

## A Changed Perspective

This year started off with a trip to Palomas, Mexico in January. CHIA was able to take many people from Keller Williams Realty along with a few others on a company mission trip. The trip was a huge success in all aspects.

Stoney Grimes of Frisco, TX said *"The Palomas Mission trip was my first. I had no ideal what to expect."* Many of them had never been on a mission trip, but jumped right in with a servants heart. Stoney went on to say *"The cool part is, while you feel you are helping them out a lot, you feel that it helped you even more."* David Osborn of Austin, TX added *"It was a life-changing experience that brought perspective, gratitude and servant leadership home to your heart."*

Bob and Diane Peterson of Memphis TN Keller Williams joined as well and said *"it was a chance to empty out all the stuff and make room for God's gracious spirit."*

Additionally, CHIA had trips out to Aresiachi, Juarez and Santa Elena, Mexico in March and April. Wendell Hall of Orange Park, FL lead a large team of architects and builders to build an outside food pantry and storage building in Sta Elena. This was a huge undertaking and they were able to complete it within one action packed week. Chance Mace of Warsaw, VA lead a team of adults and teenagers in a successful work/medical clinic in Juarez and Palomas.

Most recently, CHIA had another Women's Retreat into Juarez, Mexico. At the shelter, the group pampered the women with manicures and provided medical care. The next day the group setup a medical/dental clinic in a new church being established in the Juarez village. Dawn Robinson of Flower Mound, TX summed up the trip by saying *"It's hard to explain what an impact something like this has on your life (and your priorities)."*



*Group shot of the January 2007 trip to Palomas.*



*CHIA Missionaries from Florida, lead by Wendell Hall, built a food and storage shelter for the people in Santa Elena.*



*Group shot from the third Women's Retreat back in April.*

*The mission of Christian Hands in Action is to touch the world with gifted hands and change hearts with the soul-saving message of Jesus Christ.*

# CHIA Update

Dear Friends of CHIA, Not to my surprise, our Lord has kept CHIA busy from the start of the new year. We had a great trip to Palomas to start the year off and have recently completed our third Women's Retreat to Juarez. I have been able to attend most of the trips thus far this year. Aresiachi was great to see again. It happens to be the village that I went to on my first CHIA mission trip 9 years ago. It was nice to see that the village is coming along and the church is growing (even has electricity now!). From that site I went on a local bus to Creel/Sta Elena to join Wendell Hall's group from Florida. I have to say that was an interesting ride. I was the only one on the bus from the US and was the only one that didn't know Spanish. It has become my personal goal for 2007 to learn how to truly communicate in Spanish (kind of important to know in this role!).

I must say that it was great to work with the group from Florida for a couple of days. That was a jam packed week of work for them. What a hard working group! The food and storage building is something that was in great need for Sta Elena. As many of you know, 16 years ago CHIA started work on the school in Sta Elena. It was completed 3 years ago and many children have been attending school there. One of the down falls that kept happening to CHIA was that we were not there on-site to run the facility nor could we check on it regularly. Months ago the United Methodist Church along with Hershel & Elaine Anderson approached CHIA and asked to purchase Sta Elena. This offer was something we had been praying about. We were praying not about the monetary offer but more about who would take over the operations. We did not want to turn over the operations to just anyone. Hundreds of people have poured their hearts and time into Sta Elena and this is something that we have never taken for granted.



*Paraleptic man travels miles to come to the CHIA Medical Clinic at the local Aresiachi Church.*

Our Lord is a great God and it was with great excitement that we transferred ownership of Sta Elena over to the UMC and the Andersons. Under their guidance and leadership we know that Sta Elena will continue to be a blessing to all the surrounding villages. Additionally, CHIA will continue to support Sta Elena with medical missions and work camps each year.

**Blessings,  
Mike Richardson  
Executive Director**

## My Contact Information

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*Executive Director, Mike Richardson, learning how to lay brick while working in Santa Elena, Mexico*

## A Note from The Doctors....

CHIA's work continues to be an inspiration to all of us involved in the work as well as, to those who go on missions. Spring time is always one of the busiest periods for teams, and this year has been no exception. During just the last month, we've seen a flurry of activities:

Rev. Chance Mace from Virginia brought ten of his church's members to El Paso for what best is described as a "multifaceted mission experience"—a CHIA specialty! The team spent the first three days at the "CHIA Hotel—Sherman's house" while they went over to Youth With A Vision's ministry in Juarez. Under the supervision of Bro. Compean their director, they finished the interior walls of some of the buildings on the compound. They then took a day and with David Rico—out of retirement for a few days—toured northern Chihuahua including the Tudor orphanage at Constitucion. They arrived at Palomas late in the day and participated in a medical/dental mission at the Nazarene mission church the following day. After cleaning up the grounds around the church, moving two big piles of sand and gravel to provide better parking, and getting to know the new pastor, Roberto, they returned to El Paso to spend their last night at the CHIA Hotel. Before packing up and heading to the airport, they managed to pack up a small mountain of supplies to be shipped to Peru and wax the van and truck! We're looking forward to their return again next year. On April 19th a group of eight women from the north Dallas area came to El Paso to join Susie Sherman, Bonnie

Berkel, Bonnie Eaton, Sara Solis DDS, and Mini Soriano DDS for the bi-annual women's mission/retreat; they were joined by one husband, John Sherman, and David Rico. One afternoon was spent at the Women's Center near Zaragoza where a medical/dental clinic was run in conjunction with a "salon team" who did manicures, and gave out clothes, hand outs etc. The next day was spent doing a medical/dental mission at a new Nazarene outreach in Anapra right across the river from El Paso. The new pastor took the opportu-

vide us optometrists on most, if not all, of our future missions. Please keep this major change in your prayers and continue to pray for the CHIA staff including Mini who is due to deliver her first child May 9.

**John M Sherman MD**  
**Medical Director**



*Mini & Sara hard at work providing dental care*

nity of meeting and greeting the 100+ patients who came for treatment; taking their names and addresses, he will be making home visits to invite them to the church. We praise the Lord for the work He is about to do in that very needy area of Juarez. All in all, it's been a great month. CHIA will be moving its optical department to Tulsa OK where Dr. John Saurino will be overseeing that aspect of the program. Not only will this be great help to the ministry, we pray John's working with the local optometry school will pro-

Things have been different as the Dental Director and Mexico Liaison Director during the past 8 month. This was not just because my pregnancy but because the way God has blessed us with so much work in mission trips. This has been great since we had the opportunity to spread the word of God in each trip. Over the last few months Ed and I have been asking for wisdom in my future with CHIA. Our new born daughter is going to be a great challenge to oversee with all the mission trips. However, as I have always said, God has HIS plans for us so HIS will be done in our lives. That's why Sara Solis DDS is helping us in the field now. She wants to serve and I need her help! Every trip she gets more and more involved and we're a great team together. Let's keep praying for her so she can be able to continue hearing God's voice and serving HIM.

**Mini Conde Soriano DDS**  
**Dental Director**



## We Need Your Email Address

CHIA has been doing Email Newsletters for the past few months. This is a great way to stay in touch at an inexpensive way. Please go to our website and enter your email address. ([www.chiamissions.org](http://www.chiamissions.org))





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*David Rico checks patients in while at Palomas in January*



*CHIA Missionary, Amy Milner, loving on some children*

## Upcoming CHIA Mission Opportunities

6/21/2007	Family Mission Trip	Med/Dent/Opto	Journey 1
7/5/2007	Open for Work Camps	Med/Dent/Opto	Journey 1
8/16/2007	Palomas	Med/Dent/Opto	Journey 1
9/13/2007	Creel St. Elena	Med/Dent/Opto	Journey 2
10/18/2007	Juan Mendoza	Med/Dent/Opto	Journey 2
11/8/2007	Constitucion	Med/Den/Opto	Journey 1

Christian Hands in Action has many trips remaining in the second half of 2007. Try to make plans on joining us on one of the great mission opportunities. We are looking to make a "Family Mission Trip on June 21st!!!! If you are interested in any of these please call (214) 682-3992 or visit ([www.chiamissions.org](http://www.chiamissions.org))

**Journey 1:** These sites are closer and are less physically challenging. Accommodations are better than most. This journey is best for families or those that are reluctant about mission trips.

**Journey 2:** These sites are further out and are more physically challenging. Accommodations are similar to camping. This journey is best for those that have been on a mission trip and understand third-world living.