



medical mission: Chiapas



In Chiapas, Mexico there is a diverse population of people in need of medical care. Every year Catholic World Mission and Helping Hands Medical Mission work to help those people living in the most remote areas of Chiapas who do not otherwise have access to see general practitioners and specialists.

In 2015, 31 missionaries, doctors, nurses, volunteers and translators traveled to Chiapas to set up a triage and medical clinic to serve the people. The people are given free medical care and medicine. They come very early in the morning to get in line. Some have waited for over a year to be seen by a doctor and they come with hope that the doctors will heal their diseases, give them medication and dress their wounds for speedy recoveries.



After being seen the patients leave in gratitude even when diagnosed with degenerative diseases or there is no cure for their condition. Their needs are still met spiritually by volunteers who are there to evangelize. Even having someone to talk to about their problems lightens their load for the journey ahead.

Some of the people that are seen are infants, while many others are elderly. Mothers come with their children, no money, and no support, just to ask for food. The doctors always ask to see them to find out if the families are malnourished and need vitamins. In one family in particular, a mother with three children all presented malnourishment. The oldest child was given a hygiene kit with tooth paste and a tooth brush, and a small toy car. His joy was eminent and they could see he had never received a better gift.

Another child one and a half years old was unable to walk. It was clear to the doctors he had autism, and a motor deficiency. Unfortunately, his family has no resources to take him to a hospital for therapies that would improve his condition. The child is still joyful though and has a smile on his lips despite his physical limitations. Families came together to bring their sick, to not abandon their hope. An elderly man with a facial tumor was brought in by his son in law. He wanted anything that would ease his father in law's suffering.

Countless families came to the missionaries. They are in great need of assistance and support. It is easy to forget that there are remote communities in desperate need of medical assistance. Catholic World Mission and Helping Hands Medical Mission make it a point to serve the poor here and make medical care accessible.

