October 3, 2014

Re: Medical Missions

SCA Physicians & Leaders:

Serving others is at the core of our Mission and our Values at SCA, and we have made community service a central theme at our annual meetings and helped encourage our teammates to engage in community service through our SCA Community Service Foundation.

We have also been inspired by countless stories of SCA physicians and teammates participating in medical mission trips, and we are excited to announce the creation of our SCA Medical Mission program.

Our hope is to organize three medical mission trips in 2015 with approximately 30-40 people in each trip, focusing on one or two specialties per trip. The initial program will include General, Gynecology, Orthopedic, Urology, and ENT, as these are the main areas of need at this time. The surgeries will be performed in a multi-specialty surgery center, called Holy Family Surgery Center (HFSC), which provides care to the indigent in Honduras. HFSC was created in 2003 by an orthopedic surgeon from St. Paul, Minnesota, named Dr. Peter Daly, and his wife Lulu. It is a first-world level ASC with modern equipment and supplies, and there is a full-time, on-site surgeon to help ensure a productive schedule and to perform any post-operative follow-up care.

The surgery center is located on the grounds of a 2,000-acre orphanage, which is a 40-minute drive from the airport of the capital city of Honduras, Tegucigalpa. The orphanage is owned and run by a large non-profit organization called Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH), which has locations in several other Central American countries. Because the surgery center is located on the grounds of an orphanage, families are welcome to participate in the mission trips. While physicians and clinicians are busy with surgery during the day, family members can play with the children, help teachers at the on-site schools, and even work on the on-site farm.

The SCA Community Service Foundation and the Hayek Family Foundation will provide the funding to set up and administer the program. The foundations will pay the on-site costs for teammates, including the costs of providing care. We ask that our teammates fundraise the cost of their travel, which we estimate will be approximately $800, as well as take PTO time for their trip. We will prioritize SCA teammate applications based on which facilities
have physicians who are participating. Physicians will cover their own costs, which includes their time, a donation of $1,000 (which covers their food/lodging, and the cost for three Honduran patients to receive surgery), and their travel expense.

A number of physicians have expressed interest in contributing to the program, and tax-deductible contributions can be made to the SCA Community Service Foundation.

There are direct flights from Houston (United Airlines), Atlanta (Delta Airlines), and Miami (American Airlines) to Tegucigalpa, and program staff would meet you at the airport and transport you directly to the orphanage, then take you back to the airport at the end of the week. The drive is approximately 40 minutes on a paved highway, and the orphanage is gated and has a 24/7 security guard. The director of NPH estimates that over the past dozen years, they have had more than 2,000 visitors from the United States, and they have not had a single safety incident. Dr. Daly can also provide more color if this is an area of concern, given that he has been traveling there regularly for more than ten years, often with his family.

Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to visit the orphanage and the surgery center, along with two other SCA teammates, Dr. Daly and his wife Lulu. We have copied photographs from the visit on the following pages to give you a better sense for the surgery center and orphanage.

I hope that you will consider participating on a medical mission trip. During my trip, I had the opportunity to speak with several surgeons and clinicians who were completing a one-week trip, and their feedback was extremely positive regarding the experience. I would also encourage you to reach out directly to Dr. Daly for more context, including from a surgeon’s perspective.

We are grateful for your dedication to outstanding patient care and for your support, and I look forward to seeing you on an upcoming mission trip.

Warm regards,

Andrew

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Grounds of NPH Honduras Orphanage

President of NPH International, Reinhart Koehler (right)
National Director, NPH Honduras, Stefan Feuerstein
Holy Family Surgery Center

Dr. Peter and Lulu Daly
Carpal Tunnel Surgery

ACL Surgery
Medical team dinner and fellowship on the last night before departing for home
Merlin (on left) and Osman (on right) Antunez are brothers who were the first orphans to live at the NPH home. Merlin is the on-site orthopedic surgeon previously mentioned, and Osman is an electrical engineer who built the surgery center and helps manage the orphanage.

I encourage you to research the surgery center, as well as NPH. They are both wonderful entities associated with giving people who have a passion for serving.

You can access more information regarding NPH at: www.nph.org

You can learn more about Holy Family Surgery Center at:
www.holyfamilysurgerycenter.org

You can learn more about Dr. Daly at: http://www.summitortho.com/provider/peter-daly

And, you can contact him directly at:

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Please see the application accompanying this letter. Over the next 90 days, we will be accepting applications for the 2015 trips and making decisions on dates of travel.

If you are interested in joining one of the 2015 trips, click on the following link to submit an online application: http://fs30.formsite.com/LisaByrd/form1/index.html. Please submit your application no later than November 30th.