

# GG# 1977580

## Cleft Lip and Palate Training Missions, Merida, Mexico

Host: **Rotary Club Merida**

International Sponsor: **Rotary Club of Winter Park**

Primary Contact: Jeffrey Blydenburgh, Winter Park Rotary

Area of Focus: **Maternal and Child Health**

**Project Overview:** Our immediate objective is to perform up to 150 cleft lip and palate surgeries on disadvantaged children in Mérida, Yucatan, Mexico. We will send four surgical teams, one each year, to Hospital Agustín O'Horan in Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. This is a public hospital that serves the very poorest citizens in the community. We will work alongside in-country professionals.

**Budget:** \$104,361 (each trip is approximately \$25-\$28K)

**Funding:** 20 clubs from District 6980, one club from 6890, one from 6970 and one from 6960.



**Immediate Impact:** during the first surgical week, 67 patients received operations, for a total of 108 procedures (some patients had multiple procedures)

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### Project Detail:

Our teams, comprised of volunteer U.S. medical personnel recruited by AdventHealth Sharing Smiles, will work with the local Mexican medical personnel to screen patients and perform surgeries on children with cleft lip and/or palates.

The vocational training will help develop each of the disciplines that are required in a cleft lip and palate clinic. The disciplines include plastic surgery, speech therapy, pediatric anesthesiology, pediatric recovery room nursing and operating room nursing.



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## Cleft Lip and Palate Training Missions, Merida, Mexico

### Project Detail:

Our long-term objective is to promote a multi-disciplinary cleft lip and palate clinic, which will continue year round. The clinic will not only perform the initial surgery on each child, but continue follow-up care and services, which may include additional surgery, speech therapy, nutritionist, dentist, social worker, psychologist, and orthodontist specialties.

