

Panama Clinics-1 Project C.U.R.E. (www.projectcure.org) sent a CURE Clinic team to Panama for 4 to 12 August 2018. This satellite image shows the locations of the major sites of our trip.



The first Saturday we flew to Panama City and stayed there overnight. The city is loaded with tall skyscrapers, some with unusual shapes.



Evening arrival at Panama City

Having arrived on different flights, the first meeting of all 9 of us was Sunday morning at breakfast. We all

morning view towards Pacific Ocean

loaded everything into our bus for the ride.



We drove towards Colon, the northern port city, but stopped to visit the newly built wide set of Gatun Locks that permit the passage of much wider and longer ships, up to a size called “Panamax”. These locks were still under construction when my wife, Gail, and I passed through the Panama Canal from Colon to Panama City on

24 December 2013. (<http://www.edholroyd.info/TripReports/2013CentralAmerica/PanamaCanal.pdf>.) The first ship passage through the new locks was on 26 June 2016. We were met at the Canal visitors center by the small team from FundAyuda, our hosts for the week. We went immediately to the overlook to see a passing ship.



The view is towards the Caribbean Sea, with the lock control tower and future bridge on the right.



Agile tugboats carefully steer the ship.

control tower and future bridge

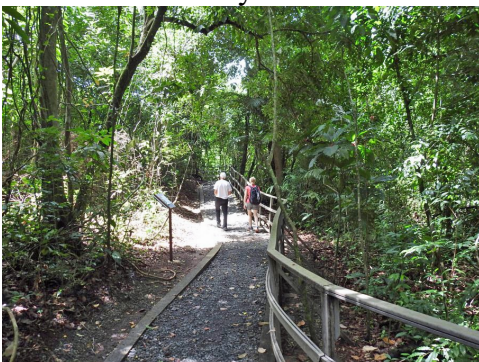
The lock's gate slides into position.



Empty ships are harder to control.



CURE and FundAyuda teams:



Some of us briefly walked a nature trail.



view from ferry of bridge being built



waiting for ferry to move



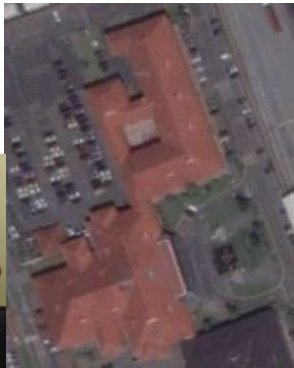
MIT facilities

We spent the evening sorting the clinic supplies and stuffing small plastic bags with pills of common medications.

We had lunch at a marina at a northern bay. Then we went to the port facilities of MIT (Manzanillo International Terminal Panama) where we went through security and then to our dormitory rooms.



group photo. At the end of the week we met another. We were told that about 40 percent of the workers at MIT are women, including about a half dozen crane operators. The crane tour on Friday is in another file.



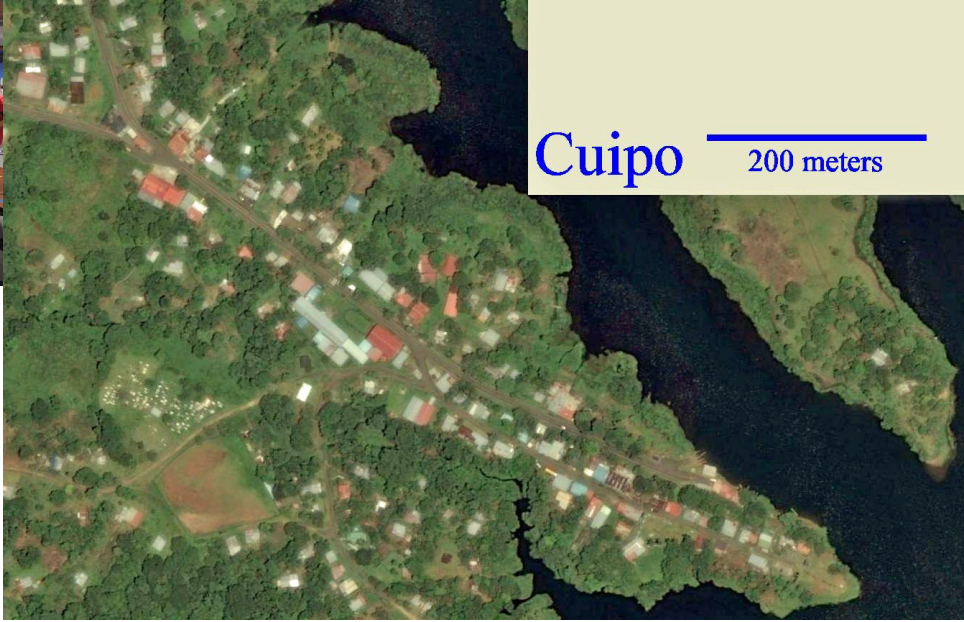
stayed in top building

At MIT we were greeted by three woman leaders, the newcomers to this



Each day breakfast was in the cafeteria. Lunches were prepared for us to take to our clinic sites.

The CURE Clinics for Monday and Tuesday were held at Cuipo on the southwestern shore of Lake Gatun. We were in the school rooms of the long silver-roofed building shown in this satellite image, though our rooms were in the smaller rectangle on the back (lower) side. Other rooms were used by the national Ministry of Health who also participated in the 4-day series of clinics. They supplied doctors, vaccines, a larger contribution to the pharmacy, and a special van with imaging and heart monitoring equipment. Many of the local people were satisfied with the services of the government team and our CURE team did not see them.



Cuipo 200 meters



Team arrival at Cuipo



People waiting for health checkups



registration



FundAyuda guided entry to triage



Kate at triage



government dentist



government doctors



more government doctors



Clyde and Eva at pharmacy



trying glasses



Meghan at triage



Dinner and birthday party for Margarita during intense thundershower.

Go to next file.