Project Partners
• Obras Sociales del Santo Hermano Pedro (Hermano Pedro)

Populations/Communities Served
• Residents of Hermano Pedro, who are adults and children from throughout Guatemala with disabilities

Timeframe
• 7/5/08-8/17/08 in Guatemala with ongoing work from Emory
Project Goals

• Develop activity notebooks for a pilot group of patients that describe each patient and his/her rehabilitation activities
• Facilitate translation of notebooks into Spanish, Dutch, and German
• Train international volunteers to use activity notebooks to enhance the rehabilitation services that Hermano Pedro residents are receiving
• Collaborate with local therapists to share ideas about physical therapy treatment and identify ways in which Emory’s Doctor of Physical Therapy Program can continue to support the rehabilitation services at Hermano Pedro

Expected Outcomes

• Create notebooks for seven residents
• Build relationships for continued partnerships
• Share physical therapy knowledge and rehabilitation resources
• Improve clinical and Spanish-speaking skills
Progress to date

- Experience completed 8/17/08
- Continued communication with local therapists and volunteer coordinators for ongoing support of project

Next steps

- Utilize knowledge about identified needs to secure donations and outline future projects
- Return in January with larger group of physical therapy students to continue program and relationship development
- Seek official Memorandum of Understanding to create a formal partnership between Emory’s DPT program and Hermano Pedro
Jessica Anleu, Chief Physical Therapist at Obras Sociales Santo Hermano Pedro, observes as Megan Brock works with a young resident on wheelchair to bed transfers. Megan’s service learning objectives for the summer of 2008 included the development of written exercise programs to be implemented by trained community volunteers. This young man’s local physical therapist identified functional goals related to wheelchair mobility and independence in transfers.
Megan Brock (student participant), Jessica Anleu (Chief Physical Therapist at Obras Sociales Santo Hermano Pedro) and Dr. Susan Freed (faculty mentor) enjoy a physical therapy session with a young resident of Hermano Pedro. Constant collaboration with local therapists was one of the most important components of the 2008 project.