

# PARAGUAY BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION

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

## NEWS FROM PARAGUAY

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**Receive our cordial greetings.** Through this letter, we express our deepest gratitude to Paraguay Baptist Medical Center Foundation for the donations made in 2020 and up to this point in 2021. The funds received are an important support for the scaffolding of the Baptist Medical Center and Baptist Medical Center University plans.

We are happy to have shared with you the news of the inauguration of the Institute of Oncological Specialties (IDEO). Today we can say that it is a dream come true and we are grateful to the Almighty and to you for this achievement!

We currently have 5 (five) Oncology Residents.

- Two second year of Oncology Residents: Dr. Carla Flores, and Dr. David Sosa.
- Two third year of Oncology Residents: Dr. Tatiana Insaurrealde and Dr. Edgar Maráz.
- One fourth year of Oncology Residents: Dr. Celia Paniagua.

The "Mobile Clinic of the Baptist Medical Center" (Community clinics) last year and this year is suspended due to the covid19 pandemic. If the current situation improves, we hope to resume comprehensive medical care for communities in need in 2022.

The Community Clinic of the Baptist Medical Center offers a discounted fee to its patients for doctor visits and for diagnostic imaging studies, laboratory, and hospitalizations considering that they are people with limited resources. The clinic has physicians' services, Monday through Saturday including the specialties of family medicine, mastology, and oncology.

This year the Baptist Medical Center Foundation (Fundación de CMB) is supporting once again the "Early Cancer Detection Program", covering 50% of the cost of Bilateral, Unilateral and Papanicolaou + Colposcopy Mammography studies.

We share with you an audiovisual material of the Oncology Residents! In addition to the UCMB, photos of the construction and of the alumni who were benefited with the scholarships, today they are working in hospitals, even abroad. And finally, the destination of the donations received from the PBMCF.

Once again, we are grateful for all the support that PBMCF gives us, we say goodbye wishing you, the members, and sponsors of the Foundation many blessings from our Heavenly Father.

**Dr. Guillermo Ocampos**  
Executive Director  
Paraguay Baptist Medical Center

We praise God for each donor to the Paraguay Baptist Medical Center Foundation during this health crisis.

The past year (2020 and the beginning of 2021) has been marked by economic crises for our students. Many were affected by the loss of employment by their parents. Other students have contracted Covid 19. Students have lost their own employment and been unable to pay for their continued studies

But thanks to the faithfulness of our donors, it has been possible to provide scholarship monies to more than 54 students during the 2020 school year.

At the beginning of 2021 we have provided scholarships for 32 students in Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Emergency Medical Technicians and Psychology.

Our next challenge and hope are to soon be able to provide funds for students in our new school of medicine.

In relation to the construction project, we are advancing and hope to have this first building completed by the August of 2021. Enjoy the photos we have sent of this project.

As you know this project is just the structure. Future projects will be equipping the classrooms, labs, the library, and conference rooms to provide a quality place of study for our students. We are also praying that donors will feel led to sponsor a classroom or other area of this new building.

We want to highlight the scholarships that have been given to the students of the Community Indigenous Chamococo, one of them is already working in the community as a Nursing Technician, in the Paraguayan Chaco (Bahia Negra).

Additionally, we want to mention the family of these students, the Martin-Guerra family, from the Chamococo community of Bahia Negra. This family has sent four (4) of their children (one male and three female) so that they can study Nursing at our university, all of them fully funded by our foundation. Parents Crispulo and Rafaela have been the fruit of the missionary work carried out by the international mission in Paraguay. Today Crispulo and his family support the church in their community

We also give thanks for the lives of new graduates Cinthya Martínez and Joyce Palomino, both awarded scholarships by the foundation, who today work providing health, social and spiritual assistance as missionaries.

They are founding missionaries of the Tekové project of care in needy communities. Let us pray for Cinthya Martínez, in her desire to continue studying to become a physician in order to serve as a missionary.

*Pastor Odenir Figuerredo*

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## Nuestro Heroes

These are some of the UCMB nurses who are working in the Covid-19 units throughout Paraguay, Argentina and Spain. These nurses all received scholarships from PBMCF. They would welcome your prayers for continued divine guidance and protection. Thank you to our donors who helped these nurses when they were students.



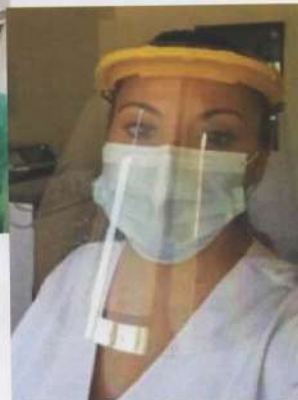
Maria Elena  
General Hospital  
Luque Paraguay



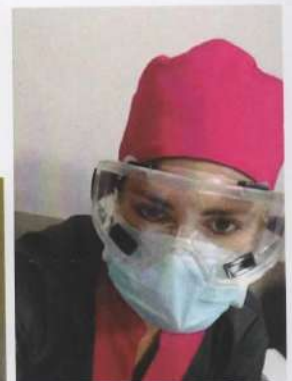
Guillermo Aquino  
IPS Hospital Paraguay



Patricia Aldana  
Barcelona, Spain



Rosana Beatriz  
Sanatoria La Plata, Argentina



Maria Jose Ojedda  
Police Hospital Paraguay

## Mrs. Frances Skinner Dies at Age 96

Mrs. Frances Lawrence Skinner, age 96, died at her home in Paducah, Kentucky on Friday, May 28, 2021. Had Mrs Skinner lived until May 31, she would have been 97. Frances "Fran" was the wife of the late Dr. William "Bill" Skinner. The Skinners, along with Dr. Franklin T. Fowler and his wife Dorcas, were founders of the Baptist Hospital in Asuncion, Paraguay in 1953. Frances was the last survivor of these two missionary couples.

Dr. Bill and Fran Skinner spent the last years of their lives in Paducah, Kentucky, where their son Dr. Larry Skinner and wife Laura helped to care for them.

Mrs. Skinner, a native of South Carolina and a graduate of Coker College, met Bill Skinner while he was attending medical school in Charleston, South Carolina. The two were married in August of 1947. The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention appointed the Skinners to full-time missionary service in 1950.

After helping establish the Baptist Hospital in Asuncion, Paraguay, they served there as medical missionaries for 38 years. During this time of ministry, the Skinners established six Baptist churches in Paraguay. Fran documented their work in Paraguay in her book, *Adventures in Paraguay*.

To insure the continuation of this hospital founded by the Fowlers and Skinners, a foundation was created in 1999 by Marlin Harris, a former administrator of the hospital, and Al Hethcock, a dedicated Christian and a former hospital administrator himself. Mr. Harris, now deceased, was the first President of the Paraguay Baptist Medical Center Foundation. Mr. Hethcock, the first Executive Director of the Foundation Board, still serves in this capacity. The sole purpose of this non-profit Board is to create awareness of the needs of the Paraguay Baptist Medical Center, and to provide needed financial assistance to this wonderful hospital. As a part of this foundation, a trust fund has been established to honor the Skinners for their 38 years of service to Christ through the ministry of this hospital. Dr. David Algea, a grandson of the Skinners, now serves on the Foundation Board. Jane Jones presently serves as Foundation President. She and husband Don are former missionaries to Paraguay.

The hospital continues today because of the dedication and sacrifice of its founders, and because of the faithful financial support of those who value the work started almost 70 years ago. Contributions in memory of Mrs. Skinner are tax-deductible, as are any gifts to the Foundation, and may be made to:

*Neal Buchana*, Advisor  
and Past Board Member

Paraguay Baptist Medical Center Foundation  
4101 West Green Oaks Blvd., Suite 305, # 175  
Arlington, Texas 76916

PBMC was not able to go on it's 11th medical mission trip this month due to Covid-19. We are there for sending as much financial support as we can ASAP. Please help if you can. God Bless



QEPD querida Sally... te recuerdo como la compañera más tierna inocente y bondadosa. Siempre estudiando y preguntando de corazón puro y noble... que triste es todo 😞... danos fortaleza y cordura a los que quedamos Papa Dios 🙏❤️🙏



There are many heartfelt stories coming out of the Paraguay Baptist Medical Center. There have been a number of deaths of staff members and student nurses from Covid-19. This one touches my heart - it's about one of the nurses who had received financial help from you, our donors.

Sally Alejandra Fretes. She was a 2012 graduate of the UCMB nursing program. she received a scholarship from the PBMCF She was working at the Mariano Roque Alonso Hospital caring for Covid-19 patients. She and her unborn twins passed away, April 19, 2021 from Covid-19.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family as well as all the other families affected by Covid-19.