



# OSSA

ORTHOPEDIC  
SOLUTIONS TO  
SURGICAL  
ACCESS INC.

[orthogiving.org](http://orthogiving.org)

Warm greetings this holiday season,

2022 has been a busy year for OSSA despite the uncertainty of the lingering pandemic. We now have a business entity in Guatemala — OSSA Soluciones, S.A., which gives our medical team the opportunity to provide appointments in our OSSA Medical Clinic and go on home visits for those unable to journey to our facility. We are able to offer some basic medical supplies and present courses, with any profits funding educational programs — providing much needed supplies to our first responder partners and offering patients with limited resources free health care.

You will see here some of the important OSSA accomplishments in 2022 — your donations have helped us greatly to expand our operations.

If you have made a contribution in the past we again thank you very much and if you are interested in donating this year we would be very appreciative. You can contribute on our website at [orthogiving.org](http://orthogiving.org) or send us a note in the mail at:

**OSSA**

9 Bruce Road  
Manchester, CT 06040

Thank you friends for taking the time to review this past year's activities and we thank you all for your generous support of OSSA over the years. Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season and a happy healthy New Year.

Geri and Barry Messinger

OSSA GUATEMALA





▶ JANUARY 2022

### OSSA MEDICAL CLINIC

▪ **OSSA Medical Clinic opens** with new members joining the OSSA team in San Marcos

**Dr. Jacky Ardeano** — Medical Specialist in Internal Medicine

**Dr. Guadalupe De León** — General Practitioner

**Dr. Linda Garcia** — Orthopedist and Clubfoot Specialist

*Dr. Garcia has a private practice in Comitancillo and has additional training in the treatment of Ponseti clubfoot. She will see patients at the OSSA Clinic on Fridays and Saturdays and coordinate Ponseti treatments and the use of the Iowa brace in San Marcos — as well as coordinate care with the Ponseti Committee of HNSM Trauma residents.*

**Dr. Shuliana Santos** — Gynecologist

*Dr. Santos assists in clinic operations, patient education, and CPR training*



*Top left, Dr. Linda Garcia and top right, Dr. Shuliana Santos; bottom left, Dr. Guadalupe De León; and right, Dr. Jacky Ardeano*

▪ **Our additional wonderful OSSA staff**



*Front row, Project Technician Walter Ardiano. Back row (from left) Biomedical Engineer Erick Garcia, staff members Edwina Ardiano and Wellington Ardiano, Business Administrator Miguel Aguilar.*



*Dr. Rodrigo Ramazzini and Dra. Linda Garcia in January 2022*

The specialist in orthopedic sports medicine, **Dr. Rodrigo Ramazzini**, visits the San Marcos OSSA Clinic from Guatemala City monthly to evaluate and treat patients, including surgery.



*Dr. Rudy Cano Fellowship Group*

*Mayor Willy, next to Dr. Tereta (white coat) with the OSSA group*



▪ **OSSA sponsors the Fellowship Training of two San Marcos doctors**

Dr. Romeo Tereta, Cardiology Fellowship at Roosevelt Hospital in Guatemala City and Dr. Rudy Cano, Orthopedic Foot/Ankle Fellow in Barcelona, Spain.





- Dr. Guadalupe De León gives lecture on CPR training, Airway Management, and the importance and use of AED on the Channel 4 television program *Firefighters in your Home*.



- Remodeling of training center facilities for OSSA CEMSE training (Center of Excellence for Medicine, Simulation, and Education).

▶ FEBRUARY 2022

- Dr. Linda Garcia presents education on clubfoot treatment/Ponseti, appearing on the television program of CANAL 4 San Marcos *Firefighters in Your Home*



- OSSA Donates a large number of blood pressure sleeves to San Marcos Volunteer Fire Department for distribution to other companies.







▪ **Review of video surgery equipment in OSSA facilities.**



▪ **Making videos about CPR and first aid with the support of volunteer firefighters of San Marcos.**

- **Talk given by Dr. Shuliana Santos on promotion and prevention of sexual and reproductive health** requested by the NGO Madre Tierra in Tacaná San Marcos, aimed at health personnel of the Permanent Care Center of Tacaná so that nurses from that center can guide adolescents on these issues.



▪ **Manchester, Connecticut Family Practice visits OSSA's operations in San Marcos, Guatemala.** Directed by the attending physician Dr. César Fuentes, resident physicians Drs. Kimberly Davis, Brendan McFall, and Camillo Ferrari, and medical students Amy

Hackman and Rakshana Selvarajan. Activities of the trip included the evaluation of patients at the OSSA Clinic in San Marcos and at the Linda García private clinic in Comitancillo. A tour of the Health Center of the Ministry of Health San Marcos, and a visit and evaluation of young residents in an orphanage of Canica San Marcos. Visitors assisted in FIFA pre-season physicals of the San Marcos Lions women's professional soccer team — including discussing women's health education with each player. Family Medicine researchers gave San Marcos volunteer firefighters a presentation on the ABCDE of emergency patient evaluation. There was also a dinner with HNSM Internal Medicine residents at Cotzic Restaurant that included presentations of interesting cases by both groups and their treating physicians. The Manchester group also visited the Quetzal Reserve Refuge and were lucky enough to see several of the colorful birds. The group ended their trip with a weekend in Antigua Guatemala, a beautiful UNESCO World Heritage site.



*At an orphanage of Canica San Marcos.*



*At the private clinic in Comitancillo.*





▪ **The first FIFA health screenings for the Marquense women's football team**, including women's health information provided to each player.



▪ **Dr. Ramazzini's weekend visit to the OSSA Clinic** included patient evaluations with three residents of HNSM Trauma/Orthopedic Residency Program.

► **MAY/JUNE 2022**



▪ **OSSA sponsored a series of conferences/workshops on the Ponseti clubfoot method** and training for orthopedists and resident physicians presented by Dr. Ana Zambrano, President of Ponseti International Guatemala, Dr. Linda Garcia, Drs. Zaenz, Lara, and Dr. Manuel Fuentes.

▪ **Talk with NGO Madre Tierra about triage in emergencies** given by Dr. Guadalupe de León to prepare members of that organization for eventualities that may happen due to natural disasters or other emergencies.







• **OSSA booth at the Foot/Ankle Trauma Conference** at Lake Panajachel Porto Hotel del Lago — the first major conference for OSSA, demonstrating quality medical and surgical products to sell. Connected with Xela, San Marcos and former resident trauma residency programs. Good opportunity for OSSA members to work together on a great product presentation, group together and have fun together on a boat trip on Lake Atitlán.



• Two **Podcasts made** with Farmacias Rogil:  
 - Dra. Guadalupe de León on her experience teaching CPR and Dr. Jackeleny Ardeano discussing her specialty — Internal Medicine/Diabetes Mellitus. They both discussed their services in the Ossa clinic.

- Dr. Barry Messinger on his experience and specialty in sports medicine as well as his services in the Ossa clinic.



• **Installation and testing of portable X-ray equipment** for clinical use in Ossa Guatemala — conducted by Dr. Barry Messinger and Eng. Erick García.



• **Recognition to Ossa Guatemala for its valuable collaboration** to 16 Cia. of volunteer firefighters of San Marcos during their 50th anniversary celebration.



**OSSA — A SPONSOR FOR A 21K RACE IN SAN MARCOS**

- Trained Guatemalan Red Cross personnel on CPR prior to the race and evaluated runners with health problems after the race



- Dr. Shuliana Santos, gynecologist, gave several online lectures on Women's Health to the medical staff of an NGO in Tacana.

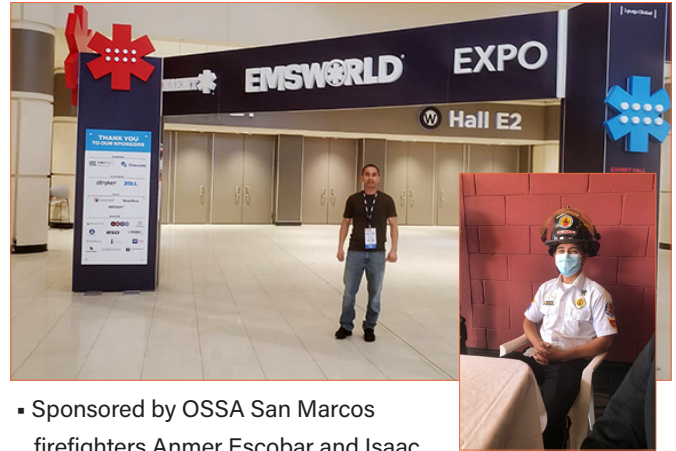


- 'Channeling' practice for starting intravenous catheters with volunteer firefighters of San Marcos with the support of Ossa medical staff.

▶ OCTOBER 2022



- OSSA medical personnel offered a **Basic airway course** with the different volunteer fire companies of San Marcos — San Pedro, San Cristóbal Cucho, Serchil, and San Antonio.



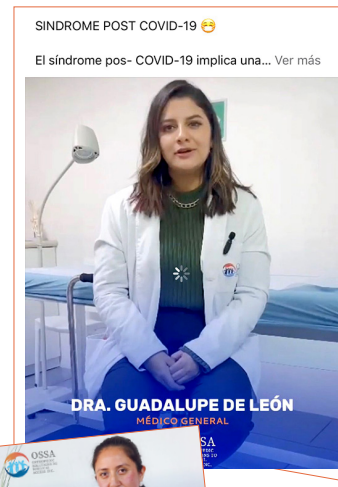
- Sponsored by OSSA San Marcos firefighters Anmer Escobar and Isaac Lopez attended the **2022 World EMS Expo** in Orlando, FL.

- **Dr. Shuliana Santos, gynecologist**, of OSSA, led educational workshops with local San Marcos volunteer firefighters on proper procedures for caring for pregnant patients in the field and how to deliver babies in urgent situations. These workshops were held in October and November 2022.

▶ NOVEMBER 2022



- OSSA's Dr. Shuliana Santos, gynecologist, spoke on a **TV program program on channel 9 Digital about gynecology and obstetrics.**



- OSSA advertised on social media platforms about services, diseases, and conditions.



## ALL YEAR – 2022

### PARAMEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAM



Two OSSA members Dr. Lupita De León and Erick Garcia and four San Marcos firefighters/first responders, sponsored by OSSA, attended the first **paramedical training program** held by TESSINF Guatemala. The course included weekly online lectures and monthly workshops in Guatemala City. Dr. De León also supported review classes with San Marcos firefighters weekly in more complicated conferences the previous week. Firefighters gained more detailed knowledge and practiced many skills to help them care for patients in the field, as well as helping to teach this valuable information to other firefighters in the department of San Marcos.

### DR. JACKY ARDEANO

Dr. Jacky Ardeano, Medical Specialist in Internal Medicine has presented lectures on the radio about the treatment of several common medical problems. In addition to the growing number of patients seen at the OSSA clinic, she makes home visits to many OSSA patients who are too sick or elderly to come to the clinic.

THE GOALS OF OSSA ARE TO SUPPORT EXPANDED EDUCATION FOR GUATEMALAN PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, PROVIDE UP-TO-DATE ORTHOPEDIC EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPORT SURGICAL CARE FOR THOSE PATIENTS THAT CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY FOR URGENT SURGERY THEMSELVES.

# TRAINING: A YEAR OF CPR – 2022

JANUARY



**First CPR course for APROFAM staff and COVID 19 nurses**  
National Hospital of San Marcos taught by OSSA Guatemala team.

OSSA personnel certification in CPR/BLS in La liga del Corazón certified by American Heart Association Dr. Guadalupe de León, Eng. Erick García, and Walter Ardiano.



FEBRUARY



**First CPR course of the year to the general population** in our CEMSE Facilities by Dr. Guadalupe de León, and Eng. Erick García.

**CPR COURSES WERE TAUGHT ALL YEAR, INCLUDING:**

MARCH

- **for high school students** in medicine at San Pablo School in Comitancillo, San Marcos — taught by Dr. Guadalupe de León, Eng. Erick García, and volunteer firefighter León Jui.

MAY

- **for medical students** of Universidad Mesoamericana in Coatepeque, Quetzaltenango. Taught by Dr. Guadalupe de León, Eng. Erick García, and volunteer firefighter León Jui.



# ▶ TRAINING: A YEAR OF CPR – 2022

## JULY

- for **municipal traffic police** of San Pedro Sacatepéquez, San Marcos taught by Dr. Guadalupe de León, Eng. Erick García, and volunteer firefighter Anmer Escobar.



## AUGUST

- to **nursing students** at Universidad Panamericana in Coatepeque Quetzaltenango – taught by Dr. Guadalupe de León, to **municipal traffic police** of San Marcos taught by Dr. Guadalupe de León and Eng. Erick García, and, to **high school students** in medicine at Colegio Liceo Minerva with the support of students from Universidad San Carlos de Guatemala USAC.

## SEPTEMBER

- to **nursing students** of Universidad Panamericana in Tacana, and to **high school students** at San Marcos and Colegio Santa Ana.

## OCTOBER

- for **administrative staff of Bilingual Montessori School** by OSSA team.





## OSSA OBJECTIVES – 2023

- **Provide more Ponseti/clubfoot lectures and workshops** for community doctors and trauma residents in different locations in Guatemala
- Provide monthly visits of **Dr. Linda García to distant towns** such as Tacana and Nuevo Progreso in the Department of San Marcos to detect clubfoot, and other congenital deformities and orthopedic problems.
- **Continue CPR and Basic Life Support training to communities, businesses, and universities** throughout the San Marcos Department, including expanding firefighter/first responder training and equipment throughout San Marcos.
- **Seek to obtain quality, cost-effective and easy-to-use AEDs** for Guatemala
  - Develop an Ossa Women's Health Clinic with Dr. Shuliana Santos
  - Expand **preseason health screenings** for Marquense's women's and men's teams to help prevent health problems for players, and reach out to other professional teams and athletes for careful health screenings prior to the sports season.

## OSSA THANKS

- **Windham Hospital** (Chris Bibeau and Phil Nollet) for five surgical tables, two medical examination tables, two doctor's office scales, two Mayo standing surgical tables, a rolling medical examination stool, an X-ray box, a wall-mount oto/ophthalmoscope, and a wall-mount blood pressure cuff. *These items will definitely be used in Guatemala.*
- **ECHN Sterile Processing** for many used surgical instruments donated again this year to medical professionals in Guatemala.
- **Biomedical Engineering ECHN** for the AED/automated defibrillators and many laryngoscope handles, tuning fork, well-used vital sign monitors with brackets, a used mini-Doppler machine, an electrocautery console for surgery, and an oto/ophthalmoscope kit.
- **Orthopedic Partners in Putnam, Connecticut-Elenore** for donating six boxes of medical office supplies and the **Manchester Hospital Infectious Diseases Office** for donating office supplies and braces — all of which will be used in Ossa's work in Guatemala.
- **Our friends at SLAM Glastonbury Office** for their valuable architectural advice as we plan further growth in San Marcos.
- **Orthomed and Innovative Medical Products** for their support in providing quality surgical instruments to Ossa and to the medical community of Guatemala.
- **Vine International** for working with Ossa in shipping equipment to Guatemala from their warehouse in Tennessee to their warehouse in Guatemala City.

**And, a heartfelt thanks to our very generous friends and colleagues for their donations of money and time, which support the important Ossa projects shared here.**