



EYE CARE INTERNATIONAL 2023

Providing compassionate, quality eye care to the underserved people
of El Salvador, Central America.

www.eyecareint.org



Perquin, El Salvador, Central America, 2023

EYE CARE INTERNATIONAL

EL SALVADOR, CENTRAL AMERICA

Eye Care International is a 501(c)3 not-for profit which has provided quality eye care to the underserved of El Salvador, Central America, for more than 20 years.



Over a span of five days in mid-February our team of volunteers provide a variety of eye care services, including:

Eyeglasses distributed: 1,700

Patients seen: 1,731

Prosthetic eyes made: 67

The 2023 Eye Care International mission was held in the small town of Perquin, located north in the Department of Morazan (near the Honduran border) about a four hour drive from the capital- San Salvador.

Great appreciation to all Eye Care International volunteers including many stateside who did not personally make the trip to Perquin in 2023.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

We are seeking eye care professionals, including: Opticians, Optometrists, and Ophthalmologists for our annual visit to El Salvador.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Visit our website: www.eyecareint.org or call Tad MacDonnell, Eye Care International Program Coordinator, at (703) 623-2015.





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JACK & PAT BURNS

This year Eye Care International profiles Pat & Jack Burns of Kent, Ohio.

Jack and Pat met at Cleveland State University in undergraduate school in 1967 and married in 1968. A typical college romance which turned into a not so typical marriage. Both Jack and Pat, two idealistic love birds decided to go off and change the world by joining the Peace Corps. Nearly two years in the interior of Panama, learning Spanish, working in agriculture and health and nutrition taught them far more than they could have ever imagined.

Jack and Pat left Panama in 1971 and moved back to Ohio to the small University town Kent to attend graduate school. Pat majored in special education and Jack in rehabilitation counseling. Pat became a special education teacher and Jack became a case manager for the developmentally disabled and their two boys were born.

In 1979 Jack and Pat traveled to war torn El Salvador to adopt their 7-month-old daughter. Two years later they made a second trip to bring home their 22-month-old second daughter. What they saw in El Salvador at that time opened their hearts to the needs of the victims of the war, the orphaned children.

Amid the joyful chaos of raising four active children and working in their chosen careers, Jack and Pat committed to Concern for Children, a not-for-profit parent support group for those seeking international adoption and supporting orphanages in Latin America. They also continue to provide support to three government sponsored orphanages in El Salvador

The Burns have worked with church building projects in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Panama, and continue to guide groups traveling to the Salvadoran orphanages. Since their 'retirement' over fifteen years ago, one of Jack and Pat's greatest joys is their involvement with Eye Care International. Living in the same town of Eye Care International as the founder Dr. Bill Brinker opened the doors quickly to volunteering at the monthly work sessions. Jack and Pat signed on for their first trip with Eye Care International in 2011. They continue to be active and key participants every year since, not only during the two week mission, but during the prescreen as well. It is a special way to give back to the country that has given them so much. How lucky we all are!



YEAR	COMMUNITY	TOTAL	CUMULATIVE				
				2010	Perquín, El Salvador	3052	84,610
1995	Zaragoza, El Salvador	3337	3,337	2011	LaLibertad, El Salvador	4358	88,968
1996	Chirilagua, El Salvador	2681	6,018	2012	Santa Rosa de Lima	4729	93,697
1997	La Unión, El Salvador	4651	10,669	2013	Perquín, El Salvador	4904	98,601
1998	La Unión, El Salvador	4870	15,539	2014	LaLibertad, El Salvador	4305	102,906
1999	Jiquilisco, El Salvador	5647	21,186	2015	Chalatenango, El Salvador	5,523	108,429
2000	LaLibertad, El Salvador	5586	26,772	2016	Perquín, El Salvador	4,552	112,981
2001	LaLibertad, El Salvador	6101	32,873	2017	LaLibertad, El Salvador	4,443	117,424
2002	Juayua, El Salvador	7279	40,152	2018	Chalatenango, El Salvador	4,009	121,433
2003	Juayua, El Salvador	5975	46,127	2019	Juayua, El Salvador	5,017	126,450
2004	LaPalma, El Salvador	5985	52,112	2020	Santa Rosa de Lima	4,860	131,310
2005	Perquín, El Salvador	6509	58,621	2023	Perquin, El Salvador	1,798	133,108
2006	Perquín, El Salvador	4123	62,744				
2007	Santa Rosa de Lima	7907	70,651				
2008	Santa Rosa de Lima	5358	76,009				
2009	Perquín, El Salvador	5549	81,558				