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What We Do

Children’s Healing Initiative

* **International Clinical Training (subtab of CHI)**

At the heart of HandReach's mission lies a commitment to transforming institutions through developing the expertise of the people who make up those institutions. As such, HandReach facilitates international surgical, rehabilitative, and psychosocial training clinics and sponsors joint conferences that allow for the sharing of best practices among institutions. HandReach brings together research and practice partnerships with the aim of enhancing the clinical expertise of all care providers involved in pediatric trauma rehabilitation.

Our areas of clinical focus include:

* Reconstructive surgery
* Prosthetics
* Physical Therapy
* Occupational Therapy
* Music Therapy
* Psychosocial Therapy

🡪 *Reconstructive Surgical Clinic*

🡪 *Rehabilitative Camps/Clinics*

Every summer, HandReach sponsors a team of professionals specializing in the psychosocial healing of pediatric trauma survivors. This team is supported by a multicultural team of specially-trained young adults to offer a summer camp experience for children healing from burn injuries or amputations. The camp has a dual purpose—to work with child trauma survivors directly, and to provide training and support for adults (professional clinicians, care providers, parents, and volunteers) who work with trauma-injured children on a regular basis.

Program activities include:

**For children:** Daytime programs in music, drumming, arts and crafts, games, and exercise.

**For adults:** Daytime presentations and workshops in the theory and practice of a variety of psychosocial healing modalities. (Including observation of children’s activities.)

**For all participants:** Evening programs involving music, drumming, and recreation open to all.

Currently, the main goal for our Psychosocial Camp/Conferences is to establish the base infrastructure for a Pediatric Trauma Survivor Society in Mainland China. This network will be supported by skilled clinicians from China and abroad who can share state-of-the-art resources for children growing up with trauma scars and amputations, and the adults who care for them. We seek to develop a small in-house prosthetics unit, the first of its kind in all of China, at the China General Air Force Hospital in Beijing, which will be supported over the long term by Co-op students from medical colleges in Boston. In Beijing this July, we will host a national-level Psychosocial Conference for doctors, nurses, rehabilitation therapists, and unit directors to present research papers and facilitate on a range of issues related to long-term pediatric psychosocial rehabilitation.

🡪 *Co-op Program*

* **Beat Brigade**

🡪*What is the Beat Brigade?*

The HandReach Beat Brigade is a program that seeks to empower local youth through healing modalities such as drumming, rehabilitation therapy, and leadership development through assisting child trauma survivors locally and abroad. The Beat Brigade's purpose is to offer training and experience for local youth to travel internationally to train teams in developing countries who work with pediatric trauma patients, particularly those with major burn injuries and amputations.  
  
In a society in which traditional family and community-based systems of support have become increasingly fragmented, drumming circles provide a sense of connectedness with others and interpersonal support. A drum circle provides an opportunity to connect with your own spirit at a deeper level, and also to connect with a group of other like-minded people.

Please join us on Tuesdays beginning January 4 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at Spontaneous Celebrations! Spontaneous Celebrations is located at 45 Danforth Street in Jamaica Plain, MA. Stony Brook is the closest MBTA stop on the Orange line.

🡪*Stories from the Field*

🡪*How to Get Involved*

* **General Education Fund**