



a mission with vision

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SECOND QUARTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Eye Doc in a Box is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization whose goal is to meet the eye care and spiritual needs of the one billion people around the world who need eyeglasses. We do so by training and equipping lay people for this work. Everyone can participate: Pray, Give, Go. Read on for an update on our work, and yours, over the past three months.



TRAINING

We have provided in-person and virtual (via Zoom) training to a number of groups over this quarter. We have completed the content for our online training and are in the process of standing it up on the internet. It will be a great tool for new and refresher training. Contact us at 706.240.2321 or at eyedocinabox@gmail.com for more info.

DONATE

Help Eye Doc in a Box provide training (in-person, via Zoom, and coming soon, internet-based) and tools to mission teams by donating today.

Consider donating to Eye Doc in a Box through a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). The popularity of DAFs has grown tremendously and now represent approximately 25% of individual giving in the US. By donating appreciated stock held for more than one year directly to a DAF—rather than liquidating it and then donating the proceeds—you can reduce your tax liability as well as reducing your marginal income tax. Want to learn more? Check out this [link](#) and talk to your tax advisor.

You can also donate by check, credit card, PayPal, or Zelle; visit our website for details: www.eyedocinabox.com/donate.

Eye Doc in a Box is a registered 501(d)(3) non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowable bylaw. No goods or services are provided by Eye Doc in a Box in return for any contribution.

OVER 20,000

In June, Eye Doc in a Box hosted exhibition booths at the PCA and SBC annual denomination meetings; combined attendance at these two events was over 20,000 people. Time and again, we asked, “Does your church sponsor international mission trips?” The response from most, when they learned they could include a vision program in their trip, was “Wow!” Several of these churches have already signed up for training for mission trips this Summer.

We plan to exhibit at three more events later this year; please stop by and say hello if you are also attending:

- Mission Leaders’ Conference (September, Louisville);
- International Conference on Missions (November, Lexington);
- Global Missions Health Conference (November, Louisville).

Why exhibit? Exhibit marketing, compared to other parts of the communication mix, is an important tool that can make considerable impact in an organization’s field. The main focus within exhibit marketing is information sharing. It provides the opportunity to strengthen relationships with current partners and get to know new ones to a greater extent.

COMING & GOING



• Honduras

Flint Baptist Church, of Flint, TX worked with the Lenca Indians, an indigenous people group in southwest Honduras. They saw over 500 people in their combined medical/dental/vision clinic and approximately 100 received eyeglasses.

An elderly couple both received glasses and while the wife waited to be fitted she called out to others and said, “Come and you will see.” The picture is of this couple. We were able to meet a physical need of sight but also an eternal need of Christ. We had 42 make a profession of faith. May we daily “Come and See!”.

• Guatemala

June Buchanan Crusaders for Christ, from Pippa Passes, KY saw several patients and said this about their trip – “We had an amazing experience! Everyone is excited to go back next year! We feel the clinic went smoothly and thankful to have helped so many people.”

• Additional Trips Completed (that we know of) This Quarter

- Uganda; Radford Baptist Church
- Tanzania; Augusta United Methodist Church
- Honduras; Walker United Methodist Church
- Guatemala; Denver Baptist Church
- Mexico; Austin Ridge Church
- Honduras; Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
- Tanzania; Missionary

Please send us your pictures and details if your trip isn't listed.



ETHIOPIA CONNECTION

One of our virtual training sessions was attended by almost a dozen Ethiopians...all in Ethiopia! Should your mission team be traveling to the Addis Ababa area of Ethiopia, please feel free to connect with Dr. Mulu Hallu (mulubeth@gmail.com) and Dr. Wondwossen Desta (wdestaatl@gmail.com). Both have trained with Eye Doc in a Box and would welcome the opportunity to connect with mission teams.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

What Sunglasses Should We Bring? We recently were asked about what eyeglasses to bring on a mission trip. Here's a summary of what to consider when you are providing sunglasses to your mission patients:

How sunlight can damage your eyes. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation can damage eyes the same way it affects skin. Over time, UV rays can damage the eye's cornea, tissues and lens. Taking steps to protect eyes from UV rays can help avoid eye conditions such as: 1) cataracts; 2) eye cancers; and 3) eye growths, such as pterygium and pinguecula.

Choosing protective sunglasses. To ensure providing maximum protection, here's what to consider:

- UV protection – Look for sunglasses that offer 100% UV protection from all UV light (UVA and UVB) or 100% protection against UV 400.
- Lens color – The quality of a pair's shading has nothing to do with the darkness or color of the lenses.
- Polarization – Polarized lenses reduce the glare of light but do not provide any protection from UV light.
- Size – The size of sunglass lenses matters when it comes to protecting eyes. For maximum protection, consider oversized or wraparound sunglasses.

Additional tips for protecting eyes from sun damage. Wear a broad brimmed hat. Wear eye protection on cloudy days since clouds don't block UV light.