



SMILE POWER NEWS

Enriching Lives One Smile at a time

Volume 3 Issue 1

June 2001

Back from Bolivia

Our Smile Power team joined a humanitarian outreach group headed by Dr. David Crane from Dental Seminars and Symposia in Wisconsin. There were 33 volunteers from all over the United States including Dr. Shinn, Jerri Shinn, Kathleen Steoger, Terry Smith, Judy Chambers, and Marlene Frost from Smile Power. The primary goal of the group was to provide much needed dental care to the many orphans who live in the Amanacer orphanage and school system in the city of Cochabamba, Bolivia. There are over 70 orphanages in this city with an estimated 30,000 homeless children living on the streets.

In addition to providing dental services, the Smile Power team kept very busy distributing the contents of 46 containers of donations collected and created by the students in 12 local schools in western Washington. Some of these donations were specifically earmarked for certain orphanages that some of our schools had "adopted," while others were given to us to distribute as needed.

Our hearts were touched and emotions overflowed as we watched each child's face light up when they realized that a special gift had been made and sent just for them. It provided certain confirmation to each child that they were someone special and that someone somewhere in the world really cared for them. This validation of their self-worth was very empowering for these precious children who would otherwise never get it without any parents in

their lives. We hope that we can convey to the donors and supporters of these projects the wonderful sense of fulfillment that was achieved with your caring outreach.

THANK YOU!
Providers of special services and financial support.



Special thanks to those whose extra giving went above and beyond in making a difference in Bolivia.

LAB (Lloyd Aero Boliviano Airline), and **Gordon Trucking Inc.** for providing free transport and shipping from Issaquah to Bolivia.

Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse

Swedish Medical Center

Karate West

University Book Store

Rowley Enterprises Inc.

Nippon Express

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Stanford Signs

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SmilePower Board Members

Dr. Sherwin Shinn, President
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 Kerri Gerken, Dir. of Public Relations
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Confessions of a Modern Dentist



True Stories from Above & Beyond the Chair

Dr. Sherwin Shinn, D.D.S.

Support Smile Power...
buy a book!

Dr. Shinn's book has sold over 700 copies and will be going into national distribution soon.

Available Online at
<http://www.smilepower.org>

Mission Statement

The mission of SmilePower is to provide health care, supplies, and disease-prevention education to people in remote areas of the world, building bridges of understanding and peace through the mutual sharing of our talents and cross-cultural knowledge.

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Back from Bolivia continued...

Thank You! Thank You!

for your powerful expressions of humanitarian outreach and personal commitment to making a positive difference in the world.

Casey & Callie Holeman	Marjorie & Sue Rasnack
Jan & Randy Holeman	LDS Womens Relief Society
Sarah Richter & friends	Mary Crowther & Sammamish
Brett Graham	Congregational Church

Local schools involved:

Echo Glen, Discovery Elementary, Clark Elementary, Maywood Elementary, Tolt Middle School, Sunny Hills Elementary, Cougar Ridge Elementary, Issaquah Valley Elementary, Arbor Elementary, Beaver Lake Middle school and Maple Hills Elementary.



Products and Donations received for Bolivia

- Specially decorated gift-bag pillow cases containing handpicked toys, sports equipment, clothing and art supplies.
- Cuddly hand-dressed teddy bears and Montessori teaching tools.
- Zip-lock bags filled with toys, school supplies, and personal hygiene items.
- Hand-sewn fleece blankets, gloves and scarves.
- Personalized hand written letters and drawings and pictures.
- Hand written and illustrated story books.
- T-shirts and shorts.
- Hand-knitted blankets.
- Hand-made quilts and stuffed animals.
- Beautiful beads and string for crafting necklaces and bracelets.
- English/Spanish story books.
- Much needed school supplies of all shapes, sizes and colors.
- Over \$4,000 in donations collected in fund raisers.

The money was used to repair and purchase needed dental equipment and medicine, buy desks and chairs and flooring for a school and locking library cabinets for another school, set up a scholarship fund for a nursing student. In addition, three separate and special projects were accomplished with the donated funds.

Aid for flood victims.

Just prior to our arriving in Bolivia the lowlands had been severely flooded by weeks of unusual rain. 20,000 people had lost their homes and were living in large tent cities with a few of their salvaged belongings and their farm animals. There were two families per 14x14 foot tent. It was not unusual to have 17 people living in one of these tents. Due to lack of prompt government relief some of these tent cities were to be temporary homes for up to 2 years.



A tent city where the flood victims are currently housed.

When we heard about this, we used some of the donated funds to buy basic staple foods such as rice, beans, corn meal powdered milk and canned goods which we hand delivered by truck to some of the most needy families. Thanks to the available funds, this provided good lasting nutrition and hope for the future in a desperate situation for many people.



Truck being loaded with donations and products.

Marlene Frost joins SmilePower Board

We are pleased and excited to welcome Marlene Frost to the Smile Power Board. Her vivacious, outgoing personality, caring heart and experience in community outreach will be a great asset to the success of Smile Power's mission. On our most recent trip to Bolivia she worked side by side with her husband Ron as a dental assistant and developed a creative arts program for refugee children in an outlying village.

The smile power team returned from Bolivia after two weeks of hard and very fulfilling work. The organizational skills and team work helped us accomplish all of our goals and then some. The dental and health care needs of the orphanages were met, and 2 tons of supplies and donations were hand delivered to the people most in need. All together, the lives of more than 2,000 people were directly enhanced by the sharing and caring of our local community here at home. We have all been enriched by this experience and we sincerely thank you for allowing us to be part of this awesome circle of giving.

Dr. Shinn has personally given follow-up slide presentations to our school children who participated, so they can see first hand the recipients of their caring and creative outreach projects. In this way they form a personal connection and realize the power they have to make a positive difference in the world. They discover that a true source of fulfillment is giving to others.

Issaquah girls bring **BIG** smiles to Villa Pagadora

A special project fund-raiser was initiated and carried out by two sisters in Issaquah in the 2nd and 6th grades. They committed to raise enough money to purchase and build an outdoor gym and play center for the 300 school-aged children who were living in a refugee village still under construction. They had been forced to relocate and rebuild after a large earthquake devastated their previous village two years ago. Their rudimentary school had no play area at all except a steep muddy hill that the children used for a slide.

The personal power and follow through of these two girls resulted in enough funding to buy the necessary hardware locally, and the lumber and tools in



Play center built in Villa Pagadora.

Bolivia needed to complete the building of a deluxe play center for the whole community. It was such an awesome event and impossible dream come true for the people in Villa Pagadora that all 600 people turned out for a special ceremony and dedication.

They made a very special plaque with the two sister's names on it and the flags of Bolivia and USA side by side. It was a special and lasting friendship connection made possible by the impressive efforts of two young girls who knew that accomplishing any dream is possible.

Beaver Lake Middle School Embraces Honduras

The kids at Beaver Lake Middle School took on a new challenge this year by helping Honduras. Honduras was devastated 2 years ago by hurricane Mitch, and still has many homeless and starving people.

The students collected \$1523 and filled an 8 by 16 bed truck with donated clothing, toys, school supplies and hygiene products.

The donations were delivered to Honduras by truck and distributed to the local people in need. The money was used to buy food and needed goods for the most impoverished areas of Honduras.

Smile Power is humbly grateful to all involved in making this project a huge success. We hope to continue this relationship by supporting a centrally located nutrition center that rehabilitates starving children.

Karate West Kids Camp

On March the 3rd 2001, Jan Holeman owner of Karate West hosted a Smile Power Kids Camp fundraiser for the children of Bolivia. As over 50 children and 10 volunteers arrived the excitement was high. Each child was handed a Smile Power T-shirt to wear and then the fun began. Each room was organized for fast moving games and the kids were ready to go. For 3 hours the kids were running jumping and having a ball! As festivities ended we reflected back on what a fun filled night we had and at the same time raised over \$2000 for the impoverished children of Bolivia.

Thank you Karate West, the volunteers, the children, the parents, and Jan & Randy Holeman for sharing in our vision to help. It is powerful when a community comes together, joining hands to heal children, a village, a developing nation, and the world.

Llamas for a living

Having a Llama is a very important economic base for all families who still live a rural life style. Llamas are useful for wool production for clothing and blankets, transportation, and breeding more animals for sale.

We heard about an Ayamara Indian woman who had just lost her husband. She had 6 children and no means



Llamas delivered to a struggling family.

of support except the meager income from selling hand-woven blankets. She had no source of wool and was faced with the possibility of giving her children over to an orphanage.

In keeping with the SmilePower goal of helping families stay together, we purchased 2 llamas for her and delivered

them to her tiny adobe home at 14,500 ft in the Andes. It was quite an adventure to load the llamas into the back of an old school bus and drive them 3 hours up into the hills, picking up passengers along the way. The beaming smile on her face when she realized that her family's economic future was now secure was abundant reward that could not have been obtained in any other way.

We bought 4 other llamas and they were delivered to a refugee village to help bolster their resources.



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What's Next?

UZBEKISTAN: Smile Power donated a huge supply of surplus hospital equipment and surgical supplies to the Republic of Uzbekistan via one of their top ambassadors.

NEPAL: We will be receiving an update on the land development and building progress of the medical /dental facility being built in Lukla this summer from the contractor. Smile Power continues to support the dental outreach in Nepal and is currently screening volunteer applicants who want to work as dental professionals in various clinic sites there. Three dentists have signed up to go.

ZAMBIA: Smile Power is supporting the construction of an orphanage /school/ health facility and training center on a 40 acre site. Mr. George Kafwimbi in Zambia continues to lead this project which is currently being supported by a fund raiser at Liberty High School lead by Erin Schneider. Bellevue High School is also getting involved.

THE COOK ISLANDS: Jerri and Dr. Shinn will deliver a wonderful collection of personal hygiene items and student chalkboards that were collected and individually decorated by the Bellevue Stake LDS Youth Group.

During the same trip, Dr. Shinn and Jerri will reinforce the local dental sealant program and provide needed equipment and materials to re-supply the hospitals and dental clinics. Prevention education and emergency care will also be provided. They also plan to visit the other remote island groups that extend west to Papua New Guinea. Medical and dental services are not available yet in many of these areas. The Shinn's will be providing basic supplies and medication, and assessing the needs for future Smile Power support.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

- Dr. Shinn will present a humanitarian workshop panel at the "Pacific NW Dental Conference" in Seattle and a full humanitarian outreach seminar at the "Western Regional Conference for Dental school Deans and Dental Examiners" Both of these are in July.
- Smile Power is planning to have and display/info and fund raising booth at Issaquah's Salmon Days Festival in October.
- We are still searching for a grant writer and book publicist to help raise awareness and funding to strengthen our outreach program.

Please Recycle



Smile Power would love your help!

Please indicate your name, address and how you would like to be involved.

Mail to:

International Smile Power Foundation
 704 - 228th Ave. N.E. Suite 204
 Sammamish, WA 98074

Name

Address/City/State/Zip

Phone/Email

- My tax deductible donation is enclosed.
- I want to work for several weeks at a time in foreign countries.
- I can help provide equipment/supplies.
- I'm interested in your work. Please put me on your mailing list.
- I would like to purchase your book and have enclosed a check.
 Book Price \$14.95 + shipping/handling: add \$5.00
 *Washington state residents must also add \$1.32 for sales tax.
- My group would like to see Dr. Shinn's presentation about his travels and experiences.

Thank you!