



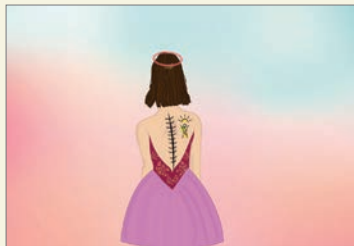
TRUE IMPACT

Messages from past U.S. Hub Program Patients

"Today, March 31st, marks 3 successful years since my miracle surgery! I can never forget all the things you have done for me from the beginning to the very end...It can never be put into words! Mrs. Dawn Deakin, thanks for being my fairy godmother and granting my wish to get rid of scoliosis and for taking care of me with so much love during the hardest moments of my life. And, give my thanks and kind regards to

everyone at SpineHope for making this happen! Especially to, Dr. Matthew Geck, Mr. Brandon Black, Mr. Alistair Deakin, Dr. Nick Lee, Mr. Wynn Gordy, Dr. Elena Ruiz, and everyone at Dell Children's Medical Center too...I can never thank you enough!!"

—Suharshi Dabrera from Sri Lanka (2016 U.S. Hub Program patient)



"I love seeing the reactions of people when they listen to my story. People always say, "You are so blessed." And it's true. I am so blessed because Doctor Geck changed my life and SpineHope changed my disease to something beautiful."

—Arleth Lopez Martinez from Guatemala (2014 U.S. Hub Program patient)

"We the recipients of the great generosity of SpineHope and many other sponsors are exceedingly grateful for the opportunity given to us. It has been at least 6 months since our surgeries and our recovery has been proceeding well. We, the recipients of the invaluable transformational contribution made to our lives by SpineHope, the Caribbean Children Foundation, Dell Children's Medical Center, surgeons Dr. Matthew Geck and Dr. Ryan Murdock, Medtronic, U.S. Anesthesia Partners, NuVasive, ARA, Bee Caves Pediatrics, Ronald McDonald House Charities, ALG Immigration Law Firm, and the many other sponsors, donors, volunteers and volunteer organization through their benevolence extended to us over the last 18 months, are eternally grateful. Because of your intervention, we are now able to lead normal lives and pursue our dreams unhindered. Special thanks to all who helped in making our lives better and we pray that SpineHope may be able to continue to help those who are in need thus giving them a brighter future. A special thanks to Dawn Deakin for the selfless love shown us and may God continue to bless you as you continue your work in positively impacting lives. Thanks!"

—Rahsaan Abel, Isaiah Clarke, Samathra Scott and Kachell Morris from the Republic of Guyana (2017 and 2018 U.S. Hub Program patients)

We are touched by their kind words and are happy that their spine surgeries were truly life-changing!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 Walk Tall Austin Benefit
April 25, 2019 (6–8 PM)

77 Degrees
11500 Rock Rose Ave.
Austin, TX 78758



Global Outreach Trip–Ukraine
October 2019



U.S. HUB PROGRAM – SPRING 2019

Yomali

Miss Yomali Sewmini Perera from Sri Lanka, who suffers from severe scoliosis and considerable back pain, will be traveling to Austin, Texas for corrective spine surgery this spring. Yomali's sponsor is K2M, Inc., now a part of Stryker. Not only have they generously agreed to support costs and services not donated but, they will also be donating implants and product for her surgery. Yomali's spine surgeon will be Dr. Ryan Murdock of Central Texas Pediatric Orthopedics and the surgery will take place at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. We are grateful for their participation and support of this young lady!

Yomali's Story:

My name is Yomali Sewmini Perera. I first identified my scoliosis when I went to get my dress altered for a wedding. I discovered, once the dress was fitted, that I have uneven hips. Over time, we consulted with five orthopedic surgeons who instructed me to do physiotherapy and to swim. The body pain got worse with physiotherapy. It did not help. I even stopped swimming because I swam crooked.



I always get pain during the night hours after attending school and classes throughout the day. Standing or sitting for a long time, even without doing any work, gives me back pain and pain below the knees. I apply Ayurvedic oils to heal the pain but, within two days, the pain returns. The pain and deformity make me angry. Even choosing a dress is hard due to my figure. So, I prefer to spend most of my time lying in bed. Right now, I'm studying for a degree in chemistry to become a lecturer but, the pain increases after long hours of lectures and practical sessions (where I have to stand for hours). My parents have been worried about my future due to this and know how difficult and expensive spine surgery is where we come from.

In 2016, my mother came across Miss Suharshi Dabrera's and other miraculous charity surgeries coordinated by SpineHope. This gave us hope and I held the hope that I'd eventually be accepted into the U.S. Hub Program and be able to get my surgery at Dell Children's Medical Center.

As I am the only child in my family, my parents are extremely glad that I've been accepted into the SpineHope program. I really appreciate and am very thankful for the worldwide service your organization provides children and teens in need.



Yolanda

Also this spring, Yolanda Adams from the Republic of Guyana, will be coming to Austin for charity spine surgery with Dr. Matthew Geck of the Seton Spine and Scoliosis Center. Her generous sponsor is The Caribbean Children Foundation and her implants will be donated by Medtronic. We appreciate their willingness to help Yolanda and her family who lack the resources necessary to get this life-changing surgery.



Yolanda's Story:

Yolanda was diagnosed with scoliosis in the year 2016, when she was 12 years old. After being diagnosed, Yolanda was referred to Dr. Hyder Khan who performed a thorough examination and recommended surgery due to the severity of her case. He referred us to SpineHope for help.

Yolanda has difficulty standing for long periods of time. She gets exhausted very quickly and it has become increasingly worrisome to the family since Yolanda can no longer carry her full amount of books in her school bag. She complains of discomfort and pain, especially when bending. Yolanda needs the surgery to help her live a normal life and help her achieve her dream of becoming a nurse to help people. Thank you for accepting Yolanda into the program.



U.S. HUB PROGRAM

Big Hearts Changing Lives Worldwide





GET YOUR TICKET TODAY

Purchase tickets and sponsorships in advance at spinehope.org/events

\$40 per person (Advance purchase discount)
\$50 per person (At the door)

Big Hearts
Changing Lives Worldwide



THURSDAY
APRIL 25, 2019
6-8 PM
77 DEGREES
11500 Rock Rose Ave
Austin TX 78758

**COCKTAIL RECEPTION •
RAFFLES
SILENT AUCTION • STORIES OF
HOPE • STORIES OF IMPACT**

Join SpineHope for a special evening devoted to raising funds to help children from under-resourced countries get the surgical treatment they need in Austin, Texas to correct severe spinal deformities. Come hear stories of lives about to be changed and updates on past recipients, meet the BIG HEARTS who make the SpineHope Program possible, and help us raise the funds needed to bring 5 children in 2019/2020. Come witness the impact made and open your hearts to the children we serve!

Silent Auction items to bid on:

- 2 ACL Tickets, 3-Day Pass
- Private Wine Class for 20
- Texas Sports Game Tickets
- Kendra Scott Jewelry
- Movie / Event Tickets
- Gift Baskets
- And MORE!

Benefit Sponsors:



Hoff Hamilton Ranch

Jeff Spearman, JDS Spine



VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

We would like to thank the amazing volunteers who make a difference in the lives of the children we serve. In this newsletter edition, we would like to highlight the 2019 WALK TALL Austin Benefit Planning Committee. These special volunteers have wrapped themselves in the SpineHope mission and are responsible for helping make the upcoming benefit possible! These ladies have chosen to commit their precious time to help our cause. Here are their thoughts on volunteering and, why, the SpineHope mission is important to them.

SPINEHOPE BENEFIT PLANNING COMMITTEE



I am a volunteer because SpineHope brings hope and happiness to children with spinal deformities who do not have access to corrective surgery. The lives of the children and their families are dramatically improved by the surgeries and amazing care provided by the team and its supporters.

–Natalie Grogono



As someone who has severe scoliosis that required surgery, I know the vital importance of the surgery and quality medical care. I also know I am blessed because the surgery and the care I received afterwards made all the difference in my life. Unfortunately, many children and young adults around the world do not have access to that same quality of medical care or scoliosis surgery. That is where SpineHope steps in and offers not just surgery and access to care, but a completely new chapter in people’s lives. I’m so honored to volunteer with this exceptional organization and pay it forward.

–Melissa Hamilton



I volunteer with SpineHope because it’s an opportunity to be involved with an organization focused on helping underprivileged children from a variety of backgrounds. Watching the transformation of these children’s lives who are given a new outlook on life is incredibly rewarding.

–Carmela Pinzone



I have worked in the spine industry for decades and it is rewarding to see the technologies I’ve worked on benefit individuals globally that would not normally have access to these life changing treatments.

–Colleen Turner



My passion for SpineHope comes from the desire to help these children from low-resource countries that live with incredible levels of pain and dysfunction due to their spinal deformities. As a Schroth scoliosis specialist, I have seen how devastating this condition can be, both mentally and physically, to children and families that have access to medical treatment let alone those who are struggling just to get their basic needs met. The opportunity to support this incredible group of medical professionals who give these children a chance at a normal life is so tremendously fulfilling that I can’t imagine a greater joy or blessing to be part of.

–Danielle Vernon



I feel incredibly thankful to have been presented with the opportunity to play a role in transforming children’s lives. Volunteering with SpineHope has given me the chance to view healthcare from a different perspective. I have so much respect for the organization and its members. Being a part of this incredible volunteer team, who shares this same passion, brings my heart so much joy. Thank you, SpineHope!

–Keely Williams



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ABOUT SPINEHOPE

Founded in 2008, SpineHope is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing advanced medical treatment to children from under-resourced countries. We assemble volunteer teams of experienced medical professionals to address spinal deformities and other complex spine conditions. SpineHope offers both direct services to patients as well as education and support to surgeons, physicians and medical staff worldwide.

Our Programs

GLOBAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS: We work collaboratively with organizations and hospitals abroad to build sustainable pediatric spine programs. During outreach trips, teams perform 8-15 spine surgeries and examine 20+ children in clinic.

U.S. HUB PROGRAM: We partner with healthcare organizations in Austin, Texas to bring children with severe spinal deformities to the United States for surgery and treatment. Children come for 6-8 weeks for evaluation, testing, spine surgery and recovery.

EDUCATION PROGRAM: Volunteer medical teams provide training and education on spine safety protocols and advanced surgical techniques to local surgeons, hospital staff and medical students during global outreach trips.



KENDRA SCOTT GIVES BACK PARTY RECAP

NOVEMBER 30, 2018



What a fantastic turnout we had at the Kendra Scott Gives Back Party, benefitting SpineHope, on November 30th! We are grateful to all who participated including, Samuel Lopez Esteban's Mother (Marleny), Carmela Pinzone as well as the amazing team from Sentry Neuromonitoring (special shout out to Keely Williams, Emily Kegans and Jaclyn Felts) who rallied the troops in a big way to help raise funds for life changing surgeries for children in need! We are so appreciative to Kendra Scott for hosting this event where we raised just under \$2,000. Thank you to all who came out to support our efforts and to those who phoned in orders.

VOLUNTEER OR DONATE TODAY

Our mission and operations are driven by dedicated volunteers and the generous donations we receive. We need your support to help us correct spinal deformities, alleviate pain, prevent paralysis when possible, and improve the quality of life for underprivileged children around the world.

If you or someone you know would like to help, please contact us at:
spineoutreach@gmail.com

Tax-deductible donations can be made securely on our website or by mailing a check to:

SpineHope
P.O. Box 684261
Austin, TX 78768

www.SpineHope.org | (682) 463-9082

Follow us on social media: @SpineHope



We are grateful for your support!

THANK YOU

TO OUR GENEROUS 2019 SPONSORS

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kim + kyle
KING

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GOLD:



CoreLink.
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