

project c.u.r.e.
is helping save
lives in more than
120 underserved
countries



Maribeth Trujillo, R.N.

medical mission

by suzy devers

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Walk down the hallway at Littleton, Parker or Porter Adventist Hospital and you’re likely to see a Project C.U.R.E. bin. Project C.U.R.E. is a nonprofit humanitarian organization that collects and ships donated medical supplies to more than 120 underserved nations.

Donation stations, which are placed on every floor of the hospital, collect a wide range of safe medical items that would otherwise end up in a landfill, such as unused surgical gloves and unused hypodermic needles.

Project C.U.R.E. also receives larger items from wholesale distributors that have surpluses and from hospitals that have a need to replace older operable equipment with newer models. Larger items include everything from cardiac monitors and dialysis machines to wheel chairs and hospital beds.

reaching out

Once a month for the past six years, Maribeth Trujillo, R.N., director of professional resources at Littleton Adventist Hospital, has volunteered at Project C.U.R.E. Trujillo oversees a team of five to 15 volunteers who sort the medical supplies into labeled boxes destined for 40-foot cargo containers, which leave Colorado each month.

“My role is to assist nonmedical volunteers in getting the right item into the right box for shipping,” Trujillo says. “We might get an open box that says ‘catheters,’ so my medical background really helps; I know the difference between a Foley, an IV and a heart catheter.”

identifying a need

Trujillo says she appreciates that Project C.U.R.E. makes sure the right supplies get into the right hands and that it’s clear how the medical supplies are used.

“It’s not a matter of sending a ship somewhere and randomly dumping off medical supplies,” Trujillo says. Hospitals and clinics must first apply for assistance and then a Project C.U.R.E. team conducts a thorough on-site needs assessment before shipping supplies.

Trujillo’s work with Project C.U.R.E. inspired her to travel to Peru on medical missions, so she could assist in person. As a former pediatric and maternal-newborn registered nurse, she says it pulls at her heartstrings to see firsthand children in such dire need.

Referring to her work with Project C.U.R.E., Trujillo says, “This is my passion ... one syringe and one needle can save a life.”

Project C.U.R.E. was founded in Evergreen, Colorado, in 1987 and runs on volunteers.

Littleton, Parker and Porter Adventist Hospitals support Project C.U.R.E.’s mission and its effort to recruit volunteers. For more information or to explore volunteer opportunities, visit projectcure.org/volunteer. 