



EYE CARE INTERNATIONAL 2013 MISSION: PERQUÍN, EL SALVADOR

After recently completing the 2013 Eye Care International Mission to Perquín, El Salvador, it's always impressive to review the total number of needy individuals cared for in this outreach. While the total of patients seen (4,942) is hard to believe, it is the quality of care and the personal attention to each individual which all participants of Eye Care strive for. One of the more personal services Eye Care provides is the prosthetic eyes. Eye Care's goal is to deliver a 'temporary' prosthesis to each individual seen, and later (back in the States) fabricate an impression-fit, hand painted prosthesis which will be delivered in a few weeks to all patients. In 2013 Eye Care saw 41 anophthalmic patients who needed prosthetic eyes. A particular individual who lost both eyes (and both his arms) due to the Salvadoran Civil War (photo included) was one of the many inspiring prosthetic eye patients seen. Every year, generous donations are made by mission participants, individuals and corporations. While we are grateful for everyone's contribution, special acknowledgements need to be given to Stryker Corporation of Newman, Georgia, who donated 40 Natural-Iris Conformers which were distributed as 'temporary eyes' while the custom prostheses were being fashioned. The generosity of Stryker has made Eye Care's mission easier and impacted a truly needy population in Central America.



Sue Carlson, MD *Ophthalmologist*

Michael O. Hughes *Board Certified Ocularist*

Phil Loar *Program Coordinator,
Eye Care International*

March, 2013

