In 2016, Mending Kids continued to be a leader in global pediatric surgery. We provided care to children, trained more local surgeons, and engaged in more social advocacy work than ever before.

See some of our highlights from the year on the pages that follow.
2016 BY THE NUMBERS

550 Children Mended
673 Surgical Procedures Provided
27 Missions to 15 Countries
97 Trainees mentored by MK medical providers
9 Global Conferences Supported

Mending Kids gives sick kids life-saving surgical care while advancing education and training towards medical self-sufficiency in their communities.
Our Hometown Mission in Los Angeles changed the lives of 18 children and their families.

**Overseas Surgical Missions**
We deployed 27 missions to 15 countries, a 30% increase over 2015.

**Individual Surgical Care**
23 kids received complex surgical care through the ISC program in 2016.

**Hometown Mission**
Our Hometown Mission in Los Angeles changed the lives of 18 children and their families.

**Training, Research & Innovation**
In its inaugural year, the TRI department piloted initiatives to build greater sustainability and impact.
Overseas Surgical Missions

Last year we intensified our focus on our surgical mentorships in Tanzania—increasing the level of complexity of cardiac care and getting one-step closer to helping build capacity. Notably, we mended 45 hearts in a single, intensive trip and facilitated the gift of surgical instruments, valued over $60,000, so that local surgeons have proper tools to operate on pediatric cases.

Closer to home, we partnered with Mobile Pediatric Orthopedic Education ‘MoPOEd’ on 3 mission trips to lay the groundwork for an orthopedic training site in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. We’ve also added Armenia as a new mission country where we will work with the UCLA Center for World Health to support surgical training and research in the areas of pediatric trauma, facial paralysis and urology.
The Individual Surgical Care program took on a variety of complex cases in 2016. We facilitated surgical care for 14 children through the International program, sending these children and a guardian to one of our partner hospitals to receive care. We also hosted 9 children from around the world to Southern California to receive care at local hospitals through our US program.

One child who received care through the ISC-US program is 13-year-old Damaris from El Salvador. Damaris was born with cleft palate, a congenital condition. She has undergone 11 surgeries in her home country but unfortunately those procedures were unsuccessful. Damaris will have surgery at Shriners Hospital to repair her cleft palate. We are hopeful that this will be the last surgery she’ll need.
In addition to providing care to children living abroad, Mending Kids also works to improve access to specialist surgical care for underserved children right here in the USA. In 2016, we continued our partnership with the Specialty Surgical Center of Beverly Hills to host our 4th annual Hometown Mission in Los Angeles. The day-long mission brought together teams of surgeons, anesthesiologists, and nurses to provide reconstructive surgery for 18 children from Southern California. Children presented with a range of surgical conditions, from hairy nevus to phimosis to syndactyly. All surgeries were successful and children were sent home with their families the same day.
Founded just one year ago the Training, Research, and Innovation ‘TRI’ department has already made important contributions to advancing the Mending Kids mission. In 2016, we engaged in academic research and supported global surgical conferences in order to advance understanding of pediatric surgery and care delivery. Additionally, the department launched a new training model during overseas surgical missions to bolster local surgical capacity.

These extensive training efforts have already made a significant impact in many of the countries we serve. For example, in Mozambique Mending Kids provided training in burn care and plastic surgery to the 4 leading plastic surgeons in the country. In November 2016, when an explosion involving a fuel tanker killed 73 people and injured over 110 others, these surgeons trained by Mending Kids were recruited to an elite national task force to travel to the region and treat burn patients.
Dedicated Supporter

In addition to leading our missions to Mozambique and volunteering at our Hometown, Los Angeles missions, Dr. David A. Kulber encourages his friends and family to donate to Mending Kids. Most recently, Dr. Kulber invited The Bangles to host a fundraising concert for Mending Kids.

Enthusiastic Supporter

Before traveling on her very first mission to Guatemala, Alana Witting and her mother held a bake sale to raise funds for the mission. Alana plans to return to Guatemala and volunteer her time on mission trips.

Inspiring Supporter

After months of training, Ty Frost ran the LA Marathon in February to fundraise for a child's surgery. Thanks to Ty's efforts, Gebon in Ethiopia was able to receive surgical care. Ty will be running the LA marathon again in 2017 on behalf of, Zainabu, an infant in need of heart surgery from Tanzania.

Adventurous Supporter

Long time supporter and volunteer, Naomi Carmona-Morshead climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro on her 60th birthday to raise funds for 100 cardiac patients. Naomi is a cardiac surgery survivor herself, and is a member of Mending Kids' ‘Critical Care Team’ (a monthly donation program).

2016 SPOTLIGHT: OUR SUPPORTERS
On Saturday October 16, 2016 Mending Kids hosted our 5th annual Wings Around the World Gala at the historic Union Station in downtown Los Angeles. It was a fun-filled night celebrating our surgical mission program to Luoyang, China. Since 2012, Mending Kids has deployed surgical teams to mend orphans suffering from complex colorectal anomalies and train local surgeons and nurses on specialized surgical skills. After receiving crucial life-saving surgeries from Mending Kids, many orphans have gone on to be adopted.

Guests of honor, Trig and Ivor (front center) were born in China, separated and abandoned at birth because of complex health conditions. Trigg (on the left) was mended by our surgeons as an infant and given a new chance at life. By a miracle, the boys were reunited and both adopted by a loving American family. The boys are living healthy, happy lives.
OUR TEAM

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Brett Pfefferman | Marketing Intern

Complete financial report available on our website or upon request.
Thank you for a wonderful year. Help us keep it going in 2017!

DONATE NOW
mendingkids.org