

## The Process

Local physicians and health care providers play a critical role in the process. Many months prior to the trip, these individuals screen, evaluate, and take x-rays of potential surgical candidates. The Operation Walk Syracuse team will receive this information months before the scheduled trip. This enables us to plan and assemble the necessary supplies, including the specific joint implants that will be used during surgery.

Intense logistical planning ensues which includes team confirmation, schedule coordination, surgical supply assembly, and transportation of the equipment and supplies to the recipient country. Six to eight tons of supplies will be shipped in advance to our host hospital for each trip.

After arrival in the host country, our surgical teams will assemble and meet the local medical team. Surgeries will be performed with the local team present to provide a hands-on educational experience. Education will continue in the postoperative and rehabilitative phases of care so that the local team will be well prepared to continue the healing process.

## How *You* Can Help!

### Financial Gifts:

The 50+ professionals who go on these one week mission trips donate their time. Your contribution will assist in funding the more than \$200,000 that is required for team transportation, supply shipping, food, lodging, non-donated supplies & necessary repairs to the host hospital's equipment.

### Donated Medical Supplies:

Most supplies are donated by implant & pharmaceutical companies. It is costly to ship the supplies due to the volume and weight of the implants and instrumentation.

### Volunteer Staff Persons:

Each trip requires skilled medical personnel and staff persons both here in Syracuse as well as on the actual trip. Please submit application letters to Kim Murray at Operation Walk Syracuse, c/o Syracuse Orthopedic Specialists, 5824 Widewaters Parkway, East Syracuse, NY 13057

For more information contact:

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*"We make a living by what we get,  
but we make a life by what we give"*  
Winston Churchill



Operation Walk Syracuse

[www.operationwalksyracuse.org](http://www.operationwalksyracuse.org)

*A non-profit organization*

Dr. Brett Greenky

Dr. Seth Greenky

Executive Directors

Kimberley Murray, RN, MS, CNOR

Clinical Director

## Changing Lives

Operation Walk is a not-for-profit volunteer medical service organization providing free hip and knee replacements to those with disabling arthritis or other bone and joint conditions in developing countries and the USA. The goal is to enable people to return to their lives as productive and contributing members of society.

Volunteers provide life-changing care for those in need. They donate time, knowledge, and resources. They always work to complete as many joint replacements as possible.

<b>Nepal</b>	2011
<b>Panama</b>	2012, 2013
<b>Guatemala</b>	2015, 2016
<b>Ghana</b>	2016
<b>Syracuse</b>	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

\*2011 marked the first journey to Nepal and we have travelled annually since that time.

\*We also care for local residents during the Operation Walk USA initiative each year.

Founded in 1994 by Lawrence D. Dorr, M.D., Operation Walk surgeons, nurses, and other health professionals have operated throughout the world including Russia, Cuba, Nepal, China, The Philippines, Nicaragua, Peru, El Salvador, Vietnam, Panama, Ecuador, and the United States.

Syracuse, New York has been designated as the 13th Operation Walk team.

## Why We're Committed

- Intense, unrelenting pain and mobility limitations makes experiencing a normal, productive life nearly impossible. The most basic of activities are a challenge and their inability to walk often leaves them unable to provide for themselves or their families.
- We're excited to lead, organize, and participate in an initiative that will not only restore the ability to walk, but will dramatically impact the lives of those less fortunate.
- The opportunity to provide in-country education to surgeons and health care professionals has a longer standing impact and promotes self healing and independence

### Objectives:

- To accomplish 70 or more hip or knee replacements per mission trip

## Key Points

**The entire medical team volunteers their time:**

- Surgeons, nurses, physical therapists, anesthesiologists, and internists during the trip
- Clinical and other community individuals during the year-long preparation for each mission trip



**Medical supplies and equipment are provided through donations**

### Costs

- Hospital charges for one hip or knee replacement would be well in excess of \$100,000
- Average cost for 75 hip or knee replacements would be greater than \$7.5 million dollars
- The time donated by the medical team per mission trip is estimated to be more than \$400,000

