

PARTNERS FOR A GREATER VOICE

*A 501(C)3
ORGANIZATION*

Points of Interest:

- Centro Cristiano de Servicios Medicos (CCSM) is the umbrella organization for Hospital Elias Santana that services low resource communities in the Dominican Republic.
- Hospital Elias Santana helps hundreds of persons with hearing and vision loss each month. Doctors travel from all over the world to work there.
- In April of 2012, Partners for A Greater Voice completed a United States training experience for one audio-technician from Elias Santana. His interest in oral habilitation and parent support inspired the construction of a Hearing and Speech Center.
- The Hearing and Speech Center was made possible by generous donations made in memory of Marie and Donald N. Senecal, Sr, parents of Joanne Travers.
- Partners for A Greater Voice first traveled in 2012 to plan construction and discuss a strategy for a sustainable Hearing and Speech Center.
- Partners for A Greater Voice gave a full day ABR training workshop to medical professionals in September, 2011.
- Donna Carkeet, Humanitarian and Audiologist from Australia, started an audiology clinic in 2005 and created an audiology training course there.
- Members of the Lions Club of Ipswich donated hearing aids to this cause.
- The therapy room and adjacent resource office were completed in April 2013.

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Partners for A Greater Voice Collaborates with Centro Cristiano de Servicios Médicos, Inc.

Expandiendo el mundo de un niño sordo o con problemas de audición ©

2013



A seminar on Hearing Loss and Auditory Development was held on April 3, 2013 at CCSM. More than forty general education teachers participated. The seminar was led by Joanne Travers with support from Marianne Watson, MED, from San Diego California, and clinicians Misael and Genesis.



Genesis and Misael, Audio Technicians at CCSM Audiology Clinic, hold donated hearing aids from Partners for A Greater Voice. The organization gave more than fifty digital aids, an ear wax removal system, and a hearing aid analyzer at no charge.

Therapy Room is Open for Service

Partners for A Greater Voice (PGV) and Centro Cristiano de Servicios Médicos (CCSM) have collaborated since 2011, and they opened the Department of Hearing and Speech in the Spring of 2013. It is located at Hospital Elias Santana in the Dominican Republic. An acoustically modified therapy room was constructed and equipped with therapy materials for developing listening and spoken language. Therapy sessions involve language, literacy and parent education for deaf and hard of hearing children.

Habilitation services, hearing aids, and education programs in listening and spoken language for the deaf are scarce in the Dominican Republic. For

the first time, CCSM can offer habilitation at their new hearing and speech center. Therapy is given by one of PGV's trained specialists who is from the Dominican Republic.

Partners for A Greater Voice continues to consult, educate and support the Department of Hearing and Speech. Workshops develop an understanding of hearing loss, listening and spoken language, literacy, and a variety of hearing health topics. The organization also works with CCSM staff to foster meaningful parent meetings, which support, engage, and educate families and caregivers on hearing loss, learning to listen, advocacy, technology.



Therapy room completed April 5, 2013

Our goal is to create value in our giving, so we ask families to participate by paying a portion of the cost of a child's weekly sessions. Donate to our Give the Gift of Hearing program and help a child. A \$150 donation gives a child listening and spoken language therapy. Donate \$200 and receive a limited edition, pastel print as our thank you for supporting a child.

Your gift matters!

For further information on how you can partner with us, contact Joanne at Partners for A Greater Voice, 978.312.1200 or greatervoice@comcast.net