

Safe In Our Hands

HTH WORLDWIDE TO THE RESCUE!

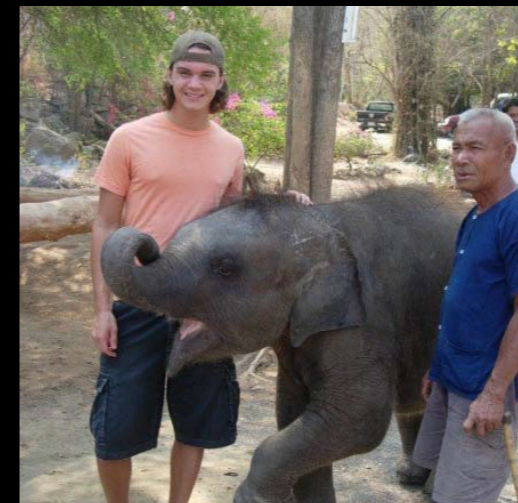


By Douglas S. Archibald, Sr.



In a world already overrun with TLAs (Three Letter Acronyms), HTH has come to mean "Have To Have" when your child is studying in a foreign country! As parents, we are not sure what it would have been like to live this chapter of our lives without HTH, but we are very sure we don't want to know!

It started with one of those phone calls you dread: "Hello, Mom? I was in an automobile accident in Hua Hin, Thailand, and I suffered a compound, open fracture of both the fibula and tibia in my lower right leg. But I already had surgery, and I think I am OK!"



My wife and I were instantly overwhelmed with FUD (Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt). What should we do? Fortunately we didn't have to wonder for long. Enter HTH: the unknown and unstructured became known and structured, and our confidence that our son would be properly cared for began to rise. It was the moment when "Dorothy opened the door and we went from Black and White to Color". We went from hearing that our son had been released from a small private hospital in Southern Thailand to knowing that HTH had arranged a transfer by ambulance to a premier hospital in Bangkok where he would be cared for in a state-of-the-art facility. HTH's entire focus was on our son, the patient. A series of international conference calls took place whereby teams of medical professionals in the U.S., Paris and Bangkok collaborated on his managing his injury from post operative complications through all his short and long-term medical needs.



Along the way HTH paid for a bedside visit for one of us to go and be with our son. After he was stabilized, HTH proceeded to orchestrate a travel plan to get the two of us safely back home. A small blood clot had developed as part of the injury and complicated the travel plans for the 27+ hour air journey back home. Do you remember "Hands Across America"? How about "Wheel Chairs around the Globe"? HTH arranged for an ambulance and three medical professionals to escort our son all the way to the security check point at Bangkok International Airport. HTH and their travel partners then proceeded to roll out the red carpet for us from Bangkok to Hong Kong to Los Angeles and finally to St. Louis.

So, without reservation, I have some great advice for parents who are sending a child off to study in a foreign land. Even if you think that your life already has too many TLAs in it, I can wholeheartedly assure you that you want to add HTH to the list. HTH may actually save the life of your loved one or, at a minimum, they will give you a lot more peace of mind should such a crisis strike. As for me, I can tell you first hand, if I ever am faced with more medical FUD, I certainly want HTH there to provide a little TLC!