

## A Special Thank You

Year after year, we are blessed with the generosity of our family, friends and local businesses. This year is no exception. Without your support, we would not have been able to continue our work at home and abroad for the past 18 years. Each of you plays a part in the work we do to improve lives, one person at a time. We want to extend a special thank you to our 2025 Bowling Tournament Event Sponsors. Water Genius and Westminster Pharmaceuticals have stepped up more than once to sponsor our efforts and we are so grateful. Local business owners like these are instrumental pieces that help knit together the fabric of a community. Without companies and individuals like these, places like Tampa would be just an ordinary city.



Thank you to EVERYONE who continuously recognize and support our efforts in the local community and abroad. Your monetary and in-kind donations are instrumental in ensuring our continued success. As many of you know, we do a great deal with very few resources. Our main focus is providing as much care as we can; we accomplish this by keeping our administrative costs as close to zero as possible. Every dollar you entrust us with is utilized in the most positive way.



Special Thanks to volunteers and supporters who give of themselves to make sure our events are successful and fun!

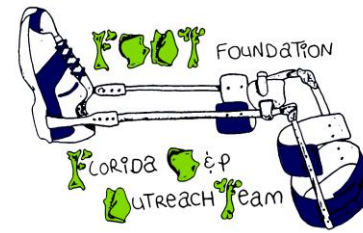
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|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jennifer Chamoun      | John & Desiree Di Salvo | Corley Lewallen        | Briana Scanio                  | Chenzo & Cierra Scanio |
| Darin & Nicole Scanio | Mike & Mary Jo Scanio   | Tina Scanio            | Vince Scanio III & Heidi Weeks |                        |
| Vince & Yvette Scanio | Mike & Jessi Traina     | Bill & Stephanie Weber |                                |                        |



Website: [www.footfoundation.org](http://www.footfoundation.org) Facebook: FOOT Foundation Instagram: foot\_foundation

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The FOOT (Florida O & P Outreach Team) Foundation is a 501(c)3 Public Charity. All donations are tax deductible.



The mission of The FOOT Foundation - Florida O & P Outreach Team is to provide orthotic and prosthetic services to children and adults of impoverished countries. The Foundation is also committed to giving back to local community charity organizations, and to increasing awareness for Mitochondrial Disease.

Florida O&P Outreach Team: Improving Lives One Person at a Time

## The Opportunities to Help Others are Limitless (by Dino Scanio)

As I look back on the past year, as well as the past 18 years, I'm filled with immense pride for the remarkable success and achievements of the FOOT Foundation. We've consistently provided vital services to our local Tampa community, championed often-overlooked organizations, and delivered life-changing medical orthotic and prosthetic care to over 1,500 children in our humanitarian clinics in Guatemala. The post-pandemic landscape required significant reorganization and operational change; these strategic adjustments have been instrumental in ensuring our sustainability and fostering hope for the future. Now more than ever, as we witness a global reduction in aid and the elimination of charity programs within our own country, those less fortunate will need even more of our help.



In these challenging times, the FOOT Foundation will shine bright. We'll reach for the stars, recognizing that our capacity is limitless thanks to the unwavering support of our donors, like you. When we feel we've reached our threshold of helping those who need it most, let's reflect on our accomplishments. It will remind us that there's so much more that can be done. In Fall 2025, we'll return to Guatemala, once again providing life-altering care to the children in Antigua, and we'll be actively brainstorming and developing innovative ways to raise awareness for our organization's mission. It's through our collective effort that we're able to improve lives, one person at a time. I challenge you: if you have a unique fundraising idea, please email the Foot Foundation, or if you know business owners or private sponsors who would like to contribute through charitable donations, we'd be more than happy to collaborate.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to St. Timothy Catholic Church in Lutz, Florida. Years ago, they recognized a sincere desire to use our time, talent and treasure to reach those who needed our help the most. St. Tim's has continued to support the Foundation over the years, in many ways. They exemplify, and therefore magnify the teachings of Jesus. I hope that when

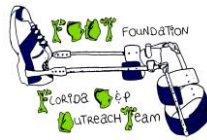


they see the results of our efforts, they continue to be proud of the decision to support our endeavor to leave the world a better place than before we arrived. Every life is just as precious as the next, and we should all recognize that each one has value and talent only they can share with others.



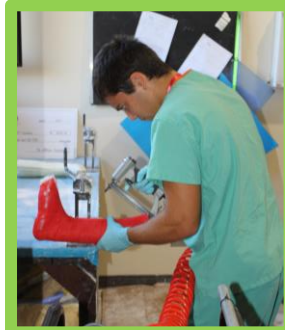
Sincerely,  
Dino Scanio, DHA, MPH, CO  
Founder/Clinical Director





## You're Never Too Young to Volunteer (by Dino Scanio)

It has always been a core part of our mission, and my personal commitment, to immerse young volunteers in our humanitarian work abroad. There's truly no more life-altering experience than witnessing firsthand the remarkable, life-changing care we provide through our orthotic and prosthetic clinics in Guatemala. For many of these young men and women, it's their first exposure to children with special needs. Often, this is also their first interaction with children in tattered clothes and worn-out shoes, if they are lucky enough to have shoes. They quickly understand that brand-name clothing is not what defines a person's character, and that designer shoes don't add to the essence of a human being. They quickly realize the number of likes on social media or a perfectly posed selfie are not the important things. They experience how it feels to care for each child with compassion and commitment. For me, as the founder, one of my most cherished moments is to witness transformation

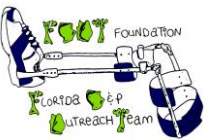
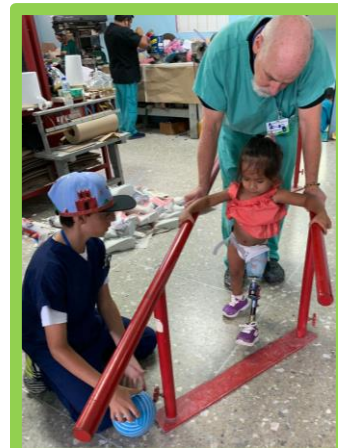
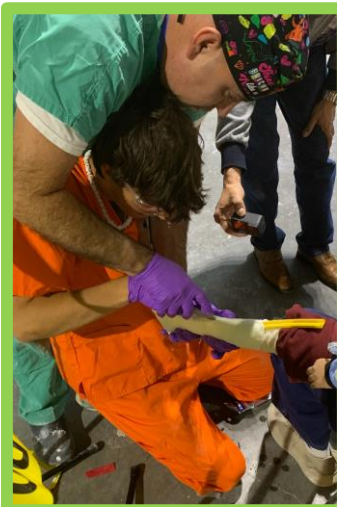
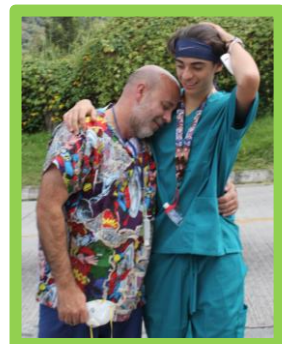


in our youth volunteers. From the day they arrive to the day they return I see them grow into more caring and giving individuals. I've personally seen how they carry these lessons into their everyday lives, sharing experiences in school presentations or with friends and family. It humbles me to know this is yet another remarkable aspect of our



organization, and it's because of donor support that we're able to show our volunteers a vastly different world outside their comfort zone. This is their opportunity to learn that regardless of disabilities, every person has an ability to contribute. It's where I show them that everyone counts, no matter their financial wealth, geographic region, political status, or religion. We are all equals, and everyone deserves the chance to defy the odds. Over the past 18 years, more than 20 youth volunteers have joined our humanitarian clinics. This will never change. Just imagine, if we teach one person to care a little more, show slightly more compassion, and

welcome everyone regardless of their disabilities, the world can have a chance to shine a little brighter. We should all be committed to showing the youth of our community that the opportunity to help those less fortunate should be a daily habit and that, ultimately, goodness can always exist.



## An Ongoing Journey of Service (by Giovanni Scanio)

Since the last bowling tournament, so much has happened in our lives. The most notable for our household was moving from Florida to Texas. Packing up your whole life in a box and moving 1,200 miles away is hard. Pair that with our entire family living in Tampa, calling the move a shake-up was an understatement. By the time I got to Texas, I only had one year of high school to go. For many people, this would be enough justification to crawl into a shell and never emerge socially again. It was a fantastic opportunity for our family, providing a whole new environment to spread the message about helping others globally, and to lift up those closest to us. While I had plenty of new friends to make and people to meet, this was not the end of change for me. After graduation, I chose to attend college in Ohio. So, as a College Freshman, I was forced to repeat the same social dance just a year later.



To be able to share my story, tell others what I have been able to accomplish, and share the amazing work the FOOT Foundation does is a great ability. Along the way, I have been able to meet more people who share my passions and my beliefs. The Foundation was able to bring two of my friends from Texas to our last Antigua clinic. As a result, we were able to set a record for patients treated in that clinic location.

As a young boy, my parents taught me the importance of stepping outside my comfort zone and to never be afraid of meeting or speaking to a new person. It is impossible to know if the next stranger will become a close confidante to help unlock a door to a new life path. Now, as an adult, working alongside my parents while using these life lessons has been fulfilling as well as rewarding. I look toward the future with hope and excitement for each new challenge and experience.

## Mito Awareness Week - 09/15-21, 2025 (by Gianluca Scanio)

I'm a tech savvy person, and when I see people online talking about diseases with no cure, Mitochondrial Disease is almost never on the list. It would mean so much if people put more thought into Mitochondria Disease. When there is no research or information, then how can there be a cure? Together, we can bring awareness to this disease because it is deadlier than people think and can even cause other diseases. People who are lucky live with something mild, but tons of Mito patients have it bad. Mito can affect the heart, lungs, brain, and other organs. We must work together and raise the money needed to find a cure for this miserable disease.



One of the only acts of recognition that happens every September is World Mitochondrial Disease Awareness week. In 2025 it is scheduled for September 15 - 21. Cities and landmarks all over the world light up green. This is one of the best ways to help people know about Mito. When someone sees green lights shining on a building or monument, they will be curious enough to find out why.



You can help make more people interested. To get ready for Mito Awareness Week, find some green lights to display in our front yard or window. You can also buy green light bulbs to use instead of clear ones.

Dress in green during Mito week or wear a green ribbon when you go out. The more green out there, the more people you can reach. Kids and adults struggling with Mito would appreciate you taking some time to think about them September 15-21. You can go to [mitogladiator.com](http://mitogladiator.com) for more information about Mitochondrial Disease.



Thank you for celebrating Mitochondrial Awareness Week with all of us!