



RAGDV

ROTARIAN ACTION GRUP OF DENTAL VOLUNTEERS

September 2013





Maria, before cleft lip and palate surgery



Maria, after surgery

Alliance for Smiles in Tanzania

September 17, 2013

We have seen so many miracles these two weeks and this is one we wanted to share!

Maria, a 10 year old girl from Isanzu, a village 110 km from Singida Hospital, came to us today with a complete unilateral cleft lip and palate. She is the oldest of 5 children born to Jumanne and Neema Shabani and the only child born with clefts. She is a very bright little girl but had stopped going to school because the children taunted her.

Her father beamed as he told us that she enjoys singing and dancing round her house. Father was so proud when he related that she could count to 100. He farms 3 acres which produces 5 sacks of corn and 5 sacks of millet. Income for the family is around \$300US per year.

Parents had taken her to the local clinic for this surgery 3-4 times before and had been told each time that the surgery needed to be postponed.

This time **Dr. Sandy McCulloch** repaired her palate and did a beautiful job of repairing her lip. When her father came into the PACU he was so very happy that he wanted to take her home immediately to show everyone her beautiful new face. Our hope for her is that she returns to school after she heals.

Alliance for Smiles helps everyone.
With a new smile, you can dance for joy.

Please help provide **more smiles** to
more children :)

by Tina Hollcroft and Micki Tanner
www.facebook.com/allianceforsmiles



Meet the volunteers just arrived in Tanzania

September 17, 2013

This is our first Vocation Training Team Mission sponsored by a Rotary International Training Grant and we are off to a great start. We are working with the Rotary Clubs of Babati Tanzania, Districts 6910 and 9211, Rotary Clubs of Greene and Putnam counties, Braselton, Monroe, NC, Toccoa, Jasper, Oglethorpe county and Rome. Also sponsored by Outreach International Tanzania, Friends of AfS Wilber Breseman and Sue Cone. Thanks also to Alla Campbell for donating the Mission T-shirts. We are already participating in intensive training with Surgeons, Anaesthetists and Nursing Staff. Everyone is very engaged and enjoying the exchange of ideas and techniques.

- **Barbara Fisher** - Mission Director
- **Tina Hollcroft** - Mission Director
- **Sandy McCulloch** – Surgeon
- **Bill Deshazo** – Surgeon
- **Mark Fajgman** – Anaesthesiologist
- **Abha Goel** - Pediatrician
- **Myrna Sullivan** - Lead Nurse
- **Beth Jansen** - Nurse Anaesthetist
- **Laure Lisk** - PACU
- **Carol Poole** - PACU
- **Wilber Breseman** - Sterilizer
- **Martha Bergenhagan** – O.R. nurse
- **Evelyn Snider** – O.R. nurse
- **Alla Campbell** - Photographer
- **Micki Tanner** - Record Keeper



Tanzania - day 3

Six beautiful patients had cleft surgery today. We are enjoying our work and our partners in Tanzania. Dr. Peter Mshall from the Babati Rotary traveled from throughout the area to transport patients to Singida for surgery. We are so fortunate to have our wonderful translators who have become our voices and enable to communicate with the patients, families and staff. Thanks Mike. Steve, Mbigi, Anna and David!



O.R. Nurse, Martha, teaching skills



Meet the Zunyi - China team!

- Colin Wong - VP China Affairs
- Roberto Giannicola - Mission Director
- Wally Chang - Lead Surgeon
- Ronald Worland - Surgeon
- Stanley Bloustine - Surgeon
- Judy O'Young - Lead Anaesthesiologist
- Hongyu Teng - Anaesthesiologist
- Songlian Li - Lead Nurse
- Alice Lee - O.R. Nurse
- Victoria Slama - O.R. Nurse
- Shraddha Mittal - Pediatrician
- Melonie Blancaneaux - PACU Nurse
- Tammy Berry - PACU Nurse
- Judith Dolan - CRNA
- John Nardone - Dentist
- Ann Davenport - Dental Hygienist
- Karin Vargorvik - Orthodontist
- Sally Peterson-Falzone - Speech Pathologist
- Shewey Shannon - Quartermaster
- Stephen Serafin - Sterilizer
- Michael Teng - Record Keeper
- Veronica Mak - Ward Coordinator
- Victoria Louie - Family Act. Coordinator
- Joy Chang - Translator



Alliance for Smiles in China

This is our third mission in China and so far we have done 182 surgeries on 154 patients in Zunyi alone already. The people of Zunyi, the hospital staff as well as all local volunteers have always been very hospitable and we are lucky to work with such a warm, friendly and helpful group of people.

This mission and previous missions in Guiyang have been funded through generous donations from the Care-Action Macau and Mr. John Lo and we are very grateful for their kind support.



Roberto Giannicola - Mission Director





About RAGDV

The **Rotarian Action Group of Dental Volunteers** operates in accordance with **Rotary International** policy but is not an agency of, or controlled by Rotary International.

Are you a **Rotary dental volunteer**?

Share your experience, and give details as to how others may participate.

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MERCY SHIPS IS ONE OF ROTARY'S NEWEST STRATEGIC PARTNERS OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION. ROTARY CLUBS AND DISTRICTS CAN APPLY FOR A PACKAGED GRANT THAT WILL ALLOW MEDICAL AND DENTAL PERSONEL TO PARTNER WITH MERCY SHIPS TO PERFORM LIFE CHANGING SURGERIES IN UNDER DEVELOPED PARTS OF THE WORLD.