

Clinic Acquires New Bus to Pick up Patients

For months there has been a “buz” in the air amongst Manos Amigas Board members as they carried on discussions about the appropriate vehicle choice for their clinic. The dream of establishing a medical transportation system for their clinic has come one step closer to reality. In our strategic plan the expectation was that we would have it in time for the opening of our new clinic, but as Mike Tysowsky, SATC’s Board Chairman continues to say, “Honduras is the place where miracles happen”, and so it is that “we were able to do it way ahead of schedule.” Crossroads was awarded an endowment grant for \$25,000 as a down payment for a “medi-transport vehicle” in La Entrada, which was then coupled with a gift from a benefactor that enabled the purchase of a new, 15-passenger Toyota bus.

US advertisers may want us believe that we reside in “Ford Country” or that their vehicles are “built Ford tough”, but in Honduras, all you need do is stand on the side of the road near the airport in San Pedro Sula and you will quickly see that Toyotas rule supreme in this part of the world! They are the vehicle of choice.



The bus, similar to the one pictured here but white in color, is equipped with a diesel engine and air conditioning so it should provide the reliability and comfort needed to transport patients to and from the clinic. Final papers are being processed and soon a shiny, white Toyota will be traversing the roads of neighboring barrios.

The bus acquisition could not have come at a more opportunistic time. During visits by medical teams, when people come from great distances to receive medical attention, there are always numerous instances when availability of such a vehicle would have been an asset – particularly when dealing with foot infections, leg injuries, pregnancies and specialized testing in distant cities when patients are very weak or lack funds to travel there.