



Houston Shoulder to Shoulder Foundation



Dear Friends,

Amidst these challenging times, we wish you peace, good health and safety.

The COVID 19 pandemic and its consequences for our families, social interactions, economies, and health have been profound and difficult. Despite all of this, here you are on our newsletter, still interested in supporting and helping our brothers and sisters in rural Honduras and El Salvador, who need our solidarity and backing now, more than ever. We thank God for you!

Congratulations and thanks to Dr. Gregorio Yanez, Dr. Kelyn Pastrana, Miguel Irias and the staff of the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder clinic in Santa Ana for their amazing work in the middle of the pandemic.

They have been tireless, brave and ingenious in their efforts to keep the community healthy and the clinic safe and fully operational.

Also, kudos to our Board in Houston and in Honduras for powering forward to provide the financial, logistical and community support for the work that our doctor, dentist and outreach staff are doing.

Please support us strongly! We serve some 23,000 people who are economically poor and geographically isolated.

Help keep Houston Shoulder to Shoulder Foundation alive, moving forward and well!

Dios le bendiga!

Bob Parkerson, MD, MPH



Your support has allowed health professional students, faculty, and volunteers from Houston to work shoulder to shoulder with patients and families in rural Honduras to promote health and prevent suffering. Through your generosity, the Community Clinic and dormitory are now a reality! Our next challenge is to outfit the clinic with equipment necessary to bring state of the art healthcare to our neighbors in rural Intibuca. We need your continued help!

Medical Director
Gregorio Yanez, MD
Houston Shoulder to Shoulder
Clinic, Santa Ana

COVID-19 is a global reality!

The isolated inhabitants of Santa Ana and our neighboring communities can attest to this fact.

Although measures were taken to prevent the entry of the virus, such as international /domestic travel bans, quarantining, community educational workshops and social distancing, the virus still made its way to our community.

Currently there have been 18 cases diagnosed in Colomoncagua and 2 deaths. Two people have tested positive at the clinic. The Houston Shoulder to Shoulder clinic has, since the beginning of the pandemic, coordinated preventive measures with the Honduran Health Secretary and the local/municipal health entities of Colomoncagua and Santa Ana. In addition to those measures we have or are doing the following at the clinic:

Performed Covid triage when necessary.

Purchased PPE for the staff as well as hand gel and masks.

Organized Covid Educational workshops for staff and the communities on a regular basis.

Maintained sufficient stock of medicines for the communities.

Purchased Oxygen tanks and made available for the communities in case of need.

Performed quick tests of Covid19 (but are looking to be able to do PCR.)

But the needs of the community go farther than just medical assistance.

The economic impact of our country wide shutdown was enormous. Many people who had worked outside the municipality such as construction masons and those who worked in maquilas and other companies in the main cities of the country lost their jobs.

The economic impact in the US has also severely reduced the money being sent back to Santa Ana from the Honduran and El Salvadoran workers in the US who fell ill or lost their jobs. Our country unfortunately has a non-existent social safety net. In the face of these challenges, the local governments and churches have stepped in and are doing all they can to assist the poorest and most vulnerable families survive. This is not enough. We ask for your assistance in getting through these difficult times.

Meet our clinic staff in Santa Ana

Medical Director



Gregorio Yanez, M.D.

Gregorio received his medical degree from Escuela Latinoamericana de Medicina, La Habana, Cuba. Gregorio is the Medical Director at the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder clinic in Santa Ana where he has been working for the past six years.

Administrator



Miguel Angel Irias

Miguel has a degree as an Industrial Engineer from Universidad José Cecilio del Valle. He is also a pastor/minister who received a degree from Christian Life School of Theology. Miguel works as the Administrator of the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder Clinic in Santa Ana and he is also the pastor for the Santa Ana Community. He has been working in Santa Ana for the past five years.

Meet our clinic staff in Santa Ana

Lab Technician



Delmi Ondina García

Delmi received a degree as a Clinic Lab Technician from Universidad Cristiana Evangélica Nuevo Milenio. Delmi has been working at the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder clinic in Santa Ana as a Lab Technician for one year

Dentist



Kelin Estela Pastrana

Kelin received her degree as a Dentist from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras. Kelin has been working as a dentist in the Santa Ana Clinic for three years.

Pharmacist



María Olinda Díaz

Olinda received a degree in Community Health from Instituto Superación Santa Lucía, Honduras. María Olinda has been working at the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder Clinic in Santa Ana as a pharmacist assistant for the past twelve years.

Accountant



Betty Echeverría

Betty Yolanda Echeverría has a business administration degree from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras. Betty has been working at the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder clinic in Santa Ana as the accountant for the past three years.

Dental Trainee



Yeni Rosibel Díaz

Yeni received her degree as a Dentist from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras. Yeni has been working as a dentist in the Santa Ana Clinic for one year.

Nurse's Assistant



Yadira Díaz Carranza

Yadira received a degree as a nurse's assistant from CENCAPS. Yadira has been working at the Houston Shoulder to Shoulder clinic in Santa Ana as a nurse for six years.

Testimonies from the community



Sebastiana de Yanez

The clinic has been of great help to the community as all the doctors “shepherd” the sick and this has helped to avoid more deaths. I am a witness first hand as I came here almost dead and the doctor that saw me and treated me so well was able to save my life.



Jesus Diaz

The clinic for me is a dream come true for our community, where we worked with all of our soul, body, and will to receive medical attention.



Your help is needed!

Please contribute today.

Make checks payable to:

**“Houston Shoulder to Shoulder
Foundation”**

and mail to 2429 Bissonnet St. #408

Houston, TX 77005

Or donate online at:

www.houstonshouldertoshoulder.org

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