



2022 Annual Report

Ryan Toews

Director

The year 2022 was a year which surprised us positively in every sense. We were able not only to perform a lot of activities, but also to perform several high-impact actions from practically all Programs and work areas. With God's help, we were able to achieve some milestones; and other are undergoing a maturing process.

Efforts in restoring relationships with local and international allies, or to generate them from scratch, were intentional, varied and fruitful. This places us in a highly positive future collaboration outlook while striving to keep helping a population whose health needs are still not met.

Likewise, one of our actions with the biggest impact in us was the work we started on the institution's internal restructuring. This work centered itself both in redefining some roles as well as in restating their focus. We are beginning to see today the positive impact of every improvement, but we are aware that there is still a lot to improve in what we do.

Our human team is and shall continue to be the fundamental ground to reach the dreams and goals that we



have set for ourselves. In that sense, I would like to express my thanks to every member of this family for their support and commitment to carry on this intense task, which requires at many times of us to give out beyond our forces.

We would like to keep eliminating barriers so that every person (children, parents and grandparents) may live better lives and have more opportunities.

May God keep guiding our walk towards Him.

“I just wanted to die because I couldn't see anymore”



Mrs. Epifania Ayala Martínez is 67 years old and lives in a humble house in the Santa Rosa del Aguaray rural area. Some years ago, this courageous, hard-working woman lost her eyesight due to a severe blindness caused by cataracts. This not only left her jobless, but also led her to face the difficult challenge of manage to live on her own, totally alone.

“I do all sorts of stuff: hats, empanadas, marineras, sweets,

everything. But now I'm tired of being bedridden but I cannot walk because I don't know where to go (...) all this makes me really sad and I prayed to God a lot but...” said Epifania, in tears.

Her limitations were such that in order to be able to move between the various house spaces she had to use a system of ropes which someone put up for her. So, using her sense of touch, she was able to guide herself to move, but that was not without difficulties.

Secluded in her home, hopeless, sitting down in a sofa without an idea of how could she move one, Epifania only awaited the moment of her death. *“If you can see, you can be happy; and now that I cannot see, I cannot be happy... I am in the dark all day. I am not happy”,* she insisted.

But after starting her process of a consultation and subsequent surgery within the framework of the campaign held in Santa Rosa del Aguaray, Epifania was able to be “born again”. *“That's crazy!”*, she said after her post-surgical eyepatch was removed. *“Thanks, my God!”*, she added in tears.

That moment was a defining time in her life. *“I just wanted to die because I couldn't see anymore; I wasn't happy (...) but now I am so happy that I don't know how to explain it (...) I can see again, it looks like I came back to life”.*



Fundación Visión has a 18-chaplain team who, every day, deliver the Word of God to people attending our waiting and pre-surgery rooms, and also offer counseling for patients requesting it (with a total of 4620 counseling sessions in 2022). This is a favorable impact on persons of every walk of life. In addition, from this area over 9000 Bibles were handed over throughout the year to patients from various parts of the country.



Fundación Visión was awarded the 2022 Scival - CICC Award for its “Major University-Corporation Colaboration” as Educational Institution aimed to preventing blindness in the country, and for its scientific contribution to the community.



Our new Acceso Sur Clinic was created in order to bring primary care to this well populated sector, offering solutions to low-complexity eye issues.



“Vision Program” celebrated its 30th Anniversary changing the reality for thousands of Paraguayans

The year 2022 was very special since we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of our “Vision Program”, the spearhead of this noble work that impacted over 1,700,000 Paraguayans, mostly in a state of vulnerability. Within this context, we held celebrations in our various clinics in the country. We reviewed the achievements throughout these three decades of history and we anticipated the important plans for future growth. The ceremonies were attended by Fundación Visión’s Board of Directors as well as allies, companies and individuals who gave support to our cause for various years.



We launched “Midia”, our Comprehensive Management Program for Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes

In November, a long awaited project became reality: the launch of “Midia”, our Comprehensive Management Program for Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes. This program seeks to help thousands of Paraguayans with this difficult condition through a comprehensive approach towards the illness. We offer them, at a reduced cost, services of Diabetology, Endocrinology, Internal Medicine, Nutrition, Ophthalmology, Psychology, Nephrology, Dentistry, Podiatry and Advice on Physical Activity. In addition, and in the context of World Diabetes Day, the Program held, with significant reception, a week of free-of-charge care for diabetes patients at Central Clinic, oriented to persons needing care in one of their areas of influence.

“Zero Cavities”, More Smiles

Over 100 children and teachers of San Baltazar School of Fernando de la Mora received diagnostic dentist consultations free of charge, and over one hundred toothbrush and toothpaste kits, within the contest of the “Zero Cavities” project, jointly held by our Oral Health Program and our Fundraising Department. This activity, which shall be continued throughout all the year 2023, had a significant impact not only on the children, but on their families as well.



Ophthalmology Care for Children With Autism

The Program for Inclusive Development and Disabilities (DID), with our Mobile Consulting Office and TEA Paraguay held an ophthalmology care day for children with autism at the National University of Asunción. The children were very pleased with this activity. Many of them received this type of care for the first time in their lives. This was also the first step to reach several demographics which have no access to healthcare due to various reasons. Happy children, thankful families.

Organ Donation Awareness

The Cornea Bank of Fundación Visión took part of a special day in the context of the “National Transplant Day”. In this day, awareness was raised among citizens on the importance of organ donations. In this activity, in which we took part in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MSPBS) and the National Institute for Ablation and Transplant (INAT), several patients who are transplant recipients gave their witness and shared their experiences, in order to thank the anonymous donors who gave them a new chance to live.



We Took Ear Health for the First Time to Campo 9

For the first time from its beginning, the Ñahendu Ear Health Program took its services to Campo 9, and thus it joined the Community Health Clinic surgical campaign. There, it offered consultations, hearing tests, and ear washing. This action had a high impact on the local community, reaching to over 107 persons, many of them with restricted access to healthcare and minimal chances of receiving tests of this kind.

Once Again, Present at “One Day to Give Py”

Once again, Fundación Visión, through its Fundraising Department, was present in “One Day To Give – Paraguay”, one of the charity events with the largest impact in the country. It seeks to support non-governmental organization working towards the welfare of Paraguay. In this edition we supported the Low Vision program, which actively works on stimulation, rehabilitation and high-quality care for persons with this condition.

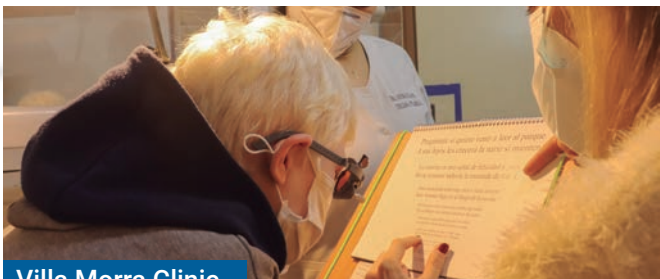
Clinics



Central Clinic

New Retina Area, for More and Better Care

After months of hard work, our Central Clinic dedicated in August the long expected new "Retina Area". The area is comprised by a dedicated Reception area, Social Work, Pre-Consultation, air-conditioned Waiting Room and two consulting offices fully equipped for providing care for patients of this specialty. This new 200-square meter space allow us to significantly increase our care capacity.



Villa Morra Clinic

Care for Senior Citizens and Albino Patients

As part of the commemoration for the International Albinism Awareness Day we held a special day for inpatient care at our Villa Morra Clinic. The event was led by low vision specialist and had as its goal to improve not only the vision but also quality of life for these persons. The impact of this action was touching and moving. In addition, consultations were held at a community cost at San José Home for Elderly Ladies.

Belén Clinic

We Turned 20 Years Old, We Were Enlarged and We Beat Records

As a part of the commemorations for its 20-year anniversary, Belén Clinic dedicated a room specialized for audiology studies in order to provide high-quality ear health care for patients from Coronel Oviedo and surroundings. In addition, we began offering the Speech Therapy specialty, which had a great reception among local patients. Moreover, in 2022 the clinic beat its cataract surgeries record, with a total of 1048 procedures.

Accounting Data

In Millions of Paraguayan Guaranis

Total Assets	51,139
Total Liabilities	3,222
Equity	16,372
Reserves and Cumulative Results	31,545



Chaco Clinic

High Impact of the "Seeing Once Again" Campaign, New Ear Health Service

Between May and August two surgery campaigns were held in cooperation with Fundación Panambi, where tens of persons from Chaco and the area, many of them from indigenous populations, were able to recover their vision and their quality of life. Also, the clinic held other three campaigns in the last quarter of 2022. On other matters, the Tonal Audiometry service was opened, and thus this ear health specialized service was made available to this part of the country.



Community Health Clinic

Four Campaigns With a High Social Impact

Year 2022 was marked by intense work in our Community Health Clinic. They held four high-impact campaigns in various parts of the country. They operated on a total of 285 persons from Campo 9, Coronel Bogado, Pilar, and Santa Rosa del Aguaray. In the latter location the work was held jointly with Seva Foundation. We keep touring the country, driving blindness away in the most forgotten areas.



Ciudad del Este

International Visit of a Delegation from the Rotary Club on Equipment Donation

A visiting party comprised by 10 Rotary Club representatives from various districts of the zone visited our Ciudad del Este clinic in order to perform the "official delivery" of the equipment donated by this institution to our location in this time. Among them we can mention a Pentacam, slit lamps, surgical microscope, tonometers, and others. During this protocolar visit they toured the facilities, learned about the services we offer, and verified the use we make of this equipment in favor of the local population.

OUR SOCIAL IMPACT IN 2022

We had a strong expansion throughout 2022, achieving the following results:



We opened 1 new Care Unit + 1 Mobile Consulting Office

Taking our health services to new areas of the country, thus reaching more persons.



We launched 1 new Program: Midia

Oriented towards the comprehensive management of Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes, offering high-quality services.



We opened new Areas in our Clinics

Retina Area (Central Clinic) +
Ear Health Area (Belén Clinic) +
Structural Remodeling in Villa Morra Clinic



We launched new Services

Nutrition, Diabetology,
Psychology, Podiatry,
Speech Therapy



We started the purchase process for a clinic in CDE

Actions toward a purchase of our own clinic in CDE were made. This will allow us to keep growing in this strategic area of the country.



Surgical Conferences in Fundación Visión Bolivia

Physicians from Vision Program held surgical conferences in Fundación Visión Bolivia, doing frequent trips in order to support the local team.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN NUMBERS



350 Trained Persons by DID



The DID Program beat its annual external training record, reaching over 350 persons.



10.385 surgeries



Vision Program beat its historic record of surgeries, consultations and other procedures and studies. It held 157,605 consultations, 32,967 studies, 10,385 surgeries and 9,109 procedures, among others.



+65,6% Consultations



The Ñahendu Program beat its annual consultation record with an 65.6% increase in comparison with 2021.



220.000 persons who received care

In our clinics over 220,000 persons received care, by consultation or procedures.



31 Babies avoided blindness

Blindness was avoided in 31 children, through work done by the Premature Retinopathy Department (ROP).



2 International Agreement

Two important International Agreements were activated, with Combat Blindness International and USAID.



29 Training Conferences

A total of 29 Training Conferences were held by Vision Program (20) and DID (9).



23 Care Days

A total of 23 Group Care Days for special care with a social component were held by Vision Program (4), Oral Health (2), Ñahendu (2) and Midia (1).

"If you don't see, you can't work; and if you don't work, you don't eat"

Librado Benitez is a farmer from a community located one hour away from Santa Rosa del Aguaray. Married and a parent of 3 children, this 41-year old man had blindness due to cataracts. This circumstance left him not only unable to work, but also left him unable to see his baby of barely 9 months. Our Community Health team reached to his home in order to evaluate his case and thus giving him the opportunity to see once again.

"Che ndaroviái" (I can't believe it) was the first reaction of Librado to the physicians who told him that he could once again enjoy a normal life once he recovered the eyesight he lost over one year before. "I must see because I work and today it's difficult (...) if you can't work, you don't eat; but if I am able to see, I am going to work", he stated in expectation before his surgery.

Librado was operated in one eye with a resounding success. Big tears ran through his sister's cheeks when she saw that he responded favorably to the evaluation. Librado was stunned: he was able to see again! His incredulity became expectation. He wanted to see his family again; he wanted to go on with his life at the point where he left it, at the place where the



cataracts put it on hold, and go back to his role as a husband and father.

"I was not that believing into that. And that day I arrived so I could have my eyepatch taken out, and they told me that I would be able to see. They took the patch away, they cleaned me, and then I was able to see all people, my brother, beautiful people! I was able to see everyone!" he assures us.

Librado is awaiting anxiously the opportunity to be operated again, this time on the remaining eye, so that he could be fully recovered.

Open Ears, Complete Hearts



In the Y'akāreta Zayascue – Panambí native community, of the Raúl Arsenio Oviedo District (Caaguazú), some 40 km from downtown Coronel Oviedo, little Ruth Aguirre, a daughter of Jonathan and Angelina, lives. The first months in the life of Ruth were apparently normal, although the baby screamed and slept more than it was usual. However, when the kid had her first burthday, her parents noted that she didn't heed their calls. They first thought that the kid was just "misbehaving", but then they started to note other issues, such as the fact that Ruth did not repeat any word she heard.

Through the work of the German Mission and Mr. Alfredho Altamirano, President of Fundación Visión Board of Directors, this family was able to access the Ñahendu Ear Health Program, from which we were able to diagnose the child. The Foundation helped right from the start, with all transportation, lodging and meal expenses covered every time she had to come for controls. Finally, on April 7th, 2022, Ruth received her long-expected hearing aids and she recovered her hope! Since then, improvements in her quality of living are evident, and she's already learning to say her first words, "Mom" and "Dad" among them.

Fundación Visión Clinics



Central
Clinic

Ingavi Nº 8000 entre Cnel. Casal y R.I 15
Aca Yuasa – Fernando de la Mora

☎ (021) 729 0008

☎ 0982 106 458



Belén - Coronel Oviedo
Clinic

Ruta 2 Kilómetro 127 Compañía Espinillo
a 300 metros de la ruta – Coronel Oviedo

☎ 0521 200 307

☎ 0984 109 221



Ciudad del Este
Clinic

Mariscal López (supercarretera)
esquina Joeliz

☎ 061 571 631

☎ 0982 305 008



Villa Morra
Clinic

Avenida Ruiz Díaz de Melgarejo 479
casi Andrés Campos Cervera

☎ 021 607 240/1

☎ 0983 641 939



Filadelfia – Chaco
Clinic

Acceso Filadelfia Km 12

☎ 021 728 9240

☎ 0984 108 416



Mariano R. Alonso
Clinic

Paseo Alameda

☎ 0984 444 703



Acceso Sur
Clinic

Ruta Acceso Sur
casi Zavala Cué

☎ 0984 870 002