

## TEAM RECAP

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are excited to share that we have had an incredible start to this year at BIG HOPE Bearden Ministries. Because of your prayers, generosity, and faithful support, lives are being touched in powerful ways across the Dominican Republic.

In January, we had the privilege of hosting a medical mission team from Pittman Park United Methodist Church. Together, we conducted clinics throughout the bateys near Barahona, caring for people who often do not have access to consistent medical care while also sharing the love of Christ.

During this time, we were able to visit a new batey, Santa Maria. It was there that we met Luis, a young man suffering from a serious tumor in his jaw. His situation deeply impacted all of us and served as a powerful reminder of the urgent need for continued medical outreach. We are actively working to help him receive the care he needs.

We have also had the honor of hosting other incredible teams, including Central Methodist Church in Asheboro, NC, who helped care for patients over four days, treating a wide range of medical conditions while also sharing the love of Jesus with each individual they encountered.

We also welcomed a medical and surgical team from Dream Ministries, who served both in a local hospital in Cabral and through additional roving medical clinics.

This is just the beginning of what we believe God is going to do this year. Thank you for being part of this work.

### How You Can Help

- Pray for Luis and others in need of critical care
- Support upcoming medical and surgical missions
- Share the work of BIG HOPE with others

Together, we are bringing hope, healing, and the love of Jesus to those who need it most.

With Heartfelt Gratitude,

*Donna Bearden*

Donna Floyd-Bearden  
BIG HOPE Bearden Ministries

### Pittman Park United Methodist Church Medical Mission Team



Through the roving medical clinics:

- 580 patients received medical care
- 222 individuals were provided with eyeglasses

### Central Methodist Church Medical Team



Through the roving medical clinics:

- 393 patients received medical care in just four days.

### Dream Ministries Medical & Surgical Team



- 25 surgeries were performed
- 692 patients received medical care





## MEETING LUIS

There are moments in ministry that stay with you. One of those this year was meeting Luis in Batey Santa Maria. Luis was severely malnourished and suffering from a rapidly growing tumor in his jaw called ameloblastoma that was affecting his ability to eat and swallow, a sobering reminder of the urgent needs in the communities we serve.

Months earlier, BIG HOPE began a nutritional program to address malnutrition in the bateys. Because of that, we were able to immediately provide the support he needed. What we thought was preparation became provision at exactly the right time.

Today, Luis is receiving care through our clinic under the direction of Dra. Glory Castillo, who is coordinating treatment with a specialist in the capital as he prepares for critical surgery. We are committed to walking with him through the care ahead.

## A BEACON OF HOPE IN BATEY 7

In the rural bateyes of the Dominican Republic, where access to consistent, quality medical care is often limited, the Buen Samaritano Rural Clinic stands as a place of hope. At the center of that hope is Dra. Glory Castillo, a physician whose life has been marked by service, discipline, and deep compassion.

Dra. Castillo earned her medical degree from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo and went on to serve more than 16 years in the Dominican Republic Army. During that time, she worked as a physician at the Central Hospital of the Armed Forces and served in multiple leadership roles, including overseeing care at a military academy and supporting medical efforts in Barahona. Her experience also includes service at Jaime Mota Regional Hospital and Santo Tomás Clinic, where she developed a deep understanding of both the physical and emotional needs of her patients.

Today, she brings that experience to the Buen Samaritano Rural Clinic in Batey 7, located in Independencia Province. She is known throughout the community for her kindness, her attentiveness, and the way she treats each patient with dignity. She listens, she comforts, and she meets people where they are.

Dra. Castillo works closely with visiting medical and surgical teams, helping ensure that patients receive not only immediate care but also the follow up that is so often missing in rural areas. Her presence brings consistency, trust, and hope to those she serves.

That commitment was especially evident in her care for Luis Jobe, a young man suffering from a serious jaw tumor. From the moment his condition was identified, she became a steady presence in his journey, coordinating care, advocating for him, and walking alongside him and his family during an incredibly difficult time.

Beyond the clinic, Dra. Castillo is a devoted wife and mother of four. She carries that same love into her work each day, serving her community with both skill and compassion.

Because of her, the Buen Samaritano Clinic is more than a place for treatment. It is a place of healing, dignity, and hope.



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## PARTNER WITH US

**Our prayer is that you would partner with us by setting up a recurring monthly donation. Giving monthly is a great way to support our work on a regular basis. Visit [www.bighopeministries.org/giving](http://www.bighopeministries.org/giving) to set up your REOCCURRING gift in any amount or scan the QR Code with your phone.**

