

## REPORT FROM THE CLINIC IN CHOCRUZ FOR THE YEAR 2020

At the beginning of 2020, we started our work full of good intentions and always with the goal of providing the best possible care to the patients who come to see us day after day.

In the first months of the year we received people with different health problems. When patients are in critical condition and cannot come to the clinic, we visit them at home to provide them with medical care and help them with what they need on the spot.



*Visiting patients in Chocruz*



*Brushing teeth with the children*

### **Workshops with children**

At the end of February, we had a workshop on dental care with the children of the FUNIGA school in the village. For this activity we could also count on the support of Anna, a German volunteer who visited the project. The clinic staff talked to the children about the importance of brushing their teeth and then practiced what they had learned. In several runs, a total of 200 children participated in the workshops.

### **Medical day in the clinic**

In the month of March, we had a health day where several volunteer doctors from the city of Xela came to help in our community. Most people in the village have limited economic resources, so we planned this event. During the day, different examinations were offered, including: general examination, prenatal examination, gynecological examination, pediatric examination, family planning, among others. In this activity, many patients were received and people were grateful for the attention and support they received: the examinations were free and for the medications the minimum was charged, while the people who really could not pay for their medications received them for free. That day, we could welcome 30 patients who received medical care. In cooperation with the association ALAS from Guatemala, we were also able to organize a lecture on family planning methods. The women were very interested in the topic and so we ended our day, which was a great success.



*The team for the health day*

## Corona complicated our work

When the pandemic started in our country, it was very complicated for us and we had to close the clinic for a few days. Since we saw the need of the people, we reopened after a few days. However, the situation was complicated because people no longer wanted to consult the clinic and other doctors for the reason that they were afraid that we would send them to the hospital with Covid-19 and they did not want to die in the hospital. Little by little, we made them understand that we will not send them to the hospital, and we will try to solve their medical problems.

## Family planning services

At the end of 2020, we coordinated a family planning day with the organization ALAS from Guatemala, which presented and applied the IUD. The introduction was made to two women, but they were the only ones interested in the method. It is a little complicated to talk about family planning in our community, because of religious beliefs and other justifications women are afraid of the methods. Many women use some method of family planning, but sometimes in secret because their husbands or mothers-in-law don't want them to. In our community and in our country, it is important and urgent for women to plan because there are many children who suffer from malnutrition because couples have several children but have little economic resources.

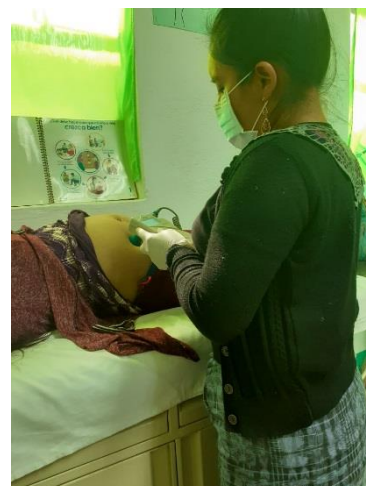


*Lecture about family planning*

## Digitalizing our work

During the pandemic, we also became even more aware of the importance of digitalization. The Internet connects us all over the world - as in our case in digital meetings where people from Germany and Guatemala work together. In addition, digital media has great potential to reach people and thus gain support. One vision we had before was to have our own website to present ourselves independently. We were able to realize this in 2020. With the support of a crowdfunding campaign at Recaudemos, we were able to finance the creation of a website. Now you can visit us at <http://www.clinica-chocruz.org/> in three languages (Spanish, English, German). To continue the goal of digitalizing our work, we recently launched a campaign to fund a new computer. If you want to support us in this project, go to <https://www.recaudemos.org/es/causes/437> .

And so we continued to work until the end of 2020 with the patients who came to see us and needed support. For 2021, our goal is to continue to help people in need and to receive donations and thus to be independent from the German association Mirador in the future.



*Prenatal examination with Paty*

## Some statistics

In 2020, we received 1,235 people. About 600 people came only to buy medicines. The remaining 600 took advantage of an examination, of which....

- 252 patients were charged only the minimum examination fee.
- 348 patients were not charged for the examination because they could not pay for it, but only for the medication.
- 35 people got donated their medication because they could not pay for it.



*Consultation with Dra Melissa*

## Thanks for your support!

All patients are very grateful for the care they receive, and we are also grateful to all donors, because through them it is possible to offer people services and medicines at an affordable price that takes into account their financial situation. For many of our patients it would not be possible to pay for these services at other doctors. Thanks to you, we are able to continue our work and help people in need.

We would like to ask you to support us also in the coming year with your donations through the Mirador association in Germany. With your donations you support us and our families financially and through us you help the people in need with medical care and donations of medicines for people who actually cannot afford medicines.

Greetings from the clinic. Paty and Amelia

If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to write to us at [clinica.mirador@gmail.com](mailto:clinica.mirador@gmail.com) (Spanish, English, German - we will provide translation if necessary).

And feel free to check out our website <http://www.clinica-chocruz.org/>!

some fotos from our everyday work in the clinic:

