

## **Los Toros Dental Project 2007 Observations**

- I. The turnout was outstanding
  - Around 250 children were there on the two days combined
  - Around 80 parents were present over the two days
  - Over 400 children's toothbrushes were handed out
  - Over 200 adult toothbrushes were handed out
  - Over 600 small tubes of toothpaste were handed out
  - There were around 50-100 extra tubes of toothpaste that were given to Olga and SVDP for future distribution
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- II. There were two sessions
  - Sunday Afternoon:
    - Younger children (ages 3-8)
    - Around 30 adults
  - Monday Afternoon:
    - Older children (ages 7-14)
    - Around 50 adults
  - The presentation took around 15 minutes
  - Handing out the toothbrushes and toothpaste took around 45 minutes
- III. Location: The Library
  - Able to fit all the people that attended the sessions
  - Improvements:
    - Move the location to the community center
    - Would be able to use the stage
    - Would be able to hear better
      - Possibly use the microphone
    - Be able to have more people attend
      - There is more room in the community center
- IV. Naury Perdomo
  - Dentist from Santo Domingo
  - She is our main contact to aid in the organization of the dental clinic in Los Toros
  - She helped Katie and I on the second day of presentations by explaining more in depth in a way that she knew the children would understand
  - She is extremely helpful in helping us in the United States start the dental clinic

## V. Objectives

- Demonstrate the basics of daily dental hygiene
- To create awareness of the importance of dental hygiene
- Generating enthusiasm about dental hygiene
- Starting good dental care at early age to continue for the rest of life

### A. Our objectives were achieved!

- Katie and I on various occasions saw children throughout the village using their toothbrush and toothpaste that was handed out
- The enthusiasm was obvious
  - It took about 45 minutes to hand out all the toothbrushes and toothpaste after our presentation

## VI. Improvements

- Bring more toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Analyze the age group and decide the amount of time they will be able to sit and listen
- Bring more visual aids to engage the children's interest

## VII. Next Step

- Start research for equipment that can possibly be used in the new clinic in Los Toros
- Start to brainstorm ideas for the clinic and ways to improve dental hygiene in Los Toros and help the new clinic