

## Spring Mission Trip

This was the second medical and construction campaign for the Abbrings. For others this was their first trip to Collique while some had been here more than 10 times. The same is true for the people of Collique. For some, this was their first time to visit an OSA clinic while others had been seen many times during the 8 years of OSA ministry in this community. They asked about the doctors weeks before. "When are the doctors coming?" was a question we

often heard as we walked the local streets. For many, Dr. Ray Verm is like their family doc; he sees them every six months. But each campaign is also different; each person involved has a story to tell. Many feel like they are just one of the 8 million residents of Lima, but that's not the way they are treated by the doctors, nurses, construction workers, or OSA personnel. To them, each person is unique, fearfully and wonderfully made.

Many patients were seen and others were helped by the construction team. Below, two personal notes written during the week. Visit OSA's Facebook page for more photos and stories.

If you are interested in participating in a future OSA mission trip to Collique, please contact Ruth Campos. See the second page of this newsletter for contact information.



## Peru Clinic

By Dr. Ray Verm

She came in this morning, my first patient of the day, Friday, our last day. I feel bad like I'm choking. I get short of breath when I walk. Her blood pressure was elevated. Chest pain and shortness of breath on walking with relief in 2-3 minutes. The pain is recurrent and predictable and radiates to the left jaw and left arm. Sixty-four years old. Did she read the textbook on Angina? She had never seen a doctor. Any family history of heart attack or stroke? My parents gave me away when I was young. I was on my own, alone. Now I have two daughters and four grandchildren. We are all alone and on our own. We have no money! Her eyes reddened and filled with tears. Unfortunately you are at great risk to have a heart attack. After the ECG looked okay we gave her four medications to treat her to prevent a heart attack or a stroke exactly as if she were a patient in Houston. Except she's not there. She's in Collique. No



Dr. Ray Verm with one of his patients

money. No insurance. No social security. No Exercise Stress Test. No Heart Echo. No catheterization. No stent. No surgery. No follow-up. What help we have we will give to you. Take these medications daily. There is enough for six months. If you get worse, you must have someone take you to a hospital. Here is an appointment to see us in October. We will pray for you. May God bless you and protect you.

## Last Note

By Jack Bailey (above, on the right), who wrote several short notes on the construction part of the campaign.

Read them all on our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/operacionsanandres>

One last word from Lima. Yesterday, our last day in Collique we wrapped up our projects and six of us knocked out a sizeable partial re-roofing of a home in Zone 5. As we came down the hill to the OSA house to board the bus, I must tell you, it was bitter sweet.

Although we had accomplished all we had discussed and planned on doing before leaving home plus a couple of other projects the fact that there is such a great need remaining somehow tugs at our hearts. In addition, the people seem so appreciative of our presence here and our efforts to improve the community and their health needs which surely warms our hearts and motivates us to work all the harder.

## Retreat

It was the first time the OSA personnel were out of the routine in a quiet place for more than one day. From March 29 until March 31, the team, together with Dr. Campos and his wife, was in a conference center in Chaclacayo (North of Lima). We shared a wonderful time comparing our experiences and uncertainties, discussing important topics and future plans, and knowing each other better. We were led by



Betsy Contreras, a Licensed Professional Counselor with a Masters of Arts in Psychology, who has been in Collique on previous mission trips. She did a great job in helping the team realize the importance of team-work, the unity as family in Christ, the vision which each one has for OSA, and how we see our situation at this time. The last night, we had a bonfire where we sang praises to the Lord. At the end of that evening, each one expressed personally the qualities and skills that one observed in the other. The last morning, we realized that something special grew those days. We shared experiences which we never shared before; we opened our hearts to each other. We believe that God has a special purpose for this ministry and curiously, He put in our hearts a great vision, a great job, a great responsibility, which is to share His love with the people of Collique following His great commission, to share the gospel in a holistic way.

## Marriage Course

For months OSA has wanted to start a marriage course. The idea started because many of the couples in our community don't have a formalized marriage, while others have emotional problems and are looking for a time of advice and counseling. In response to these needs, OSA started a Christian marriage course "Felizmente Casados" (Happily Married), in order to enrich the relationship of the couples and thereby improve the dynamics

of the relationship of the whole family including the children. Sunday, May 27, was the first session of the course, which was a blessing for every couple. The course leaders, who are married for 21 years, have a wonderful mission ministering to couples in Lima. We host three more sessions every last Sunday of the month. Please, keep this course, the couples and their families in your prayers.

## Mother's Day Celebration

On Thursday, May 10, OSA hosted its annual Mother's Day Celebration. All mothers of the children who are in the after school program were invited to the event. The youngest group of children recited Psalm 23 and sang a song;

the teenagers did a drama on Proverbs 31. The teenagers of the morning group did a song, which was recorded and played during the event. It was remarkable to see each mother emotionally enjoying her child's performance.

Videos of the performances are posted on our recently created YouTube channel. <http://www.youtube.com/user/videososaperu> After Elizabett did a devotional on Proverbs 31, "A virtuous woman," it was time for fun and games, inclusive a piñata. There was also a moment when the mothers who had their birthday during the month were recognized.

At the end, each mother received a special Mother's Day gift bag. Thanks to our donors!



### Bible verse of the month

"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."

John 15:7

Excited after reading this newsletter? Please contact Ruth Campos for additional information about future OSA mission trips.

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## Upcoming Events

June - July

- Two interns join OSA

June 10-16

- South Main Baptist Church Youth Mission Trip

June 24

- Marriage Course

July 1-7

- First Baptist Church Norman Oklahoma Youth Mission Trip

## Please, PRAY with us for

- Upcoming youth mission trips
- The two interns that will be joining the OSA team in June and July
- Marriage course for parents of OSA children and couples from the community
- Two OSA children and their families in the passing of their aunt
- OSA's staff and teachers
- Health of children, families, and staff in these months of transition from summer to winter

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