to become a usable resource for doctors there. This is a great tool for doctors to confer with other specialists from medical centers around the world. This would give them the ability to share x-rays and photos digitally and share the information instantaneously, allowing for rapid diagnosis and treatment.

Now this vision is developing rapidly. This spring 4.6 acres of land was purchased about 2 miles west of the current facility. The land was purchased using some funds from a physician's foundation in Toledo. In early June, a group of engineers from Engineering Ministries International will be gathering in San Juan to plan the new facility. The design will allow for construction of the facility in several phases using volunteer construction teams from around the world.

The total cost for the facility will be known after the design is complete. Fundraising for the project is underway. The Toledo Rotary Club recently donated \$12,000 for the project. A number of smaller gifts have come in as well. We are anticipating that enough funds will be raised and crews organized to start construction this fall. It is hoped that the first phase will be completed in about a year. The challenge is on.

Dr. Diller's favorite phrase is "it just so happened" which refers to God's hand in making things happen. As this story continues of God providing for this facility, we will be able to say "It just so happened."

For further information on how you can become involved in providing a hospital for these people in need (work teams, used equipment, financial, and prayer support) please contact us here at Solid Rock Missions.

News and Notes

Solid Rock Missions wishes to thank outgoing board members Ed Perry and Dr. John Kelly for their service on our Board of Directors. Joining the board are Bob Williams from Roanoke, VA and Dorine Smith from Pettisville, OH. They will be joining Ed Meier, Gordon Zimmerman, Dave Rupp, Darla Rupp (all from Wauseon, OH), Orville Fricke, Gordon Schumacher, Jim Rupp (all from Archbold, OH), Dr. Tom Roberts, Dr. Claude Woollen (both from Spartanburg, SC), Dr. James Diller from Toledo, OH, Dr. James Blankenship from Danville, PA, Jim Bramlett from Davidson, NC and Hank Strooband from Jordan Station, Ontario, Canada.

School News

No news is good news. We have very little new news to report this issue, which is good. The staff at the school is busy teaching the 958 students at the school. Our sponsorship program currently has 718 students sponsored. These sponsorships along with General Sponsorship gifts are providing the needed funds to operate the school. Several construction projects at the school are awaiting completion. The new restroom facilities and the new vocational building continue to progress as work teams continue to travel to the Dominican Republic. This summer, youth teams will be working on painting the multi-purpose building and preparing the vocational building for the installation of the concrete floor.

We are also excited to announce that we have two English teachers lined up to teach English at the school. We have one general helper also lined up for the year. We have nicknamed that individual "the official grounds keeper" at the school (along with his other assignments).

Kerr News

April 19th began the new adventure for Randy and Mary Ann Kerr. They left their home, church and friends to head to a country where they knew very few people. They are currently in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, studying Spanish in a school there. They are progressing well. In a recent e-mail from them, Mary Ann describes the experience like a mechanic tearing an engine apart in your garage and then leaving. You have all the tools and all the parts. You just need to figure out how to put them all together and make it work. Please continue to pray for them as they study and learn the language. They are anticipating beginning their service at the guesthouse sometime this summer.

We are still in the process of raising support for the Kerrs. Approximately one-third of their support for the first year has been raised. We are continuing to ask for others to join this effort of supporting the Kerrs in their ministry at the guesthouse. We would appreciate your interest and partnership in this ministry. For information on how you can become a partner, please contact us at Solid Rock Missions.

Equipment Needed

We need more than just physical labor on our construction projects. We need a piece of equipment to make life easier and construction faster. It is our dream to have a Skytrack lift (or something similar with pneumatic tires). We would like to find a good used one that we can ship to the DR. A piece of equipment like this would be valuable for construction and for unloading shipping containers.

It's That Time Of The Year (Again)

For organizations whose fiscal year begins and ends in the middle of the year, it is budget time.....a time to plan your spending for the next year. As you plan that budget, please remember the ministries Solid Rock Missions works with. Specific needs include: The Infant Survival Fund that provides for food, medicine and vitamins for infants and their mothers. Partners in Compassion that helps underwrite the expenses of the CCSI clinics in both San Juan and El Cercado. The General Scholarship Fund, that helps underwrite the cost of the unsponsored students. Container shipments that ship used medical and school equipment to the San Juan area. SRM General Fund, which covers our operational expenses as well as special

Our Mission Statement

The purpose of Solid Rock Missions is to glorify God in partnerships by ministering spiritually, physically, socially and educationally to those in need, in the name of Jesus Christ.

2003 Guesthouse Calendar

May 17—24	Southern Eye Associates, Concord, NC
Jun 10—20	NW Ohio YFC, Archbold, OH
Jun 21—Jul 5	Northwoods Community Church Youth, Peoria, IL
Jul 5—14	Salem EMC Youth, Gridley, IL
Jul 12—26	Dr. Tom Roberts Medical Team, Spartanburg, SC
Jul 25—Aug 3	Central Mennonite Youth, Archbold, OH
Sep 20—28	Dr. Diller Medical Team III, Various Locations
Sep 27—Oct 5	Dr. Diller Medical Team IV, Various Locations
Oct 4—11	Orthopedic Team, John Van Vleet, Ft. Wayne, IN
Oct 11—19	Northeast Christian Church I, Louisville, KY
Oct 18—26	Northeast Christian Church II, Louisville, KY

****We are currently booking Fall 2003 and 2004 dates. Please contact us to plan a trip for your group.**

projects as we become aware of them. Support for the Kerrs.

The list goes on and on. For more information, please contact us at Solid Rock Missions.

El Cercado Clinic

The finishing touches are underway to open the new clinic. Cabinets for the exam rooms, pharmacy and lab are being built. As soon as the cabinets are installed, the plumbing can be finished. We are waiting on the electric company to bring service to the building. We are still hoping for the clinic to open early this summer. We hope to report that news in our next newsletter.

By The Way, It Is On Its Way

On April 22nd, our container shipment to the DR left our office in Wauseon for a trip to New York to be loaded on a container ship to the Dominican Republic. This load contains medical and school equipment. The arrival time is scheduled for mid-May. Please keep this shipment in your prayers, that it may go through without any delays or extra costs.

Thank you to all who helped make this shipment a reality. Thank you to First Presbyterian Church in Spartanburg for providing the funding of this shipment. Thank you to Sauder Woodworking in Archbold, OH for providing transportation to get most of the items to our office. And thank you to all of the hands that did the loading and unloading.

Prayer Requests by E-mail

We are now sending out a monthly e-mail with prayer requests. If you would like to be added to the list, send your e-mail address to admin@solidrockmissions.org. Please keep Solid Rock Missions in your prayers.

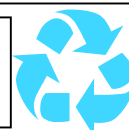
A New Resource

Solid Rock Missions is a member of the New Hope Christian Community Foundation which is associated with the National Christian Foundation. This now gives us resources to handle Donor Advisory Funds, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Lead Trusts, Pooled Income Funds, Gifts of Life Insurance, and Outright Unrestricted Gifts, as well as gifts of property, trusts and stocks. For more information, please contact us at Solid Rock Missions.

Gifts to Solid Rock Missions are tax-deductible.

In Loving Memory

Keith Henry Grimm, Spartanburg, SC
Dr. W. Howard Tiller, Jr., Spartanburg, SC
Thank you for the gifts of love given in their memory



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