**Dr. Christopher Covington, Founder**

*What makes you perfectly suited for your job?*

This is just who I am—I’m a neurosurgeon and I’m driven. I’m an adventurous person who’s climbed mountains, taken canoeing trips in the remote Canadian wilderness, been to Nepal, been to Fiji, the Philippines. My personality is simply that I do these kinds of things; it pushed me to help build Tulsa Spine and Specialty (TSSH) 16 years ago and now I’m building HIH. Because I have the history and the knowledge to create this product that can be profitable but at the same time beneficial to the community.

*What moments in your professional history are you most proud of?*

I’ve enjoyed a lot of success in my professional life and have been a neurosurgeon now for over 30 years. But you know, it’s always family; my personal life comes first. TSSH continues to be successful, and HIH as an entity is still evolving. But I’ve been married to the same woman for 35 years, my kids are healthy and successful, and that’s a huge deal.

*Why do you believe Hospitals International is the right place for you?*

When my son and I decided to look off shore for the right opportunity to create a new, more efficient healthcare entity, it took five years. Five years of going back and forth to Punta Cana before we got the green light to build our flagship beginning. Now, this company that was created essentially for the sake of a single hospital, is positioned to expand its scope of care and, eventually, improve healthcare in this hemisphere and beyond. Poor countries are trying desperately to modernize their healthcare, and HIH is going to make it happen for them.

*What makes healthcare a valuable pursuit for you?*

You know, 90% of the surgeries in America can be done more efficiently. As a founding partner at TSSH, we learned how to deliver healthcare efficiently, with better outcomes and patient satisfaction scores that always ranked number one. Because the thing is, when you have physicians involved not just as care providers but actually involve them in the administration of healthcare, it’s much more efficient; they understand where the waste is and where quality is, so they know where to put money and where to cut. That’s the model that needs to be driving global healthcare; that same model that began at TSSH and gave rise to HIH.