

# PARAGUAY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

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

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## AN OVERVIEW OF CENTRO MEDICO BAUTISTA

Founded: December 9, 1952 to meet the critical need for a first-class hospital to serve the Paraguayan people. In 1954 the nursing school opened and has continued to become a part of the ever-expanding University of Centro Medico Bautista. The hospital continued to expand and become the Centro Medico Bautista Medical Center of high complexity and quality.

The Medical Center has four major pillars which include the following Ministries: Spiritual, Medical, Educational, and Social

### I. Spiritual Care/Chaplaincy

The chaplaincy program has always been an integral part of the hospital ministry. Beginning in 2013 CMB was able to expand and offer 24-hour chaplaincy services. In 2016 more than 11,000 individuals received services from a CMB chaplain. There are currently 7 full-time chaplains.

### II. Medical Ministry

CMB offers all specialties under the following five services:

Medical, Surgical, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Family Medicine



### III. Educational Ministry

Medical Residency Programs

Continuing Professional Education



### IV. Social Ministry

The early outreach social ministries were begun by missionary nurse, Miriam Willis in a marginalized community, Chacarita, to serve the neediest in the community.

The CMB continues its outreach to the needy through the work of the CMB, the local CMB foundation, and in partnership with the PMBCF.

Services include community clinics in rural areas,

A community low cost clinic on site of CMB, and

Clinic at the Maka Indigenous Community.



### Patient statistics 2016:

Clinic patients 122,876

Hospitalized patients 14,563

Emergency services 42,116

Community Health Clinic 32,339

Community Health Clinics in Rural areas 1,485

Maka Indigenous Clinic 938



The Medical Center has a staff of 700 employees which includes:

38 Specialties



**Leonardo Alvarez**, Rector of the UCMB (Universidad Centro Médico Bautista) and Pastor Odenir Figueiredo, Director of Student Life at UCMB visited the United States, after leading a conference for pastors and their families in Venezuela. The purpose of their visit was twofold: to visit Samford University, further developing their partnership; and Leonardo was visiting with Don and Jane Jones in Oklahoma to discuss scholarships and collaboration with the PBMCF. Unfortunately, they arrived on Saturday, August 26 in Houston. They subsequently spent six unplanned days in a hotel surrounded by water. Finally, on August 1 they were able to catch a ride to DFW and continue their journey. While here, Leonardo Alvarez and President Jane Jones discussed ways to further strengthen support of the development of health care professionals through the UCMB. A check was also presented to Leonardo for donations to the CMB (Centro Médico Bautista) and the UCMB scholarship funds.

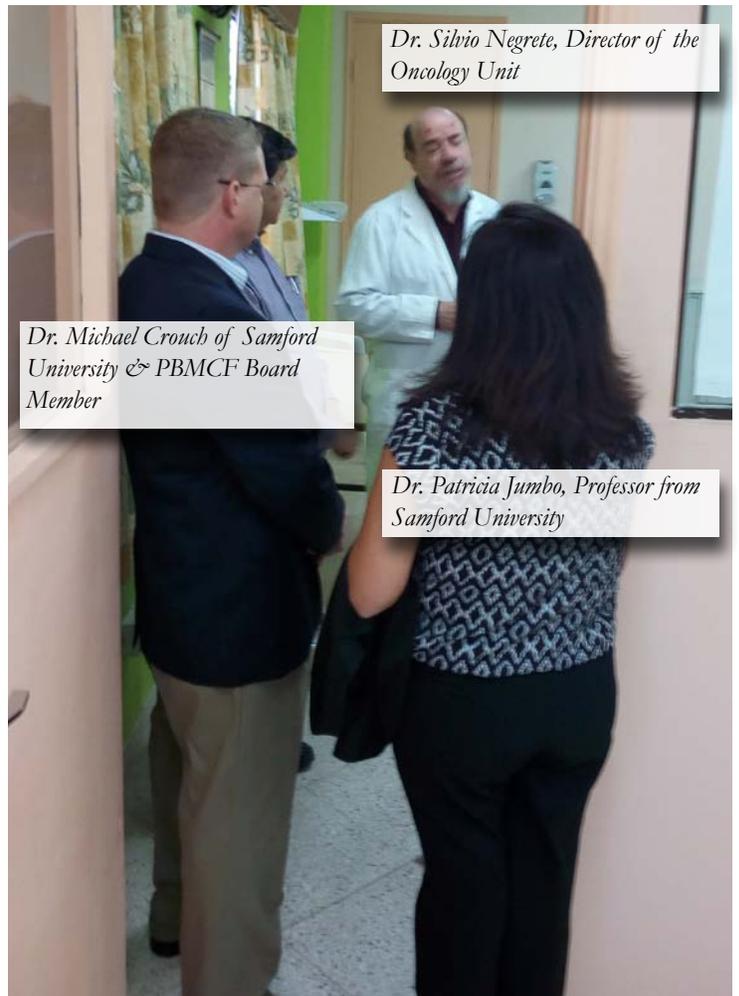


The Oncology Unit of the CMB is up and running, despite still not completed. They are currently treating patients through their inpatient wards. In collaboration with Dr. Silvio Negrete, director the residents and nurses are providing care for these patients, with great compassion and skill. Pray for the resources to complete the unit



*President Jane Jones visits with two Oncology residents and a charge nurse*

and for the needed scholarship moneys for the residents. Give thanks for the compassionate, Christ centered care they are offering to patients and their families who are dealing with the difficult diagnosis and treatment.



*Dr. Silvio Negrete, Director of the Oncology Unit*

*Dr. Michael Crouch of Samford University & PBMCF Board Member*

*Dr. Patricia Jumbo, Professor from Samford University*

The “65” appeal is helping make dreams a reality. Since our last request for help to fund scholarships for the three Chamacoco Indigenous nursing students, a one-year scholarship has been received for one of the students. Our appeal is for one more – for the third student. As we stated earlier, we praise God for the life of Liz, Ramon, and Crispin, 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 this community with their profession. Folks, this is no accident – it’s a God thing. It is our opportunity to make a difference in this community, as a university, and as a foundation. The Centro Médico Bautista Foundation has chosen to offer scholarships to these three students from the Martinez family. We have been challenged to help by offering fall scholarships to all three students for their entire course of study. Today, one has a half year, and another has a full (first) year. As mentioned earlier, for a cost of only \$1,400 per student per year we could provide these deserving students scholarship funds. Think about this – it would give the Chamacoco tribe access to much needed health care for the future. Please help!

## MEET SOME OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:



**Mariella Jara Aliendre** is 19 years old and in her second year of the Nursing Program. Mariella tells about how she was born at the CMB as a premature. Her parents did not have the resources to afford care at any hospital which would offer resources for neonatal care. Her parents heard about the CMB and that there were incubators available there. They came to the hospital seeking help, and through the help offered by the CMB, Mariella was able to receive the needed Neonatal care. When she was two years old, she again became gravely ill and the CMB once again provided needed care. Mariella’s parents always dreamed that one day their daughter would be able to study nursing at the hospital. Despite being a family of limited resources. (her father is a baker and her mother a seamstress), Mariella and her family have worked hard for her to be able to realize her dream. She is in her second year, having completed her first year through

much sacrifice and hard work. When she was not studying she worked selling “chipa” on the streets. She is grateful for the opportunity to receive a scholarship and continue advancing in her studies. When asked why nursing her answer was simply. “I want to serve my neighbor and my country” When asked what area of nursing preferred her answer was immediately “Neonatal”



**Analia Cristina Gutierrez Ramirez.** Analia shared her story in the following way: “I never thought of any other vocation besides nursing. My mother, Vicenta Ramirez, was trained by the Nursing School of the Baptist Hospital and worked for many years, until an accident left her wheelchair bound. I have always wanted to serve others and follow her example” Analia is married, studying full time and caring for her mother. Her husband is working, but does not earn enough to provide for all their needs and for Analia’s

education costs. She stated: It is only because of the generous scholarship that I can keep studying. It has been hard, but I am going to complete my studies and reach my goals”



**Norma Judith Caceres Amarilla:** Norma is 22 years old and studying nursing at the UCMB. She is completing her fourth year of study. Because her family’s economic needs and the needs of her younger siblings it has been very difficult for her to meet the monthly tuition payments, despite trying to work. The scholarships she has received from the PBMCF have enabled her to remain at the University and she will graduate in December of 2017. Her favorite area has been working with patients and families in Intensive Care and she hopes that she will be able to remain at the CMB after graduation and work in the ICU. She is an active member of “El Sembrador Baptist Church.

# TRIP TO PARAGUAY JUNE 15-JUNE 24, 2018

*The PBMCF has been invited to conduct a medical mission trip by Centro Médico Bautista of Paraguay, South America. This will be our 10th trip, June 2018. Our departure from the States will be Friday, June 15; our return flight will depart Asunción, Paraguay, Saturday, June 23rd, arriving Stateside June 24th. We are presently negotiating our travel arrangements, which will be complete very soon.*

*We have an application form that we request anyone interested to complete – this too will be ready to send out as soon as our airline seats are reserved.*

*Our rural community clinics are usually two to three hours from Asunción (the Capital). Our home base is a hotel in Asunción. We take our morning and evening meals at the hotel. We travel by charter bus from the hotel to our clinic sites.*

*Besides the application, we will send out eight to ten memos to our volunteers beginning in October or November. The cost will be between \$2,500 - \$2,700 per person, which will include everything except travel to the departing city – Miami or Dallas – and an optional trip to the Iguazu Falls.*

*If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me by e-mail [frausa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:frausa@sbcglobal.net) or call 817-478-0600. Al Hethcock, Executive Director, PBMCF*

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

