

Why I am a Rotarian

by David Fihn, May 30, 2006

Our Dental Mission team was four and we traveled by dugout canoe on the Kruta River. We worked in two different villages from sunup to sundown.

The line of patients never finished. Our working conditions were terrible. All of us were tired all the time but at the same time it was very satisfying, as what we were doing was certainly needed.

When we returned to Puerto Limpura, a town of only perhaps 1500 and a dirt runway for our military C-47, I spent some time with the resident physician who while meeting with me while doing his required duty to his country.

He was frankly not very interested in our work. Then I asked him while making polite conversation "Do you have any Polio in Honduras"? "NO" he said, "we had a program called Polio Plus and now no more Polio -- It's wonderful."



I said, "I know Polio Plus because I am a Rotarian". This stranger of a few minutes ago, put his arm around me and with tears said, "Gracias mi Hermano" (Thank you my Brother).

This was one small, but profound moment for the Doctor and me. Yes, I now have a brother in Honduras because Rotary cares.

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