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“Guatemala Medical Mission”

A few Castleton nursing students paired with the Glens Falls Medical Mission Foundation to travel on a mission to Guatemala. The goal of the medical mission was to supply public health care to those in need or poverty. Many of the individuals who come to seek care at the mission, tend to walk miles and hours to get access to care. The students and the individuals involved in the mission traveled an hour to and from the hotel in Los Esclavos to the location of the mission in Nueva Santa Rosa. The lack of public health is evident in the rural areas of this third world country. Within the population, a variety of medical needs such as diabetes, hypertension, scabies, poor dental health, and nutrition were treated. All of the nursing students switched clinics throughout the course of the five-day clinical mission. The clinics that the student nurses were a part of included pediatrics, women's, general medicine, triage, and education on nutrition. The nursing students volunteered their time and used their knowledge to help treat and educate patients in their scope of practice. Without the medical mission, many of the individuals living in Guatemala would lack medical care.