



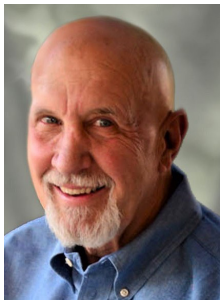
**Clínica
Amistad**

A Project of Amistad y Salud
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

NEWS

OCTOBER 2023

Letter from the President



As you may know by now, Clínica Amistad recently lost the last of our founding members still active in the clinic. On September 19th, Father “Padre” Ricardo Elford passed away and joined his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the arms of the Holy Father.

His lifelong desire to be of service to others was a driving force at the clinic and it will be missed. He did not let religious affiliation restrict his activities. Anywhere there were people in need chances were pretty good you would find Father Ricardo in the crowd. After a life well lived, rest in peace.

Nevertheless, the business of the clinic goes on. We continue to see more and more patients, and we anticipate this need will continue. We are financially sound and continue to benefit from the generosity of several large donors. For them we are grateful. Yet the true foundation of our financial strength remains, as it always has, with small donations from individuals like you and me. Regardless of the amount, it is most welcome and money that will be spent to ease the suffering of those less fortunate than us. We are an organization that depends on the generosity of others to do the work that we do, and for that generosity we are eternally grateful. Thank you for your support. As the need grows your help will be even more critical allowing us to continue the legacy of Father Ricardo Elford.

Thank you in advance for your support that allows us to continue the legacy of Father Ricardo Elford.

Brian Bickel
President of the Board
Amistad y Salud

From our Clinic Manager Hector Rico

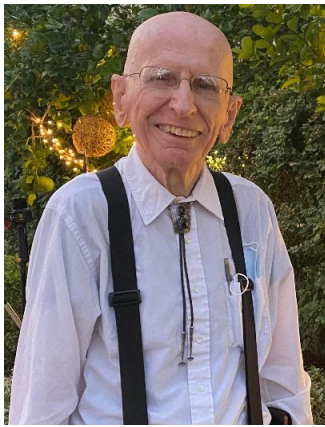


Hello! I hope this message finds you in good health. Welcome to this month’s Clínica Amistad newsletter. I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support and commitment to Clínica Amistad. My first few months as Clinic Manager have been nothing short of inspiring and rewarding. What makes this experience truly special is the incredible team of volunteers I have the privilege to work with. The commitment, compassion, and tireless efforts of our staff and volunteers are truly commendable. It’s their hard work and dedication to our patients that makes our clinic a place of hope and healing.

This month we welcomed in a new diverse cohort of volunteer staff and providers to the Clínica Amistad family. We also implemented new medical equipment in the clinic which has improved the quality of care we provide our patients. This includes state of the art ultrasound machines, EKG machine, autoclave, and new vital sign monitor stands to name a few. These recent advancements reflect our commitment to our vision which is to operate an innovative health center that improves and maintains the health and well-being of the most vulnerable members of our community.

I would like to reiterate our appreciation for your invaluable support. Your contributions are truly changing lives. As we move forward, we are excited about the potential for continued growth and the positive changes we can bring to our patient population. We are excited about the future and are grateful to have you by our side as we strive to make a difference in our community.

REMEMBERING Father Ricardo



On September 19th, our Clínica Amistad family said goodbye to Co-Founder, Hugh Richard Elford. Known as “Padre” or “Father Ricardo”, he was the heart and soul of our clinic and a champion to our patients as he worked tirelessly to serve the healthcare needs of our community.

In 2003, with Dr. Evan Kligman and Susan Gallegos, Clínica Amistad was started to help those in the community with no healthcare coverage and in need of medical attention. This was consistent with his concern to address unmet needs and his desire to help the underserved. Founder Evan Kligman stated, “I met Ricardo in 2001, when I entered Seminary in Tucson, and he was a key faculty teacher. He had the “biggest heart” of any human I have ever known on this earth, figuratively speaking! Ricardo and his Spirit will remain the “heart” of Clínica Amistad. I think Ricardo felt that Clínica was the most meaningful and important responsibility and spiritual “work” he had ever done. We are all blessed to have known Ricardo.”



Father Ricardo was a fierce but gentle warrior and compassionate soul that was deeply committed to social justice and a champion of our efforts to serve the healthcare needs of the underserved in our community. Dr. Rick Graap worked side by side with Padre for over a decade, “It was my great privilege to work with him during hundreds of clinic sessions. He was the very best in all ways that one would ever find in a human being. ”

Padre was industrious, a “fixer” and “facilitator” who found solutions to the many problems that we presented to him. With relatives over the border, crises in healthcare needs, financial and legal difficulties; he usually found some approach to ease the problem. Padre had a purpose to help others no matter what; he lived his truth and his purpose.

Fr. Ricardo is fondly remembered by all volunteers and staff, who provide or have provided support and healthcare to the people that Padre was called to help. It is through Padre’s indirect influence that moves many of us to continue to serve our uninsured community.

As Dr. Kligman reminds us, “In many ways he was blessed to have our volunteers, staff, and Board members working together to develop, evolve, nurture, and sustain Clínica for over 20 years, and “still” counting. Along with our volunteers, staff, and Board, Father Ricardo has played a critically important role in stabilizing, growing, and evolving Clínica into the “top tier” of free clinics in the US.”

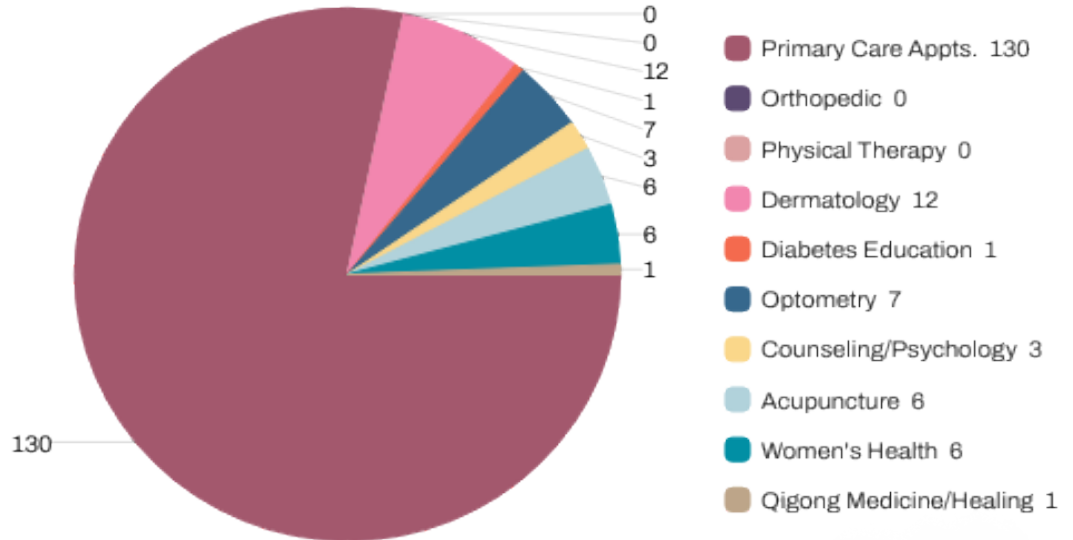


HOW YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

MONTHLY RECAP

In the month of September we saw 173 patients. There were 20 licensed healthcare providers providing 145 total licensed hours at the clinic. A total of 469 volunteer hours included the licensed providers in addition to 39 students in various healthcare fields at the University of Arizona and Pima Community College.

NUMBER OF PATIENTS SEEN BY SPECIALTY (September 2023)



HOW YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT OUR MISSION:

To provide free primary health care, preventative services, and education to those in need and without access to health care throughout the greater Tucson area.

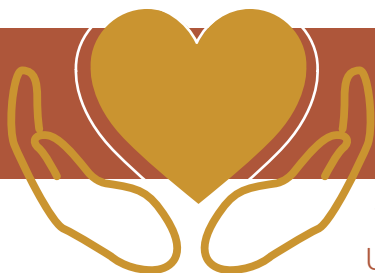
- **Donate through the website.** clínicaamistad.org/donate. It's fast and easy.
- **Write a check.** Send your contribution to: Clínica Amistad, PO Box 27284, Tucson, AZ 85726.
- **Make a tax credit donation.** Your donation can reduce your tax bill or increase your refund DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR, through the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit. Unlike deductions, which reduce a person's taxable income, credits are dollar-for-dollar reductions in tax liability: For every dollar in credits that you take, your tax bill drops by a dollar, up to \$800 per couple or \$400 for individuals.
- **Planned Giving.** Make a lasting gift of support.
 - Estate Gift**- name Amistad y Salud as a beneficiary of your will.
 - Donor Advised Funds**- direct your Donor Advised Fund to make a donation to Amistad y Salud.
- **Matching Gifts.** Some businesses and organizations will match charitable contributions made by their employees. Double your impact by checking with your employer today.
- **Tribute Giving.** Did you know that you can make a donation to Clínica Amistad, a Project of Amistad y Salud "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone special? Tribute Giving is a thoughtful way to recognize, remember, honor, and celebrate people and events that are important to you by giving back to your community in their name and we will send a personalized note to the individual you want to recognize.

When you click on www.clinicaamistad.org/donate you can provide health care, comfort and hope to your neighbors that need it most.

For more details on how to make a donation, contact Nicole at (520) 237-5075.

Clínica Amistad is a non-profit 503(c)3 organization. Our Federal tax ID number is 75-3060875. Our AZ CQO number is 20284.

WE



OUR VOLUNTEERS!

THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND COMMITMENT MEAN THE WORLD TO US! TOGETHER, WE'RE EXCITED TO EMBARK ON OUR MISSION TO ENHANCE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY!

On September 28th we welcomed back our student volunteers.



(L-R) Nicole Glasner, Executive Director; Hector Rico, Clinic Manager and Ycied, Assistant Manager



Clínica Amistad's new volunteer orientation!

We're thrilled to introduce our newest volunteers to our clinic space this semester.



Each volunteer has a chance to make a difference in the quality of care provided to some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

We are always looking for new volunteers please reach out to exec@clinicaamistad.org to learn more.

- Licensed medical professionals
- Aspiring health professionals
- Committee members
- Medical records
- Administrative



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GO DIGITAL

Continuing to Go Digital In our continuing effort to conserve energy and resources, Clínica Amistad is trying to go as digital as possible. Therefore, if you are currently receiving this newsletter by U.S. Mail and would like to receive it via email; or if you have any recent changes to your mail or email address, please contact us by email: exec@clinicaamistad.org

CLÍNICA AMISTAD El Pueblo Neighborhood Center, 101 W Irvington Road, Bldg 3-C, Tucson, AZ 85714

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL 520-305-5107 • Fax: 520-300-8468 • ALL CORRESPONDENCE PO Box 27284, Tucson, AZ 85726-7284

HOURS OF OPERATION Wednesday & Thursday: 5-9pm • First Saturday of Every Month: 10am-2pm

Manager@clinicaamistad.org • www.clinicaamistad.org • *Se habla español*



2ND ANNUAL
**DIA DE LOS
MUERTOS**
COMMUNITY ALTAR

Dedicated - Dedicado a el Father Ricardo Elford

Join us to build a community altar to commemorate Dia de Muertos in our barrios!

¡Únase con nosotros para construir un altar comunitario para celebrar El Día de Muertos!

Wednesday, November 1st, 5:30 - 7:30pm
El Pueblo Neighborhood Center Courtyard, 101 W Irvington Rd

Free and open to the public! ¡Gratis y abierto al público!

Everyone is welcome to bring pictures to add to the altar.
Todos están invitados a traer fotos para el altar

Please bring **ONLY photocopies of pictures**
Por favor traiga **SOLO copias de fotos**, no originales

Snacks, Music and Dance
Dia de Muertos dress is Encouraged

