

July 26, 2018
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Club Rotario San Pedro Curridabat
Lewisville Morning Rotary Club
Denton Rotary Club
Meharry Medical School of Dentistry
Campbell & Williams Dental Foundation

To whom it may concern:

On July 12, 2018, a meeting took place at the School of Dentistry University of Costa Rica with the purpose of discussing ways to implement the project “Clinica Dental Comunitaria de Tirrases” (Dental Community Clinic of Tirrases). This meeting was requested by members of the Rotary Club of Curridabat in order to receive advice on moving forward with the project. The following people were in attendance: Mrs. Aisha Baltodano, President of the San Pedro-Curridabat Rotary Club along with club members Mrs. Ileana Terán and Dr. Aylin Sánchez. On behalf of the School of Dentistry, Dr. Joseph Ulate, Director of the Department of Community Dentistry, Dr. Ronald de la Cruz, Professor of Graduate Pediatric Dentistry and myself, Dr. Carlos Filloy, Dean. After the presentation and discussion of the objectives for this project, the following agreements and conclusions were reached:

- I. Tirrases is a suburban community with 19,000 people living in poor conditions. State supported health care coverage, which includes dental care, is insufficient in this area. The School of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica, agrees to support the community of Tirrases by helping in the implementation of a community dental clinic such as the one proposed and sponsored by the Rotary Club.
- II. In order to bring the project to completion it will have to go through six phases prior to its implementation, as follows:
 1. Finding a suitable location and purchasing the property. We understand this negotiation is advanced.
 2. Architectural and construction blueprint design for the dental clinic which must comply with all regulations required by the Ministry of Health so that once it is built, it can be accredited. The School of Dentistry agrees to provide consulting services during the blueprint design phase.
 3. Permits and construction.
 4. Equipment. The School of Dentistry agrees to provide the necessary technical advice for the acquisition of dental equipment, such as dental chairs, X-ray, sterilization equipment that is suitable for the operation of a dental clinic.

5. Once the new dental clinic becomes accredited by the Ministry of Health, the School of Dentistry pledges to undertake an agreement with the clinic's managing committee appointed by the community of Tirrases , in order to provide dental students and a faculty member to deliver dental treatment to community patients. This will depend each year on student availability. (The School of Dentistry has 17 similar agreements with other communities throughout the country). With the support of the School of Dentistry, this project will gain sustainability through time. Furthermore, it would be ideal for the community of Tirrases, perhaps sponsored by the County of Curridabat, to hire a part-time or full-time dentist for the clinic as well.

6. Once the clinic is in full operation, the School of Dentistry pledges to seek the implementation of an exchange program between students of the Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry and the School of Dentistry, University of Costa Rica.

In advance, we would like to thank the Lewisville Morning Rotary Club, the Denton Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of San Pedro Curridabat for your valuable disposition and wonderful contribution to this community. It will without a doubt bring health and quality of life to a large population in need.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carlos Filloy Esna
Dean
University of Costa Rica, School of Dentistry

cc: Dr. Joseph Ulate Jiménez, Director Depto. Odontología Social
Dr. Ronald de la Cruz Rojas, Docente Posgrado Odontopediatría