
2018 Nicaragua Eye Care Mission

Teustepe, Boaco, Nicaragua

Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos, Granada, Nicaragua

Program Objectives

- Provide free quality eye care services to the poor in Nicaragua.
- Train Nicaraguan Lions to provide basic eye care services independently
- Through a series of projects, establish sustainable Eye Care Clinics to continue delivering free services after the medical brigade returns to the USA.
- Build relationships between Nicaragua and USA, especially among Lions Clubs.

Project Support Received

- Lions Clubs: District 20-N (Western New York) and District 5 (Nicaragua)
- St Rita Parish in Teustepe and Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos near Nandaime
- Dozens of Nicaragua citizen volunteers as Spanish interpreters and assistants.
- Corporate sponsorship: Alcon, Allergan, PlusOptix, Delta Airlines
- FONIPRECE Ophthalmic Clinic

Medical Brigade

- 19 USA Brigade Members (+3 Nicaragua Eye Care Professionals)
- 1 Ophthalmologists (1 Nicaraguan)
- 2 Optometrists (1 Nicaraguan)
- 4 Opticians (1 Nicaraguan)
- 1 Registered Nurse
- 14 Non-medical Volunteers (including 5 USA Lions, 1 USA Rotarian)

Patient Eye Care Services

- 2193 Patients treated
- 2071 Vision screening
- 956 Auto-refractions
- 361 Optometrist examinations
- 54 Prosthetic Eyes
- 1101 Eyeglasses dispensed
- 1626 Sunglasses dispensed
- 224 Safety glasses dispensed
- 417 Eye drops dispensed

Surgery

<u>Conditions</u>	<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Planned</u>	<u>Performed</u>
• Evaluated	• 80	• 65	• 55
• Cataract	• 43	• 42	• 35
• Pterygium	• 14	• 9	• 7
• Others	• 23	• 14	• 10

Providing hope. Enriching lives.

Sustainable Free Eye Care Services

Objective: The Hopeful Ways Eye Care Mission promotes sustainable free eye care services for the Nicaraguan poor with minimal to no support from outside Nicaragua, through training for Nicaragua Lions Club members, loans of ophthalmic instruments, surgery funding, and a coalition with FONIPRECE (a Nicaraguan non-profit eye surgery clinic).

- Developed the capacity for independent Nicaragua Lion Eye Care Brigades
 - Hopeful Ways
 - Loaned ophthalmic instruments to Lions Clubs for brigade usage
 - Trained Lions on all required brigade functions
 - Provides surgical medications & supplies thru donations and fundraising
 - Lions Clubs in Juigalpa
 - Organize small brigades to provide free eye care services to the poor.
 - FONIPRECE
 - Participate as a partner in a Nicaragua Lions small eye care brigades.
- Established a coalition to deliver free eye care surgeries to the poor in Nicaragua.
 - Hopeful Ways
 - Organize / support eye care missions in Nicaragua
 - Identify surgical candidates for Regional Hospital and FONIPRECE
 - Raise funds to cover surgical expenses incurred by FONIPRECE
 - Nicaragua Lions Clubs
 - Support Hopeful Ways Mission projects in Nicaragua.
 - Coordinate patients at for surgical evaluation by FONIPRECE
 - Refer patients to Regional Hospitals for surgical evaluation
 - Coordinate patients scheduled for surgery at FONIPRECE
 - Organize small eye care brigades independently without USA staff.
 - FONIPRECE Non-profit Eye Surgery Clinic
 - Evaluate surgical candidates identified by Hopeful Ways and Lions
 - Provide surgery (cataracts, strabismus) at cost with free medical labor.
 - Regional Hospitals
 - Evaluate surgical candidates identified by Hopeful Ways & FONIPRECE
 - Provide free minor eye surgeries (pterygium, etc.)

Goodwill Activities

- Hopeful Ways donated medications and surgical supplies from excess inventories to FONIPRECE Clinic to use on surgical patients identified during the Eye Care Projects.
- Hopeful Ways donated medications and medical supplies from excess inventories to the NPH Clinic to use within the facility.
- Eyeglass Collection with 6,000 pairs of eyeglasses was donated to Rivas Lions Club.
- Hopeful Ways delivered donated medical equipment to the Juigalpa Regional Hospital neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) to improve health care for premature babies.
- All children entering the Hopeful Ways clinic received a small toy to comfort them and keep them entertained during their long wait for clinic services.
- Hopeful Ways volunteers distributed toys to children in an extremely poor roadside rural community. It was like Christmas morning for these children.
- Hopeful Ways toured the NPH facility to investigate future ways to provide support.