

Bolivia

August 3, 2007

Hospital Barrios Mineros, which translates as Mining Neighborhoods' Hospital, received Global Links 13th container of 2007. This is the **14th** container Global Links has sent to Bolivia since we began to work there in 2000. This 30-bed hospital in the mining city of Oruro serves a rather small but needy population of about 18,000 people - many of whom still work in the mines. While the numbers are few, hospital staff do perform general surgeries and deliver babies as well. It is a hospital offering very basic medical services and their needs reflected that. Their top request was for gynecological exam tables. Other top needs mentioned were for mayo stands (stands for instruments during surgeries and procedures), patient room chairs, waiting room chairs, overbed tables, bedside stands and desks.

Global Links was able to provide them with all of the above items. It is exciting to note that since this is such a small hospital, we were able to send them the exact quantities of many items they requested. For example, each bed will now have a bedside stand and overbed table. We were also able to include new Standard Textile bedspreads and blankets for each bed (with plenty of extra, so that when they are doing laundry they will still have enough). Usually we work with larger institutions, whose needs go well beyond what can fit in one 40-ft container. It was very satisfying to be able to meet an institution's needs so exactly and to know that our donation will truly be felt throughout this little hospital.

This shipment included a lot of basic yet essential materials that will have a major impact on this hospital's ability to provide a higher level of care and comfort to its patients. This shipment also included 328 boxes of assorted medical materials packed by Global Links staff and volunteers.

