

Medical Mission Trip to Nicaragua – April 2011

Natural Doctors International



Dear Family and Friends,

Tax ID# EIN 20-0621140

Some of you may know that I am attending medical school to become a naturopathic doctor. Naturopathic medicine is a distinct system of primary health care – an art, science, philosophy and practice of diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of illness. Because it is a young profession, the international volunteer opportunities for naturopaths have been limited until recently.

An opportunity has arisen which I would like to share with you. I have been accepted to travel to Nicaragua on a Natural Doctors International medical brigade to participate in naturopathic medical outreach clinics and learn about how global economic policies impact healthcare in developing countries. Natural Doctors International (NDI) is a 501c3 grassroots medical outreach organization committed to global health. Since 2003, they have helped 13,000 patients by providing free naturopathic medical care to at-need international communities.

One of the most important things that NDI does to educate people in North America about what is happening in healthcare on a global level is to organize medical delegations so students and doctors can experience health disparity first hand. During the delegation to Nicaragua, we will live with local women and families and serve the local subsistence farmer community. We will be serving the community there for 10 days through the medical clinic and various work projects. As a licensed physician, I will have the opportunity to use my various treatments such as manual manipulation, nutritional supplementation, botanical medicines, homeopathy, etc. to help these people gain in their health and wellness.

Friends and family have asked how safe is Nicaragua, exactly? Well, in short, NDI began in 2003 working with the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health to create a sustainable and sanctioned organization that could be for the long-term benefit of the Nicaraguans. With long-term sustainability, naturopathic physicians could also do one-year internships to fulfill their clinical graduation requirements. The Nicaraguan government is appreciative of our involvement and continues to support what we do in their country.

To learn more about how naturopathic physicians and other volunteers are safely incorporated into the health system of Nicaragua, please visit:

<http://www.ndimed.org/api/Index.cfm/cms.page/i/1946/t/Clinic.htm> for more information.

Ph: (708) 268-5889

200 East Roosevelt Road #50 Lombard, IL 60148

drsimpson_1@hotmail.com www.drdereksimpson.com drdereksimpson.wordpress.com

Medical Mission Trip to Nicaragua – April 2011

Natural Doctors International

NDI is a non-profit organization, so all of their revenue comes from fundraising. They ask that all participants fundraise for the medical brigade, so that you can also contribute to global healthcare and peace in Latin America. Accordingly, I am asking for donations from my family, friends, and colleagues to make this opportunity a reality. The cost of the delegation is \$1300 and \$700 for airfare. I know that most of us face delicate financial situations, so *any amount* that you can afford to give would be greatly appreciated to help make this dream come true.

I have asked family and friends that if I could get 200 people to give \$10, I would easily be able to go this trip. Though, in *two short weeks* by **December 12th**, I will need to have raised **\$400** to be even *considered* for this trip. I put it in the hands of God to lead me on this extraordinary adventure.

You can donate to me online at <http://www.firstgiving.com/dereksimpson26> (*where credit cards are accepted and a tax-deductible form is available*), write a check to NDI (*noted as “scholarship support BR#25 Derek Simpson”*) for the delegation fees or write a check directly to me for airfare. (*Checks to NDI are tax deductible.*) It is easiest to make a donation on the website and can be anonymous if you so choose. Please send all donations directly to me as soon as possible so I can forward them to NDI. Upon my return, I will write a follow-up letter to let you know how your generosity was put to good use!

Thank you in advance for any help you can give. I will be blogging at *wordpress.com* on my journey through this process. Check out the wordpress website address below if you are interested. Please feel free to call, email, or text me with any questions.

In peace and global health,

Dr. Derek Simpson, B.S., D.C., P.A.K.