

The World is Our Neighborhood

2020 - 2022

Hospital Ruth Paz - San Pedro Sulo, Honduras
Hospital Santa Teresa, Comayagua, Honduras



A Tribute to International Medical Equipment Collaborative

In 2019, The World is Our Neighborhood (TWION.org) completed our first shipment of a forty foot container of medical equipment and supplies to Hospital Santa Teresa, Comayagua, Honduras. The shipment was done in conjunction with International Medical Equipment Collaborative (IMEC). It was an awesome project which focused on maternity but included equipment and supplies for many other departments. This would be IMEC's last project before closing their doors. As TWION moves into 2020 we are forever grateful to IMEC for being a source of fully functioning rooms of medical equipment, supplies and furnishings for 20 years helping us to fulfill our shipments ranging from 1 to 6 forty foot sea containers at a time and valued at millions of dollars. Their friendship, guidance and TEAM efforts will never be forgotten. Thousands if not millions of people from the Amazon (Amazon Riverboat project with the Peruvian Navy), and many other Peruvian villages and cities to Honduras, Guatemala, Jamaica, The Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Western Africa have benefitted from your kindness. Surgical suites, delivery and maternity suites, examination rooms, laboratories, rehabilitation suites, patient suites, supplies and so much more! IMEC provided us with equipment that was respectful, in good working order, clean and made a true difference for good! Thank you IMEC for many years of teaming up with TWION! You were a true gift to the world and your impact lives on in many of the facilities that you served and the people who you cared so deeply for.



Thank you IMEC for 20 yrs. of amazing TEAM efforts!



X-Ray Room Assessment

During our 2019 delivery - installation at Hospital Santa Teresa, Comayagua, Honduras we did an assessment of the X-Ray room and found it to be in dire need. As a regional hospital, we knew that Hospital Santa Teresa needed a functioning X-Ray. 2020 would be the year!

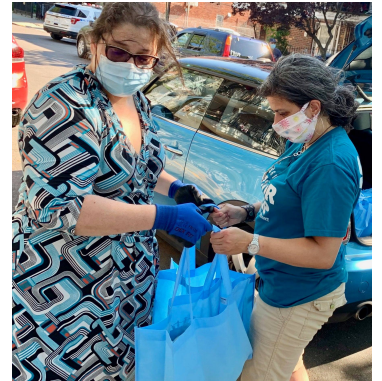
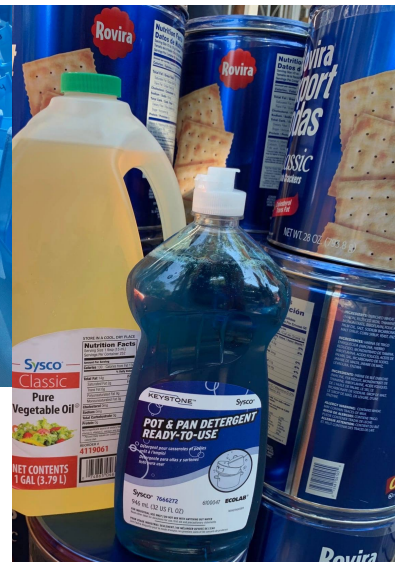


The COVID Effect

Early in 2020 COVID began to overwhelm hospitals in the US. Our new source of medical equipment was deluged with requests for respirators in the North Eastern part of the United States. Then when the Corona virus struck, things began to spiral out of control for families who were already struggling financially. The lines at food pantries, stretched on and on many times running out of food. Then one of our Project USA (coat project) schools I.S. 61 in Corona, Queens (a community hard hit by the Corona virus) reached out to us. Children actually started to contact school staff members about the food shortages. Teachers who love their students began donating food and reaching out to others who they thought might want to contribute! When The World is Our Neighborhood (TWION.org) received word, we wanted to help! TWION had teamed up with I.S. 61 in the past and knew that the need was real and since travel was not recommended and often forbidden, TWION decided to put off our Honduras project and take on a food project in Queens. We were able to set up a wholesale food account with Sysco Foods and purchased most of the food in bulk. Our goal was to give dry goods that would last 18 households one month. With volunteers ready to go the project went off without a hitch ... Volunteers Rock!



Volunteers Rock



A Change of Mind

TWION planned to delay our 2020 project until the Corona virus was under control but emails and calls began coming in from TEAM Honduras. With the breakdown of their X-ray machines, the sterilizer and other equipment, power outages, lack of ventilators, the shortage of oxygen tanks for oxygen and a lack of the basic supplies we had a change of mind.


With the help of Soma Technology TWION was able to get the needed repair parts for the sterilizer and secure a couple of fully refurbished portable GE AMX 4 Plus X-ray machines that work on battery power so no more power outage worries! Since the AMX 4 Plus is battery operated, there is no need to plug in the mobile X-ray unit before taking exposures. This makes it easily adapted to operating, intensive care, and emergency room applications. Mobility and ease-of-use make it ideally suited for all routine radiographic procedures, within intensive care units, cardiac care units, emergency, and operating rooms, pediatrics, neonatal units, orthopedics, and clinics. Soma Technology completely refurbished, stripped and repainted the machines, labeled them and attaching specific instructions before carefully crating them for shipment.

Because the warehouse had an overwhelming number of respirator requests for the USA, we were not able to secure respirators but did get most of the specific repair parts that Hospital Ruth Paz requested.

TWION normally ships a minimum of a forty foot container but since we did not have a full shipment, we were able to piggyback on another shipment related to Hospital Ruth Paz which saved TWION money that we could put toward other costs. The shipment departed from Florida and in August of 2020 the equipment arrived in Honduras. After clearing customs the X-Ray machines and other requested items were on their way to Hospital Ruth Paz, San Pedro Sulo and Hospital Santa Teresa, Comayagua. It didn't take long before the X-Ray machines were being put to good use for men, women,

Portable GE AMX 4 Plus X-ray Machines Delivered to: Hospital Santa Teresa, Comayagua and Hospital Ruth Paz, San Pedro Sulo, Honduras




 GOBIERNO DE LA REPUBLICA DE HONDURAS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 Secretaría de Salud Pública
 Hospital General Santa Teresa

Oficio No.020-2020 DREI-HGST
 Comayagua, 15 de octubre 2020

Dra. Violeta Castañeda
 Directora Ejecutiva HGST
 Presente

INFORME DE LA MAQUINA DE RX PORTATIL DONADA POR TWION.ORG / HOSPITAL RUTH PAZ SAN PEDRO SULA.

Donación de un equipo de Rx portátil AMX4/plus recibida en el Hospital General Santa Teresa, Comayagua, Honduras, el día 20 de agosto 2020, por parte de organización TWION.. El mundo es nuestro vecindario, a través de la Fundación Ruth Paz, SPS, Honduras.


El equipo está asignado a la sala de Radiología e Imagen por lo que todos los técnicos en radiología e imágenes nos movilizamos a las diferentes salas de este hospital, según las necesidades de las mismas a realizar exámenes radiográficos a mujeres hombres y niños en estado delicado que no pueden movilizarse al departamento realizando radiografías de forma inmediata obteniendo imágenes de excelente calidad lo cual sirve de gran apoyo al médico evaluante al momento de dar el diagnóstico al paciente.

Inicialmente la maquina se había asignado a la Sala de Neonatología pero debido a la necesidad actual está siendo utilizada en los otros servicios del hospital para dar respuesta también a los pacientes adultos incluyendo la sala de COVID-19.


Este equipo radiográfico ha venido a solventar las necesidades del departamento de Comayagua y alrededores dando asistencia a pacientes adulto, jóvenes y niños Recién Nacidos que requieren de este servicio y que no cuentan con los recursos económicos para la realización de este examen.

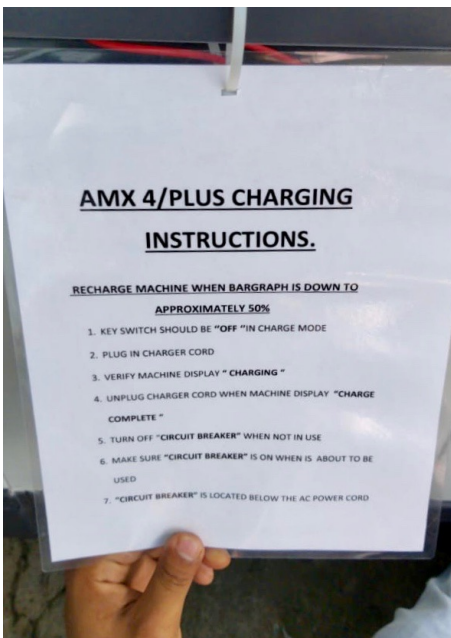
Además está siendo utilizada en pacientes de las unidades críticas donde el médico tratante requiere controles de localización como ser, catéteres, vías nasogástricas, cánulas o tubos orotraqueales, sondas etc.

Se envían fotografías que certifican lo anterior mencionado.

Atentamente, 

TEC. LIZETH AREVALO
 COORDINADORA DEPTO. RADIOLOGIA E IMAGENES
 C. Archivo





Devastation On Top of Devastation ...

It was decided that in San Pedro Sulo, the government hospitals would take care of the COVID patients while The Ruth Paz Hospital Speciality Surgery Center for Children (our project hospital in San Pedro Sulo) would take in all of the other non COVID patients and become the only non COVID hospital in San Pedro Sulo. This meant that they would no longer be a childrens only hospital ... adult patients were now being taken care of too, putting even more pressure onto the facility.

And then, in a year that had already presented major challenges for Honduras the year would end with even more tragedy. For the first time on record, two hurricanes hit Honduras and both were in the same season. Tropical storms Iota and Eta both made landfall consecutively in Nov. of 2020. There were areas where water levels reached roof tops. Estimates indicated that more than 4.5 million people were effected with over a million people evacuated. An assessment revealed losses and damages of \$1.9 billion. The two hurricanes coming on top of COVID was devastation on top of devanstion taking a toll on Honduras and it's people and further limiting Honduras's capacity for disaster relief and preparedness.



Moving On ...

Though COVID was still very much limiting our efforts, we were able to have conference calls and decide what our next move would be.

Since Hospital Ruth Paz was no longer a childrens only burn and speciality surgery center and would now be opening their doors to adult patients as well, there would be a need for another surgery room. TWION set our minds on getting the right equipment. It was a true TEAM effort between the management and doctors of Hopsital Ruth Paz, TWION board members and Soma Technology (our medical warehouse).

We decided that one of our first objectives should be to get a C-arm that could be used for most types of surgeries. TWION purchased a Philips Pulsera C-arm the from Metropolis International, LLC in Queens NY. It was taken to the Soma technology medical warehouse where it was fully refurbished and certified Philips Pulsera, complete with new batteries and kit assembly. The paint was completely stripped, repainted and labeled before being carefully crated for it's journey to Honduras. The Philips Pulsera C-arm will be useful in almost all types of surgery.



Salute to Dr. Gustavo Vásquez

The much needed C-Arm for Hospital Ruth Paz surgery room would not make it there in time for Dr Gustavo Vásquez a very dedicated doctor see it in use. Dr. Vasquez succumbed to COVID and will be remembered as an angel to Honduran children. The World is Our Neighborhood and Hospital Ruth Paz have decided to complete a new surgery room in his honor. Dr. Vásquez will be dearly missed and we are so very grateful for his many years of service!



C-Arm arrives at Ruth Paz

“We are so grateful for this C-Arm! It’s an incredible generous donation! (And the newly arrived X-Ray machine too!) Normally we do approximately 80 orthopedic surgeries a month, but since our old C-Arm broke down a couple of weeks ago we have only been able to do a few because the surgeons need it to do the more complex cases. With World is Our Neighborhood we have been able to help so many children and will continue to do so for thousands more.”

*Mary Ann Kafiti
Hospital Ruth Paz*



OR Plans and Delivery

In honor of Dr. Gustavo Vásquez

Getting what is essential to complete a fully functioning OR suite is our goal. In order to do this, we worked closely with Hospital Ruth Paz. We were informed us that they already had the surgery room table. We worked from there to put together an amazing surgery suite that Dr. Vásquez would be proud of ... us too!

At the top of the list:

A Laparoscopic Tower that would allow them to do arthroscopic and endoscopic procedures because this would enable them to reduce complications and allows for a shorter recovery time. We decided on a complete Stryker HD Camera system. The HD system is able to accommodate all Laparoscopy, Arthroscopy, Ortho, Urology, plastic, etc. The unit is patient ready with a full comprehensive warranty on all parts and labor.

Other equipment obtained and delivered includes:

Two anesthesia machines - GE Excel Series anesthesia machine and GE Series 5 with a integrated monitoring package
GE Tec Sevoflurane Vaporizers with interlock system

GE Tec Sevoflurane Vaporizers with interlock system

Conmed OR electrical surgical unit sabre series High power 300W ESU with cart and monopolar and bipolar footpedals and handcutters

Surgical head lamps - New Axia Entonofos Surgical Head lamps with battery backup

New Steris Transducer for Sterilizer SN: 02889 ~ sent on an earlier shipment

***A special dedication date for the surgery room ~ TBD**





Gold Star Contributor - The Davis Foundation!

Thank you to The Preston and Hilda Davis Foundation for your generous contribution toward this project! We could not have done it without you!



Teaming up with like-minded individuals to be the change that we'd like to see in the world!

**Volunteers are awesome workers ...
Volunteers do amazing projects ...
Volunteers are loving and kind ...
Volunteers are great friends!**

The World is Our Neighborhood (TWION.org). TWION is a 501(c)(3) volunteer (no salaries) charity working with the poor, elderly, mentally and physically challenged. Teaming up with like-minded individuals from around the world, TWION specializes in the relocation of fully functioning rooms of used medical equipment, supplies and furnishings to healthcare facilities, orphanages, clinics, health centers and nursing homes in other countries. Together, we work to raise the level of healthcare, building strong relationships based on teamwork, accountability, love and laughter!

**TWION.org
catherineahaala@me.com**

