A mixture of volunteer staff (medical and non-medical) together with our local Dominican staff (health promoters, translators, pastors, etc) travel to a satellite location in or around the province of San Juan to provide basic medical care to those who otherwise do not have sufficient access to it.

**Why is it important?**

Factors like distance, cost, and social discrimination make good, consistent healthcare unavailable to many Dominicans. Our remote clinics are designed to provide an integral health experience (physical, emotional and spiritual) to those who need it most. Because of volunteers like you, we are able to provide each patient a chance to meet with a medical professional, receive important preventative health education, and above all, to share the hope we have in Christ.

**Our Method of Care**

Our goal is to improve the health of every patient that we see. This happens in many ways. From the moment the patient arrives at the clinic we strive to treat them like the “guest of honor”. They will be seen by a medical professional for any current ailments, provided with medication, receive important health education that will prevent future sickness, and have an opportunity to receive and be changed by the love and hope of Jesus.

**How are locations chosen?**

A Dominican health promoter is in contact with local community leaders and pastors who have expressed needs in their individual communities. Over the years the number of communities we reach has grown. Before your team arrives we will have already been planning the locations we believe most need your services and local leaders will begin spreading word in their communities.
Clinic Flow

Preparation and Organization
You will have a team of experienced translators accompanying your

**team** in every area of the barrio clinic. You can rely on their experience to guide setting up the best flow for your clinic upon arrival. A pastor or community leader will speak with the waiting patients to introduce your team and organize them. Elderly, pregnant women, and patients who are currently sick should be seen first. While patients wait to be seen, a local pastor will share basic health education and a gospel message.

Triage
Medical intake forms will be supplied for you. A separate form must be used for each patient (not one per family). Make sure that you take enough forms each day. Volunteers at this station should record the key complaints of the patient, current medications, blood pressures, weight (for children), and blood sugar levels (only for currently diagnosed diabetics).

Physicians
If possible, physicians will be stationed in a separate area to allow for better privacy. All patients will have the opportunity to be seen by a licensed medical professional. Many patients may not be sick today, but the time/attention you give them is extremely important. If you find patients with more severe needs, we can refer them to another appropriate venue.

Pharmacy
There are portable pharmacy boxes in which you will pack your meds for each day. You will have adequate time on Sunday afternoon to pack, count, label, and prepare your pharmacy for the week. The pharmacy area MUST be supervised by at least one licensed medical professional. Patients will wait while their prescriptions are being filled. This is the time they will receive important health education and appropriate donations (if available). All medication instructions must be given by a native Spanish speaker.
How to Prepare:

1) Check our website regularly for the latest needs list of medications and supplies
What we may have plenty of one week, may be gone by the next. It is important that you check often to know what will be important for your team to supply. **Do not bring expired medications or supplies.**

2) Collect donations and supplies
Aside from medications, many teams bring other types of donations, including basic toiletries, toothbrushes, lightly used clothing, shoes, school supplies, etc. These will be distributed appropriately by our Dominican staff in the pharmacy area ONLY.

3) Send Copies of Medical Licenses
Due to recent changes and requests from the Public Health offices in the Dominican Republic, we are asking for copies of ALL medical personnel licenses BEFORE your arrival to San Juan. This includes physicians, RNs, PAs, NPs, EMTs, CNMs, paramedics, and LPNs. They should be sent to Nicole Hoover (nhoover@solidrockinternational.org) in ONE EMAIL by the team leader.

4) Set up team rotations
You may have more volunteers than can comfortably work in one of the 3 main areas. It is smart to plan on having several team members working in areas of crowd control, children’s activities or health education and rotating through the different stations.

5) Be Flexible!
It may be a 2 hour bus ride on a bumpy road, summer heat roasting through a tin roof, struggling to get accurate patient histories through language barriers or having to set up your mobile clinic under a mango tree, but you will most likely be outside of your comfort zone at some point during your trip. Prepare your heart and mind through prayer. If available, listen to the stories of others who have gone before or read through past blogs on the SRI website to get a better idea of what you can expect.