

Local Tampa Artist gives back in a BIG WAY - by Lisa Scanio

Have you ever felt like something was missing? You may have a successful career, a great marriage and happy, healthy kids. But you never feel quite complete, and you search for more. Each person takes their own journey toward wholeness. Mike Traina may not have realized how life changing his trip to Guatemala would be, but it goes without saying that this talented and special man found an important piece of his life puzzle.



I was very fortunate to meet Mike when he was just 5 years old. Our new neighborhood was filled with children, which meant lots of babysitting opportunities for me! As an only child, Mike became more of a little brother than a neighbor, and our families shared lots of wonderful memories. Even as a little boy, he had incredible artistic talent, as well as an entrepreneurial spirit. So, it was no surprise when Mike took that talent and created a successful Tampa tattoo and art business.



In 2017, Mike joined the FOOT Foundation to help set up the new Antigua clinic. But the most important part of his journey was the breathtaking mural he designed for the waiting room. He became an overnight celebrity as locals came to watch him paint. He also learned new skills to work with our clinic team in Guatemala City. Mike has continued to support the Foundation in many ways, and he is scheduled to return with us to Guatemala in 2019. He wants to paint some fun murals in the patient rooms to bring smiles and comfort to the kids during treatment. We are incredibly grateful for his support and lifelong friendship.



Website: www.miketraina.com

Facebook: Mike Traina's Art District, Inc.

Instagram: @artdistrictinc

How We Began - by Dino Scanio

My passion for helping others began at an early age. After becoming an American Board Certified and State Licensed Orthotist, I wanted to start a humanitarian clinic. In 2007, with the help of my family, I made this dream come true. The FOOT Foundation clinics in Guatemala City and Antigua specialize in pediatrics and have provided orthotics and prosthetics to hundreds of children.

My wife, Lisa, is the Co-Founder and Fundraising Chairperson. She is responsible for all aspects of fundraising and selecting Florida charities seeking Foundation assistance. Lisa focuses on small local charities. They may not receive global exposure, but they perform great acts of charity in our own backyard.

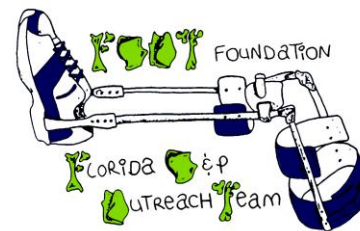
Lisa and I are both Tampa natives and have been blessed with two sons. Our youngest son was diagnosed with Progressive Mitochondrial Myopathy in 2012. Therefore, we also strive to provide ongoing education and awareness about this disease for which there is no cure.

Website: www.footfoundation.org Facebook: FOOT Foundation Twitter: @FOOTFoundation1

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

FOOT Foundation 17633 Gunn Highway, Suite 135 Odessa, Florida 33556



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

FOOT Foundation is excited to announce a second clinic location!

There is no greater feeling than watching a dream come to fruition. In April 2018, the FOOT Foundation officially opened the Antigua clinic after nine years of dreaming. The FOOT Foundation Antigua clinic is the very first fully functional Orthotics and Prosthetics clinic and lab, within a catholic care hospital facility. These children are permanent residents of the facility, and over 265 of them require regular and constant care. When we first visited the clinic in 2008, there was an immediate connection to these beautiful children.



In April, we saw the first 15 children, who needed custom orthotic care. It was a great success! The clinic is warm and inviting, especially with the special artistic touch of our friend, Mike Traina (read more about him on Page 4). Because we built this clinic from the ground up, it is incredibly functional, and will serve a wonderful purpose for many years to come.

We would like to thank the dōTERRA Healing Hands Foundation for the matching donation that allowed us to make this special dream come true. Of course, we are also grateful to our wonderful family and friends who support

us year after year. In the coming months, we hope to collect basic needs such as socks, toiletries, and specialized items that will greatly help in the care of these children. We know that your support will continue to help us Improve Lives, One Person at a Time!

Our Annual Trip to Guatemala City

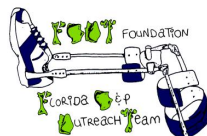
It was certainly another successful trip to our long-standing clinic in Guatemala City. It is always wonderful to reunite with our repeat patients and their families, as well as welcome new kids into the FOOT Foundation family. We worked rigorous 16-hour days to serve nearly 50 patients and deliver dozens of prosthetic and orthotic devices. The hard work is most definitely worthwhile when we see the smiles of the patients, and the joy of their parents.

Your continued support has been instrumental in helping us utilize our resources to benefit the neediest families. We continue to train local practitioners, so patients can continue using their devices safely and efficiently, well after we return home. In my opinion, empowering a community to care for its own is such a beautiful and vital component of charitable service to others.

My sincere thanks to Mike Hanson, Bryan Sinnott and Shane Steacy for their service to others. They selflessly use their own vacation time and money to help fulfill this beautiful mission each year. Their commitment to volunteerism, has made a real difference in the lives of so many.

This was also the first time that my older son, Giovanni joined us as a FOOT Foundation clinic volunteer. Sharing my dream with him was a proud, special moment I will never forget. I hope that he returns with me for many years to come.





Youth Volunteers make a BIG Difference!

Children are NEVER too young to volunteer or support a charity. Just a simple act, like helping to cook a meal or work in a garden for an elderly neighbor or injured friend, can make such a difference. We are constantly amazed and so proud of the youngsters who give of themselves. When children learn to volunteer at a young age, it becomes a natural part of their life. Children with a love and compassion for humanity are a wonderful gift to the world.

Harper is just 10 years old, but she is a Volunteer Veteran! When she was just 6, she decided that she wanted to do something to help kids like her friend Gianluca. This year, Harper held her FOURTH annual lemonade stand to raise money for Mitochondrial Disease. This sweet and determined young girl has raised hundreds of dollars, and now she has enlisted the help of her little brother Maddox, and her neighborhood friends. She is a volunteer on a mission!



Thank you, Harper for setting such a beautiful example for other children, and for your support year after year!

Our son **Giovanni**, 12, has been volunteering with the FOOT Foundation and other organizations for six years. This year, he had quite an experience as he made his first trip to Guatemala as a member of the FOOT Foundation. Giovanni worked more than 60 hours in five days to help us provide Prosthetics and Orthotics to nearly 50 children.



Dexter is 6 years old and has a huge heart of gold! Born with Cerebral Palsy, Dexter has grown through many sets of orthotic leg braces, and he used a walker when he was first learning to move around. When his mom showed him some pictures of what the FOOT Foundation was doing in Guatemala, he said that he wanted to help the kids too. Dexter gathered all his used braces and his walker and donated them. We were able to use these parts to build new braces.



His walker went to a little girl who was so excited to walk on her own for the first time. Thank you Dex for thinking of others and doing your best to help these kids!

Giovanni was so inspired, he decided to ask for his 13th birthday party to be turned into a fundraiser for our Foundation. He has chosen the theme and hopes that everyone joins us, so we can continue doing the right thing for others!



Thank you, Giovanni for everything you do to help our foundation, and our family! We love you and are so proud of your compassion and heart for others.



Get your Tickets for Giovanni's Birthday Fundraiser!

Saturday, 10/13/2018 7:00 pm

\$40/each or 2/\$75

www.footfoundation.org



MitoGladiator.com

FOOT Foundation honored with WEDU Be More Award



The FOOT Foundation was honored to be nominated in the "Be Empowered" Category of the 2018 WEDU Be More Awards. Hearing our name called as the winner, in a category with so many worthy non-profit organizations, was truly a shining moment in our Foundation's 11-year history. We are so grateful to have been recognized for our service to others, and we hope to continue our endeavors for many years. This award was even more incentive for our Foundation to continue Improving Lives...One Person at a Time!



Camp H.O.P.E. Update

The FOOT Foundation has had so much support for our newest endeavor, a Mitochondrial Disease Camp for families. Camp H.O.P.E. (Handling Obstacles through Play and Education) was scheduled to begin in 2018. Unfortunately, our camp has stalled due to unforeseen circumstances. We wanted to provide an update on what we currently are working on to make this amazing camp a success.

As the parents of a child with Mitochondrial Disease, we are well-aware of the medical and physical issues that children with Mito face daily. One of those issues, which is very prevalent, is intolerance to heat and cold. Living in Florida, therefore, is not kind to children with Mito. Because of this, we have had less families interested in registering for a Florida based camp.



We have reached out to another organization to team up and make Camp H.O.P.E. happen. With their help, we hope to establish a camp in a milder climate so that children and families will be more comfortable and able to enjoy a camp experience the way it should be! We are confident and excited about the possibilities that exist and know that this dream will soon be a reality!

To follow our progress on Camp H.O.P.E. please visit www.mitogladiator.com for more information.

A Special Mito Gladiator Thank You



Thank you to Kevin and Sing of Anise Global Gastrobar for helping us kick off Mito Awareness Week! Anise generously donated 20% of their revenue for Monday, September 17 in honor of Global Mitochondrial Awareness Week. We are so grateful to local businesses like Anise who support our foundation, and our mission of Improving Lives, One Person at a Time!

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Personalized Santa Sacks are AVAILABLE NOW!

Personalized Santa Sacks are great way to make Christmas morning less messy! They are also perfect for hard to wrap gifts for special little ones, and they make a cute keepsake. Bags measure 20 x 30 inches and are personalized with the font of your choice!

Santa Sacks are \$25, and all funds raised go toward our efforts for Mitochondrial Disease Awareness in honor of Gianluca, our son and brave Mito Gladiator.

To order, please go to www.mitogladiator.com today!

