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CONTACT: SUSAN SMITH  
[susansmithz@hotmail.com](mailto:susansmithz@hotmail.com) and 858-240-2360

## **Baja's Flying Samaritans host Independence Weekend Fundraiser**

**Date: Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Location: Rosarito Beach Hotel, Rosarito Beach, BC, MX**

Flying Samaritans are well known for operating health clinics and providing free health care to needy local residents throughout Baja. The Rosarito Beach chapter is also becoming famous for hosting the largest 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in Baja California doubling as a fundraiser, the third annual event falls this year on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Festivities begin at 3PM and continue through the evening, concluding with an after dark grand fireworks celebration, preceded by an afternoon and evening of entertainment, raffles, regional food and drink vendors. The event attracts over 1,000 attendees and is one of the largest Baja community events.

The Flying Samaritan clinic in Rosarito is operated by an all-volunteer staff of doctors, nurses and administrative personnel to nearly 300 patient visits per month, helping local Mexican residents who have no other access to health care. On the second and fourth Saturdays of the month clinics are dedicated to health needs, while third Saturdays are hearing clinics. Vision or eye care patients are taken to Tecate for care.

Once such case was "Jose," a 7 year old, born with a vision problem that made reading nearly impossible. In need of eye surgery, Jose had been receiving care at one hospital without the equipment necessary to perform children's surgeries. The Flying Samaritans were instrumental in getting him the necessary treatment, and facilitated the treatments of over \$1,500.00 US at no cost to the family. Today, Jose is in school and doing well.

Organizing the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event is the primary fundraiser for the Flying Samaritans Clinic, providing an afternoon and evening of live entertainment, dancing, 10 different food kiosks from local vendors from classic barbeque and traditional Mexican dishes, and Fantastic Fireworks at dark. Events are on the beachfront of the landmark Rosarito Beach Hotel for a cost of only \$7 per person; VIP seating is available for \$12 per person.

Information is available at [www.flysams4thjulybbq.com](http://www.flysams4thjulybbq.com). For tickets or vendor information, contact Susan Smith, [susansmithz@hotmail.com](mailto:susansmithz@hotmail.com) or 858-240-2360. Hotel reservations are available at 800-ROSARITO or in Mexico, 661-612-1126

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