

Healing from Trauma Injuries

Every year, more than 20 million people are injured in traffic accidents around the world. In low- and middle-income countries, 90% of people do not have access to surgical care. When someone suffers a bone fracture in a traffic accident and can't get surgical care, they are at a high risk of developing a lifelong disability.

One of those people is Don, a young man living in the Philippines. He was driving his motorcycle when the car in front of him suddenly stopped. Don was forced to brake quickly to avoid a collision. He was able to avoid hitting the car, but the next thing he knew, his left tibia hit the throttle bar, causing a severe fracture.

Injured badly, Don sought treatment at a regional hospital where his leg was placed in a splint. More than a month later, he was still bedridden and became depressed because his leg was not healing. Don sought treatment again. This time he went to Tebow CURE Hospital, which has a SIGN Program.

SIGN Surgeon Dr. Jun Valera operated on Don's leg, inserting a SIGN Nail to stabilize the fractured tibia. Don was quickly able to walk again and was sent home to recover. Just two months later, he was walking well without crutches and even drove his motorcycle for 40 minutes to his follow-up appointment. Dr. Valera remarked that Don "pushed himself well" during the first two months of recovery.

Three months after SIGN Surgery, Don told his doctor that he "feels great" and asked if he can start jogging. Dr. Valera replied, "ABSOLUTELY!" remarking that his patient "has come a long way" and is "a happy and active person." No longer depressed and disabled, Don has returned to work and is able to live a vibrant life once again.

You can provide the #SIGNsolution to help people like Don recover from fractures. Donate today by using the enclosed form or go to signfracturecare.org



SIGN Surgery enabled Don to heal and return to an active lifestyle.

Trauma Healers

We are excited to share that SIGN is being featured in a documentary airing on PBS stations around the country. Trauma Healers is a one-hour film exploring the need for surgical care in low-resource countries. It shows how organizations like SIGN are working to support doctors and heal patients suffering from fractures and trauma injuries. The documentary was released on May 4, and many PBS stations will be airing it during the United Nations Global Road Safety Week, May 17-23.

Produced with Passion

Patricia Fraley and Robert Parish, the film's producers, have been longtime partners with SIGN. They began filming training materials for SIGN Surgeons in 2003, and they have regularly attended the SIGN Conference to speak with surgeons from around the world.



As Patti and Robert heard testimonies about the lifechanging work that SIGN Surgeons are doing around the globe, they were inspired and knew that they needed to share these surgeons' stories. "Creating equality of fracture care throughout the world—that's a really huge mission," Patti says. "[Dr. Zirkle] will give his last drop of blood and resources to make that mission true."
(continued on page 3)

Saving Lives, Limbs, and Livelihoods in Low-Resource Countries

(from page 2)

“I was so struck with the heart and the passion and the caring that SIGN had,”

Robert says.

“It made me and Patti start thinking ‘we’ve got to do something more.’”



International Experts

For 18 years, they learned about medical care in developing countries, interviewed international surgeons, and collected the footage that finally came together into *Trauma Healers*. You may recognize many of the SIGN Surgeons that we have highlighted over the years, as well as SIGN Board Members (see *The Healers of Trauma*).

Also highlighted are global health experts like Dr. Lewis Zirkle from SIGN, Dr. Kee B. Park and Dr. John Meara from Harvard Medical School, and Joe DiCarlo from Medical Teams International, among others.

Working Together

Dozens of people have contributed countless hours to create the documentary and prepare it to air on public television. Chuck Bigger provided video footage from his many trips to SIGN Programs, Dani Tanzella composed the musical score, and Ralph Curran and fellow Kiwanians led the effort to have the documentary distributed nationally by American Public Television.

“We are grateful to Patti and Robert for devoting their talents and resources to creating this documentary about the need for equality of fracture care,” says SIGN CEO Jeanne Dillner. “We hope that others will be moved to support our efforts in equipping surgeons in low- and middle-income countries to provide immediate and effective care to all of their patients, regardless of ability to pay.”

Share the Mission

Thank you, SIGN Family, for your support in developing the solution to the epidemic of trauma injuries. You have been faithful in donating your talents and treasures to empower SIGN Surgeons and help more than 345,000 injured people walk and work after traumatic injuries. This documentary is a celebration of what we have accomplished thus far, and a call to action to help more people in need.

“What I really want viewers to take away is the inspiration that you can do the impossible,” Patti says. “Lew Zirkle is just one person and, boy, did he impact the world.”

This documentary is an opportunity to share that mission with others. Please watch *Trauma Healers* and share it with your friends and family. Together we can fulfill the SIGN Vision to create equality of fracture care throughout the world.

The Healers of Trauma

You'll see these SIGN Surgeons highlighted in the documentary.

Dr. Hilario Diaz
Philippines

Dr. John Ekure
Uganda

Dr. Giuseppe Gaido
Kenya

Dr. Jacky Jean
Haiti

Dr. Edward Kironde
Uganda

Dr. Sam Kiwesa
Tanzania

Dr. Anthony Maina
Kenya

Dr. Joyceline Mutwiri
Kenya

Dr. Saju Pradhan
Nepal

Dr. Jun Valera
Philippines

You'll see these SIGN Board Members highlighted in the documentary.

Dr. Lewis Zirkle
Richland, WA

Jeanne Dillner
Richland, WA

Dr. Richard Gellman
Portland, OR

Randy Huebner
Portland, OR

Dr. John Staeheli
Richland, WA

TRAUMA HEALERS

SAVING LIVES, LIMBS AND LIVELIHOODS IN LOW RESOURCE COUNTRIES

traumahealers.org

Traffic Accidents

According to the World Health Organization, more than 1.35 million people are killed in traffic accidents every year.

These accidents are the leading cause of death for children and young adults (ages 5-29).

TRAUMA HEALERS is a one-hour documentary that explores

the silent epidemic of road traffic accidents and reveals how thousands of SIGN Surgeons are caring for injured patients in low-resource countries.

How to Watch

TRAUMA HEALERS is airing now on **170+ PBS stations across the United States**. Scan the QR code with your smartphone's camera to watch the trailer and find when



TRAUMA HEALERS airs near you, or go to signfracturecare.org/traumahealers



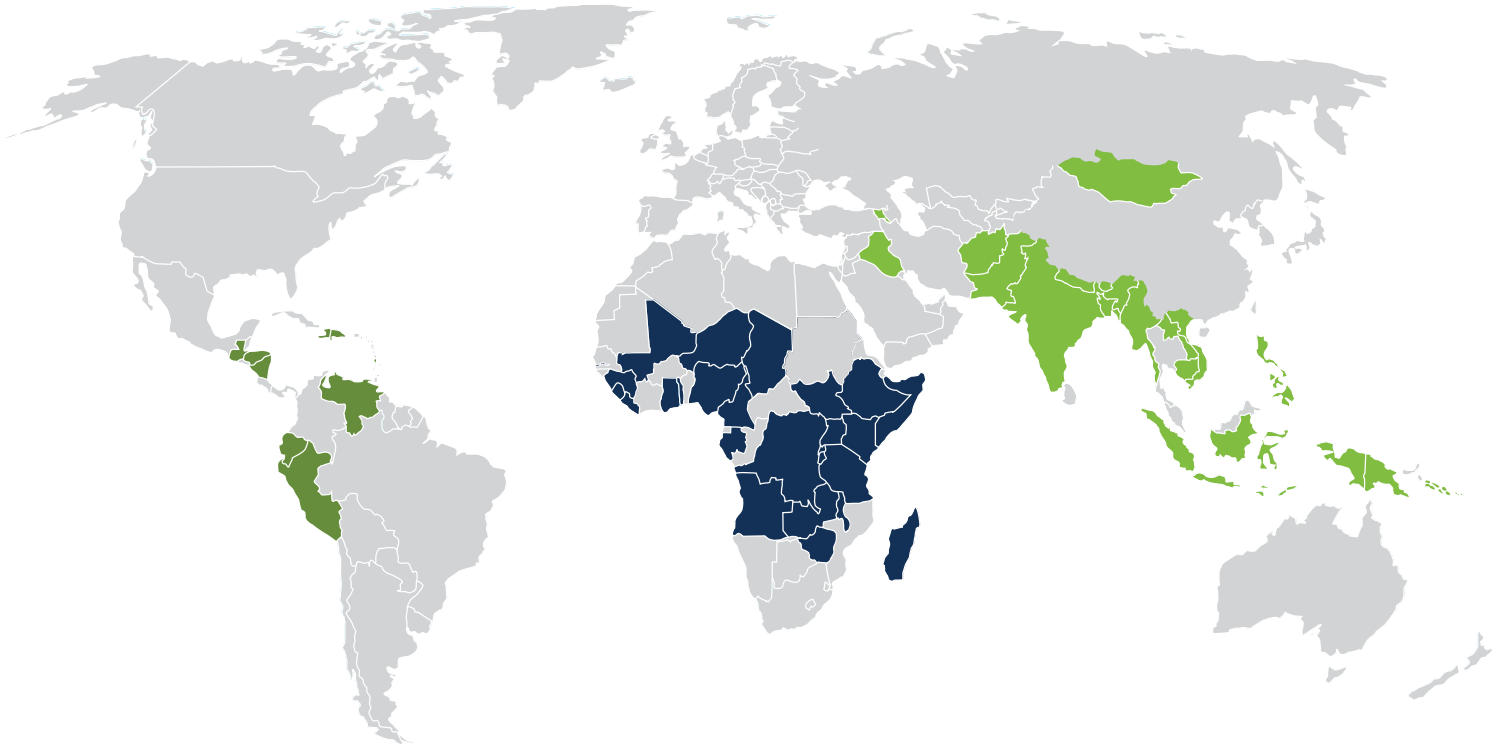
Your gift provides healing surgery to help people quickly recover from trauma injuries!

Donate today!

Use this form or text **SIGN** to 91999 or go to signfracturecare.org/donate



The *Impact* of **SIGN** to date



345,122
Patients
Healed

379
Hospitals Using
SIGN IM Nails

53
Developing
Countries



451 Hills Street, Suite B, Richland, WA 99354
P: 509.371.1107 | F: 509.371.1316
info@signfracturecare.org | signfracturecare.org



May 2021

Name (Please Print): _____

Address**: _____

Phone:(_____)_____-_____ I am a member of Kiwanis

Email: _____

YES! I would like to give a healing gift. Enclosed is my gift of:

\$50 \$150 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other amount _____

This gift is (check one): in honor in memory Holiday Gift

Honoree Name: _____

Please send a personalized card to: _____

Address**: _____

Payment Method:

Check enclosed (payable to "SIGN")

Charge my:

VISA MasterCard

American Express Discover Card

Credit Card Number

Exp. Date _____ CVC # _____

Signature

Must have full address if credit card is used



NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MEDIAMAX

451 Hills Street, Suite B
Richland, WA 99354

How You've Helped This Year...

As of April 2021

10,876
Patients Healed

12 SIGN
Programs Started

4 SIGN Trauma
Session Webinars

Contact SIGN

P 509.371.1107
F 509.371.1316
info@signfracturecare.org
signfracturecare.org



See SIGN's privacy policy and state disclosures at signfracturecare.org/privacy



A Documentary Featuring
SIGN Fracture Care
is airing now on **PBS** stations

Many stations are airing Trauma Healers around the week of **May 17th**, to coincide with the United Nations Global Traffic Safety Week.

Find out when it airs near you at pbs.org/stations
Search **Trauma Healers** in **your station's schedule**.