



Faces of Hope Faces of Hope

Spring 2023



People making a difference on Hopeful Ways Projects.

"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."

Providing Hope. Enriching Lives.

President's Message

Hopeful Ways' Nicaragua partners navigated government restrictions continue to deliver very successful results for 2022.

100 Eye surgeries were completed along with numerous small scale weekend eye clinics. Many thanks to the tireless efforts of the volunteers for the Nicaragua Lions Clubs and FONIPRECE / Ojo Sano Eye Clinic. These efforts are expected to continue strong through 2023.

Hopeful Ways has now making preparations to send a mission team to neighboring Costa Rica. Starting a mission in a new country presents new challenges. Hopeful Ways Project Leaders are planning an advance to Nicoya in the upcoming month to understand government regulations, finalize the clinic site, and arrange transportation and lodging for the large group of mission volunteers. Anyone wishing to participate in the mission, or just want more information, should contact Jim Carlins.

The eyeglass collection for the project is nearly ready thanks to the 2 dozen volunteers who spent 3 days sorting the 6,000 pairs of eyeglasses by prescription. There are more tasks to be completed to prepare for the trip. Volunteers are needed, if you can only spare a few hours. More information on these topics are inside this newsletter.



Always in service,

Jim Carlins, President
716-909-8942
jjcarlins@hopefulways.org

Save The Date

Hopeful Ways is sending an
Eye Care Mission to Nicoya Costa Rica
Jan 27 to Feb 4, 2024.

Interested in participating?

Contact: Jim Carlins at 716-909-8942
or jjcarlins@gmail.com

"The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking." — Albert Einstein

2022 was Our BEST Year Yet 10 Eye Care Clinics / 100 Eye Surgeries!

Hopeful Ways provides free eye surgeries to the underprivileged through our “Gift of Sight” Program. Most of the eye surgeries are performed to correct severe cataracts in people who are nearly blind (20/400 or worse) in both eyes. Eye screening clinics are organized by **Lions Clubs** with **FONIPRECE** providing the volunteer medical staff and Hopeful Ways providing coordination and financial support. During 2022, 10 Eye Care Clinics helped thousands of people and resulted in 100 free eye surgeries. 2022 was the most productive year for the program to date.



Club de Leones Juigalpa, Clínica y Fundación Ojo Sano
Hopeful Ways



Jornada de Cirugía de Catáratas



**CONGRATULATIONS
to the
ALL VOLUNTEER TEAM**

For enhancing the lives of many underprivileged people.



Eyeglass Collection is Ready

Many thanks to the 2 dozen volunteers who spent 3 days sorting over 6,000 pairs of eyeglasses for the upcoming **Eye Care Mission to Nicoya Costa Rica**. It was a time consuming task made easier by the many hands involved. The eyeglass collection is now ready for use during the mission.

A special thanks to the Pendleton, Ken-Ton and Boston Lions Clubs, and St John Newman for providing the volunteers, and to St John's UCC Church for providing the locations for this event.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



Volunteers Needed!

Eye Care Mission Preparations

Hopeful Ways is preparing a mission team for **Nicoya, Guanacaste, Costa Rica**. Much work has been done.

- A "Letter of Invitation" has been received from the Nicoya Costa Rica Lions Club
- 6,000 pairs of prescription eyeglasses have been obtained from the New Jersey Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (NJLERC)
- The eyeglasses have been sorted, boxed and are ready for shipment to Costa Rica
- Travel arrangements are complete for the Hopeful Ways Advance Team to meet with the Nicoya Lions Club in April to finalize project plans and logistics.

There is SO MUCH MORE to do. Here are a few examples:

- Arrange for shipping of the eyeglasses and other supplies to Costa Rica.
- Create and distribute mission information and application documents
- Accept mission traveler applications and collect their travel documents
- Determine Costa Rica Health Ministry and Customs regulations and generate documentation to comply with regulations
- Submit grant applications to pharmaceutical and other companies for supplies and/or funds to support the mission expenses

You don't have to travel to Costa Rica to play a significant role in the success of the mission. Consider volunteering to help with the preparations. **No special skill set** is required, just a desire to help.

To volunteer, or for more information, contact Jim Carlins at 716-909-8942 or jicarlins@hopefulways.org

7th Annual "Bicycling for Sight" Fundraiser



Coming this Summer.
Details to follow!

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 want to become involved in our growing organization, call or email to discuss how you can help.

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