Made possible by the Right Surgeons and the Right Donors.

Celebrating Successful Surgeries

These surgeons from Kabul, Afghanistan, celebrate 1,000 SIGN Surgeries performed in Shinozada Hospital. “They are excellent surgeons and humanitarians,” says Dr. Zirkle. “They provide excellent surgery for people with traumatic injuries. SIGN salutes the surgeons who work hard for their people.”

Around the world, more than 5,000 SIGN Surgeons are healing injuries caused by road traffic crashes, conflict, falls, and accidents. Since 1999, they have provided SIGN Surgery for more than 200,000 injured and impoverished people. Your support is helping SIGN rapidly expand. In 2016, we delivered more than 26,000 SIGN Implants and are on pace to surpass that total in 2017.

Despite these great accomplishments, we are not satisfied. According to the United Nations, 20-50 million people are injured in road traffic accidents every year, many of them with broken bones. SIGN Surgeons are providing orthopaedic surgery for people in some of the world’s poorest places, but there are still thousands of injured people who do not have access to the proper care to heal their injuries.

With your support, we can provide surgery to help these people walk within a few days and return to work within a few weeks, rather than lie in a hospital bed for a few months. SIGN Surgery gets breadwinners back to work and children back to school, so patients and their families can resume their lives and livelihoods.

Double Your Impact

Through December 31, your gift to SIGN is multiplied 2x!

Your generous donations will be matched by a fund at the Seattle Foundation, which means your gift of $150 now provides implants for 2 SIGN Surgeries.
Welcome to the 2nd in a 4-part series about how to make the most of your giving by planning ahead.

How do you start a financial conversation at a Super Bowl party? Bring up conversions. No, not points after a touchdown. Roth IRA conversions. Let’s huddle and go over the plays.

Consider retirement savings the touchdown of financial planning. If you’ve funded a traditional IRA, you may be ready to dance in the end zone. But before celebrating, you need to think about the conversion. Converting your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA may allow you to take future withdrawals on your investment tax-free. So we’ll call this the one-point conversion. The downside is that converting to a Roth IRA generates income taxes, which can be a big hit on your bottom line. Help soften the blow and offset some of that taxable income by giving cash or securities to charity and receive a charitable deduction. Because you’re meeting your giving goals and offsetting taxes, we’ll call this the two-point conversion. And as any football fan can attest, that extra point could just win you the big game.

Michelle Clary is a wealth advisor with Thrivent Financial, at Sageland Financial Consultants in Kennewick.

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**Giving Ideas**

**IRA**
Check with your CPA to see if you are eligible to give a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA account directly to SIGN.

**Stocks and Bonds**
When doing your year-end tax planning, consult with your CPA about donating stocks and bonds to SIGN. Not only will your gift help heal, but you may receive some valuable tax advantages as well.

**Employer Matching**
Many employers match donations to charities. Check with your Human Resources department to find out how your donation to SIGN can go further.

For all donations, please call us at (509) 371-1107 or give online at signfracturecare.org/donate

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**Strategic Charitable Giving**

Part 2: Giving through a Roth IRA Conversion

_By Michelle Clary, Thrivent Financial_

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New SIGN Program in Nicaragua

Dr. Greg Schmale, an orthopaedic surgeon from Seattle, WA, has worked with surgeons in Managua, Nicaragua, for a number of years. This year he brought SIGN Equipment, including SIGN Pediatric Implants, to Managua and taught the surgeons there how to perform SIGN Surgery.

Nicaragua is burdened by widespread underemployment and poverty; it is the poorest country in Central America. More than one-quarter of the population is below the age of 15.

Velez Paiz Hospital in Managua reopened in October after being destroyed by an earthquake in 2014. The doctors in the area have been working out of other hospitals while the construction was completed, and they are happy to have a new and modern facility to care for their patients.

Six-year-old Jason fractured his leg in a traffic accident, and his family quickly brought him to the hospital. Dr. Greg had just been teaching the local surgeons how to use the SIGN Equipment, and these were the right tools to treat Jason’s injury. Dr. Greg and Dr. Francisco Garcia performed their first SIGN Surgery to stabilize his femur.

Without SIGN Surgery, the young boy would have laid in traction in a hospital bed until his fracture healed. Often, this process takes a month or more, which keeps the young boy out of school and keeps his parents away from work, as they care for him. But because these surgeons had the right education and the right equipment, Jason is home and on the road to recovery after only a week in the hospital.

A Pediatric Implant for SIGN Surgery costs $150.

An implant for pediatric surgery in the US can cost $2,000 or more.

Jason and Dr. Francisco after Jason’s SIGN Surgery.
Support SIGN While You Shop

You can support SIGN while making your everyday purchases.

On each site listed below, log in to your account and choose SIGN Fracture Care International as your charity. Thank you!

WINE & DINE for SIGN

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the WINE & DINE for SIGN Benefit events in Portland and Tri-Cities. Your donations and matching funds raised over $582,000 to provide healing care for people in the world’s poorest places!

Thank you to our Benefactors and Sponsors!

Tri-Cities Benefit
- Columbia Sun RV Resort
- Kadlec NW Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine
- Richmond and Diane Hoch
- Law Offices of Teresa Ford, PC
- Bruker
- NW CPA Group
- Kiona Vineyards
- Hamilton Cellars
- Digital Image

Portland Benefit
- Randy and Mary Huebner
- Acumed
- Summit Orthopaedics
- Integrated Medical Solutions
- Almea Insurance, Inc.
- Jodie and Patrick Gilmore
- Leatherman Tool Group
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- Kolisch Hartwell
- Joel and Antje Gillard
- Sharon Wolfington

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