

# PINCC Prevention International No Cervical Cancer



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Newsletter, July 2011  
PINCC Begins its 7th year

## **An update from Director Dr. Kay Taylor**

Sometimes, when we're working down among the weeds, it helps to raise our heads to see what we've sown. In putting this report together, I was pleased and excited to see how much we'd accomplished, with your support, in a year's time. Here is my summary of our past year's campaign activities.

In Africa we worked in 7 hospitals in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania. We trained a total of 84 staff members, examined 1,239 women, and treated 52 women for precancerous cervical cells. We donate equipment to 5 sites, and certified 2 sites, now independent. We began work at 3 new sites. In February, we consulted with Aga Khan Hospital in Nairobi about referring patients for radiation therapy, and follow-up for difficult cases from our Kenya clinics. We also did a preliminary site visit at Shining Hope Clinic in Kibera Slums to discuss beginning their training in September. This slum has a million people, without water or electricity, much less health care. It's a new clinic, which we hope will be the key to helping the thousands of women here.

In India, we visited 2 hospitals, Sri Sathya Sai Mobile Hospital (SSSMH) in Puttaparthi (Andhra Pradesh) and the Public Health Research Institute of India (PHRII) in Mysore (Karnataka). We trained 27 gynecologists, examined 657 women, and treated 24 women for precancerous cells. PINCC donated both cryotherapy and LEEP equipment. Puttaparthi is now functioning independently, serving 12 central villages, which draw from 27 smaller ones. We are planning an expansion of services with the Mysore hospitals and PHRII, and considering establishing a training institute in Mysore for the surrounding provinces of India.

In Latin America, we visited 6 hospitals and clinics in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Peru. We trained 63 staff members, examined 762 women, and treated 76. PINCC donated 2 LEEP and 3 cryotherapy machines. Our Latin America program has made great strides. We are partnering with the Ministries of Health in El Salvador and Nicaragua, and with Pathfinders International in Peru, who have a network of 7 sites across the country.



**174 Staff members  
Trained**



**2658 Women  
Examined**



**152 Women  
Treated**



**10 Sites  
Equipped**

As we go to press, PINCC is on Campaign in these 3 Latin American nations. We will complete training in Lima, and will move to northern Peru. El Salvador is bringing in medical providers from rural clinics to begin training in San Salvador, as well as beginning their own training program between our visits. In Nicaragua, we are working in Leon with professors and residents in gynecology, and training doctors and nurses from nearby clinics. We'll complete training in the northern Jalapa area, 2 hospitals and 3 clinics.



*Clinic in Kapenguria, Kenya*

I'd like to share a special report from our Kitale, Kenya site, where the midwives are doing outreach to the region's rural clinics. Mary Keiyo reports that they have screened 551 women and treated 42 abnormal cases in 10 clinics, just in the last 3 months. Sadly, they currently have 14 women dying of cervical cancer in their hospital; you can see why they are so motivated to get this screening and treatment going! That's 42 women who won't die, just in 3 months' work!

I hope this summary gives you a picture of our exciting year. We've seen 2,658 women while training, and our trainees screen 50 to 100 women each in the interim 6 months between visits. Our impact has been to prevent cervical cancer for over 10,000 women in 7 developing countries this year alone. We are beginning Train-The-Trainer programs in 4 countries, and working on collaborations in the other 3. I'm proud to say that we're small, but we're mighty! We do this work with the aid of our incredible volunteers, 3 staff, and your generous support.

***You can help us to meet our goal of reaching twice as many women in the year to come, by giving twice your donation! Here's one charity that you know is putting your money directly to work. Many thanks for your ongoing support!***

## **If We Teach Them, They Will Come**

by Victoria Valencia

A major goal at PINCC is to ensure the women who live in the communities we serve receive cervical cancer screening for years after we certify doctors and nurses at a clinic. We think one way to achieve this is with local womanpower! We want the women (and men!) that live in communities near these clinics to be aware of the cervical cancer prevention programs, and to be motivated and comfortable with seeking regular care. Therefore, we are starting a Community Outreach and Education (COE) project. We are very grateful to Dining for Women for a grant of \$18,000 to support this important project.



*Grandmother in Jalapa*

This summer, we will talk to three groups

of people: community women, community health workers and nurses. We'll learn how much they understand about cervical cancer screening, and see where there are gaps in knowledge. Then we'll fill these gaps by developing targeted educational materials that will empower women with the information we find they need most.

One important part of this empowerment will be community health workers. They are the link between the clinic and community, a trusted source for health advice and counseling. Our COE project will give them tools to educate their communities about the importance of screening and how it can save lives. The flip charts we're creating will make the information understandable for pre- and semi-literate women.

Over the next year's Campaigns, we'll be training the health workers and nurses, and going into the communities with them. PINCC wants the women to be motivated to demand services to prevent cervical cancer, and spread the word to others. The COE project will do this, as well as measure our impact in the communities we visit.

## **Through The Eyes Of A Volunteer**

By Larry Shushan at Zacamil

I sit in a tiny room at a beat-up metal desk typing patient information into a laptop while a woman is examined on the other side of the partition.

It's tedious, repetitive work requiring utter accuracy. I sense a stare: To my right, just outside the metal-barred open glass-slatted window is a sweet, smiling face with big brown eyes that watch my every move. The face belongs to a Salvadoran girl of maybe 10, whose mother is on the exam table. The eyes epitomize innocence and shyness being overpowered by curiosity about the unusual white-haired American man performing mysterious work with fingers on a keyboard. I try to imagine how to connect without a shared language and beyond just returning the smile.

I remember a toy my grandchildren gave me to share, a simple number puzzle square like I had as a kid -- a toy whose language isn't exclusive to my world



or hers. I grab it and walk it out to the girl, who is overjoyed by the attention and the gift. She beams and quietly says 'gracias.' When she is leaving, she first stops by and waves goodbye with the puzzle, still smiling ear to ear.

**Volunteer NOW!!**

**Contact Carol Cruickshank**

**admin@pincc.org**

## **ARE YOU HARDY ENOUGH TO BE A PINCC CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEER?**

(Taken from PINCC Program Director Carol Cruickshank's communiqué to the Africa trip volunteers)

We do not expect to have Internet access. We will plan to eat breakfast and dinner at our host's house. Eat only cooked food, or fruits that have been washed with bleach solution. There is no reliable water or electricity; bring a flashlight. You will need mosquito netting. PINCC, as always, will supply

*El Salvadoran doctor, Dr. Julio Rosales (wearing the burgundy scrub shirt) was trained by PINCC 2 years ago. Here he trains doctors and nurses after a long day of working with about 4 dozen patients at the San Jacinto clinic in central San Salvador.*



drinking water. We will be sleeping on borrowed hospital beds, two to a room. There is one bathroom and it has a bucket-flushed toilet. Outhouses are a common experience while traveling; carry tissue. Bathing is out of a bucket placed in the bathtub; sometimes you'll get heated water. There's one mirror in the house; if you get that room, expect traffic! Close-toed shoes will help to prevent hookworm, whipworm and other parasites common in Africa. Bring your sense of humor!

With a charitable heart our volunteers endure a week or two of basic conditions to bring life saving care to deserving women that would otherwise go without: our hats are off to them!

## **Fiesta Latina raises \$25,000!**

by Tenay Woodard

Fiesta Latina was the theme of PINCC's fundraising event Sunday May 15, in Oakland, and it was quite the celebration! As the sun shone outside, PINCC's guests took salsa lessons directed by Ruth Caspary of Salsa with Juan, and danced to live Latin music by Edgardo & Candela's LaTiDo.



*Center: New PINCC Board Member Wendy Rothenberg*



*PINCC Board Members with El Salvador Consul General Ana del Carmen Valenzuela,*

The whole affair was emceed by the talented weather anchor Roberta Gonzales of CBS 5, and included a guest appearance by El Salvador Consul General Ana del Carmen Valenzuela. Guests also appreciated the delicious foods from Latin regions which PINCC served, selected from a host of

wonderful items to buy or bid on, and viewed Emiko Omori's "PINCC in Central America" film. Many commented on how much they enjoyed learning about PINCC.



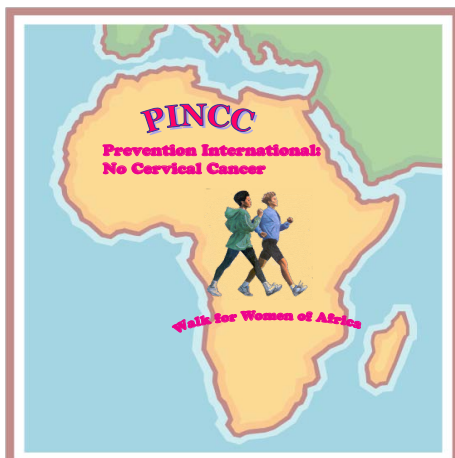
Dr. Kay Taylor,  
Roberta Gonzales  
CBS 5 Weather Anchor,  
and Lary Shushan  
Board Member

At the end of the afternoon, PINCC was pleased to announce that it achieve its targeted goal of \$25,000! PINCC gives sincere and warm thanks to our volunteers and all the people who supported Fiesta Latina. Please continue to visit our website for more information about upcoming events, news, and other ways to get involved.

## **Walk For Africa: PINCCs Third Annual Walkathon- Save the Date!**

by Gwen Johnson

The average African woman walks miles to receive cervical cancer screening. Can you walk 3 miles to help her receive it? PINCC's annual walkathon will raise money for screening, educating and treating African women to prevent cervical cancer, which kills over 800 women a day. PINCC's Cervical Cancer Challenge: How Many Women Can You Save? Will you join us at the challenge rate of \$15 a mile (\$50.00 for a walk around Lake Merritt)? Fifteen dollars will pay for one woman in the developing world to be screened and treated to prevent cervical cancer.



"Walk for Women of Africa", will be Saturday, September 24, 2011 from 10 am to 1:00 pm. Enlist your friends or create a team of neighbors, work associates or church members. Great prizes will be offered!



A 2010 Walkathon team happily poses before their walk

Sign up on-line at [www.pincc.org](http://www.pincc.org), call 510-452-2542, or email us at [admin@pincc.org](mailto:admin@pincc.org). You can also stay up-to-date with all PINCC events by "liking us" on Facebook. If you are unable to join us but would like to support the women in Africa you can be a Virtual Walker, and have family/friends sponsor your participation.

## **PINCC Joins the 21st century**

by Tenay Woodard

Beginning in July PINCC supporters will be able to stay up-to-date with our campaigns and monthly activities on our



(Picture taken from [langwitches.org](http://langwitches.org))

Facebook page, invite friends and family to watch short films on our Youtube channel, and experience PINCC's mission through the eyes of our volunteers on our Blog. Please check out all our stories and pictures by visiting our website, [www.pincc.org](http://www.pincc.org), and clicking on any one of the links under "Follow us" in the upper right hand corner of our homepage. Also we would like your input. Please visit us on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PINCC](http://www.facebook.com/PINCC) and click on the Discussions page to leave your comments and feedback.

***Does PINCC really work? What happens after PINCC finishes training a site?? Read our next newsletter to find out about Dr. Kay Taylor's return to Acahalinca clinic in Nicaragua after 5 years***