The mission of the World Pediatric Project (WPP) is to “heal critically ill children and build healthcare capacity in the world” through international medical teams, specialty treatment referrals and in-country medical training. It works primarily in Central America and the Caribbean, where access to specialized pediatric healthcare is limited.

In July 2018, a team of pediatric scoliosis experts, led by orthopedic neurosurgeon Dr. Steven Hwang and armed with medical supplies and instrumentation from DePuy Synthes and Globus Relief, traveled to St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It was Dr. Hwang’s second surgical mission to Milton Cato Memorial Hospital in Kingstown, SVG. This time, the team evaluated 30 patients and performed ten life-altering spinal surgeries. In addition, the team referred three other children needing advanced specialty care to the United States for treatment and trained Dr. Horatio Jeffers, an orthopedic surgeon from St. Lucia, on spinal surgery techniques and practices.

One of the ten patients receiving care during this most recent mission was Zellisia. Zellisia was an aspiring nurse working as an intern with the St. Vincent Ministry of Health (MOH). While Zellisia was helping a WPP patient at the MOH obtain financial support for medical treatment, a WPP staff member noticed a curve in Zellisia’s back and referred her to the scoliosis team. Within days, Zellisia received a surgical intervention of her own – all because of her dedication to helping others.

Speaking of Globus Reliefs participation in this mission, Alicia Manteiga, WPP International Teams Program Manager, wrote, “[Globus Relief was] amazing at finding hard-to-obtain drapes, including Ioban and C-arm drapes. Thank you for your ongoing collaboration!”

We here at Globus are proud to partner with WPP in giving back in St. Vincent.