2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Transforming the body, mind, and soul of the poor in the Dominican Republic
Who We Are

Solid Rock International is a Christian non-profit 501(c)3 organization focused on transforming the body, mind, and soul of the poor in the Dominican Republic. SRI acknowledges that there is so much more to wellness than just physical health. We believe we are called by God’s Word to care for the poor, and by doing so, are serving God himself. Jesus said, “For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.” – Matthew 25:34-36

When Solid Rock International (formerly Solid Rock Missions) first began as an organization in the early 1990s, the desire was, and still is today, to holistically serve the poor in the Dominican Republic by focusing on all aspects of health. SRI’s first missionaries along with other founders professed, “We would like to express our gratitude to our Lord for allowing us to serve through the gifts, skills, and resources He has given us, to the poor of the Dominican Republic, providing health to the sick, bread to the hungry, education to the illiterate, assistance to the needy, and proclamation of the Kingdom of God.”

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I am pleased to say that this has been a very good year for SRI on many fronts. Clinic construction resumed late last summer, and the progress has been significant. The main roof is completed, the walls are plastered and some painted, and there is much interior work in progress. Frank Beltré and Ken Potter continue to do an amazing job in managing this project.

Frank and Bienvenida Suero have been very diligent in securing tax exemption for purchases of materials, and to date we have saved over $24,000! The exoneration process has been more challenging with much more government red tape and oversight. However, with great persistence our San Juan team has worked closely with the government to “make the pathway straight,” and we recently received our first tax-free shipment of materials into the DR. Grace abounds!

Another significant development this year is the fact that our future supplier of medical equipment for the clinic, IMEC, had to close its doors after 25 years of service. In the process, IMEC introduced us to a similar and larger non-profit organization that they thought could help. The leadership teams of SRI and this organization met in March to discuss a new partnership. We are very encouraged by their process and infrastructure.

On the personnel front we said farewell to our beloved Nicole Eby de Rodriguez who has been our pioneer Medical Coordinator for so many amazing years of service. She has transitioned her role to Nicole Hoover, who has joined the team along with her husband Jason and their two children. SRI is privileged to have the absolute best team of staff and missionaries! And of course, Joe and Shannon Zimmerman continue to lead our work and have once again achieved the coveted Charity Navigator 4-star rating for non-profit excellence.

Thanks so much to all of you who support SRI financially, with your prayers, and with your presence in San Juan. You are the foundation for all of the SRI programs and progress. Together we look forward to what the next year will bring.

Yours in Christ,

Mike Crout, President
For more than 25 years, SRI mission teams have been coming from all over the United States and Canada to serve in the San Juan Region of the Dominican Republic. Many of our volunteers are committed to providing ongoing support to the Dominican people, and therefore return regularly.

In addition to what is shown in the graph (next page), our teams have worked in a variety of other areas including health education, teacher development, student sponsorship, missionary support, and long-term planning.

Countless lives have been blessed through the teams’ dedicated time and generous donations; however, any team member will tell you that a SRI mission trip doesn’t come without its own personal blessing. Making new friends, experiencing a new culture, and seeing a different lifestyle have a remarkable impact as volunteers reflect and discover how God is guiding them in their own lives.

SRI would like to thank each person who has served with us over the past year. The skills and resources SRI volunteers are willing to share compose the heart and soul of our ministries. We could not function without their efforts, finances, and prayers as their dedication and sacrifice truly make a difference.
SRI is greatly blessed to have a wonderful and diverse group of Dominican staff members serving in various capacities within the organization. This skilled team works tirelessly to assist short-term mission teams in the areas of construction, medical care, Vacation Bible School, and much more. They are a vital group of individuals that ensure our volunteer teams are as effective as possible as they serve the local community.

In May, SRI organized the second annual Dominican Staff Appreciation Month to publicly recognize our hardworking team in San Juan de la Maguana. The staff enjoyed a retreat to the beach and SRI supporters were able to get involved from afar by praying for the staff, writing letters of encouragement, being part of a thank you video, and giving to support them financially. Thank you to all who showed our team some extra love in May!

"Throughout my whole life I have been in awe of each one of you and how you love and serve others in such a genuine way... You are the heart and soul of SRI and I’m so thankful for all that you do.”
– SRI Volunteer
The Christian Clinic for Integrated Health has been serving the San Juan Region since 1989. Tragically in 1998, flooding from Hurricane George left it damaged beyond repair. While the clinic has continued to serve the area, insurance cannot be accepted due to the condition of the facility. In order to better provide for the community, SRI is helping to build a REVOLUTIONARY new clinic, that in the name of Christ, will continue to offer excellent healthcare for the poor who would otherwise not receive it.

After a year of paused construction yielding positive tax exemption and exoneration progress, major work was restarted in September. By January, about 90% of the building was under roof with plastering not far behind. Crews worked to complete rough-in work for both plumbing and electrical needs as well as electrical wire installation and other finishing work. The final concrete roof section was poured, approximately 95% of plastering was finished, and a sample of terrazzo flooring was installed by the beginning of the second quarter. By the end of the fiscal year, a 30,000 gallon cistern and second septic tank had been dug and power line installation had begun. Planning for installation of the translucent dome portion of the roof and final grading on the parking lot and entrance areas were also well on their way.

We are grateful for a year of progress and for all who have prayed, served, and given to this exciting project! Your past, present, and future faithfulness continues to make a significant difference as we move forward with this REVOLUTIONARY new clinic!

Saving money via tax exemption (purchases made in-country) and tax exoneration (imported items) is vital for maintaining a lower budget and stretching generously-donated funds. It is for that reason that construction came to a standstill last year in order to ensure that funding was not wasted on taxes that could be avoided. The processes of obtaining tax exemption and exoneration status in the DR have been extremely challenging and complicated, and we thank God for our recent success!

SRI and ACPSI were able to obtain tax exemption on multiple supply purchases in the last year with a savings of $24,000 to date. In addition, ACPSI received their first successful tax exoneration in their 30-year history on an imported shipment in June. With this recent success, it is expected but not guaranteed that future shipments will also avoid the near 40% import tax. This will be vital in the future as plans are made to equip the facility. Please continue to keep this important need for the project in your prayers as SRI and ACPSI work diligently and in collaboration with the Dominican government.
In addition to the visible block and cement on the construction site, just as much if not more work goes into the details and planning behind the scenes. SRI’s and ACPSI’s goals continue to be saving money, effectively navigating unexpected changes due to Public Health regulations, working through cash flow issues, balancing increased costs and scope, as well as making contingency plans that ensure everything continues to run smoothly.

Construction phasing due to increased budget and cash flow issues has been considered but does not make logical or financial sense for the project. Equipment phasing, however, is a practical option that will allow the new facility to begin operations without being prepared to function at full capacity immediately. This will allow for a smoother transition, as the new facility will provide more services and require more staff than the current clinic. Equipment phasing will also mitigate the issue of cash flow as fundraising for the final costs continues.

The equipment planned to outfit the facility will come from a nonprofit medical equipment and supplies organization that will allow for the clinic to be furnished at a highly discounted rate. Earlier this year, we learned that our original supplier had closed its doors, so a partnership is being planned with a new company. A pre-assessment trip with the new supplier is scheduled for July 2019, and we pray that this new relationship will be a great solution for the project’s needs.

Finally, SRI and ACPSI continue to work closely with Dominican Public Health in order to ensure that we satisfy government requirements and receive official approval by the time the new facility is ready to open its doors.

*This graph represents budget, cash, and pledge funding as of 6/30/19. Visit revolution.solidrockinternational.org for the most up-to-date information.
The Christian Clinic for Integrated Health is located next to the SRI Guesthouse in San Juan de la Maguana. While the clinic functions with a Dominican staff year-round, many SRI teams help to provide specialty surgeries that otherwise would not be available.
The Christian Clinic for Integrated Health (CCSI) opened its doors in 1989 and has been serving the people of San Juan ever since. The CCSI is approximately 80% self-sustaining and operates twelve months a year whether or not SRI medical teams are present. It provides an avenue for SRI medical teams to serve the population effectively during their short time in San Juan.

This past year, SRI hosted 26 barrio clinic teams (outpatient clinics in remote locations) and 17 surgical and medical teams who worked with the CCSI. The surgical teams worked in the areas of general surgery, ENT, urology, hand, pediatric orthopedics, colorectal surgery, and GYN. Aside from surgical teams, volunteers also served with the clinic in the areas of chiropractic services, medical education, dermatology, and dental care. Thank you to all who were involved in these medical teams this year!
“We thank God and the ministry of Solid Rock International along with its sponsors for the great help that has been given for all these years.”

– Pastor Morales Ogando, CCIE

Christian Center for Educational Development (CCED): Located in San Juan de la Maguana about a mile from the Christian Clinic and the SRI Guesthouse, the CCED school provides education from preschool to 12th grade, including vocational and specialized training for students and adults in the community. Established in 1995, this was the first SRI-affiliated school and is run by Principal Simon Sanchez.

Christian Center for Integrated Education (CCIE): Directed by Pastor Morales Ogando and Carlos Ogando, the CCIE school is located in El Cercado next to the Christian Clinic’s satellite clinic and home of the Child Nutrition Program. This school provides education for children in preschool through grade four.

Eastern Evangelical School: Located in the capital city of Santo Domingo in the community of Villa Esfuerzo, this school is directed by Pastor Firo Cuello Baez and offers preschool through 12th grade education.

Lamb of God School: Directed by Maria Magdelina Terrero and Ricardo Manuel Alcantara, this school is located near the Haitian border in Comendador, the capital city of Elías Piña. Education is provided for students in preschool through eighth grade.

Lucille Rupp School: This school is directed by Larys Mateo and is located in the heart of San Juan de la Maguana. Classes are offered for students from preschool through 12th grade. Established by Evangelical Mennonite Missionary Lucille Rupp in 1956, it is the oldest of the schools affiliated with SRI.
Flag Raising at CCED

Current Student Sponsorship Statistics

The current state of the Dominican economy has presented our schools with many needs. Join with us as we assist in providing the best education possible for these children by helping us meet our goals.

Students at five SRI schools: 2,755
Total students sponsored: 945 (34%)
July 2020 goal: 1,102 (40%)
Long-term goal: 2,755 (100%)

Student Sponsorship – What You Give and What You Receive

The gift of education changes lives and helps bring children out of poverty by providing hope, opportunity, and knowledge that will last a lifetime. The Christian schools sponsored by SRI offer an excellent education in a Christ-centered environment, providing students with skills to create a future of success. You can change the life of a student today by starting a sponsorship of just $30 a month.

SRI is working hard to make sure student sponsors receive frequent, meaningful, and accurate information regarding their student(s). In January, handwritten student letters are sent out as well as updated school pictures. In July, sponsors receive an end-of-year report from each school principal.

An additional blessing of sponsorship through SRI is the opportunity to meet the sponsored student and his or her family during a short-term mission trip through SRI. Sponsors who come to serve regularly enjoy forming relationships, visiting together, and watching their sponsored students grow up over the years.
Ministry Assistants work alongside North American teams to coordinate and run Vacation Bible School during the summer months in cooperation with local Dominican churches. Children who attend enjoy a curriculum put together by SRI staff that includes Bible teachings, crafts, games, music, and snacks.
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SRI works hard to ensure VBS teams serve effectively and efficiently during their limited time in San Juan. SRI staff play an integral role in VBS success by developing the activities handbook, helping to teach Bible lessons, and bridging the cultural gap between North American teams and the Dominican children they serve. Five teams had the opportunity to serve in this way in the last year.

SRI aims to be an example of Christ’s love in all areas of ministry. Whether it’s sending a dental team to a remote area to pull teeth, sponsoring a needy student to go to the local Christian school, teaching a young mother how to write her name for the first time, or constructing a wall that will one day house a REVOLUTIONARY clinic, it is all done to glorify God. By living out the vision of *transforming the body, mind, and soul of the poor in the Dominican Republic*, SRI strives to provide programs and ministries that serve the whole person. This couldn’t be done without the many skills, talents, and giftings represented by team members that participate on short-term mission trips. Thank you volunteers!

Congratulation to students from five middle/high schools and five elementary schools (including three SRI-sponsored schools) who worked hard to memorize Ephesians 1-3 as part of a Bible Quizzing program. SRI employee, Frank Beltré, along with his wife, Juanita, have led this program for several years now as a way to encourage children and their families to read and learn scripture.

The outpatient *barrio* medical clinics are a unique opportunity for teams to provide for both physical and spiritual needs. Patients not only get medical care, but also are able to receive prayer and learn about Jesus, the Great Physician. With support of SRI Pastor Enol and other Dominican staff, team members holistically share the love of God with various communities as they serve through outpatient clinics and home visits.
The CNP provides healthcare and improved nutrition for children, along with health education and a literacy program for their mothers or caretakers. While the CNP generally works with children under five, special focus is given to those under two as that is a crucial time for development. As part of the CNP’s enrollment process, children receive a medical evaluation to determine their level of malnutrition, anemia, and any other underlying health issues.

Once enrolled, children in the program have regular medical check-ups to monitor progress and receive a supply of fortified powdered milk. Through our partnership with Amway, they also receive Nutrilite Little Bits vitamins, corn flour, and corn meal. Caretakers are required to attend physician-led classes focusing on health and basic nutrition prior to receiving their products.

Informal home visits with a combination of a physician, social worker, and/or health promoter serve to reinforce essential health education knowledge and make connections to support the child’s overall well-being.

There are currently 104 children from more than 30 rural communities in the El Cercado area enrolled in the program.

This life-saving program is in need of continued funding in order to better serve those enrolled. Supporters can commit to either a monthly, quarterly, or annual pledge in partnership with SRI to aid these families. At just $45 a month, you can make a huge difference in the life of one of these children by helping with the cost of milk, vitamins, medical testing, and treatment.

We are excited to share that Paloma Beltre Medina has been providing her physiotherapist services as a new addition to the CNP this year. Paloma goes to El Cercado one day a week to work with children in the program who have motor development issues. We are thankful for her commitment as this service has already begun making a big impact in the lives of CNP children and families.

SRI held its seventh annual Rice and Beans Challenge in August 2018, encouraging supporters to eat only rice and beans for a week and donate money saved on food expenses to the CNP. SRI supporters donated $8,184, enough to provide milk for a year to 34 children enrolled in the program! This year’s challenge is set to take place August 18-24, 2019.
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| **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**        | FY2019  | FY2018  |
| Current Liabilities                   | $45,774  | $9,164   |
| Net Assets                            | $1,780,798 | $1,859,627 |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**  | $1,826,572 | $1,868,791 |

| **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**           |        |
| **REVENUE**                           | FY2019 | FY2018 |
| Cash Contributions                    | $1,671,563 | $1,737,738 |
| Change in Pledges Receivable          | -$48,712 | -$190,320 |
| Donated Office and Storage Space      | $1,200   | $1,200   |
| **TOTAL REVENUE**                     | $1,624,051 | 100.0%  | $1,548,618 | 100.0% |

| **EXPENSES**                          | FY2019 | FY2018 |
| Ministry                              | $1,002,570 | 61.7%   | $1,001,897 | 64.7% |
| REVOLUTION                            | $464,752  | 28.6%   | $156,000  | 10.1% |
| Administrative                        | $187,352  | 11.5%   | $175,925  | 11.4% |
| Fundraising                           | $76,045   | 4.7%    | $56,872   | 3.7% |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES**                    | $1,730,719 | 106.6%  | $1,390,694 | 89.8% |

| **CHANGE IN NET ASSETS**              |        |
|                                      | -$106,668 | -6.6%   | $157,924  | 10.2% |

**Fiscal Year 2019 - Expenses**

- Ministry - 58.8%
- REVOLUTION - 25.9%
- Administrative - 10.9%
- Fundraising - 4.4%
“God’s way is perfect. All the LORD’s promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to Him for protection. For who is God except the LORD? Who but our God is a solid rock?” – Psalm 18:30-31