

PARAGUAY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 3

“And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God, and to perform healing.” Luke 9:2

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Marlin Jefferson Harris III



August 7, 1952 - May 18, 2017

loved people. When he and his family returned to live in the US, he never let go of his mission of serving Paraguay. Through the establishment of the PBMCF he kept the vision alive in the hearts of so many, providing untold resources and support to the Centro Medico Bautista. Marlin lived his life to serve his Savior and in his passing, again glorified His Savior. I will miss him. Well done, Marlin... you were a good and faithful servant.

I met the Harris Family in 1988 when they arrived in Paraguay. Marlin was a bright, educated leader who came with a clear vision of helping the then Baptist Hospital become an independent self-supporting institution but also one which maintained a clear vision and mission of serving the Paraguayan people and showing them Christ. He more than accomplished that task. Marlin was not just a fine administrator, he was a missionary, a church planter, a husband, a father and a friend. I had the privilege of working with Marlin at the hospital. He was a kind, wise leader who knew how to listen, how to analyze and think strategically. He knew how to bring out the best in everyone. It was an honor to work with him. More importantly I had the honor to live in community with Marlin and his family in the Paraguay Baptist Mission. Meetings and retreats, water polo matches, shared meals, and prayer, Marlin was always consistent in one thing: He loved God and he

Jane Jones

I will always be eternally grateful for that telephone call I received from Marlin Harris in 1996 requesting a meeting at the DFW Airport. Following that meeting I agreed to visit the Baptist hospital in Paraguay and assess ways and means of raising funds. That was the beginning of a very special relationship that lasted 21 years.

It didn't take long to recognize his love for our Lord, the love for the Paraguayan people and the ministry of the Baptist Hospital. I marvel at this man who never had a negative remark about anyone - and one of the most humble men I have ever met -- yet he had strong leadership skills. His plan, dream and prayer was that the PBMCF would grow and become even stronger in supporting Centro Medico Bautista and its ministries. His legacy will live on.

Al Hethcock



Three young members of the Chamacoco Indigenous Community receive a scholarship from the Centro Médico Bautista Foundation, for a degree in nursing.



Ramona, Crispín y Liz Martínez

Praise God, for the life of Liz, Ramona, Crispín, siblings and members of the indigenous community Chamacoco, who come to our university looking for an opportunity to study for degrees in Nursing, and to serve their community with this profession.

Liz, Ramona, and Crispin, are the children of Crispulo and Rafaela, who live in Bahía Blanca, about 600 kilometers from Asunción, where they cooperate in the missionary work and are leaders of support for the new works. Crispulo is a mason, but his work is seasonal. Currently he is making a living by fishing and doing small jobs, to support his family and his three children who are studying in the university.



Crispulo, Rafaela and their remaining children who live in Bahía Blanca. The couple has seven children, three who are currently studying in the University of the Paraguay Baptist Medical Center.

I believe that this is our opportunity to make a difference in this Community as a university, and as a foundation. We will be sharing the gospel and opening new opportunities for a distinct cultural group helping a Community that has faced discrimination and marginalization by many sectors of society. We have chosen to offer scholarships to these three students from the Martínez Family. I would like to challenge our donors to help us offer full scholarships to all three students for their entire course of study. I am sure that this will be a great



Centro Médico Bautista

investment, one that will make a difference in the future of an entire community which has a great lack of health resources.

Pr. Odenir Figueiredo Jr.

Capellán y Director de Bien Estar Estudiantil

Universidad Centro Médico Bautista



Crispulo, returning from a day of fishing

For the current semester, the University has been able to provide Liz with a scholarship from the funds received from the PBMCF. If funds are available we would like to continue with a scholarship for Liz for the second semester and provide scholarships to Crispin and Ramona as well. Because this is a special situation, that involves indigenous youth from a strong Christian family, but with very limited financial resources we would like to be able to offer all three complete scholarships for the remainder of their education. For a cost of only \$1,400 per student per year we could provide these deserving students scholarship funds. This would give the Chamococo tribe access to much needed health care for the future.

“65” will make a difference. As we celebrate **65** years of service - lets think what we can each do to be a part of the celebration and make a difference in the lives of patients that come to our community clinics seeking help. If each of us set aside just **65¢** a day - thats about \$237.00 a year. If only 10% of those receiving this newsletter would do that, it would fund three nursing students for four years. What a tremendous gift and inspiration for deserving students who may not have finished for lack of funds. Won't you please consider helping out by participating in **“65”**. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Thank you and God Bless!

TRIP TO PARAGUAY JUNE 15-JUNE 24, 2018

I will be traveling to Paraguay, joining the team from Samford University. This team will be continuing their work to strengthen the partnership between the University of the Centro Medico Bautista and the Schools of Health Sciences from Samford. As a foundation, we continue to offer our support to these plans.

In addition, I will be delivering scholarship donations and meeting with leadership of the Centro Medico Bautista (Paraguay Baptist Medical Center) and the University to plan for future projects. The purposes are threefold:

- 1. Plan with hospital leadership for future projects and hear updates on the status of current work*
- 2. Plan the 2018 Mission Trip to Paraguay to join in the Community Health Clinics*
- 3. Plan with University Staff future scholarship needs, and student sponsorships*

Of course, no trip to Paraguay is complete without time to enjoy some asado, terere and helados! Please pray for me as I travel and for the team from Samford.

Blessings, Jane Jones



PARAGUAY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION
4101 WEST GREEN OAKS BLVD., SUITE 305, #175
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76016

