

I Start this document indicate that it is very difficult to express through speech or writing as I do now, to refer to the work of almost a lifetime, by an extraordinary human, try to do, to put them in perspective human mission is a big responsibility, but is for me a big honor to make merit, that the work of a human being simply transcended when its principle is based on helping his Neighbor.

In 1996, I met Rick Sieller when I was doing my resident specialty training in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University Hospital of León city - Nicaragua, where He started his crusade to improve the quality of care for burn patients in our country, bringing the first sewing machines, materials, but more importantly the knowledge through training, both in public hospitals in the country, as its special relationship with our organization, the **Burn Children Care Foundation of Nicaragua**.

After continuing visits laid the foundation of formal training programs for our physical therapists in the management of early splinting and rehabilitation of the burn patients, creating a workshop for garments and masks of pressure therapy and thus creating the first Rehabilitation Clinic for burn children in Nicaragua and the region (Central America and the Caribbean), it is sponsored by Physicians for Peace, a group of which he was a member.

Which was not only a revolutionary approach, but in our third world countries, this type of medical devices are virtually inaccessible to the majority, by the high levels of poverty and extreme poverty with which we live, thereby reducing the social cost of this terrible scourge: the burns.

Over the years Rick quickly joined a group of surgeons, nurses and himself, with the visionary principle of training a multidisciplinary teams, creating and promoting our country the need to provide a comprehensive management in our burn patients, as the only and best alternative in the treatment of these patients, which materialized in the construction and operation of our own burn unit has been the model to the region and allowed the rapid establishment of burn units with the same profile approach throughout Central America and the Caribbean, the many interventions and sacrifices of Rick, have materialized because today every country in Central America and Dominican Republic, have their own facilities (burn units), following the visionary model of Rick, model that was reproduced around the world, reaching other continents such as Asia, among others.

Despite a serious heart condition that led to surgery, the mission has not stopped Rick, perhaps aware that only one group cannot solve all the needs of burn patients, founded and created the **International Woman and Children Burn Foundation (IWCBF)** as another tool to put in the service of burn patients around the world, this has led him and others places as in southeast Asia, which includes not only continue providing materials for the fabrication of splints, masks, pressure therapy garments, but also creating a standardized database as a tool to facilitate understanding of the complex phenomenon of burns, to define the real needs which are not only from a rehabilitative standpoint - care but also preventive.

Rick have an enormous merit in our burn unit, we have offered just now free of charge, the following services: the confection of 26,729 pressure therapy garments, 630 masks Uvex, 4,641 thermoplastic splints and a total of 93.910 rehabilitation treatments for burn patients, we should add this health services that are provided around all burn units in Central America and the Dominican Republic, where

Rick Sieller Hand have been present.

I could continue writing about Rick, who over the years of working together, not only left us an example of camaraderie and friendship, but the need to give our Neighbor that other given us, through this knowledge, skills and capabilities, but through medicine allows us to be a factor of change for the good of the humanity.

Rick is a pioneer of integral or comprehensive management of burn patients in our countries, where the demands are greater for the existing limitations, nevertheless, as a team we have created **"a university without borders"** and this makes it a work whose results will last, but the greater significance of the humanitarian work of Rick could be summarized in this way:

"The rich man is not measured by material possessions its own, but for what it is capable of giving to the others."

And finally we have defined as Rick, about the work with the burn patients; this is not only a commitment or responsibility, the work of any human resource with burn patients **"IS A LABOR OF LOVE"**

Sincerely;

Mario Pérez Reyes, MD.

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon.

Medical Director of the Burn Children Care Foundation of Nicaragua.