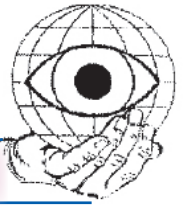


IN Sights

A Newsletter For Friends of World Blindness Outreach, Inc.



2025 Edition

Greetings Friends & Supporters!

As we prepare this edition of our annual report to you, I can't help but reflect back on the 35 years that WBO has been conducting eye surgical missions around the world. From our first mission to Nigeria in 1990 to the latest mission in the Dominican Republic this past February, WBO teams have traveled to 26 countries and conducted over 10,000 procedures in pursuit of our goal to bring light to the darkness for indigent patients that can't afford or do not have access to eye care. We are pleased to have been able to make this kind of positive impact around the world, but we also measure our success by the countless number of friends and supporters who help ensure our missions have a successful outcome.

Our WBO family is made up of talented clinicians, support personnel, and volunteers who travel the world on these missions. It also includes our faithful donors, whose generous financial support helps fund our equipment and supplies.

In addition to our US based WBO family and friends, over the years, we have developed a large network of clinicians and clinical support staff and volunteers around the world whose involvement contributes significantly to our success and effectiveness. Our partnerships with Rotary in various locations and Vista Para Todos in Ecuador have resulted in friendships that have lasted many years.

That brings me to the sad news that our good friend and supporter in Salcedo, Dominican Republic, Jose Tabar, who I have known for over 20 years, passed away recently. A memorial write-up found later in the newsletter will tell you more about this incredible man who I felt blessed to have called my friend.

WBO is incredibly grateful for the support of so many who give of their time, talents and financial resources that are the life blood of our organization and enable us to service those in need. It is estimated that there are over 42 million people around the world who are blind — 80% of those cases are preventable or curable. With your continued support, we will continue to put forth our very best efforts to continue bringing light to the darkness to those who desperately need our help.

Thank You!

Albert A. Alley, M.D.

Albert A. Alley, M.D.
President & Founder

**WBO will reach an exciting
milestone in 2026!
Our mission to the Dominican
Republic in February will be our
100TH MISSION!
We couldn't have accomplished
this without the support of our
WBO family and friends.**

THANK YOU!



WBO Mission Updates

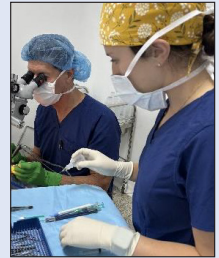
Ecuador Vision Mission XXIV

December 2024

Albert A. Alley, M.D.
Cynthia Alley, M.D.
Drew Stoken, M.D.
Jacob Kammerman, M.D.
(Resident)
Cindy Poucel, R.N.
Eileen Geiss, R.N.

Once again, Vista Para Todos helped to coordinate the details of an incredible 24th mission to Ecuador. WBO Teams performed over 100 cataract procedures and 25 strabismus procedures. Dr. Drew Stoken of Carlisle, PA, joined Drs. Landazuri and Benton from Ecuador and teamed up to perform the cataract surgeries. Dr. Cynthia Alley performed the strabismus procedures on 25 pediatric patients.

Dr. Stoken participated in his first mission with WBO about 30 years ago, when he accompanied WBO on our first mission to India.



Dr. Stoken assisted by Jodie Heishman

He is an excellent surgeon, and we are blessed that he has continued to be an enthusiastic participant in many of our recent missions.

Drs. Landazuri and Benton, who both practice in Ecuador, have become regular additions on our team. Another regular is Dr. Cynthia Alley, a pediatric ophthalmologist and Dr. Alley's daughter. We believe she will be the guiding force behind WBO in the near future.



Our 2024 Ecuador Mission Team

Dominican Republic Vision Mission XXIX

February 2025 – Nagua

Albert A. Alley, M.D.
Cynthia Alley, M.D.
Iftikhar Chaudhry, M.D.
Drew Stoken, M.D.
Ellen Dreibelbis, CRNP
Denise Hileman, Surgical Tech
Kristen Bailey, Surgical Tech
Robert Ramirez-Rodriguez, A-Scan Tech
Jeff Steckbeck, Instrument Tech
Sandy Vilas, Volunteer
Nadia Blum, Volunteer
Alea Herndon, Volunteer



Our 2025 Dominican Republic Mission Team

This trip to the Dominican was another great success. WBO Teams performed over 50 cataract procedures, 20 strabismus procedures, along with 6 corneal transplants, courtesy of Dr. Iftikhar Chaudhry, from Philadelphia. This trip has become an annual mission for nearly 30 years, with the exception of a brief pause, due to COVID. Our results and efficiency increase each year because of the efforts of our team and volunteers on the ground. Little did we know that this trip would be our last with Jose Tabar. We remain committed to continue our work there, but it's hard to imagine not seeing Jose. We will just have to do our best, without this invaluable member of our team.

Future Mission Plans...

Ecuador - October 2025 Unfortunately, we were recently notified by our Ecuadorian partner, Vista Para Todos, that due to governmental regulation changes, they will be required to make upgrades to their facility to meet new regulatory standards. These changes will not be completed until Spring of 2026. We will reschedule this mission as soon as we are notified that they are able to host us again.

Dominican Republic - February 2026 While this will be our 30th trip to the Dominican Republic, we are excited to announce that this will also be **Mission #100 for World Blindness Outreach**. A heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who has contributed to helping us achieve this tremendous milestone. We are grateful for your support!

In Memory of Our Good Friend & Supporter Jose Tabar



volunteer and more, often on his own initiative. He helped identify and transport patients, helped support our clinicians and even arranged for repairs for one of our surgical microscopes during one of our missions. Jose was always there and was a critical part of our team. We will miss him dearly.

One of the best examples that highlight his unwavering support for our efforts was a letter we received for one of our surgeons, Dr. Chaudhry, after the first corneal transplant patient he did in 2009. Because of the nature of this procedure, each patient requires several weeks of follow-up care and medication to ensure the new cornea will not be rejected. Jose volunteered for that duty and several weeks after our return, we received this progress note from him:

We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing this past Spring of Jose Tabar, one of our most devoted supporters in the Dominican Republic. Dr. Alley considered his 20 plus year relationship with Jose a huge blessing in his life, calling him a “giant” of a man, one of the most generous and compassionate he has ever known.

Jose Tabar was a member of the Salcedo Lions Club and a highly respected pillar of his community. He did everything we ever asked from a

Dr. Chaudhry,

I'm happy to announce you that the operation of the cornea transplant perform by you and other doctors in Nagua was a success. At the beginning I didn't know what to say cause the patient was shy and say he could barely open the eye but just a few minutes ago I receive a message that he was seeing quite well.

I'm overwhelm is the best Christmas gift I've receive in my life. This young fellow was blind for six years and now thanks to you and your staff a life is been renew. There is no way we can ever repay the good deed you've done to the poor people. Also you gave hope to the other kid that needs cornea transplant but because of his allergy could not be perform. I'll work with the mother to take him to an allergy doctor and treat him for the allergy and maybe if you came next year you can perform the operation.

I am really glad you came this year and perform the cataracts operations on the elderly people that otherwise where doom to clouds for the rest of their life. Love to you all.

*Might God always bless you.
Jose Tabar*



Life Enhancement Award

The Life Enhancement Award was established to assist individuals in South Central Pennsylvania who are visually impaired. The award is designed to provide equipment or aid to enhance/improve the quality of life for individuals with a vision impairment.

Over the last year, WBO supported two impactful projects through this award. When a legally blind resident faced an urgent need following a hospital stay, WBO provided funding to install handrails in their home—enabling a safe return and greater confidence in daily living. Another powerful story comes from a local high school student who gradually lost her vision. To help her continue her education with greater ease and independence, WBO helped to fund the purchase of the MagniLink Vision 2, a multifunctional video magnifier and computer system. This technology allows for close-up reading, distance viewing in the classroom, and computer screen magnification—all essential tools for academic success.

Both of these projects exemplify WBO's mission to enhance lives through meaningful, practical support. Thanks to your generosity, individuals facing vision loss are gaining tools that empower them to live more fully and independently.

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

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WBO Impact...



Child with Strabismus - Before and After Surgery



Patients Post-Op - Cataract Surgery

For Those Who Might Like to Make a Donation – We Value Your Support!

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

www.worldblindnessoutreach.org • (717) 273-0662