

## **A MESSAGE REGARDING THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

**3/12/2020**

As a global charity, Medical Missions For Children (MMFC) is keenly aware of the tragedy and anxiety surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic. Last month, out of an abundance of caution, MMFC's Board of Directors cancelled our February surgical missions to the Philippines. Last week, the decision was made to postpone our medical mission to Rwanda which was scheduled to depart on March 12, 2020.

MMFC's medical volunteers and our patients are the lifeline of our organization and their safety is of utmost importance. The current global threat posed by the coronavirus pandemic is spreading by the day. MMFC is keenly aware there is a measured risk to any and all of our missions, but given the present concerns around the coronavirus, traveling internationally puts every team member, patient and citizen in the countries we travel at undue risk. The MMFC Board of Directors has determined that to proceed with missions at this time would be irresponsible, and as a result, all missions through September 2020 have been cancelled.

MMFC has received many communications from our volunteers re-confirming their commitment to our surgical missions. The skill, expertise and dedication of our volunteers is the key driver to the countless smiles we bring to children around the world and we greatly appreciate the sacrifices you make as volunteers to participate in our missions. We recognize that our medical volunteers' expertise is needed at home now more than ever.

We will continue to closely monitor the situation and look forward to working together again on future missions.

Please refer to the CDC website for updates and additional guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>