

Main achievement for the 2012/2013 period.



## Alejandro Eliot Julian Solari

Date of birth 27.04.2009.

Guatemala

Alejandro was about 3 years 8 months old when he was diagnosed with the congenital heart defect (CHD).

Since then he was under medical supervision of Dr Aldo Castañeda in a cardiac centre in Guatemala Unidad de Cirugía Cardiovascular de Guatemala (Guatemalan Cardiovascular Surgical Unit) – there was a hope that the CHD would be treated in his home town in Guatemala.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to cure the CHD condition and doctors advised that a heart operation is required.

Julio and Eugenia Solari – the parents of Alejandro – started the search for support for their son to have the life-saving operation, as it was not possible to have it done in Guatemala.

They approached Boston Children's Hospital in USA that advised them that the estimated cost of the required complex open heart operation was around £75000. Alejandro's parents could not afford to pay for such an operation.

The family spent three months trying to raise money and successfully managed to accumulate around  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the required funds. However, doctors started to advise that the need for the operation becomes urgent and it is dangerous for the child's life to continue to wait. So more money had to be found urgently to save the child

In August 2013 the family contacted Children's Hearts charity, and the charity agreed to support Alejandro. The medical condition of Alejandro was gradually deteriorating, so it was vital for the child's life that support was found as soon as possible. On 7 October 2013 all the funds were collected and the family travelled to Boston, USA, for the life-saving operation.

**On 14 October 2013 in the Heart Center at Boston Children's Hospital, USA, Alejandro had a successful heart surgery. The operation went well and Alejandro went back home to Guatemala on November 19, 2013.**

**We wish Alejandro all the best and happy life!**

***Children's Hearts (UK) Charity (reg.no. 1082929) provided around  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the funds to pay for this operation. Children's Hearts (UK) thanks all its supporters and, in particular, Audosta Limited, TESCO Local store in Worcester Park and Trinity United Reformed Church in Wimbledon, London, UK for their support. The Children's Hearts charity remains committed to helping children with congenital heart defects, giving children another chance to live.***