

NEWSLETTER

Providing Health & Hope, One Child at a Time

HAPPY SUMMER!

I joined the HTCNJ Family in January as the new Executive Director, and I am grateful to be here. When I was applying for the role and learning about HTCNJ, I couldn't understand how one organization was able to help so many kids, both in the U.S. and abroad. Within weeks of joining the organization, I had the answer. It's the people who are drawn to HTCNJ that make it possible: our volunteers, our supporters, our office staff, and the entire HTCNJ family.

I'd like to thank everyone for the warm welcome and many thanks to those who have shared their HTCNJ stories with me. I have learned so much from all of you, and I see how the role each of you plays is critical to our ability to fulfill our mission.

I look forward to meeting more of you and working alongside our Board of Trustees, Denise, Tiffany, and the entire HTCNJ family to create brighter futures for the children in our care.

Tricia McNamara
Executive Director



Healing Smiles in Peru

In April, our medical volunteers completed a plastic and reconstructive surgical mission to Clinica Paz Holandesa in Arequipa, Peru. Led by doctors Sanjay Lalla, Randolph Wojcik, and trip administrator Ted Williams, team members from New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania came together for the week-long mission. Healing smiles and creating healthier futures for 38 young children, the team completed complicated cleft lip and cleft palate procedures on children as young as 4 months old. Families traveled for up to 2 days to receive care from our team. The team of 21 volunteers included surgeons, anesthesiologists, certified registered nurse anesthetists, a pediatrician, nurses, surgical technicians, a central sterile processing team, trip administrators, and a medical translator. Children born with cleft lip and cleft palate often experience feeding, speech, hearing, and dental issues, as well as social, emotional and psychological challenges. The gift of improved health these children receive as a result of the support from our volunteers, donors, and corporate sponsors is priceless.

"I have been waiting with great hope for this day. I am grateful for the clinic and volunteers for being able to fulfill what I wished for my daughter. I thank you with all my heart". Idelia, Mother of Emma Alexa (age 6 months)

UPCOMING MEDICAL TRIPS

September 2024
Dominican Republic
ENT

January 2025
Dominican Republic
Orthopedic

April 2025
Peru
Plastic & Reconstructive

BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR NEW JERSEY KIDS

Our Domestic Aid Brighter Futures NJ program provides assistance to children throughout New Jersey who have complex medical diagnoses and developmental disabilities. As the majority of families in our program are low-income, the opportunity for a child to receive therapy equipment, an adapted toy, or attend a camp or class tailored to their individual needs can be a significant gift. Thanks to generous donations from our friends, as well as Foundation and Corporate partners, we are able to provide brighter futures, and smiles for children in our local communities.



Liam enjoys showing off his weighted sensory vest provided by donations to our program. Diagnosed with Autism, Liam's therapist suggested he use a weighted vest and weighted lap pad to help increase his focus, concentration, and self-regulation.



Grayson enjoys keeping busy with his busy board and other therapy toys provided by HTCNJ. These toys incorporate the skills Grayson is learning during the week in his early intervention program into his play-time at home.



Thanks to your generosity, Jayleen is enjoying jumping on her new trampoline. Diagnosed with developmental delays, Jayleen is working with her occupational therapist on strengthening her core and legs to develop her gross motor skills. Every bounce brings her closer to her goal!

"With the assistance of HTCNJ, these families are able to focus on not only caring for their child, but also on paying other bills. This assistance has been invaluable to our families as they navigate life with a child with special needs"
Lara DiNatale-Passaic County SCHS/Case Manager

Peru's Tiniest Warrior

Young Daniella's journey began 51 days before our team arrived in Arequipa. She was admitted to Clinica Paz Holandesa for 2 months of nasal tube feedings to increase her weight and strength in preparation for surgery. Previously declined by other surgeons due to the complexity of her case, Daniella's case caught the attention of our team and Clinic Director Marjan van Mourik, and she was added to our patient list. Daniella's surgery was a success. When her mother first saw Daniella post-surgery, she was at a loss for words. "She put her hands over her mouth and just cried," as Dr. Wojcik recalls.



"Being a part of the team that was able to help Daniella was a truly special, humbling, and rewarding experience that will always hold a special place in

my heart. It is something I will never forget." Many thanks to our team of volunteers that rose to the challenge of providing a healthier future for Daniella.



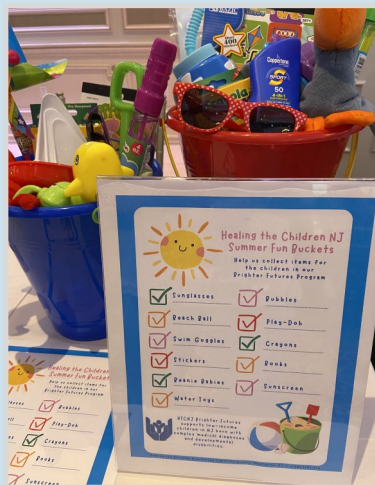
Thank you to our friends that joined us at our **Summer Social** events in May and June. In July we will be gathering in Englewood. **Hope you can join us.**



Friday, July 12th
5-7 pm
Lulu Lounge
63 Nathaniel Place
Englewood, NJ



Thank you to **Bergen Magazine** for selecting HTCNJ as a charity partner for the Bergen Women's Health Experience event in May and helping us spread the word about our work and volunteer opportunities with your attendees.



Thank you to **Blue Foundry Bank** in Ridgewood and Glen Rock for helping us gather items for our Summer Fun Buckets to be shared with the kids in our Brighter Futures NJ Program.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 PARTNERS:



Marjorie Bunnell
Charitable Fund



DID YOU KNOW? Serving as a mobile surgical hospital, our medical mission trip volunteers travel with everything needed to outfit two operating rooms and sustain one week of surgeries in each host country.



Tiffany Patino, Coordinator of our Medical Teams Abroad Program, works with humanitarian partners to secure donations and purchase needed supplies and medicines at reduced prices. Thank you to our humanitarian partners, MedWish, Globus Relief, and MAP International.



"Acquiring donated surgical and anesthesia supplies and medications is critical for HTCNJ to continue to uphold our mission of providing health and hope to underserved children around the world."
Debbie Dunn, Trustee, HTCNJ

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www.htcnj.org



SAVE THE DATE

Health &
H  **PE**

CELEBRATION



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024
12:30PM

The Park Avenue Club | Florham Park, NJ

Join Us in Honoring

Don Connell, CRNA & Peggy Connell, RN

Debra Dunn, RN, CNOR

Dr. Mark Engel & Isabel Kentengian, PhD

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