

Amigos del Hospitalito,

Happy New Year.... We hope that 2009 will bring great success to all of you.

Activities at the Hospitalito are going full speed. Many new volunteers arrived the first week in January. Patient load continues to rise. Last fall, the local health department (*Centro de Salud*) opened a birthing clinic. This is one of many innovations from the new government. Unfortunately, there is little equipment and few supplies provided for the facility located next to the Post Office in the center of town. Dr. Chuc donated a number of extra pieces of equipment that will serve the center. HA staff and volunteers work closely with the local *Centro de Salud* with the monthly meetings of the traditional midwives.

Many physicians and clinicians have arrived to volunteer and have brought their families. Most study Spanish at the new school located in TzanChichum. Some are enrolling their children in the local school, el Colegio Alfa y Omega, near the Hospitalito. The new school year started on January 12th.

Photos and articles about the holiday festivities are on the blogalito... take a look at <http://www.puebloapueblo.blogspot.com/>

Remember us to your friends; physicians and clinical support staff who are suffering from the cold or boredom. The weather is perfect here, and no time for boredom.

Thanks to all of you for you support.

The Hospitalito staff and Board of Directors