



We are pleased to present our WBO annual report via this newsletter, but even more pleased to be able to share that we are back in business after a two-year hiatus due to COVID restrictions! The best part of that news was our ability to renew friendships and the opportunity to return to the work that brings us all together to make a difference in the lives of so many in need.

I'm reminded of the words of Albert Schweitzer, who said, "In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit."

We thank all of you for your support of WBO and we celebrate the incredible impact over the past 33 years. This year, our spirit was rekindled by many loyal supporters. Dr. Julio Martinez, from Navojoa Mexico, was an active mission participant many times early in his career as an eye surgeon. But we hadn't seen him in many years. We reconnected with Dr. Martinez when he joined our mission to Ecuador.

Another source of great joy for me, personally, is the continued involvement of my daughter, Cynthia Alley, M.D. Cynthia remains actively engaged in our work and has shared her strong desire to be involved in the future leadership of WBO. I can think of no better transformation of WBO leadership and no more important legacy for all of us, than to pass this noble cause along to future generations. I remain hopeful that this wonderful concept of bringing light into darkness has only just begun and with your help, may be "rekindled" for many years.

We are grateful for your support and remain committed to our mission and this work, as long as we are able to make a difference.

Albert A. Alley, M.D.

Founder & President, WBO

The Need Remains...



This tiny piece of tissue is responsible for people suffering with very poor eyesight or complete blindness around the world. More advanced cataracts can even appear darker. It must be extracted and replaced with a new clear lens. We consider it a relatively minor procedure here, but sadly, not available to millions in developing nations.

Our Impact & Legacy Continues

Dr. Cynthia Alley performs one of her many strabismus procedures to help correct the vision of children who suffer from a condition commonly referred to as "cross-eyed." Again, a relatively common and simple procedure here, but life-changing in many places we visit.



Bringing Light Into Darkness For Over 30 Years!

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We're Back - And Making A Difference Again!

Ecuador Mission Team

Albert A. Alley, M.D.

Cynthia Alley, M.D.

Drew Stoken, M.D.

Juilo Martinez, M.D.

Ruben Landazuri, M.D.

Cindy Poucel, R.N.

Ellen Dreibelbis, C.R.N.P.

Jodie Heishman, Surgical Tech

William Cluley, Surgical Tech

Sonya Blum, Volunteer

Ecuador Mission – XXII

October 30-November 6, 2022

Once again, we were aided by our good friend Diego Benitez and Vista Para Todos (Vision For All) in Ecuador. Dr. Ruben Landazuri, their head surgeon, helped us to complete over 175 procedures during our visit, including 30 strabismus procedures performed by Dr. Cynthia Alley.

We were very pleased to have Dr. Julio Martinez return to our team in Ecuador. He was a member of our inaugural mission to Nigeria in 1990 and 15 other missions following. But the demands of his own practice limited his ability to join us in recent years. That young, energetic and talented surgeon we met over 30 years ago, returned to us as a mature and successful surgeon, with even more talent and passion for serving others. He was a great addition to the talented and experienced mission team who worked tirelessly to complete another efficient and successful mission in Ecuador.

Dominican Republic – XXVII

May 7-13, 2023

We renewed our annual tradition of mission work in the Dominican Republic, with some minor adjustments. Our original plan to visit in January/February was delayed until May, due to scheduling conflicts with many team members. In spite of the delay, we achieved tremendous results, performing 30 cataract procedures and five corneal transplants!

We were also reminded why our preference for the Dominican mission was earlier in the year. By May, the Dominican climate heats up rather quickly and made things uncomfortable. But our team worked right through those challenges, with the support of our good Rotarian friends from Nagua. They helped ensure a productive and pleasant experience overall.

While we were in Nagua, our Rotarian friends from Salcedo, made the trip to visit us and began to lay the groundwork for a return to their city next year. We look forward to that opportunity and always feel very appreciative of the tremendous support of all of our “boots on the ground” everywhere we go. Their commitment and assistance is invaluable!

Dominican Republic Mission Team

Albert A. Alley, M.D.

Cynthia Alley, M.D.

Iftikhar Chaudhry, M.D.

Ruben Landazuri, M.D.

Ellen Dreibelbis, C.R.N.P.

Joan Yatsonsky, R.N.

Emilia Wolman, Surgical Tech

Robert Ramirez-Rodriguez,

A-Scan Tech

William Cluley, Surgical Tech

Matthew Adams, Volunteer



Our team in Ecuador was incredibly productive. It was a pleasure to reunite with so many good friends to do good work!



Matt Adams assisting a patient prior to surgery. Matt is the Boy Scout Executive for Pennsylvania Dutch Boy Scout Council.



Dr. Julio Martinez - even better with a few more years!



We were blessed to have this very experienced and talented team with us in the Dominican Republic.



Dr. Drew Stoken, a loyal mission volunteer and very talented surgeon, assisted by nurse Jodie Heishman.

Your Support Is Vital to Our Mission & Our Legacy!

For many years, our annual golf tournament provided vital funding to support the work of our mission teams. Although most mission volunteers are responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses, there are many other costs associated with mission medical supplies, equipment and logistics.

A variety of factors led to the end of our annual tournament several years ago, but we were pleased that you, our loyal supporters, stepped up to offer donations in support of our cause. These donations are key to our work and the future of WBO's mission. We can play a round of golf anytime, but we don't often get opportunities to change lives. That is the result of our efforts – and your tax-deductible gift is a great way to make a difference.

Although you may never get to meet or see those who benefit from our work, our entire team is very grateful. When we remove those bandages during post-op visits and their sight is restored, the look on their faces is priceless – and the joy of their families is immeasurable. That is the net result of your gift. If you'd like to invest in this important and life-changing work, please send your gift to:

World Blindness Outreach, Inc.
1510 Cornwall Road • Lebanon, Pa 17042

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Lebanon, PA 17042

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Future Mission Plans

Although the specific dates have not been finalized, we are planning to return to both Ecuador and Salcedo in the Dominican Republic in the next year. We hope to finalize plans for the Ecuador trip in November and a January-February timeframe for our Dominican mission.

As we work through the planning stage, I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize Alice Doxsee. Alice works part-time to maintain the office, but puts in whatever time it takes to coordinate the many and sometimes complex details associated with planning each mission. She has had to learn how to navigate everything from custom protocols to pharmaceutical shipping regulations and anything in between. She does it with great patience and efficiency and is invaluable to our team!

Life Enhancement Awards

The Life Enhancement Award Committee is pleased to report renewing their important work. We expect requests and recommendations from them in the next few months. This initiative was established several years ago to allow us to help our neighbors who are blind or visually impaired, right here in Central PA.