



# JOINT CD BULLETIN

## Clínica Esperanza SOS AIDS Program Needs Good Samaritans

December 15, 2010

**A Newsletter of the Companion Diocese and missional relationships with the Diocese of the Dominican Republic: the Dioceses of the Central Gulf Coast, Georgia, Southeast Florida, Southwest Florida, Western Louisiana, South Carolina, Quincy, Southern Virginia, Virginia, and others.**

*(Editor's note: Bishop Holguín called me yesterday morning requesting that I send out an "SOS for Good Samaritans" to help with a desperate need.)*



### Clínica Esperanza AIDS Program in Dire Need

Clínica Esperanza y Caridad's Program AIDS is in a dire situation. The Clinton Foundation has provided for staff salaries for years. Two years ago, by international treaty, the Dominican Government committed itself to take over their support. However, it has been unable to do so. Now, two years later and above and beyond its original commitment, the Clinton

Foundation's funding ends December 31<sup>st</sup>. There is plenty of international assistance for medications but little for staff support to administer them. That is where the crunch is.

The staff at Clínica Esperanza, a doctor, a nurse, a psychologist, and a lab technician, provides services for more than 360 HIV patients (including 11 children) and more than 2,000 total beneficiaries counting family, orphans, and children of parent who have AIDS. Missionary doctor Michael Dohn says the value of their work amounts to around \$1.0 million a year – given the salaries of the staff an incredible value added.



Staff salaries, plus some limited operational expenses, come to \$56,000 a year. Bishop Holguín is asking **persons of good will**, i.e., **Good Samaritans** to contribute \$14,000 for the first quarter of 2011 so as to give Clínica Esperanza breathing room to find alternatives.



*AIDS Program Staff*

To help with this need please send your contributions to the Dominican Development Group at the address below. Be sure to clearly mark that your contribution is for support of Clínica Esperanza's AIDS Program.

Here is a link to a short video with interviews about Clínica Esperanza's HIV/AIDS Program:



*The Clínica's Lab*

<http://www.youtube.com/user/DohnFamily?feature=mhum#p/u/0/FeTRGATjWJM>

Thank you and Merry Christmas. God bless you.

*(The Joint CD Bulletin is published by The Dominican Development Group, P.O. Box 661, Ellenton, FL 34222. For more information please contact Bob Stevens at the address above or at 941-776-1018 or [ddgstevens@aol.com](mailto:ddgstevens@aol.com).)*