

CONNECTICUT ORTHOPAEDIC SOCIETY RECOGNIZES ROBERT BRADY, MD FOR HIS HUMANITARIAN WORK IN JAMAICA

The Connecticut Orthopaedic Society honored orthopaedic spine surgeon, Robert Brady, MD with the 2023 Humanitarian Award at the Society's Annual Meeting on May 12, 2023, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT.

The **COS Humanitarian Service Award** is awarded by the Society in recognition of the volunteer work and commitment by an orthopaedic surgeon member. This award is to acknowledge the tireless efforts, outstanding commitment, and sustained dedication in service to humanity.

Robert Brady, MD, was nominated by his orthopaedic colleague, Dr. Michael Halperin (Orthopaedic Partners, Norwich, CT) for founding a life-long dream, the Straight Caribbean Spine Foundation, and his ongoing volunteer work since 2006, to help impoverished children with complex spinal conditions on the island of Jamaica.

In recognizing his service during the award presentation, Dr. Halperin lauded his long commitment to the care of patients with spinal conditions and for teaching and training physicians in Jamaica to be able to ensure the continuum of care for the children of Jamaica.

With volunteer support, Dr. Brady organizes a United States team; consisting of surgeons with spinal deformity expertise, nurses, scrub technicians, neuro-monitors, implant coordinators and implant company representatives. Dr. Brady and his team from the United States make semiannual trips to Jamaica in order to run a specialty clinic which sees and examines the most complicated cases of spinal deformities throughout the island and prioritizes the most severe patients. With collaboration from the Jamaican ministry of health and ministry of finance, local Jamaican orthopaedic surgeons, anesthesiologists and nurses, this project provides safe and comprehensive care to impoverished and underserved children.

Teaching is an important aspect of these trips. Through surgical instruction and evening didactic conferences, SCSF works to help educate local physicians on how to help children with spinal deformities.

Dr. Brady, a valued member of the CT Orthopaedic Society Board, is currently affiliated with OrthoConnecticut in Norwalk, CT. He received his medical degree from Mt Sinai School of Medicine in New York; completed his orthopaedic residency at St. Luke's – Roosevelt Hospital Center, a University Hospital of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY and a fellowship in Spine Surgery at The Spine Institute at Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, NY.

The Society was pleased to recognize his foresight and exemplary donation of his service, time and skills to the orthopaedic surgeons and children in Jamaica.