



Dr. Charles R. Smart was a Salt Lake City, UT physician who dedicated his life to saving others and giving back to communities around the world. In 1996, he was recognized for those achievements by VEGA Member International Executive Service Corps (IESC) with the David Rockefeller Spirit of Service Award, their highest honor. The previous year, Dr. Smart had volunteered in Guayaquil, Ecuador to analyze the setup of a local hospital. He returned in 1996 to follow up on the work.

While in Ecuador, Smart developed a system to monitor and evaluate a patient's treatment and long-term health. He established an Internet connection with the U.S. National Library of Medicine so SOLCA (an Ecuadorian social service organization) could access important data on patient treatment.

Smart also trained medical and hospital staff members in the use of the Internet and helped computerize the medical records department. He brought computer terminals and a Spanish language computer program to the hospital, using this equipment to create a cancer registry system like one he developed for hospitals in the United States.

"He saw to it that 15 computer operators were hired to input the data," said IESC. In addition, he took \$15,000 in donated medical supplies to Ecuador, persuading two airlines to ship them for free from Utah.

According to Carmon de Carpio, a citizen of Ecuador who worked with Smart, the project prepared the SOLCA hospital to be the best cancer hospital in Ecuador and possibly South America.

In Utah, Dr. Smart spent time as a member of the University of Utah hospital staff and later became Chief of Surgery at LDS Hospital for 10 years. During this period, he also commuted to Chicago for five years serving as director of the cancer division of the American College of Surgeons. In 1985, he moved to Washington, D.C. where he became chief of the Early Detection Branch of the National Cancer Institute, a department he helped create. Three years after his volunteer service in Ecuador, Dr. Smart and his wife, Dorothea, served 18 months as medical missionaries in Russia.



"As a volunteer in service to humankind, Dr. Charles Smart has left a lasting imprint on both the programs and people he touched while serving IESC,"

- Hobart C. Gardiner, former IESC President and Chief Executive Officer