

# BECCA JOSEPH

Rearick Surgical Center | Honduras



## | CONTACT

### Personal

(904) 708-2206

becca@medical-outreach.com

### Sending church

West Jacksonville Baptist Church

5634 Normandy Blvd

Jacksonville, FL 32205

(904) 781-4321

### Missions Agency

Medical Missions Outreach

289 Jonesboro Rd., Suite 364

McDonough, GA 30253

(410) 391-7000

## | PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES

Praising God for saving Saul, Cesar, & Oscar

Praising God for progression in Spanish lessons

Pray for patients' continued healing

Pray those that heard the gospel will come to know the Lord

Pray for Joe Leier's family

Pray as we continue preparing for the 2024 teams



## | DECEMBER 2023

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you for your continued love and support through this wonderful journey! As I sit here thinking over the past several months, I am filled with gratitude for all the amazing ways I have seen God do in Honduras!

### Surgical Teams Update

September started with traveling to Honduras to begin preparations for our upcoming surgeries at the Rearick. This begins with gathering patients' preoperative information, scheduling their surgeries, assigning each member of our team to their areas and prepping accommodations for the team. Once the teams have headed home, I spend the next 1-2 weeks assisting with patient post-operative visits. Though there were several last minute and unexpected complications - one of our surgeons was unable to make the trip, our cargo shipment with needed supplies was delayed and team members had illnesses - these inconveniences gave me an opportunity to see God's sovereignty.

The September and November teams included three surgeons with 31 team members who were able to provide 46 patients with life changing surgeries. Of those 46 patients, two accepted Christ as their Savior! So many stories fill my mind as I think back on the weeks.

During the rainy season, we had several patients who had to fight flood waters to make it to the RSC for their surgery. One specific patient was a 6 year old girl named Yuliani. She lived in the banana fields and her yard had become a river the week the team arrived. We prayed that the waters would subside so she could have her surgery. On Wednesday, the waters had subsided enough that Yuliani's mom brought her to town to stay with family. She was able to have her surgery Thursday!

Another story that comes to mind involves a chance encounter outside of a clinic week. One Saturday evening after a team had left, I was visiting Hope Children's Home. One of the boys from the other cottage came to get me. I arrived to find the house mom talking with Oscar, a young man delivering food. He was explaining that he was recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes and was feeling ill. I helped him obtain a blood glucose reading. It was too high to register. I advised him to go to the hospital for further treatment. He expressed how he had been feeling hopeless since his diagnosis (Diabetes testing and insulin can be difficult to obtain and very costly in Honduras). He left for the hospital and I continued on with my night. I hadn't heard how he was doing until Wednesday night. He had come to church and was talking with Pastor Matt and Pastor Nate. After talking for a while, Oscar came over with a smile on his face and expressed that he had accepted Jesus as his Savior! It was amazing seeing the change from just a few days prior! He went from being sick and hopeless, to being filled with the Hope provided by Faith in Jesus! Praise the Lord!

Pre-op, where our team makes our patients feel safe and loved

Continue to next page



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## Medical Missions Outreach - Optical Team

At the end of the September surgical team, I was able to join one of our optical teams in Santa Barbara, Honduras. We at Medical Missions Outreach were so excited to work here with Pastor Alex Reyes who was sent out of the ministry here at El Faro where I attend. Earlier, I mentioned supplies being held in customs. The glasses for this team were part of that shipment. Part of my role with the team was staying back to coordinate the delivery of the glasses when they were released. Another team member was able to stay with me and we made the 2.5 hour journey to Santa Barbara on Tuesday evening when our supplies were released. This small team of 19 saw 529 patients, each who heard the gospel presentation. Of these patients, 14 made salvation decisions!

I would like to take a moment to honor a wonderful man and partner in the ministry. Joe Leier first came to help with our surgical equipment in August of 2022. Joe traveled around the world working in biomedical engineering. He specifically used his skills in mission works such as clinics, hospitals and surgical centers. He gave of his time and skills to improve so much around the RSC, always willing to take video chat and help me troubleshoot, even if he wasn't able to be there in person. This past month he was diagnosed with malaria, after spending some time in South Sudan using his skills to help people. After many complications, the Lord called Joe home to be with Him on November 26th. Joe touched so many lives and there is a huge hole in many hearts. We will miss him at the RSC!

Towel folding party



Some of the ladies spent some extra time with Yuliani and painted her nails



Cesar & awesome team members



Joe Leier



RSC's youngest patient, 2 yrs old