



2024 Year in Review

Ryan Toews
CEO

The year 2024 was a remarkable one for the institution in many ways. Alongside the new Board of Directors, we continue to move forward in a two-year journey during which we reviewed important issues, such as our focus, structure, priorities and the organizational culture we want as an institution. Some of the fruits of this process are already visible:

- a) A new work structure in 8 areas, with a more institutional and transversal perspective: Services, Programs, Doctors, Quality & Processes, People, Sustainability & Finance, Image & Communication and Partnerships.
- b) Our institutional approach is now grounded in three strategic pillars: 1) Focused on vulnerable patients, 2) Operating with an institutional perspective, and 3) Promoting teamwork as an ecosystem.
- c) A new leadership structure in some Programs and areas within them.
- d) A new structure and leadership in certain Support and Administration areas.

We believe that these changes are necessary to be better prepared for what is to come, while at the same time being aware that they will require an effort to make them a reality. We hope everyone embraces this new approach, understanding that it requires having the right heart and attitude.

As we do every year, we would like to extend our heartfelt



gratitude to our donors and partners, many of whom have been supporting us for quite some time, along with interesting contributions and suggestions. These national and international companies and brands have long been going above and beyond, sometimes without receiving the recognition they deserve; we want to honor them by being grateful and transparent, reaffirming our alliance with them. Thank you very much to all who helped, to those who are in the front lines of action with patients and their loved ones, as well as those who are giving their support to many. Without you this simply would not be possible.

We are looking forward to what God has planned for 2025, increasingly seeing His hand at work in this mission!



We participated in the USAID Children's Eye Health Program Global Strategic Planning Workshop held in Geneva (Switzerland) on January 25th – 26th, 2024. Key findings on children's eye health were discussed and goals for the next five years were set at the event.



Fundación Visión was part of the elaboration of the PAHO/WHO Paraguay 2024-2028 Intersectoral Consultation, in line with the national health policy and goals for 2030.



We participated in the IAPB World Assembly in Mexico, where we presented several academic papers as well as our institutional work model. During the same trip, we visited the Mexican Institute of Ophthalmology (IMO) in Santiago de Querétaro, an institution that works to prevent blindness and train ophthalmologists.



The CEO of Fundación Visión, Ryan Toews, along with Dr. Valeria Sanchez (Mexico) and Frank Hida (Brazil), took the leadership of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) for the Latin American region. Similarly, Cristina Sanchez, Institutional Relations Manager of Fundación Visión, assumed the position of Regional Coordinator. This will help our organization to continue working actively in the promotion of blindness prevention activities in the region.



We participated in the Paraguayan Society of Ophthalmology (SPO) Conference. A total of 28 speakers gave lectures in various specialties. In addition, we had the opportunity to have a stand of the National Vision 2020 Committee Paraguay (CONAVIP) and a stand of Phaco Training Center.



In 2024 our Community Health Clinic carried out six surgical campaigns in different regions of the country, performing 452 surgeries, mainly for people from vulnerable communities. The campaigns were carried out in Santa Rosa del Aguaray, Coronel Bogado, Pilar, Villa Hayes (together with Clínica Chaco) and Campo 9.



Our staff received training from the Inclusive Development and Disabilities Program (DID) on how to interact with individuals with disabilities. Depending on each clinic's needs, training included topics like autism, Deaf culture, and sign language.



On World Transplant Day, the Eye Bank and the Comprehensive Management of Diabetes and Pre Diabetes Program (MIDIA) were present at the National Institute of Ablation and Transplantation (INAT), providing blood pressure, glycemia, body composition, and diabetes risk test services.



As part of World Sight Day, we joined the IAPB's campaign to raise awareness of the importance of vision care in society through numerous activities in our clinics, digital media and special events, among others.



All Fundación Visión programs took part in the Regional Special Olympics, which hosted over 23 delegations. More than 1,200 patients received medical care during the event.



To commemorate the month of hearing, the Ñahendu program conducted free studies and consultations in various institutions. The program reached out to the most vulnerable communities.



Our Oral Health Program reached six indigenous communities in Itá, Casanillo, Yvapovyndy, Naranjal, and Tarumandy, delivering high-quality care to these underserved areas of the country.



We have officially opened our new clinic in Luque, marking a significant milestone in the expansion of our services. As one of the fastest-growing cities in Paraguay, Luque presents a unique opportunity to bring quality healthcare closer to a thriving community.



We launched our new Oral Health Clinic, equipped with advanced technology and a dedicated team, to deliver high-quality dental services - particularly for low-income patients.



We inaugurated our MIDIA Clinic, focused on the prevention and comprehensive care of diabetes and pre-diabetes. Located across from our Central Clinic, this new facility enhances our capacity to serve those affected by this condition with greater quality and reach.



We received the keys and held a groundbreaking ceremony on donated land in Santa Rosa del Aguaray, future site of our Santa Rosa Clinic. Spanning 8,000 m², this land provides ample room to develop facilities tailored to the community's healthcare needs. Thanks to local donors, we have already built a guard house, which will serve as an initial base for ophthalmology consultations.



As part of CONAVIP, we launched the Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB), a study conducted roughly every ten years to assess the national situation regarding blindness. This year, we focused on detailed mapping in the Central and Cordillera departments - challenging but essential work to understand the on-the-ground reality and regional needs.



Our Inclusive Development and Disabilities Program (DID) reached 424 high school students with training on best practices and respectful treatment within educational settings, planting seeds of inclusion from an early age. Additionally, 126 employees from prominent companies received specialized training.



In 2024, the Ñahendu Program held 12 outreach days across multiple regions, delivering over 700 diagnostic studies and 250 specialized otorhinolaryngology consultations, among other services otorhinolaryngology, among other services.

OUR SOCIAL IMPACT IN 2024

In 2024, we achieved the following overall results, many of which marked historic records for the institution:



New historical record of services provided



Our clinics delivered 301,686 services in 2024, a historic high that reflects significant growth over previous years.



3 new spaces for Programs and Services

We established dedicated clinics for our Oral Health and Midia programs and launched an Early Diagnosis and Visual Rehabilitation Unit (Pediatrics + Low Vision) within our Central Clinic.



Historic record in social support



More than 86,000 people nationwide benefited from social support, including fully exempted services (14%) and subsidized care (86%).



New Clinics in process

Construction is progressing on our upcoming Santa Rosa del Aguaray Clinic, along with new "Express Clinics" in Ciudad del Este and Pilar.



1 new clinic in Luque

We extended our services to one of the fastest growing cities in the country, bringing high quality services to the local community.



Launching a new national RAAB survey

As part of CONAVIP, and under the guidance of PAHO and the Ministry of Health of Paraguay, we initiated this study. It's conducted about every 10 years to learn about the visual health situation in the country.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN NUMBERS



The Vision Program exceeds 270,000 consultations



Once again, the program broke its historical record, with 272,624 consultations, procedures, and surgeries performed across our clinics.



Hearing Health Program (Ñahendu): 23% increase in consultations, diagnostics and procedures



The program continued its sustained growth of recent years, reaching a new record of 14,666 services.



Oral Health Program: 199% growth in consultations and procedures



In addition to its strong growth, an agreement was signed with the Acosta Ñu Hospital to help treat pediatric oncology patients.



Diabetes Management Program (Midia): 11% increase in services delivered



Launched in 2022, the program continues to consolidate, breaking attendance records in addition to opening new spaces.



Corneal Bank: 66 transplants performed



This marks a ten-year record for the program. Additionally, we increased our provision of amniotic membranes to hospitals and donated Avastin doses for treating Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP).



Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP): 727 screenings conducted for newborns



On its 20th anniversary, the program expanded services to 10 neonatal intensive care units, helping save 42 babies from blindness.



DID Program: Corporate inclusion training launched

For the first time, the Inclusive Development and Disabilities Program trained dozens of staff from well-known companies using its educational material, "Make Me Part of It, I Will Contribute."



Pediatrics + Low Vision: Over 8,000 services delivered

The new area offers six different specialized services for the comprehensive care of children and adolescents with varying degrees of visual impairment.



We hosted our **One Million Dinner**, where generous contributions from attendees helped raise funds for our Inclusive Development and Disabilities (DID) Program, a cornerstone of our mission to support individuals with disabilities.



We celebrated the **2024 graduation** of our **ophthalmology specialists and subspecialists**, trained to the highest standards at our teaching hospital with a strong focus on community care.



We commemorated the **20th anniversary** of our **Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) Department**. During this celebration, we had the visit of authorities from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, directors, chiefs, doctors and licensees belonging to the 10 hospitals covered by the Department, key players in this effort. Allies, friends, donors and sponsors of this noble work were also present. We continue to work so that no more babies are blinded by ROP.




Directors of Fundación Visión and the Director of Advocacy of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), Drew Keys, met with the Minister of Health, Dr. María Teresa Barán. They discussed national advances in blindness prevention and eye care, ongoing collaboration between Fundación Visión and the Ministry of Health, and Paraguay's role in the upcoming 2026 Global Summit for Eye Health.



Check out our Youtube channel for our testimonies




 **YouTube**
@fundacionvisionparaguay2072





Fundación Visión Clinics

 **Central Clinic**
Ingavi N° 8000 entre Cnel. Cazal y R.I 15 Aca Yuasa, Fernando de la Mora
 (021) 729 0008




 **Villa Morra Clinic**
Avenida Ruy Díaz de Melgarejo 479 casi Andrés Campos Cervera
 (021) 729 0008

 **Belén Clinic - Coronel Oviedo**
Ruta 2 Kilómetro 127 Compañía Espinillo a 300 metros de la ruta
 0521 200 307
 0984 109 221


 **Oviedo Centro Clinic**
Silvio Pettirossi casi Ruta Blas Garay
 0982 386 092



 **Luque Clinic**
Avda. Las Residentas esquina Río Paraná
 0974 895 530

 **Acceso Sur Clinic**
Ruta Acceso Sur casi Zavala Cué
 0984 870 002

 **Ciudad del Este Clinic**
Mariscal López (supercarretera) esquina Joeliz
 061 571 631
 0982 305 008

 **Filadelfia Clinic - Chaco**
Acceso Filadelfia Km 12
 021 728 9240
 0984 108 416

 **Mariano R. Alonso Clinic**
Ruta PY03 Transchaco casi Soldado Robustiano Quintana
 0984 444 403

 **Itaiguá Clinic**
Ruta N°2 Mariscal José Félix Estigarribia
 0985 352 712