



Faces of Hope Faces of Hope

March 2021



People making a difference
on Hopeful Ways Projects

*"The good you do today may be
forgotten tomorrow.
Do good anyway.
Give the world the best you have
and it may not be enough.
Give your best anyway." --
Mother Teresa*

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Hopeful Ways

www.hopefulways.org

Providing Hope. Enriching Lives.

"We provide medical & humanitarian services and educational opportunities to improve the quality of life for the people of Nicaragua. We do this with great love, compassion, and a sincere desire to be of service to those living in impoverished conditions."

President's Message

The first 2 months of 2021 brought a flurry of activity and good news.

- 2 eye care clinics were conducted Santo Tomas and Juigalpa with the assistance of the Lions Clubs and FONIPRECE Eye Clinic
- 13 people identified during the 2 clinics received cataract surgery at FONIPRECE with logistics support from the Lions Clubs
- All Hopeful Ways supplies shipped during summer 2020 finally arrived in Teustepe and were prepared for distribution.
- Hopeful Ways supplies were already delivered to the Children's Home
- The Juigalpa and Rivas Lions Clubs and FONIPRECE are picking up their supplies in early March
- In January Hopeful Ways was notified that we were awarded a \$3,000 grant from the Phase Foundation for the purchase of a new autorefractor for the Juigalpa Lions Ophthalmic Clinic.

These highlights are significant events thus far in 2021, but it does not adequately describe the many, many hours or volunteer service required to accomplish these tasks. This mission is only successful due to the dedication of our many volunteers who donate their time and our many supporters who provide the required funding. A sincere "Thank you" from Hopeful Ways and the Nicaraguan people.

Always in service,

Jim Carlins, President
716-909-8942



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Eye Care Supplies Arrive in Nicaragua

After more than 6 months of waiting, the Hopeful Ways supplies shipped in summer 2020 finally arrived in Teustepe and have been prepared for pickup.

The **Children's Home** has already received school supplies, tools, readers and sunglasses.

The **Juigalpa and Rivas Lions Clubs** will pick up eye care supplies in early March consisting of prescription eyeglasses, readers, sunglasses, and cases.

The **FONIPRECE Eye Clinic** will pick up their supplies in early March consisting of post-surgery dark glasses, readers, eye moisturizing drops and a slit lamp.



The delivery of these supplies will allow continuation of eye care services to the people living in the poorer communities.

Phase Foundation Grant Awarded !!!

Hopeful Ways is proud to be awarded a grant by THE PHASE FOUNDATION to purchase a new autorefractor for the Juigalpa Lions Ophthalmic Clinic. The new SJR-990 will replace the current 20+ year old instrument that has become unreliable.

This grant was made possible by the dedicated effort of Carolyn Keller, the Hopeful Ways Grant Writer. Thank you, Carolyn!

This autorefractor is the same model purchased by Hopeful Ways for the Rivas Lions Ophthalmic Clinic in 2019. The new autorefractor is faster and more accurate, which will provide better services for the Juigalpa area people and allow more patients to be served. THANK YOU to THE PHASE FOUNDATION!



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Free Eye Care Clinics Improve Vision

During January 2021, Hopeful Ways sponsored two free eye care clinics hosted by **Nicaragua Lions Club** in conjunction with eye care professionals from **FONIPRECE / Ojo Sano**. Services included eye examinations, eyeglass distribution, eye moisturizing drops and antibiotics distribution and identification of people with severe cataracts. 13 people with severe cataracts were offered free cataract surgery through the Hopeful Ways “Gift of Sight” program (8 in Juigalpa and 5 in Santo Tomás).

Juigalpa Lions Clinic January 23, 2021



Free Cataract Surgeries Improve Lives

During February 2021, thirteen (13) people who were identified with severe cataracts during recent Hopeful Ways clinics received free cataract surgery at FONIPRECE / Ojo Sano Clinic in Managua. The Lions Clubs from Juigalpa and Santo Tomas arrange for the transportation of patients (8 from Juigalpa and 5 from Santo Tomas). These individuals did not have the financial means to obtain these surgeries without the Gift of Sight Program. The dramatic improvement in their lives after the surgery can be felt by listening to their stories. Here is what two of the patients had to say.

Juigalpa patient Henry is a 70-year-old father and grandfather who found daily life becoming difficult and tedious due to poor vision. He also developed frequent headaches that were intensifying.

After receiving cataract surgery, Henry stated "My wife is quite happy and my family will be very happy too. I am very grateful to the Clinic's programs and now I can enjoy my family better "

Santo Tomas patient Juana is a 79-year-old grandmother who has been living with poor vision for over 10 years. It started with blurred vision and progressed until she could not see her family well and was having difficulty eating and moving around.

After receiving cataract surgery, Juana stated "My family is very happy, I feel very grateful. Sight is essential for everyone. I will be able to see better everything I have in my house and the people who I love"



Volunteer!

Do you have a desire to help others?

Can you make some time in your life to make the world a better place?

It takes significant time and effort to organize the Hopeful Ways mission projects, fundraise and maintain the organization. You don't have to travel to Nicaragua to be a significant contributor. If you have a few hours to occasionally volunteer for a specific event or if you want to become involved in our growing organization, call or email to discuss how you can help.

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"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service to others."

– Mahatma Gandhi

