

## **DHL Global Forwarding supports NGO kinderherzen to deliver world's first mobile heart clinic to El Salvador**

- kinderherzen's mobile field hospital provides lifesaving heart surgeries and therapies for infants in need
- Start of a pro bono logistics partnership between DHL Global Forwarding and kinderherzen, which foresees the mobile field hospital being moved to different countries
- Next destination of the kinderherzen mobile clinic will be Burundi in East Africa

**Bonn, March 11, 2024:** DHL Global Forwarding, the freight specialist arm of the DHL Group, has entered a pro bono logistics partnership with German NGO kinderherzen (children's heart). In this collaboration, DHL Global Forwarding will transport the world's first mobile heart clinic for infants to various countries worldwide. The initial destination for the mobile clinic has been El Salvador, where a team of international heart surgeons and medical professionals will provide free life-saving surgeries and therapies to infants affected by congenital heart diseases (CHD).

"This partnership underscores DHL's unwavering commitment to humanitarian efforts," states Tim Scharwath, CEO DHL Global Forwarding. "By delivering vital healthcare to children in El Salvador and beyond, we are fulfilling our mission of connecting people and improving lives."

DHL's Global Humanitarian Logistics Center, located in Dubai, oversees the planning and management of logistics for kinderherzen. Leveraging its extensive network of experts and global locations, DHL ensures swift and efficient transportation to all destination countries. The shipment, comprising 11 containers, has been delivered via ocean and road freight from Bremen, Germany to the Hospital Nacional Juan José Fernández, in the district of Zacamil in El Salvador. After a construction and installation phase of approximately 15 days, the mobile clinic will offer pediatric heart surgeries and medical care to infants from across the Middle American country who may not have access to adequate medical support otherwise.

"Our mission is to ensure that infants affected by congenital heart diseases (CHD) have access to life-saving surgeries and therapies, regardless of their place of birth. Partnering with DHL, one of the leading global logistics providers, will greatly assist us in fulfilling this mission," states Dr. Andreas E. Urban, Chairman of the Board and Founder of the NGO kinderherzen, pediatric cardiac surgeon.

Anja Schlarb, Head of kinderherzen International and the mobile clinic at kinderherzen, adds: "We are proud to collaborate with DHL in delivering hope and healing to children in need. Together, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of children affected by congenital heart diseases."

The mobile clinic will remain in El Salvador until May 2024, after which it will be relocated to Burundi as part of an annual rotation to support kinderherzen's global mission.

For more information about DHL's corporate citizenship and humanitarian initiatives, please visit <https://group.dhl.com/en/sustainability/social-impact-programs.html>.

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You can find the press release for download as well as further information on [group.dhl.com/pressreleases](https://group.dhl.com/pressreleases)

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