

# NSU-OCO SVOSH 2022

Roatán, Honduras

August 3 - 10, 2022

## *Our Team*



### ***Gafas para sol***

*We brought over 200 pairs of sunglasses for kids and over 800 adult pairs. Everyone loved getting sunglasses! We loved providing protection!*



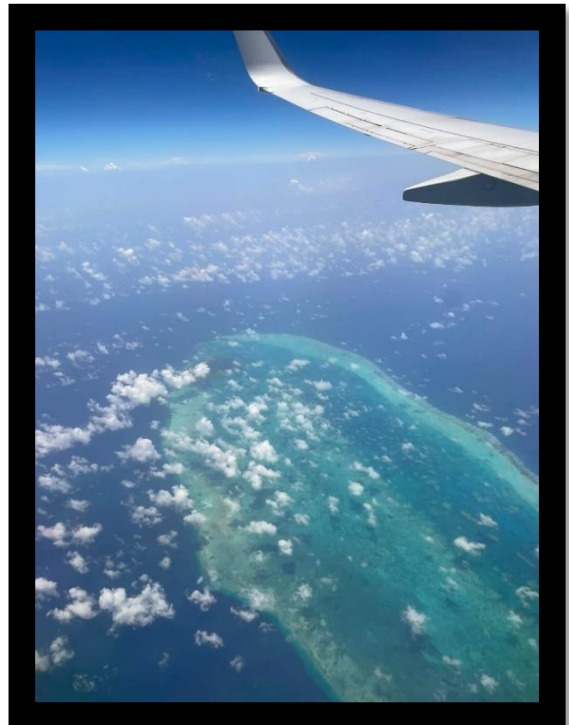
## Pre-Trip Preparations!

We sort, clean, and document prescriptions from donated glasses all year long in preparation for the trip. We fabricate glasses out of donated lenses and frames as well as bring donated sunglasses and readers. All of the glasses have to be sorted, numbered and inventoried on our program on our laptop so we can find the right prescription when we are with a patient on the island.



We brought 16 fifty-pound totes filled with supplies.

Flying to RTB!





## Highlight Reel

While packing for the trip, I decided to bring a very high prescription and we ended up dispensing it to a lady who had been unable to see for the last 3 years. The look on her face was unforgettable. God provided for us that day. We are making her a pair of glasses and sending it back to her.



Going on this trip reaffirmed why I chose optometry in the first place- to help people who really need it. I will hold this experience close to my heart and try to keep my ultimate purpose in mind as I serve patients back home.



I personally got to refer a young man with a dense cataract for surgery and spotted a cancerous bump on a young woman.

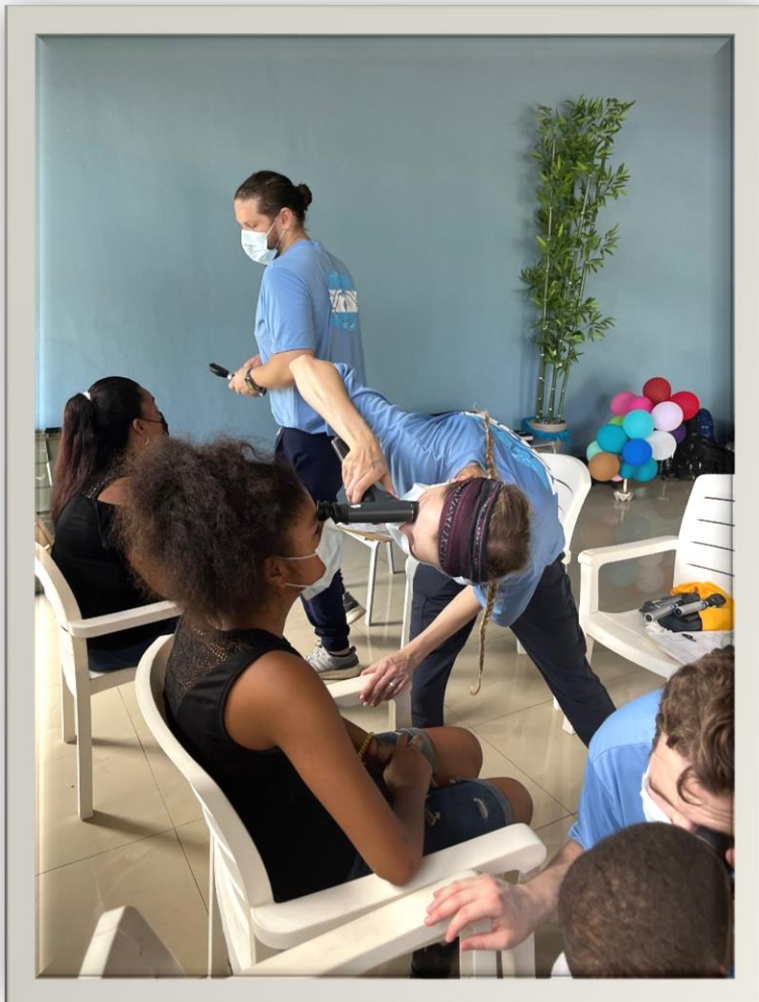


In four clinic days, we provided care to over 730 patients. We dispensed over 700 pairs of sunglasses and almost 700 pairs of glasses for distance vision, near vision, and bifocal prescriptions.

I had to dust off my high school Spanish. I was very thankful for the translators taking the time to be there to help us!

**It was truly a time in my life I will never forget.**

One of my favorite parts of the trip was dispensing my very own pair of glasses that I had worn in 6th grade! After using the computer system and finding a match for her glasses prescription, I realized that they were my very own glasses that I had donated!



I left home believing that I was going to help bring glasses and eye care to a community, and I returned realizing that they gave me more than I could have ever given them.



## Our clinic in Coxen Hole – a steady stream of patients



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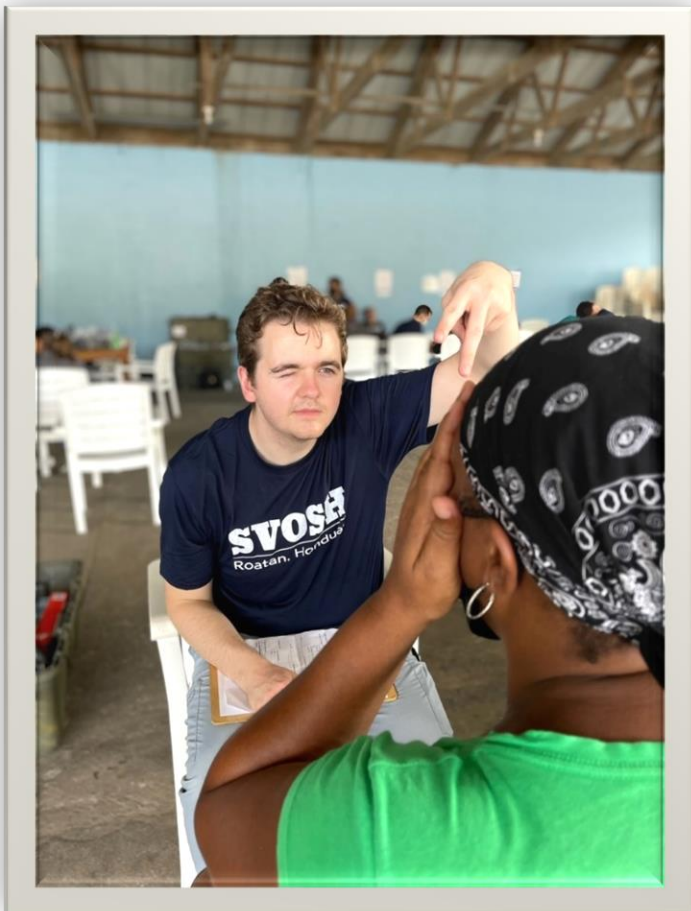
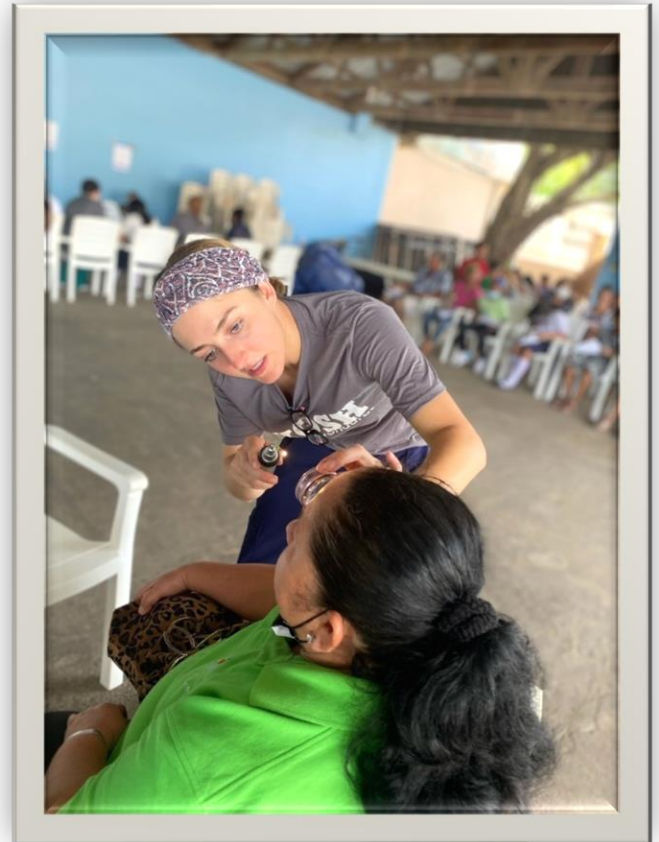
So many people help  
make this trip  
possible!

Pictured here are our  
Honduran friends,  
including Juan who  
drives our bus and  
Acsa & Eric who help  
check patients in and  
translate for us.

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One patient in particular stood out to me. He was an older man who unfortunately came into some hardships concerning his vision. He was diagnosed with glaucoma years prior and gradually lost his vision. After he lost his vision, his eyes started to become painful. This pain led him to get injections in his eyes that killed the nerves to get rid of this pain. When I saw him, his eyes were completely opaque and I could tell he was still in pain. To make a long story short, I was able to have a conversation with this gentleman through the help of a translator and even though he had lost his vision he had not lost his drive, motivation and character. We were able to give him a glaucoma drop because his pressures were still increased and was the cause of his pain. We also gave him some artificial tears and an allergy eye drop.



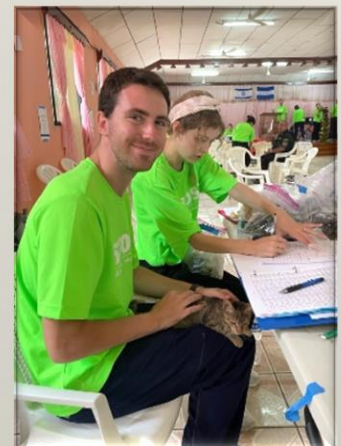
Being able to serve the people of Honduras was incredibly motivational and inspiring, and reminded me of my enthusiasm for optometry. Also, seeing how thankful the people of Honduras were, reminded me of how thankful I should be for the abundance we have in America. It was an experience I will never forget.

My heart is filled with much gratitude for the opportunity serve internationally. I am forever thankful for this opportunity to fulfill my God-given purpose in life.

## Highlight Reel

A patient came to clinic with a painful, red eye. He had a hyphema (a bleed in the front of his eye), and his eye pressure was very elevated (47 mmHg OD). Through our partnership with Clinical Esperanza, one of the island clinics, our team was able to get him the necessary eye drops. We are corresponding with Clinica Esperanza to continue care for him. With weekly updates, we know he is on the road to recovery as he is now in less pain, his IOP is lowering, the redness is diminished, his cornea is clearer, and the blood is being absorbed! This is an example of why your donations make a difference—the needed medications were on the island, but without our team, the knowledge on which drops and how often to use them wouldn't have been available.

We gave Clinical Esperanza over 50 referrals for cataract surgery. We also referred patients with pterygium, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, and neurological issues. We dispensed ALL of our allergy drops (and we could have used more!) and much of our glaucoma medication and artificial tears.





**We love Roatán and Gumbalimba Park!**



**Beautiful Roatán! This is the sunset at West Bay our first night.**





**Thank you for partnering with SVOSH at NSU-OCO!  
We cannot do what we do without you!**