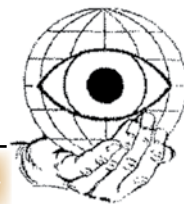


IN Sights

A Newsletter For Friends of World Blindness Outreach, Inc.



2014 Edition

Dear Friends and Supporters of WBO,

Each year at this time, we organize our thoughts to prepare this newsletter for you – our WBO investors. We distribute this “annual report” to hundreds of volunteers and supporters who have contributed to our mission in many different ways. WBO investors offer gifts of time, talent and/or their treasury. You are the very life-blood of our mission to bring light into the darkness for many and you are key to our success.

While preparing this edition, we had a very interesting discussion about the continuing support and motivation for WBO mission work and it allowed us to reflect upon the many rewards we receive as a result of our collective efforts. It is hard to find the words to describe our appreciation for so many incredibly talented and dedicated people each time we plan a mission. Last year, while in the Dominican Republic, we were surprised and humbled by the people of Nagua. They organized a series of events to recognize our work and even named a street in my honor. It was an incredible experience and my heart was filled with the emotion that day as I recalled the countless individuals who make all of this possible.

Our teams do not seek recognition or reimbursement. We are driven by tremendous need and an overwhelming sense of purpose. WBO teams work incredibly hard - yet hunger to return to less than optimal working conditions, minimal accommodations and facilities that are often lacking in some of the basics. Our reward comes in the form of the joy of service to others. When asked recently about my thoughts on the future of WBO and how long we might continue, my response is simply to continue as long as the good Lord provides us with volunteers, abilities and resources. Unfortunately, we will never eliminate the tremendous need. Our work does not create the kind of euphoria that occurs after winning a super bowl - it's better. Anyone who has been in our post-op room, when we remove bandages, understands the very deep, rewarding and spiritual satisfaction associated with serving others who are less fortunate.



Diego Benitez (above) is one of WBO's most dedicated and tireless supporters. On this rare occasion, Diego helps our team celebrate one of many successful missions in Ecuador.

We feel a moral obligation to use whatever gifts and resources we have to help anywhere and anytime we can. Our service is the rent we pay for the many gifts we receive from God. We have been blessed with hundreds of people who share our sense of obligation and our sense of accomplishment. I think of people like Diego Benitez, leader of Vista Para Todos in Ecuador. He has worked with us for the past 15 years and we're hoping to have him as our guest at our golf tournament dinner/program in August.

But Diego is not alone. He's one of hundreds who make these missions possible and successful. In recent years, we've been blessed to include many young people – medical students, nurses, physicians and even high school students. We believe they are key to the future of WBO and our ability to continue this incredible work. Our volunteers and supporters have developed a healthy addiction. Regardless of our individual role, the collective impact that we are able to produce through WBO is nothing short of miraculous. Thank you for your contribution!

Albert A. Alley, M.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Albert A. Alley, M.D.".

Founder & President, WBO

Bringing Light Into Darkness For Over 20 Years

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Looking Back: A Year In Review...

Ecuador Mission

2013 Sept. 8 - 15

Albert Alley, M.D.
Eduardo Romo-Miller, M.D.
Gautam Mishra, M.D.
Nancy Morrison, M.D.
Carol Palm, L.P.N.
Walter Able
Cindy Poucel, R.N.
Eileen Geiss, R.N.
William Cluley
Kay Masci
Chris Ament
Evelyn Wilson
Karien Ziegler

Our recent trip to Ecuador produced some big results, both in terms of surgical procedures and special assistance and training for the blind. We performed approximately 200 cataract surgeries and 30 for strabismus. Additionally, we identified another 25 individuals that could not be helped surgically, but Kay Masci and Chris Ament worked with them to enhance their life skills through specialized training. Their graduation ceremony at the conclusion of the training was quite beautiful and very emotional for these special students, their families and our staff.

We were assisted in every phase of our mission through the tireless efforts of Diego Benitz of Vista Para Todos and Theresa Mantoya, RN. and Dr. Rubin Landazuri. Through the years and 15 trips to Ecuador, these people have helped us to improve the live of many people, many of whom were young children. Their commitment and effort are invaluable.

Dominican Republic

2013 Dec. 2 - 8

Eye Team:

Albert Alley, M.D.
Ifitkhar Chaudhry, M.D.
Cristina Salinas, R.N.
Elizabeth Simpson, R.N.
William Cluley
Sharon Swanger
Kenny Montijo
Patricia Shaffer
Mary Miller
Robert Ramirez
Ravi Patel
Muhammad Shahzad

Medical Team:

William Lovett, M.D.
Ionela Tripple, M.D.
Sean McBride, D.O.
Crystal Stokes, D.O.
Howard Lee
Amy Wetter
Karen Boltz

Similarly, our Dominican team produced significant results as part of a two-phase operation. Our surgical/eye team performed six corneal transplants under the direction of Dr. Ifitkhar Chaudhry and addressed 75 cataracts. The medical team traveled to LaPascuala under the direction of Dr. Bill Lovett and served over 100 through the Linda Alley Clinic, established in 1995.

Our teams included several students who split their time between the two combined missions. Prior to our departure, we were presented with quite a surprise when we were invited to attend ceremonies to honor our many years of partnership with the Dominican people. The event included Senators, the Mayor and national Minister of Health. During the ceremony, they revealed a beautiful monument and a very large wall with a mural honoring all those who have been a part of WBO and named a street after Dr. Alley to commemorate all of the work WBO teams have performed over the past 20 years!

This consistency of service is a direct result of the commitment of countless volunteers in both the U.S. and Dominican Republic. We are fortunate to have such so many great supporters!



↑ Three Ethiopian post-op patients await the removal of their patches - and restoration of their sight!

Ethiopia Mission

5-4-13 to 5-11-13

Albert Alley, M.D.
Ruben Landazuri, M.D.
Ronald Boogaard, M.D.
Marilyn Boogaard
Elizabeth Simpson, R.N.
Joan Yatsonsky, R.N.
William Cluley
Rita Hendrickson, C.O.T.
Getachew Hirpo
Zachary Landis

Our sixth visit to Ethiopia was a very enjoyable homecoming. Our hosts were very happy to see us return after a two-year absence. Although the travel for this destination is very demanding, the welcome we receive energizes our team and they all made a great adjustment and became extremely busy very quickly.





WBO Life Enhancement Awards

As we go to press with this edition of our newsletter, the Life Enhancement Award committee is processing applications and matching resources with identified needs in our community. The Life Enhancement Award was established approximately 10 years ago to provide assistance to some of our closest neighbors who are suffering from impaired vision or blindness.

To date, WBO has been able to help dozens of people and families throughout Central Pennsylvania. Kay Masci, chair of the committee is projecting as many as 8 recipients for some form of assistance. Those individuals will be invited to attend the dinner following our golf outing to share their stories and successes.

Mission Cataract: Lebanon Valley

Local physicians, nurses and technicians coordinate Mission Cataract: Lebanon Valley. This effort has provided free surgery for those who are in need locally for many years. Patients are working, but lack insurance coverage and the means to afford surgery. Although this year's effort is not yet complete, our local coordinator Monica Ziegler is planning another local effort. Special thanks to all those who donate their skills to coordinate this great local effort to care for our own.

Future Mission Plans

WBO is busy planning our schedule for the end of this calendar year and the early part of 2015. In September, we're planning to return to Ecuador and in December to the Dominican Republic. The Dominican trip will have an added feature, as we are working with the Lebanon Rotary and their Interact Club at Lebanon High School. We expect several of these young people to join us for their first international service experience. In February, we hope to make a return visit to our friends in Ghana.



Some of the members of our Dominican Republic surgical team take a moment to share in the joy of renewed sight with corneal transplant patients (below).



The smiles on the faces of our team from the Ethiopia mission (above), express the joy of bringing light into darkness through WBO.



In Ethiopia, like many places we visit, we see tremendous need. Those pictured at left patiently await their turn in surgery.

Below is a beautiful wall mural that was prepared and dedicated during a ceremony during our most recent visit to the Dominican Republic. It is a wonderful tribute to the many who have contributed to our many visits. The gratitude of their government officials, local Rotarians and the patients and families we serve is quite evident.

At right, Dr. Alley poses below the street sign that bears his name in honor of the 20+ years of work in the Dominican Republic.



World Blindness Outreach, Inc.
1510 Cornwall Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

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Thanks Again To The Hershey Bears!

Each year, the Hershey Bears generously supports WBO through their annual charity jersey auction. This has become a vital funding source for our mission and we are very grateful.

2014 WBO Golf Tournament

Reminder!

Monday, August 25

Lebanon Country Club

Please Make Plans To Join Us!

The Tournament Committee has begun the planning process for what we hope will be another successful and fun-filled event this year. Please mark your calendar for Monday, August 25. We hope you can be part of this important event to support WBO!

www.worldblindnessoutreach.org

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