



December 2015

Ear & Hearing Work



Crafty Types

THE 12TH of December saw the curtain come down on another tremendous year at FT's women's arts & crafts classes. This year, over 40 women from the community got together every Saturday afternoon to learn the technique of needlecraft, with special fellowship Saturdays held every two months where the gospel was presented and Bibles were distributed to the participants. The group also gained greater exposure in the city of Trinidad, taking their work to two major exhibitions in November.

FUNDACIÓN TOTAÍ'S LATEST ear and hearing surgical campaign took place from the 30th of November till the 4th of December. As ever, FT's Health staff were assisted by visiting specialist Dr. Richard Wagner (of Global ENT Outreach), with more local support provided by Bolivian surgeons Dr. Rene Zabala and Dr. Alberto Calvo. Over the course of the week, 18 surgical cases were seen, with over 100 non-surgical cases also attended to. Local evangelical church *El Jireh* also assisted the campaign, giving short evangelistic talks throughout the day to patients and family members in the waiting areas.

The surgical campaign began a series of events focused on ear and hearing care. In the week beginning 7th of December, FT's Audiology staff ran the latest edition of FT's World Health Organisation-approved Primary Ear & Hearing Care course, at Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced level. 20 medical professionals were in attendance over the course of the week. And in the week beginning 14th of December, 15 participants attended an Audiology training course at FT premises.

We are delighted to have recently renewed our partnership with Christian Blind Mission (CBM), who have pledged to continue to fund FT's Ear & Hearing programmes until the end of 2018.



Winding Down

WITH THE local school year ending in November, several activities have begun their summer vacation over the past few weeks.

The basketball and football ministries concluded on the 28th of November, though the basketball season still has a few weeks to run due to delays. Our four football teams secured one second placing and two third placings in the local championships.

FT's afternoon classes for children in the community also came to an end in November, with an end-of-year party hosted at FT for the 4-to-7 and 8-to-12-year-old classes, and a special afternoon out for the 12-to-14-year-olds. We're delighted to report that several of these young people came to a saving faith in Jesus Christ over the course of the year.

Riveros Return

IN LATE SEPTEMBER, Maicol & KC Rivero, with son Caleb, bid farewell to Trinidad for the last time for the foreseeable future, 15 years after KC first set foot in the Beni as part of a summer team from the USA.

KC was to return to Trinidad in 2002 for a further eight months of missions service, before settling permanently in 2004. It was here that she met Maicol, and it was also at this point that Fundación Total's work was getting off the ground. Within a couple of years, both Maicol and KC were active members of the FT team, and in 2007 they were married.

Maicol and KC were to serve FT in a variety of roles throughout their tenure, with Maicol working as FT's courier in the mornings and KC spending two years working as an audiological assistant.

But it was in the area of Sports where their impact was most deeply felt. Both Maicol (football) and KC (basketball) could be found on Trinidad's sports fields most weekday afternoons, where they coached our teams of young people, and led Bible studies for these participants. They were also to oversee the running of many holiday 5-Day Clubs and KC launched the recent 'Kids' Games' initiative.

The Riveros are now back in KC's hometown of Seattle, and are thankful to be back among family. They would value your prayers for settling in to American life, and as they look for work.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the Lord's continued provision so that we can continue to run our services in Health, Sports and Education & Community.
- Pray for further opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ with staff and patients.
- Pray for safety for staff over the Christmas and New Year vacation period.
- Give thanks for the Lord's goodness to Fundación Total during 2015.