

### **Annual Report** 2018 - 2019

The Gift of Sight's mission is to eradicate preventable blindness by fostering sustainable healthcare delivery in underserved, global communities.

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# Letter from Founder & Executive Director

#### Dear Friends,

It is with much excitement that I share our 2018/2019 report with you. While I have enjoyed a long career in ophthalmology, practicing medicine with my colleagues at the Gift of Sight (GOS) has exemplified my sense of accomplishment. When you realize that you have changed the life of a man in Kenya, because now he can see well enough to find employment, or a woman in the Philippines dances minutes after getting up from the operating table, you can't help but feel elated. The feeling is addictive. It's the feeling we have on each mission of the Gift of Sight. We change lives one person at a time, whether it's by removing a cataract or fitting reading glasses.

Sight is fundamental to overall well-being and healthy communities, and that is why we aim to eradicate preventable blindness. It may sound like a daunting mission, but eighty percent of all blindness is preventable. As we see results, we know that every dollar donated, every hour spent, and every mile traveled is worth it. And we couldn't achieve this progress without you, our supporters. Many of you have been integral to our work since our founding, and we cannot thank you enough for your consistent willingness to believe in us and donate to our cause.

As we embark on a new decade of work at a time of unprecedented global inequality, we have renewed our commitment to the mission while declaring a new promise to build upon our model, organizational structure, and funding in order to secure a sustainable future for the Gift of Sight. This means that we need your continued patronage more than ever. We look forward to sharing our journey of growth with you and bringing education, equipment, eye care, and of course sight, to more people the world over.

With gratitude,

Kenneth C. Westfield MD

## Our Story

Our medical team's commitment to humanitarian and medical missions dates back to 1986, and the goal has always been to provide localized combinations of medical treatment, education and infrastructure for sustainable change.

In 2012, Dr. Westfield established The Gift of Sight in order to create a formal structure through which we could realize our vision for a world where treatable yet debilitative eye conditions are addressed globally with the necessary support of other institutions and individuals. The formation of a non-profit organization allowed many like-minded doctors and health care practitioners who shared this goal to consolidate resources and establish a governing board to provide pathways to funding, oversight and planning for future missions. Over the years, GOS has garnered support and collaboration from funding institutions, medical corporations, and other medical non-profit organizations. The Gift of Sight is led by a small, dedicated team, but it continues to be a success thanks to a growing group of medical professionals and a few others of various professions who join together and donate their time and resources. Without these talented and giving individuals, we wouldn't have been able to examine and help as many people as we have.

Despite these challenges, every year, we orchestrate an outpatient clinic with an optical shop and ophthalmic surgery center during a 5-7 day work week.

and performing surgery and evolved into a theory of change that is aimed at tackling the root causes of systemic health care inequalities. The broadest example of this mandate is our leadership role in the development and management of Hôpital Saint Gabriel de Lascahobas in the rural community of Lascahobas, Haiti. The completion and continuation of the hospital in Lascahobas has been no easy feat. It required the donation of medical equipment and supplies (chairs, slit lamps, hand-equipment, etc) for exam rooms in the ophthalmology clinic and surgery center, and additional equipment, such as X-Ray equipment, for use by ophthalmologists and other community doctors. Yet beyond just equipping the hospital, there have been challenges to maintain staff and to introduce systems that will allow for the hospital to remain open year-round and run effectively. Despite these challenges, every year, we orchestrate an outpatient clinic with an optical shop and ophthalmic surgery center

during a 5-7 day work week. This is usually with a small team of 2-3 American ophthalmologists, several Haitian ophthalmologists, and a Haitian optometrist. During this week, 600-800 patients are seen for eye examination services, 500-1,000 pairs of glasses are dispensed and 100-120 surgical procedures are performed. 85% of the surgeries performed are cataract extractions, but many strabismus and pterygium surgeries are performed too. We also conduct lectures and review courses for the Haitian ophthalmologists

Years of trials, errors, and successes in Lascahobas, have made it strikingly clear to us that lasting change is not possible by simply seeing patients year in and year out. As a result, we are committed to developing a model of sustainable healthcare in every community where we work, and our interventions are designed with this thoughtful and more nuanced approach in mind.

## Remembering the 2010 Earthquake in Haiti

2010 presented one of our most challenging trips. The magnitude 7.0 earthquake that struck Haiti and devastated the capital city of Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas made it impossible for our team to arrive for our mission scheduled in February until April, 2010.

When it was secure enough for us to make the trip, we were shocked by the amount of homelessness, damage, and rubble that we encountered. We were not surprised by the tremendous resilience and hope expressed by the Haitian people.

That year, we saw an unprecedented number of patients, many of whom sought care for earthquake related injuries or other ailments that did not concern the eyes. We learned the importance of decentralized healthcare, as our very own small clinic in rural Haiti, Hôpital Saint Gabriel de Lascahobas, provided a lifeline for patients at a time when many of the healthcare facilities in the country were too damaged to operate.

The tragic earthquake compelled us to commit to a long term, sustainable healthcare development strategy in Lascahobas. 10 years later, we celebrate our continued presence in the community while planning for a hospital that is completely self-sufficient in the near future.

## Ottr Philosophy of Care

The Gift of Sight's mission is to eradicate preventable blindness by fostering sustainable healthcare delivery in underserved, global communities.

We hope to accomplish this in a competent, caring manner, utilizing the appropriate technology available.



ur volunteer medical staff includes dedicated doctors, surgeons, nurses and medical technicians who take time away from their practices and families to give care and expertise.

Providing eye care to the poor and the underserved is one thing. Having them depend on us for care is unrealistic.

We feel it's equally important to teach and train local healthcare professionals in eye care so they can in turn care for the population year-round and not have to depend on outside resources that may or may not come every year.

This does not mean that our job is finished. It's only just begun. Fostering a relationship of teaching and patient care is a long term mission, not a short term mission.

The team is socially and mentally equipped to handle the diversity we face, irrespective of the countries we visit and have served.

One of the bonuses of living and working in Las Vegas is that we are exposed to these cultural diversities which have served us well over the years. Since many of the patients do not speak English, volunteer translators are commonly utilized to make the patients feel more at ease.

### Recent Accomplishments

Throughout 2018 and the first quarter of 2019, the Gift of Sight's volunteers participated in five (5) eye missions (Table). These missions took the team across the world to Lascahobas, Haiti; Juja, Kenya; and Surigao City and Candon City in the Philippines. In total, approximately 1,200 patients were examined. We performed over 200 eye surgeries, with cataract surgery being the most common.

We were able to dispense approximately 800 pairs of eyeglasses, which will not only allow over 800 patients to see better but also improve the quality of their daily lives. The team treated patients with glaucoma, ocular allergies, and other various common eye diseases.

When necessary, referrals were made to the appropriate eye care specialists since the locations of our missions are rural and often far from healthcare access.

	Lascahobas, Haiti (2018 and 2019 combined)	Juja, Kenya (2018)	Surigao & Candon City, Philippines (2018)
Number of Patients	1475	300	19 (Consultation to challenging eye diseases)
Surgeries Performed	80	25	143
Eyeglasses Dispensed	1039	200	0
Mission Duration	9 days	3.5 days	8 days



#### a. Haiti - 2018

(16 – 24 February)

Examined **825**patients over **4 days** 

Dispensed over

**589** pairs of glasses

Treated over

**250** patients with glaucoma

Operated on **35 eyes** with cataract without post-operative complications





#### **b.** Kenya – 2018 (29 June - July)

Examined **300** patients over **3 days** 

200 pairs of glasses

Donated medications to the eye clinic

Operated on **25 eyes** with cataract without post-operative complications

Trained and taught healthcare professionals to give general eye care





#### Philippines - 2018 (30 Oct – 10 Nov)

Two-weeks: two cities mission

Total number of surgeries

Surigao

**65 78** in Candon City

#### No complications





#### **d.** Haiti – 2019 (18 – 22 March)

Over **650** patients examined

Over **450** pairs

of glasses dispensed

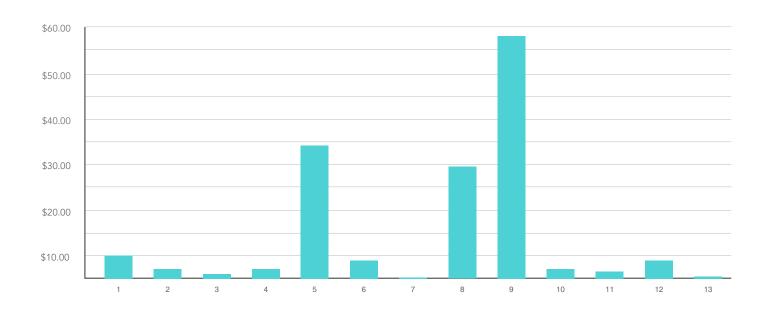
45 surgeries performed



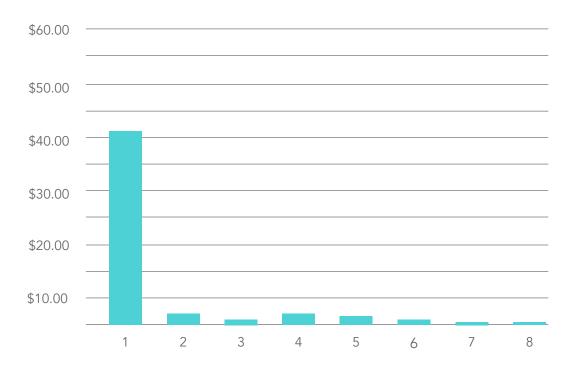


## Finances





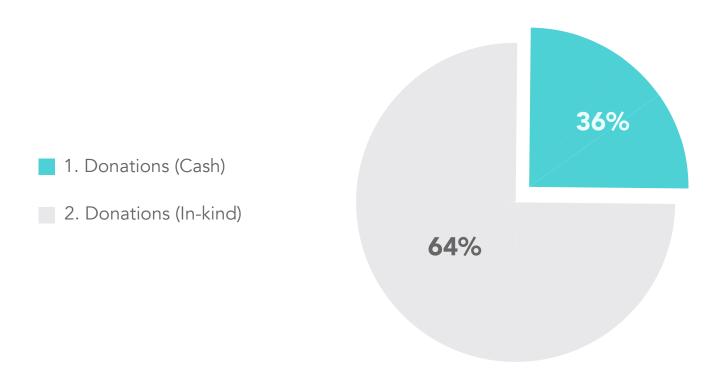
Income	
Cash Donations	\$162,360.00
In-Kind Donations	\$3,100.00
Interest	\$6.57
Total	\$165,466.57
1. Air Fare	\$41,427.00
2. Excess Baggage Fees	\$2,325.00
3. Visas	\$1,020.00
4. Food/Lodging	\$2,539.00
5. Pharmaceuticals	\$1,007.00
6. Surgical Supplies	\$1,250.00
7. Local Transportation	\$590.00
8. Eye Glasses	\$880.00
Total	\$51,038.00



By volunteering their time, the GOS team significantly decreases the cost of this work compared to market value

## Revenue

	2018	2019	2018/19
1. Donations (Cash)	47,750	118,250	178,870
2. Donations (In Kind)	250,510	62,627	313,137
Total	298,260	180,877	492,007



## Thank You to Our Supporters

The Gift of Sight's missions cannot be achieved nor successful if not for our team members and supporters.

We are grateful to have a core of volunteers and support staff that consistently donate their time and effort to our cause. We would like to express our appreciation to the following organizations and individuals who have made our work possible.

**5,753** miles

Lascahobas Haiti (2)

9,429 miles

Juja, Kenya

8,269 miles

Surigao & Candor City, Philippines

23,451

Total Miles Traveled



#### Sponsors



Johnson Johnson



**BAUSCH+LOMB** 

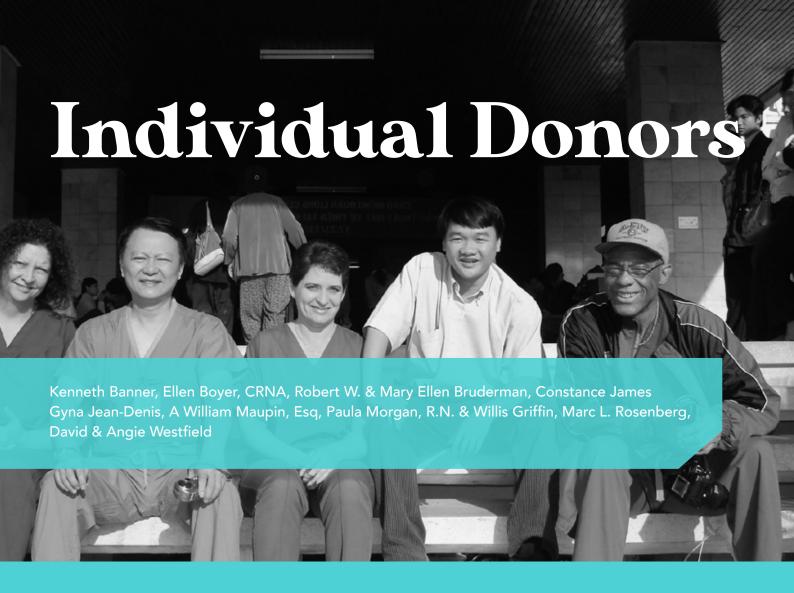




#### **Partners**







#### Volunteers

#### Haiti

- 1 Kenneth C. Westfield M.D.
- 2. Hon-Vu Q. Duong, M.D.
- 3 Michael Maingrette M.D. (Host
- 4. Tyree Carr, M.D.
- 5 Leslie S Jones M.D.
- 6. Rosalie Brown, COT
- 7. Nancy Evangelisti, COA
- 8. Danielle Deshommes
- 9. Charlie Brown
- 10 Gary Dubuisson
- 11. Chervl Cox
- 12 Gyna Jean-Denis
- 13. Jasmine Pierre
- 14. Juliette Casimire
- 15. Claude Thomas

#### Kenya

- 1 Sister Juliana Moses (Host)
- 2. Kenneth C. Westfield, M.D.
- 3 Hon-Vu O Duong M D
- 4. Xuan-Mai Ta, O.D.
- 5. Joseph Carbone, ABOC,
- 6. Nancy Evangelisti, COA
- 7. Andrew N. Perkes

#### **Philippines**

- 1 Kenneth C. Westfield M.D.
- 2. Hon-Vu Q. Duong, M.D.
- 3. Sebastian Moll, M.D. (Host)
- 4. Santos Yu. M.D.
- 5 Reginald Revrao MSN ΔPN
- 6. Scott Hunt, COMT
- 7. Nancy Evangelisti, COA
- Gabriella Mitchell, CST
- 9. Manual Carino



In 2020, the Gift of Sight plans to participate in four eye missions. Although all of these missions have not been confirmed due to planning, logistics and the **COVID-19 pandemic**, we know that the host countries have expressed their desire to have the team return.

Our mission to Binh Phuoc, Vietnam is tentatively scheduled for November 2020. Also, Congressman Eric Singson from the Philippines has asked the team to return to Candon City to continue with our annual eye mission. That is also scheduled for late October / November.

#### Missions planned for 2020



#### i. Haiti – February 2020

1. Mission will be comprehensive: medical, optical, and surgical



#### ii. Kenya - TBD

- 1. Mission will be medical, optical, and surgical
- 2. Short lectures on eye care and diseases



#### iii. Vietnam (tentative) – Oct/Nov

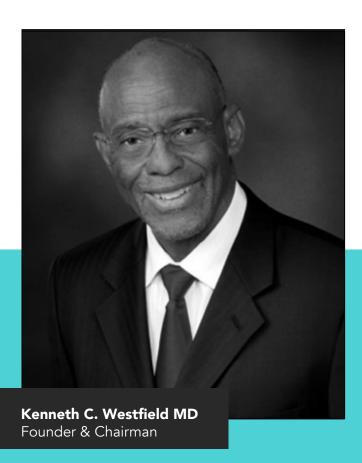
- 1. Medical & Optical with Dr. Ta's team
- 2. Medical & Surgical with Dr. Westfield's team



#### iv. Philippines (tentative) – Oct/Nov

- 1. This mission is primarily surgical.
- 2. The team will also assist the host ophthalmologist in consultations

# Learn more about our passionate team team



After serving in the United States Army (1969-71), Dr. Kenneth Westfield attended and graduated from the Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1976.

He then completed his internship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan, and residency training at the Kresge Eye Institute.

In 1980, he founded a private practice in Las Vegas, which has since grown to become the largest full-service ophthalmology center in Nevada.

The center includes an ambulatory surgical center, a Laser Refractive Center and an optical shop.

Dr. Westfield is extremely active in his profession and the community.

Among his many accomplishments, he served as the founding medical director of the Nevada Eye Bank; was the first to perform refractive surgery in Las Vegas (radial keratotomy); opened the first satellite eye care clinics to serve outlying rural Nevada; was the first surgeon to perform cataract surgery in a freestanding ambulatory surgery center; and was the first to successfully service a large managed care contract, making surgery from an eye doctor in Las Vegas more affordable for plan participants.

Dr. Westfield founded the Gift of Sight in order to realize his vision for a world where treatable yet debilitative eye conditions were addressed in the places of most need.

Since its inception, he has been able to help and heal thousands of people in his own community of Las Vegas and the world over who would otherwise not have received the necessary care. In his eyes, this has been the biggest accomplishment of his career.



Dr. Todd Jackson was born and raised in Las Vegas. His family instilled in him a strong commitment to community service, which began with volunteering at the local shelter.

After attending Brigham Young University, Dr. Jackson spent 6,000 hours serving the people of Guatemala and made a promise that he would do all he could to serve others throughout his life. It was during this experience that he decided to become a medical doctor and surgeon.

He attended the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed his residency at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, specializing in ophthalmology.

Yet he did not want to wait until he was established to continue to serve the less fortunate. He founded Prestige Laser and Cataract Institute in 2011 with a mission statement to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, liberate the captive and care for the sick and afflicted. He told his staff, "If I can not run a world-class premium business and do charity from the very beginning, I do not deserve to own a business, and I should go to work for someone else." He attributes the success of his business to this focus on service.

Dr. Jackson also participates in the H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Everywhere) clinic on a monthly basis, where he provides care on a pay-it-forward basis. Dr. Jackson's work around the world has helped him to become proficient and confident treating the most advanced forms of anterior segment disease. He has participated in eye missions in Guatemala and Kenya and is a member of GOS' Volunteer Medical Team as well as the organization's leadership.



Dr. Duong was born in Hue, Vietnam. In 1975, he and his family immigrated to the United States and settled in Virginia.

After high school, he enlisted into the US Army. After four years of distinguished service in the Army, he attended college and medical school. A graduate of The Pennsylvania State University, he completed his General Surgery training at The University of Virginia Health Science Center; his ophthalmology residency at Howard University Hospital where he received advance training in oculoplastic and microsurgery; and his fellowship in Ophthalmic Pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

Dr. Duong serves as Assistant Professor of Biology at Nevada State College where he teaches Neuroscience, Anatomy & Physiology, Endocrinology and Microbiology. His primary focus as an instructor is that students not only master course content, but are able to apply the knowledge to novel contexts. This focus carries over in his role as the Director of Continuing Education at the Westfield Eye Center. He ensures that our staff continually learns about the latest developments in procedures and treatments for eye diseases. He also mentors the ophthalmology residents that come through our practice.

Dr. Duong has published in peer review journals. He authored Sickle Cell Retinopathy and Basal Cell Carcinoma of the Eyelid chapters in Roy & Fraundfelder's Current Ocular Therapy, 6th Edition and other ophthalmology textbooks. He has lectured at regional and national ophthalmology meetings. Recently, Dr. Duong along with some of his peers published a Case Study manual for nursing students at Nevada State College and nationwide.

Dr. Duong emphasizes community-based learning. He truly believes that selfless endeavors are an essential part of the medical practice. Dr. Duong has led several Gift of Sight mission trips to Haiti and Vietnam.



Leland Eugene Backus is a Juris Doctor graduate of University of California at Los Angeles having received honors in the Order of Barristers and Moot Court. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree at University of Nevada at Las Vegas in Economics in 1969.

Mr Backus is an author for the Nevada Civil Practice Manual and has authored several articles in the field of litigation. He has lectured on an international basis on a variety of topics pertaining to mass disaster litigation, computer use in litigation, litigation practice, construction law, claims presentation, insurance law, pharmaceutical and medical device litigation, and a variety of litigation and procedural areas of the law.

Mr. Backus was a trustee and past chairman of the Nevada Law Foundation, past president of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Southern Nevada, past director of The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee, past charter president of the Exchange Club of Las Vegas, and former Chairman of the State of Nevada Certified Court Reporters Board.

Mr. Backus is a founding benefactor of the Nevada Law Foundation Colleagues and received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for helping start this program. His contributions to the poor and less fortunate have continued throughout his career. In addition to leading The Gift of Sight, he is currently a Director of Send Me On Vacation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that sends breast cancer survivors on well-deserved vacations following treatment.



Tara Quarrie grew up in Glendora, CA. From an early age, Ms. Quarrie admired both of her parents for their dedication to philanthropy. Her mother has had a long career in fundraising and her father regularly supports youth education in his childhood neighborhood and the surrounding parishes in his home country of Jamaica.

Ms. Quarrie received her undergraduate degree in Business Law from the University of Southern California and her MBA from California State University, Los Angeles. She has over 7 years of experience in the field of fundraising and development and has developed a passion for working in the nonprofit industry.

She currently works at the University of Southern California in Athletics where she handles annual giving for female student-athlete scholarships as well as related health and wellness programs for all women's teams. Prior to her current role, Ms. Quarrie served as the Foundation Officer for Heifer International, an international development organization dedicated to distributing agricultural inputs to families in the developing world in order to provide them with the tools and knowledge necessary to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. Some of the other nonprofit fields she has worked in include youth in the arts, youth education, healthcare, and family services.

Ms. Quarrie currently resides in Downtown Los Angeles and enjoys exploring new restaurants, cafes and museums in the neighborhood. One of the causes that she is most passionate about is raising awareness about mental health and the stigmas preventing further discussion about the topic. She is a volunteer at Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services.



Mushambi Mutuma is a tech entrepreneur, strategist, and educator who is dedicated to fostering sustainable impact at a local and global level. Born in Harare, Zimbabwe, Mushambi studied Political Science and Studio Art at Pepperdine University.

After graduating, he worked in the public health sector for several years at The UCLA Center for World Health responsible for developing and implementing the long term strategic health and business development plan for Southern Africa.

Over the past 10 years Mushambi has served as the CEO and Co-Founder of Altivex, a Johannesburg based design and innovation lab.

Altivex specializes in using technology to transform the lives of people, and businesses by building impactful digital products and solutions.

Amongst platforms in the payments, mining, financial services and tourism space, Mushambi and his team also launched SmartPrac, a comprehensive, cloud based, practice management system that offers streamlined solutions for medical practitioners from billing to scheduling, patient EHR management, stock management to financial reporting. Mushambi aims to assist GOS in leveraging technology to achieve its mission.



For the past five years, Gift of Sight Treasurer Sheeba Rankin has been coordinating the organization's fundraising and events. In addition, she is in charge of GOS' administrative responsibilities.

Ms. Rankin is passionate about non-profit development and championing causes, but is happily a part of the leadership team of Gift of Sight.

A volunteer staff and individual donations led to the organization's broad accomplishments in its first years, and she knows first hand that resources go directly to providing medical services to the patients reached.

#### WE ARE GOING TO CHANGE THE VISION OF THE WORLD.





#### Thank You