Your Gifts Last a Lifetime

2016 annual report
You healed broken hearts ... and much more!

Congenital heart disease is the number one birth defect of children in the world. Diagnostic and surgical intervention requires medical skill and precision acquired only through years of specialized training and experience. Unfortunately, physicians with this type of expertise in cardiology or other pediatric sub-specialties are unavailable or out of reach to most children in developing countries.

This is why you, together with World Pediatric Project, forever change and save lives. Each year we reach and heal thousands of children who otherwise lack access to such lifesaving specialized care. Last year we reached nearly 2,300 children from 13 countries to provide diagnostic or surgical care.

When these children’s families struggled to find solutions for their child ... whether it was for cardiac care or any other type of critical pediatric care, World Pediatric Project and you were there with open arms to help. Thank you for joining us to make so many precious lives whole. Not only have you helped us heal these children, you’ve also helped restore families and strengthen their communities.

“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in healthcare is the most shocking and inhumane.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.
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World Pediatric Project offers comprehensive solutions and advanced pediatric care to its partner countries in Central America and the Caribbean. WPP deploys volunteer pediatric specialists in most every pediatric sub-specialty and monitors each patient’s progress until age 21. Approximately one third of WPP patients are seen by more than one WPP pediatric specialist during the year.

19-month-old Jeiser traveled from Belize to Richmond for surgery to remove a congenital lung cyst.

### Surgeries By Specialty

**Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

- Cardiac
- Ophthalmology
- General
- Urology
- Plastic
- Orthopedic
- Multispecialty
- Other (cochlear implant, oral surgery)
- Bracing interventions

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19-month-old Jeiser traveled from Belize to Richmond for surgery to remove a congenital lung cyst.
To World Pediatric Project,

I am grateful to all who helped make it possible that every child who needs a surgery can travel here for their operations. Thank you for changing a small, sad face into one full of smiles. I know these words aren’t enough, but I know that all of you do this with so much love and affection that all of your help comes from profound place in your hearts. These are my few words of thanks.

God Bless You All

Delfina

mom of Daniel and Noe
Bringing Joy to the World

The mere sight of these two lovable toddlers lights up the room and lifts hearts!

These adorable 21-month-old twin boys named Daniel and Noe were born with Apert Syndrome, a condition most often characterized by malformations of the skull, face, hands and feet. Without correction, their brain growth and development would be stunted and their movement and hopes for a normal life significantly impaired. Unfortunately, in their home country of Honduras access to pediatric specialists for treatment for this condition doesn’t exist.

After recent successful surgeries followed by weeks of intensive post-operative care, these high energy, happiness-infused angels are exploring their newly discovered ability to use their hands on a daily basis. One favorite activity using their newly formed “fingers” is eating Cheetos! Proof of this pleasure came from their decidedly orange-tinted lips and fingers after devouring this new treat!

The joy of Daniel and Noe is a reflection of your love and support. While they will require additional surgeries and follow-up care through World Pediatric Project, you have given them a launching pad to thrive and reach their fullest potential as healthy, active toddlers!

Dr. Jennifer Rhodes, Children’s Hospital of Richmond at VCU craniofacial surgeon, is the WPP lead physician caring for Daniel and Noe.
2016 By The Numbers

3,850 diagnostic evaluations
2,260 children from 13 countries
755 surgeries

Revenues and gains:
- Auction and special events: $2,046,821
- Contributions: 2,747,530
- In-kind contributions: 14,379,661
- Interest and dividend income: 13,361

Total revenues and gains: 19,187,373

Expenses and losses:
- Program services: 17,247,725
- Management and general: 326,830
- Fundraising: 1,590,841

Total Expenses: 19,165,396

Unrealized investment loses: 5,163

Total expenses and losses: 19,170,559

Increase (decrease) in net assets: 16,814

Net assets, beginning of year: 1,947,996

De-combining of David Ortiz Children’s Fund: (166,154)

Net assets, end of year: $1,798,656

For complete financial information, please visit: http://www.worldpediatricproject.org/financials/
World Pediatric Project ON CALL

Through a devoted WPP family of financial contributors, pediatric medical specialist volunteers and in-country partners, WPP responds with resolute passion to help children with urgent critical care needs. While most patient care is planned and prioritized for weeks and even months in advance, below are two shining examples of WPP’s commitment and capability to spring into immediate action to save lives:

SHAMIR

It was two days before Christmas, when the call came to World Pediatric Project. Most of the WPP staff were already off for the holiday, yet the WPP program team had been alerted a few days earlier about a baby born in Belize with a critical condition called esophageal atresia. This serious congenital condition requires urgent medical attention as the connection between the esophagus and stomach is incomplete. Without swift intervention, the baby would die.

On call 365 days a year, World Pediatric Project kicked into gear. Without hesitation, two generous contributors positively responded to WPP’s urgent request to fund baby Shamir’s emergency transport and surgery. WPP Medical Director and volunteer surgeon Dr. David Lanning and his team altered their holiday plans to escort the very fragile 4lb baby Shamir back to Children’s Hospital of Richmond at VCU to begin his healing journey.

Three months later, Shamir returned home to his adoring parents, fully healed, and more than double his birth weight. “He can now live a healthy life into his 80’s,” exclaimed a beaming Dr. Lanning.

SANTIAGO

Earlier this year, 9-year-old Santiago arrived in St. Louis for his biannual visit to continue surgical management of his particularly complex congenital scoliosis. The special rods connected to his spine and ribs are lengthened as he grows, straightening his spine and keeping his chest cavity open for his lungs to expand and grow.

Upon his return to Venezuela, Santiago began to have complications which included a cerebral spinal fluid leak seeping through an opening of his skin. This opening was making him dangerously susceptible to infection which included the potential for fatal spinal meningitis. Time was of the essence to get Santiago help.

The WPP St. Louis U.S. Referral team leaped into action. They communicated continuously with Santiago’s family and local medical staff, receiving frequent, sometimes hourly updates and photos to determine the best response. Santiago was soon flown to St. Louis Children’s Hospital whose charity care committee generously expedited his acceptance.

Three WPP volunteer surgeons operated on Santiago shortly after his arrival. They repaired the leak, removed the infected hardware, and closed the fragile opening on his back. After several weeks of antibiotics, Santiago was headed back home, his parents eternally thankful and relieved. Early next year Santiago will return to St. Louis for the next steps of his complex care.
"The value of a better start in life cannot be measured."

"It’s been incredibly rewarding to be part of this project working alongside colleagues in St. Vincent for the betterment of their tiniest and most fragile patients. As a result of these collaborative efforts, the majority of babies needing special care in St. Vincent will be given as good a start in life as they could get anywhere. This partnership is only possible because of World Pediatric Project and the generosity of its contributors."

- Dr. Rob Fleming
Neonatologist, Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital and Professor of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at St. Louis University
At no time is skilled pediatric care most needed than in the first crucial hours and days of a newborn’s life. As every country strives to reduce overall infant and child mortality, improving survival and thriving of newborns during the first month of life is especially critical in WPP’s partner countries.

World Pediatric Project’s newborn critical care training program has the direct aim of improving newborn survival and enhancing care for sick or premature infants in hospital neonatal intensive care units. Currently, newborn and neonatal care training programs are underway in Belize and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In the year ahead, we will implement this WPP training model in other island nations in the Eastern Caribbean, which is proving to be very effective in our current settings.

Our goal - to ensure every baby born has access to the care they need, as soon as they need it.
Lessons in Determination

Courageous. Inspired. Determined. These adjectives are interchangeable to describe WPP orthopedic surgery patients and their parents.

While children endure daily pain, physical limitations, and, oftentimes, social discomfort, their parents search, hope and pray to find any possible resources to help their child’s complex conditions. The children? They just want to run, play, attend school, and be normal kids!

The demand for orthopedic surgical care is immense. The prevalence of congenital orthopedic conditions is second only to congenital heart defects in children.

This past year WPP expanded its reach and capacity to care for more children requiring complex orthopedic corrective surgery. First we welcomed our new partnership with the country of Barbados. This Caribbean country has a lengthy waiting list of children with scoliosis, Blount’s disease and many other general orthopedic conditions. Their country’s orthopedic surgeons are eager to strengthen their knowledge and skills and work alongside WPP surgeons.

WPP also welcomes the addition of two new partner hospitals to help us meet this surgical need. Our Shriners Hospital network has expanded to include two orthopedic hospitals in Springfield, Massachusetts and Philadelphia, increasing WPP’s partner hospitals to twenty-two.

On the following pages, enjoy the photos of just some of the hundreds of children your investment directly touched this past year in a broad range of specialties.
Clockwise, starting left: Hope, 3 years old, St. Vincent; Helena, 9 years old, Belize; Jordan, 3 years old, Barbados; Miracle and Raven, 7 years old, Barbados; Piki, 12 years old, Dominican Republic.
Rakayla’s bright smile is infectious. Most who meet her are struck instantly by her wisdom and maturity beyond her young seven years of age.

Rakayla was born in her home country of Barbados with Blount’s disease, a growth disorder of the tibia (shin bone) that causes the lower leg to angle inward. Her legs are significantly bowed requiring her to depend upon crutches to walk and to relieve the pressure on her knees and ankles. She endured significant daily pain.

Rakayla’s mom searched for years to find help for her daughter, and soon after WPP’s new partnership with Barbados began, she was referred to WPP by local Bajan physician, Dr. Tamara Nancoo.

Rakayla is proudly WPP’s first patient to be treated through our new hospital partnership at Shriners Hospital in Springfield, Massachusetts. Since early summer, Raykala has received two surgeries; one to place the frames to straighten her legs, and another to better align her right foot. Now she tackles the hard work of daily physical therapy sessions to build strength and, amazingly, new bone. Her surgeon, Dr. John DeWeese, expects her bones to be healed enough to remove the frames on her legs by the winter holidays.

When asked what she wants to do most when she gets home, she repeatedly shouted “RUN, RUN, RUN!” We look forward to reporting back to you with wonderful photos of her doing just that!

“As she cruises the hallways of the hospital, Rakayla shares her signature broad smile and strong spirit which the Shriner’s staff have come to know and love.”

“SHRINERS HOSPITALS for Children

“This year we were giving the opportunity of a lifetime for my daughter Rakayla to have corrective surgery on her legs thanks to WPP. This is just a little note expressing our gratitude and thanks to World Pediatric Project for all the assistance you have given to me and my daughter in helping her realize one of her biggest dreams and that is to run again. And for this we say thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

- Sheen, Rakayla’s mother
In low to middle income countries -  
- 9 out of 10 people lack access to basic surgical care
- Congenital anomalies are the second leading cause of death in children under age 5
- One third of all deaths worldwide are attributed to conditions requiring access to surgical care - more than deaths from HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria combined
- Untreated surgical conditions will decrease GDP in developing countries by an estimated 2%

These statistics relate to adults and children, but medical care resource availability for children is less than for adults.
Beautiful Faces of Children You Helped this Past Year
Cardiac Surgery Patients

Charles
Antigua
8 years old

Christinique
St. Vincent
2 years old

Natalie
Panama
10 months old

“When a child needs complex heart surgery, and while we’ve explained everything about the procedure to occur, no matter who you are, what language you speak, I can assure you it is a huge leap of faith to put the most precious part of you into my hands, and kiss him one more time before undergoing heart surgery.

“This is the clarity that only families of sick children can fully understand.

“Tonight, hug your kids a bit tighter and remember that some children’s lives literally depend upon the kindness of strangers.”

-Dr. Thomas Yeh
Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon
WPP Volunteer Surgeon
Jesus smiles when he sees your ministry. Pass on faith and hope to a future adult. You change the world - one child at a time.

Thank you WPP.

From Delphia, mom of WPP patient Daria, who added the hearts and bumblebees.
“Traveling to Honduras with WPP as a craniofacial surgeon is one of the most important things I do. It allows me a chance to see the smiles on the faces of children we have helped in the past and the growth they have had over the year. Each parent is grateful for the care we deliver. And I am grateful for your support of WPP!”

- Dr. Sharline Aboutanos

Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery Specialist
WPP Volunteer Surgeon
Zabdiel
Guatemala
4 years old

Plastic Surgeon Dr. Nadia Blanchet with WPP patient Anthony in St. Vincent

Enti
Honduras
4 years old

Beautiful Faces of Children You Helped this Past Year
WPP volunteer pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Scott McLanahan and his Charlotte, NC-based neurosurgery team has strengthened the local neurosurgery team’s skills through ongoing collaborative training.

15-month-old Maicol with neurosurgery RN, Lisa Schloeder, in the Dominican Republic.

7-year-old Wilmer (right) with mom and little brother at last spring’s neurosurgery mission in Guatemala.

“Thank you for helping surgeons like me give these children a chance for a full life.”
- Dr. Gary Tye
WPP Volunteer Neurosurgeon
Keiran’s mother, Marissa, was determined to get the urgent surgical care needed for her son and wouldn’t allow a tropical storm to deter her. Just days before they were to fly the normally short 45 minute flight to St. Vincent, Tropical Storm Erika devastated the island of Dominica in the Eastern Caribbean. Due to massive flooding, lives were lost and infrastructure and homes were greatly damaged, including the airport. She navigated an arduous two-day journey starting with a ferry to St. Lucia and two more flights to get to St. Vincent to ensure Keiran received the corrective surgery for his urgent urological malformation.
“WPP benefits our local community because this experience from treating the many complex cases through WPP in turn improves our ability to care for children in need here at home.”

- Dr. David Lanning
Pediatric General Surgeon
WPP Medical Director
Tayana is pictured below during the 2015 mission to Belize (left) and this year for follow-up (right). She received surgery with the team last year for strabismus – check out that straight gaze! What a difference this surgery will make as she enters school!

“I work with WPP because one of the goals of the organization is to build sustainable and comprehensive programs so children are healed now and in the future… and to do so in a holistic approach.

“Together we help children, families and communities to become more healthy. We complement the existing programs in our partner countries, providing hope for those who in the past could not be helped.”

- Dr. Donna Brown
Pediatric Ophthalmologist
WPP Volunteer Surgeon
World Pediatric Project celebrated its 15th year of healing outreach and now, with your help, looks ahead to incredible future accomplishments:

**15 Year Milestones**

- 390 pediatric surgery teams deployed
- Nearly $100 million in in-kind pediatric specialist care provided to an estimated 10,000 children
- More than 20,000 procedures and evaluations provided
- First capacity building program, Dominican Hearts, now independently conducting annually more than 300 pediatric heart surgeries
- Strategic merger between International Hospital for Children and Healing the Children Missouri creating a stronger organization with increased financial, hospital and pediatric specialist resources

**Transformative Outcomes Ahead (by year 2023)**

- Achieve **100% access** to pediatric critical care in Belize and 7 countries in the Eastern Caribbean
- Decrease newborn mortality by at least 1% by ensuring access to advanced care for more than **13,000 newborns** born annually
- Provide diagnostic and surgical care for an additional **17,000 children** receiving medical services valued at an estimated $127 million
Kedar, 3 year old orthopedic patient from Barbados

“Children are our most valuable resource.”

- Herbert Hoover
31st President of the United States
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