



Servants in Faith and Technology /
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Medical Team Supplies Help Dr. Ruth Noemi in Bolivia

By Sarah Corson

SIFAT Co-founder

An urgent call came to Benjo from Dr. Ruth Noemi Mamani in Quesimpuco, Bolivia. Because this is an isolated area, we had hope that the coronavirus would not reach this place, which Tom still calls “the end of the world.” But, a group of youth from Quesimpuco had gone to Chile and Argentina to find work. As the outbreak started, they rushed to get home, crossing the border illegally. They made it home, but brought the virus with them. Dr. Ruth Noemi did not have gloves, masks or protective gear for the health workers helping her.

“Help us, Hermano!” she pled with Benjo. “We need masks and gloves!” In the United States, we do not have enough either and have no way of sending them now that Bolivia is closed. But SIFAT teams that have been going to Quesimpuco had left a supply. Benjo told her where he had stored them, and the health workers now have protective gear as they attend those with the virus.



Because SIFAT mission teams left extra supplies, Dr. Ruth Noemi Mamani (right) is able to have protection during this pandemic.

Dr. Ruth Noemi asked Benjo to send their deepest thanks to the SIFAT team members who left the supplies for them. And now, like the rest of the world, she is fighting the coronavirus with all her strength. Pray for Dr. Ruth Noemi and her team. They are praying for us in the United States and thanking God for the medical teams that left supplies to combat this worldwide pandemic.

Thank You to Our Medical Professionals



*Thank you to all of our supporters currently in the medical field.
We know you give the best care possible, because we
experience your love in action on each mission trip.*

Each year, doctors, physicians’ assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists and other medical professionals use their vacation time to serve on our international medical teams. They selflessly give to provide care for those who have limited access. Our staff sees firsthand the sincere care that each patient receives. Our team members provide more than a diagnosis and medicines; they give hope and encouragement.

Now, these medical professionals are on the front lines in the fight against COVID-19. It is our turn to serve them. Write a thank you note, drop off a gift card for a meal from a local restaurant or donate needed supplies. But most importantly, keep them in your daily prayers. Pray for their health, energy, knowledge and endurance.

Thank You for Supporting SIFAT

We always train mission team members to be flexible and know that schedules and plans may change at any time. This year, that lesson has become truer than we could have imagined. Since early March, groups planning to participate in campus programming have postponed or canceled as everyone tries to self quarantine and prevent the rapid spread of the coronavirus. Some of our international mission teams have chosen to wait until 2021 to travel, while others are waiting to see if it will be safe to travel later this year. We are optimistic that at least one construction and medical team made up of members from different teams will be able to serve in both Bolivia and Ecuador this fall. Needless to say, March has been an uncertain time for our staff as our plans evolve.

Throughout this month, we have prayed for guidance as we make important decisions for the health and safety of our staff, participants and communities in which we serve. SIFAT's work continues, even during self quarantine. Many of our staff members are working from home, while our campus staff are doing maintenance projects and preparing for when guests return to our campus. Meetings about upcoming community development trainings are being held through phone or video calls. Our graduates in countries around the world are contacting us to ask how SIFAT is doing, while they are facing the same challenges in their ministries as SIFAT is. You can visit www.sifat.org/coronavirus for updates about our response to COVID-19.

One of our greatest encouragements is your continued support. We have received emails and phone calls from our SIFAT family to check on our staff, international projects and campus programs. Unexpected donations have arrived in the mail. Our monthly donors' gifts have not changed. While we do not know how long this pandemic will last or what the long-term effects on our economy will be, we are grateful for your faithfulness in supporting SIFAT. Thank you!



SIFAT gardener John Carr is preparing our demonstration gardens. He is excited about adding some new varieties of fruits and vegetables to our regular harvest this year.



The roof of the SIFAT Village Store needed to be replaced after recent storms, which prompted a new addition that will become our Welcome Center when a new store is built.

Reminders from SIFAT

Don't miss the latest SIFAT updates! Make sure you are signed up for our monthly e-newsletters. If you are not receiving them, please sign up on www.sifat.org in the bottom right corner or e-mail info@sifat.org. We are also posting on Facebook ([/sifatbook](https://www.facebook.com/sifatbook)) and Twitter ([@sifattweets](https://twitter.com/sifattweets)).

If you are shopping online during quarantine, remember to use AmazonSmile, iGive.com or GoodShop.com, so that you can raise money for SIFAT while you shop! Retailers will donate a percentage of your purchase to us when you choose SIFAT as your charity.