



OPERATION WALK USA

Provides Life-Changing Knee
and Hip Surgeries to Restore
Mobility and Give Hope

OUR HISTORY

Arthritic disease is the most common cause of disability in the U.S., affecting approximately 48 million Americans, or more than 21 percent of the adult population. The debilitating pain of end-stage hip or knee degenerative disease often makes working, or completing even the simplest of daily tasks, excruciatingly painful or impossible. Hip and knee replacement surgeries are the most cost-effective and successful of all orthopaedic procedures, eliminating pain and allowing patients to resume active, productive lives.

While more than one million hip and knee replacements are performed in the U.S. each year, countless men and women continue to live with severe arthritic pain and immobility because they cannot afford joint replacement surgery. Through Operation Walk USA, to date, nearly 800 patients, have received free joint replacement surgeries. Since its inception, Operation Walk USA has given back to the community \$20,500,000 in medical care services. The program takes place annually, during the first week of December.

Operation Walk USA provides all aspects of treatment – surgery, hospitalization, and pre- and post-operative care – at no cost to qualifying patients.

Operation Walk USA drew its inspiration from Operation Walk (International), a private, not-for-profit, volunteer medical services organization that provides free surgical treatment for patients in developing countries. We are now working together to bring hope for a fuller, healthier, pain-free life to patients in the United States.

“The ultimate service is unconditional giving of knowledge and skills... This is why we all chose medicine.”

LAWRENCE D. DORR, MD

Founder of Operation Walk (International)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ADOLPH V.

LOMBARDI, JR., MD

DOUGLAS A.

DENNIS, MD

LAWRENCE D.

DORR, MD

GILES R.

SCUDERI, MD

Operation Walk USA is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Operation Walk USA is to encourage and enable joint replacement surgeons to restore mobility and improve quality of life for those uninsured and underinsured patients in the United States who currently suffer from disabling arthritis of the hip or knee.

OUR VISION

Operation Walk USA will become the leader in joint replacement care for economically disadvantaged patients in the United States.

"It is gratifying to see how Operation Walk USA is gaining momentum and growing with every annual cycle. I am tremendously proud of the adult reconstruction community and many other healthcare professionals involved in this organization. Helping someone to walk again, and to return to a life without pain, is indeed a cause worth celebrating."

ADOLPH V. LOMBARDI, JR., MD (NEW ALBANY, OH)

"Operation Walk USA is an opportunity to help our own. Helping Americans who have long suffered with disabling arthritis is a most fulfilling way to give back."

DOUGLAS A. DENNIS, MD (DENVER, CO)

ANNUAL IMPACT

| STATES | HOSPITALS | SURGEONS | PATIENTS | VALUE |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------|
| 21 | 35 | 65 | 107 | \$2.9M |

SINCE 2010, OPERATION WALK USA HAS GIVEN BACK TO OUR COMMUNITIES \$20.5M AND HELPED NEARLY 800 PATIENTS¹.

¹ Estimate is based on an average cost of TKA and THA in the United States; costs vary greatly and are influenced by many factors.



"There is no greater sense of fulfillment than restoring mobility and function in a person previously debilitated by arthritis. Our WOGO (Women Orthopaedist Global Outreach) team is indebted to the Operation Walk USA staff and St. Luke's Baptist Hospital for the opportunity to give back to our community through joint replacement."

AMANDA D. MARSHALL, MD (SAN ANTONIO, TX)

OUR PATIENTS

BRAD DAVIS, 46, of Kyle, TX, served twice in the Army and experienced a number of significant injuries to his spine, both feet and knees. He has had a few spine surgeries and had the left knee scoped only to find he had little cartilage or meniscus remaining. Eventually though, the pain was too much and though he tried to work part-time he ultimately had to resign from his work with the Veteran's Administration. The combination of his many years of post-traumatic arthritis and the after effects of his injuries proved too much.

Brad underwent a total left knee replacement at St. Luke's Baptist Hospital under the care of Amanda Marshall, MD, an assistant professor of orthopaedics at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio and a physician with UT Medicine San Antonio, the clinical practice of the university's School of Medicine.

"Operation Walk USA has completely changed my life and now I can do just about anything I want. I am doing great and feel so much better. I can pretty much go anywhere I want and anytime I want. I don't have the aches and pains I had. I am a lot happier and not depressed like I was as I just couldn't walk and enjoy time with my wife and two kids. I can't wait to get back into shape and return to work soon."



A photograph of Susan Murray, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a black long-sleeved top and dark pants. She is standing in a kitchen, holding a cane in her right hand. The kitchen has white cabinets and a tiled floor.

SUSAN MURRAY, 52, of Freehold, NJ, is a single mom of three grown children, who—since her early 20s—has suffered with an unspecified connective tissue disorder. Susan had experienced a steady decline in her mobility and has been in desperate need of total knee joint replacement surgery. She underwent arthroscopic surgery but the pain and debilitation continued.

And so, without her knowing it, her eldest daughter Kelly and her own circle of current and childhood friends started writing to programs that provided free orthopaedic care. When Operation Walk USA learned of Susan's story, she was qualified for surgery and had a successful double knee replacement at Lenox Hill Hospital, a member of Northwell Health, in New York City.

"With the excellent care of Dr. Giles Scuderi at Lenox Hill Hospital and Brian Mason, DPT, president of the American Physical Therapy Association NJ chapter who oversaw my rehab, I am working hard, getting better, and moving forward with my life in all ways. I am experiencing a new freedom to get back to work and to participate in all the activities I had previously enjoyed. Operation Walk USA has truly changed my life."

"The best thing about Operation Walk USA is that it brought the medical staff and hospital together as a team with the intention of making a difference in the patients' lives, who would otherwise not be able to afford such care. Knowing that the quality of their lives is going to be better is so rewarding for everyone. This humanitarian team of physicians, nurses, physical therapists and others is committed to restoring patients' mobility, self-dignity, productivity and helping the patients return to their communities. With the overwhelming success of Operation Walk USA as a national humanitarian organization, we are looking at a greater impact in the future."

GILES R. SCUDERI, MD (NEW YORK, NY)



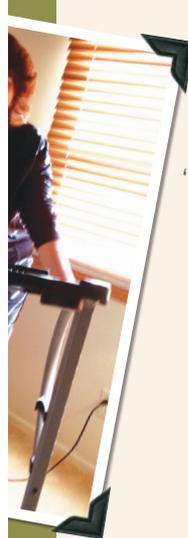
JANET SITZMANN

has “stepped into a whole new life”: this massage therapist diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis, received a bilateral knee replacement from Jeffrey Salin, DO at Kansas City (Kansas) Bone & Joint, a division of Signature Medical Group, through Operation Walk USA. She became a grandmother and her life is thriving. Today Janet says she is “doing really well. My business is growing, my energy has increased and I am happy all the time. Life keeps getting better and better. And my knees are really pretty now!”



“No patient is more appreciative than a hardworking individual whose debilitating joint pain threatens his or her livelihood. I have never felt more valued as a physician as when I could offer what I do pro bono to someone who so desperately needs it and who does not have the means to pay.”

ADAM E. KLEIN, MD (MORGANTOWN, WV)



“The ultimate goal of orthopaedic care is to relieve suffering and restore a person's mobility so they may enjoy a fully functional life. Operation Walk USA made it possible for our team to bestow this wonderful gift upon someone who had lived a life of pain and anguish from severe arthritis. We were all humbled by her positive attitude and honored to be able to participate in this program.”

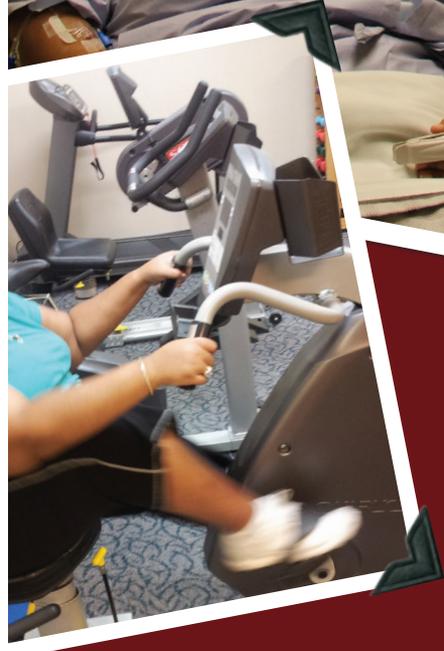
JONATHAN P. KEEVE, MD (SPOKANE, WA)

KAREN SILAS, 54 from the Jacksonville, FL area, has sung through life. Literally. Enjoying this activity at church along with her commitment to family, she was sidelined from all activity after a fall at work several years ago that ultimately put her life on hold. She had arthroscopic surgery on her right knee in February 2002 and it continued to deteriorate. *"The pain was excruciating and I just accepted where my life was."* Until Operation Walk USA entered her life and she had a total right knee replacement. *"I feel like I've been living a dream,"* she says. *"This experience has opened my eyes so much. I've gone through such personal changes and loss of jobs and this door has opened and I can now literally walk through it."* Under the care of Gavin Duffy, MD at St. Vincent's HealthCare, Karen's mobility and full life have returned and she says she is *"amazed at where I truly stand today."* She now works with young women who have substance abuse issues and continues to find ways to give back. She's returned to singing and her newly empowered voice resonates for all of us.

"It is no secret that the urge to improve quality of life for others is why most of us chose to enter healthcare. Financial limitations, restrictions on coverage, and the hurdles our patients face with access can sometimes make it hard to get them what they need. For me, it only seemed natural to become a champion of Operation Walk USA and give back to the community I care so much about. Because of the cooperative effort between me, my colleagues and St. Vincent's HealthCare, we were able to donate our services and bring Operation Walk USA into our hometown. I am beyond grateful to have had this experience and even more grateful for the opportunity to return a sense of freedom and joy to those who truly needed my help."

GAVAN P. DUFFY, MD
(JACKSONVILLE, FL)







JOEL KENT MATTHEWS of

Smithville, AR, is a farmer, truck driver and former construction worker who was involved in a head-on car collision in 1990. He was 27 years old. His left knee hit the dashboard and forced his hip right through the socket. He had surgery, still couldn't bend at the waist and was out of work for over a year. It took him a year to walk again. At the time his sons were two and three years old. "I never got to run with them or play basketball or baseball or do anything that required real physical activity." Kent lived with pain every day and just suffered through it.

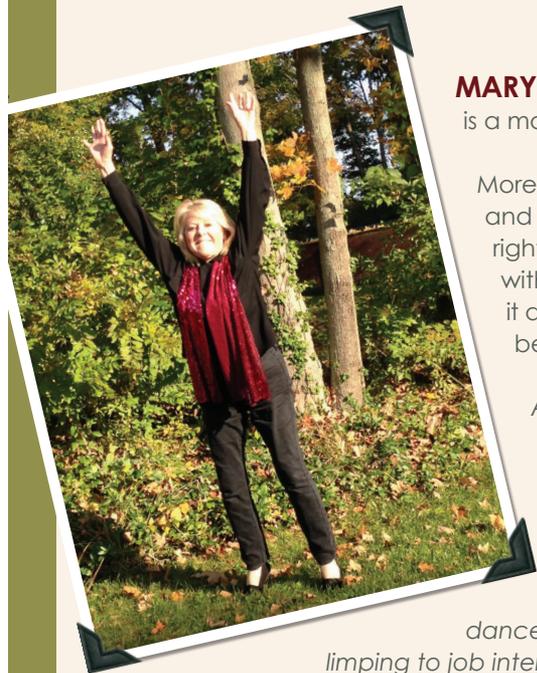
His niece, a former St. Vincent Health Care System nurse, told him about Operation Walk USA. Kent's 50th birthday wish came true and he underwent a total hip replacement at St. Vincent

Infirmery in Little Rock. "Operation Walk USA is great and has done terrific things for me," he says. "I can stand with both feet on the floor now. It feels strange, but I'm getting used to it!"

"Our hospital is a different place because of this event. It has been a uniquely rewarding experience for all involved."

C. LOWRY BARNES, MD
(LITTLE ROCK, AR)





MARY BAER GARRETT, 58 of Cincinnati, OH, is a married mother of two grown boys.

More than six years ago, Mary had a job and full health insurance when she had her right hip replaced. She had lived for years with scoliosis and been able to manage it and thought perhaps that may have been a contributing factor.

As time passed, she was let go from her full-time job, tried to find new work but the healthcare climate changed and companies weren't offering insurance, and her left hip started to get progressively worse. *"I couldn't walk or run without limping, had loved to dance and couldn't do that anymore. I was*

limping to job interviews, knew I had great skills but my age and health were devastating to my confidence."

The pain was worsening and she couldn't afford a doctor. Mary was desperate but didn't want to give up, so she searched the internet, learned about Operation Walk USA and submitted an application.

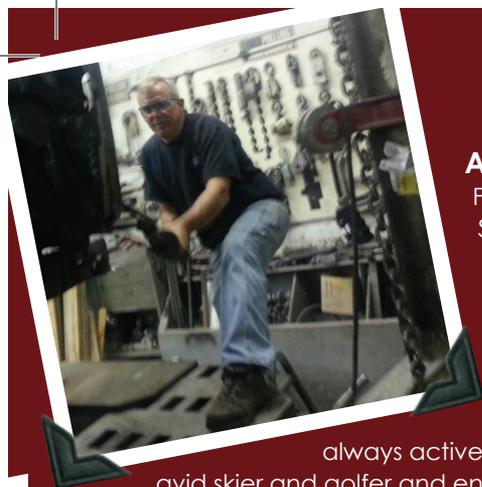
Soon after she got a call from The Christ Hospital as her case history had been forwarded to them. She went in to fill out the paper work and found out it was Dr. Kirk who would now do her surgery at no charge.

"Mary is an amazing example of how impactful Operation Walk USA can be for someone. She was a vibrant, active individual being held back by pain. I'm honored to have the opportunity to help her regain her active life."

PATRICK KIRK, MD. (CINCINNATI, OH)

Today Mary is pain free, has renewed confidence and a job in sales – an area she hadn't worked in before. She can wear heels again, can walk, get to and from the car to the office without an elevator and looks forward to one day being able to pick up and chase future grandchildren.

"I never want to forget what I experienced before this second surgery because this is the gift I got from Dr. Kirk and Operation Walk USA. I am back. I am 58 and feel like 58 is the new 35."



ARTHUR SHAW, 52 of Manapalan, NJ

Family and friendships have always defined Arthur Shaw. It is friendship, and an "Angel on Earth" that led him to Operation Walk USA. But the story begins in the 1970s.

Arthur was an active high school freshman who had developed persistent pain in his left hip and constantly worked through it. He was always active, a catcher for his high school baseball team, an avid skier and golfer and enjoyed physical activity of all kinds.

He was soon diagnosed with a slipped epiphysis, a pediatric hip disorder. Surgery was recommended. Arthur's parents got a second opinion at the Shriner's Hospital in Philadelphia and doctors suggested crutches and rest. After several months Arthur got back to life but the pain continued and he had developed a limp when he walked.

He graduated and immediately went into the family auto body recycling business. His grandfather and father ran the company and it thrived until it was sold in 1998. Arthur then joined a cousin who had an auto body shop in Patterson, New Jersey, where he works until this day. Family comes always comes first and he has always enjoyed time with his three siblings, five nephews and two nieces. He moved back home with his mom after his dad passed away in 2009.

His hip has slowly been getting worse over the years. He couldn't stand with both feet flat on the ground, could only do certain parts of his job and couldn't participate in what his family calls FUNSHIP when they got together. He no longer had insurance and medical costs were prohibitive.

That's where the Angel comes in.

A friend of his from Long Island had heard about Operation Walk USA and surprised Arthur by filling out an application on his behalf. The two, who met as young men sharing a group beach house and have remained close as families expanded, were together when Arthur got the call that he had qualified. "He's my Angel on Earth" says Arthur.

Arthur had surgery under the care of Dr. Matthew Hepinstall and his staff at Lenox Hill Hospital, a part of the Northwell Health System. He's now returned to work, stays on top of his exercises, feels great and is back to enjoying quality and active time with his family.

"I am so glad to be on the other side of this," says Arthur. "After so many years of pain and discomfort, I feel fabulous and am back to life as I once knew it."

LAURA DALESKI of Alexandria, VA, now in her early fifties, still can't believe it. She can still hear Kevin Fricka, MD, of the Anderson Clinic and his immediate and comforting words: "I can do this for you." She had lived for years with crippling arthritis and was in desperate need of a bilateral hip replacement but had no insurance.

A paralegal who specializes in personal injury cases, Laura had been out of work. A single mom of seven children and now four grandchildren, she was profoundly grief-stricken by the loss of two of her sons. After so much personal and professional difficulty, she "literally curled up in a ball" after all of that and life had spiraled. "I felt like a crooked old man in all of this", she says.

Laura was desperate for help as her quality of life kept diminishing. She used to enjoy and yoga and now could not take a step without a cane. Stairs were dreaded, they required either a twisted turning or crawling up and down them. Her daughter was married in April 2015 and Laura attended in a wheelchair.

Dr. Fricka said her case was rare as both of her hips were so bad that she needed bilateral hip replacement.

"Laura was severely debilitated, was walking hunched over and wasn't able to be productive or do the simple things in life," says Dr. Fricka. "Because of that, she needed both hips done and likely had needed to do this years prior, but funding was an issue. We were so glad to be able to help her return to the quality of life she enjoyed before."

"I still think about how wonderful it is to just walk out the door, to go up and down stairs. I just walk everywhere. I can grab my bag and hurry to catch the bus or train. I can walk or run after the dog, he used to easily get away from me. I can carry my grandchildren and play on the floor with them, take them for walks and adventures. These are things I thought I would never be able to do."



STEVE NELSON, 47 of Canyon Lake, TX, is now back to his quality of life, plays on an indoor soccer league, enjoys swimming and fishing with his son and all the “blessings” that have come from his hip surgery.

Prior to that, Steve had always led a physically active life. He had played and coached soccer and since leaving the mortgage industry several years ago, has worked for several construction companies where his day was spent out on the field. After suffering from deteriorating hip pain for the prior four years, he sat in an office all day and remained the sole provider for his family.

At first Steve thought the pain came from his shoes, but after several doctor consultations, a diagnosis of arthritis and a unanimous recommendation for a hip replacement surgery, Steve understood his options. He had previously paid for all doctor appointments in cash and had no insurance. His mother told him that when he was a young child he wore braces on his legs but he didn't remember that. Fast-forward forty years and he was walking with a limp.

It was then that Steve's wife read about Operation Walk USA. They applied and Steve had surgery under the care of Amanda Marshall, MD, Women's Orthopaedic Global Outreach Surgeon at St. Luke's Baptist Hospital in San Antonio.

Steve says he had to learn to walk without the limp that had become so habitual, and has been motivated ever since to return to the life he had previously enjoyed. He feels like that quality of life disappeared for a while and is now back. He was taking medication and is now 100% clear of that and feels great. *“It was quite a spiral,”* adds Steve, *“and the surgery gave me a new start.”*





AAOS NOW IDENTIFIED OPERATION WALK USA AS ONE OF ITS TOP 10 ISSUES IN ORTHOPAEDICS IN 2013.

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS!

The implants for Operation Walk USA are donated by DePuy Synthes, Smith & Nephew, Stryker, TJO, and Zimmer Biomet. Ortech transfers Operation Walk USA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant data to the American Joint Replacement Registry, a national center for data collection and research on total hip and knee replacements.



"**DEPUY SYNTHES** is privileged to be a part of this terrific partnership between the hospitals, surgeons and industries to donate their time, services and products to provide care to patients so their motion can be restored. Johnson & Johnson's Credo speaks to helping our communities and this is just one of the many ways that we, as a part of the J&J family of companies, exemplify our commitment to our patients and communities."

"We at **STRYKER ORTHOPAEDICS** are proud to participate in activities like Operation Walk; it allows us to continue our support of patients in need. By partnering with worthwhile organizations, such as Operation Walk USA, we can provide surgeons with the quality products they need to help restore mobility and productivity to many Americans affected by joint disease. "

Since **TOTAL JOINT ORTHOPEDICS'** inception, we have been dedicated to helping those in need through Operation Walk and Operation Walk USA. For every 10 implants sold, we donate one state-of-the-art hip or knee implant in order to help patients get back to a better way of life. Operation Walk and Operation Walk USA will continue to be part of TJO's core through the products and time we donate to those in need.

"Alleviating pain and restoring the ability to walk are the heart of what we do. It is a purpose that **ZIMMER BIOMET** shares with Operation Walk USA, and we are honored to work with the talented physicians that give their time and resources to help change the lives of patients."

"The entire **ORTECH** team is proud to be affiliated with Operation Walk USA. We believe strongly in the cause and we are happy to be a part of a great humanitarian effort."



OPERATION
WALK USA

**HELP.
VOLUNTEER.
SUPPORT.**

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**“THANK YOU
OPERATION WALK USA
AND ALL THE DOCTORS
AND STAFF WHO PARTICIPATE
IN THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM
THAT GIVES PEOPLE THEIR
LIVES BACK.
THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
THANK YOU!”**

FROM A 2013 PATIENT