Eye Team on the Ship of Life

The “Fabulous Five” - as the eye team from Denver, Colorado became known along the Mekong River in Cambodia - treated 1109 patients, fitted over 2000 pairs of glasses and referred 63 patients who needed eye surgery.

Dr. Cindy Beeks recruited four school friends with whom she had worked in clinics in Denver, and they came from as far away as Melbourne, Australia to change lives in Cambodia by helping people see. (They also had a great reunion.)

The team identified 63 patients who needed surgery and treatment not available on the Ship of Life. We referred them to the Charity Eye Hospital forty miles away where, to date, 36 have had cataract surgery and pterygiums removed and been treated for eye injuries.

Many of the 63 were afraid to go for surgery even though our coordinator went with them on a van we chartered and they were allowed to take a family member along. However, after the first ten returned with successful surgeries telling everyone how they could now see, we started getting phone calls from the others saying they had reconsidered and wanted to go after all.

Eye surgery costs us $50 plus an additional $25 per patient for food and transportation. For $2700 we have helped 36 people regain sight. If you would like to give sight to some of the poorest people in the world, you can send a check to Partners In Progress, P. O. Box 13989, Maumelle, AR 72113 or go to our web site www.partnersinprogress.org and make a donation online.

The Fabulous Five Provide Loving Eye Care

Everyone took advantage of the eye team. Pictured with Marie-Claire McDonough are some of the kids from the Back To School program who traveled 3 hours on a motor bike with our B2S coordinator Nen to obtain eye care.

The Eye Team was a great encouragement to the Ship of Life staff, training 2 of them to fit glasses which they left behind and befriending them during free time.

Lunch time on the ship with the eye team

Even the Ship’s captain helps out at Triage.

Two of the patients we referred to eye hospital for surgery returning to the ship to say thank you.
Eye Care On The Ship of Life

Assistant to the Manager Piseth teaches Bible classes and shows Bible films in the evening for those who gather on the shore.

“Five o’clock with Piseth” is Bible story time for the kids on the bank of the Mekong.

“When the patients met to go back to the eye hospital for post surgery check ups, they couldn’t stop telling each other how wonderful it was to see again.”

“Today I learned about Noah and the Flood with Piseth.”
Partners in Progress at Work

Together we have changed thousands of lives.

Allow Help

There Is No Charge for Our Services

At Partners in Progress we believe we have learned some things that can help others and we would like to share them. Through the experience we have been blessed with, we have learned how to turn negatives into positives and help the poor in ways that change their lives. By sharing this experience, we can assist in changing more lives.

Governmental

Church Planting & Evangelism

Humanitarian & Disaster Relief

Governmental

Our team has successfully negotiated with governments that were hostile toward Christianity, helping missionaries stay on the field when they were about to be expelled. The Lord has allowed us to use our training and experience to open the doors of “closed” countries to the preaching of the gospel. Graduates of the Karrass School of Negotiations, we have 40 years of experience and a successful track record.

Ship of Life receives Kompong Governor’s grateful accolades
Us to You

We believe we have learned some things that can help others and we would like to share them. Through the experience we have been blessed with, we have learned how to negotiate with governments, turn negatives into positives and help the poor in ways, and situations relating to:

Church Planting & Evangelism

Partners In Progress has led in planting the first congregations in numerous countries on three continents and can bring 40 years of experience and knowhow to your new mission projects or to those who are no longer progressing.

We have worked with missionaries and native evangelists around the world receiving more than 100 letters of endorsement from missionaries in Africa, Asia, South America and Eastern and Western Europe.

Our team of men and women are not just theorists but have planted churches themselves that continue to thrive. Our team has spent from 6 to 35 years living and working full-time on foreign fields.

We can help you revamp a program that has been non-productive and show you how to turn it around. By helping you tailor your missions program to fit you and the cultures where you are working, we can help make your missions able to reach more people with the gospel and sustain growth.

Negotiations

Negotiated with governments and kept missionaries about to be expelled. The training and experience to countries to the preaching of the gospel.

Church Planting & Evangelism

The first in our brotherhood to be involved in large scale humanitarian work, our team led the Polish Food Relief program in delivering 600,000 tons of food that resulted in the legalization of the church under communism and established a model for humanitarian relief activities of the churches of Christ.

We have worked with White’s Ferry Road Relief Ministries and Healing Hands International since their inception and have cooperated with churches around the world, helping them to use humanitarian relief as a tool to share the love of God after wars, earthquakes, famines and tsunamis. We’ll show you how to share His gospel message of eternal salvation during troublesome times, resulting in churches being planted. We can help you turn a disaster into an eternal blessing for many of those who have been affected.

Humanitarian & Disaster Relief

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Nutritional Feeding Programs lead to evangelism opportunities that help local churches share the Good News.
Ship of Life Moves to Tonle Sap Lake

The Ship of Life moved to the Tonle Sap Lake, Southeast Asia’s largest where more than 30,000 fishing families live in 10 floating villages and 3 million more live along the shore.

A Rockefeller Foundation study identified these people among the poorest in the world with a per-capita income of less than $100 per year. They suffer from one of the highest death rates of infants and mothers in the world due to malnutrition and impure water.

Plans call for us to build two water filtration plants on floating barges which the same Rockefeller study says will eliminate 80% of their health problems. The barges and filtration systems will cost an estimated $40,000 each but will cost less than $0.01 cent per 10 gallons to purify the water after the initial investment. This is a small price to pay to save so many lives. Will you join us in this venture?

Floating Villages

These are pictures of one of the five floating villages that the Ship of Life will begin serving this fall. Per capita income, according to the government statistics, is less than 28 cents per day, making these residents some of the very poorest in the world.
When Sovanna was a baby, her father was climbing trees early each morning collecting palm sugar and cooking it in the afternoon. With his wife, they would harvest rice for a rich farmer, drying it and cleaning it. They also made brushes and palm leaf rafters, using every piece of the precious palm trees. Every visitor remembers their hospitality, being served sweet potatoes from their own little garden with sweet, fresh and creamy palm sugar still warm. Soon, they got the money for one piglet and when it was small, it would rest on Bill’s foot while he was preaching on Sundays. Sovanna was 5 then. I will call that stage of her life “before.”

Before, her parents did not understand Christianity fully and that they need not fear the evil spirits or place amulets around her neck to protect their little girl from being snatched away.

You see, very rarely will you hear a mother or a neighbor saying how “cute” a little baby or toddler is. Oh no! You rather say, “Oh, how ugly your little one is!” and everybody understands that you mean the opposite because you don’t want to bring your child to the attention of the bad spirits who are “roaming around for the one they want to devour.”

That was 8 years ago. Christians came from Canada, France and the USA providing children with clothes, love, laughter and care. A water well they share with the community was built in their front yard by Christians. The Nutrition Program came and then the Back To School program and the Book Club. Sovanna has been in all of these programs. The church first met under the tree in her yard, then the patio of their yard and now the patio of their modest house. God has blessed them and their extended family. Little Sovanna witnessed with her own eyes and heart the warm love of Christians around her, the value of giving and sharing your blessings. In the “after” picture, notice the expression of self confidence in contrast to the fearful expression of her 5 year old picture.

Sovanna, now 13, gave herself to God in baptism early in January. Last month (date of the picture) she received a solar lamp with small electrical charger from our Book Club/B2S little store, where children use points earned by reading books and good report cards from school. Now Sovanna wants to become a Book Club monitor and help others to develop. When asked, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” she responds, “I want to be a doctor.” This brings a frown on mama’s face because she cannot imagine how a farmer’s daughter can afford the education to become a doctor.

We remind her that all things are possible for God… Before…After… A complete transformation, because He cares, and because our rebirth in the kingdom which cannot perish cannot leave our life untouched.

Because He cares, you care, and because you care, Sovanna has a transformed life forever. On behalf of the Back To School and Book Club programs, children thank you very much for a lifelong transformation. This year we plan to increase our B2S children to 500. Just $20 a year puts a child back in school. Please help if you can.
Pinckleys to Join Our Team

Paul and Debbie Pinckley made a decision to commit their lives to serving the Master in Southeast Asia after traveling widely in Asia for several years while recruiting students for the Pepperdine MBA program. The Pinckleys have spent more than twenty years in education, Paul at the University level and Debbie in elementary schools. With their two sons out on their own, they decided now is the time to dedicate themselves to missions. They are to arrive on the Ship of life in September to begin their work as managers of that program and will make an eternal impact on hundreds of lives as they work with the staff and the Siem Reap Bible School students who will be evangelizing among the people where the ship works.