

Brighten Someone's Vision of Serving, in 2020

This scenario often presents itself: Someone travels to Guatemala for the first time alone. They join a trip to use their talents, to serve and to learn more about Health Talents International. During the week they are a blessing to the patients and they in return, are blessed more than they ever had imagined. They return home, remembering the smiles and hugs from the patients. This creates the desire to return and to share the experience with others. Does this sound familiar to you?

This resolution is not difficult. Share your experience of Guatemala and HTI with someone and see if they might be interested in joining you on your next visit. Plant that seed! There are many people who would like to serve and minister to others, but are not sure where to begin. Were you thankful when someone asked you to participate with a team? This is where you become the catalyst! Share your story. Share your photos. Share the thankfulness that was expressed to you, by your patients.

Remember the excitement and thrill before a trip? While you are packing your suitcase, you think of those you served in the past clinics. You check the team list to see how many people you know! You look forward to the new friendships. You reflect on our worship time and you want to participate again! You locate and promise yourself that you will remember where your passport is. You review, or think about reviewing, your Medical Spanish book. This gift of enthusiasm and anticipation, you can share with others!

This is the challenge: Be the light, to brighten the week of a new volunteer with Health Talents International this year. The results will be immeasurable.

Assist someone in using their talents, just as you did on your first trip. Be the support to someone who is a little unsure or nervous. Once we are all together, the team is cultivated and everyone has a contribution. The time passes so quickly and shortly we arrive at the end of the week and we are planning for the next visit.

While we serve in a physical manner, we never want to disregard the spiritual and emotional needs of our patients. Brighten someone's week by allowing them to pray with a patient. Encourage them to be the ears and the smile that so many people need. Volunteers can provide shoulders and hugs...and sometimes, it may be another team member that has a need. Let us serve together, not only the Guatemalans but also serve each other.

Remembering the words of Paul in Acts 20:35: "In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (NRSV)

In 2020, we look forward to serving with you and also meeting new friends. Take on this resolution with us. If you have any questions, please let us know. We too, want to brighten a week of a new HTI Volunteer.