
**CELEBRATING OUR 60th YEAR OF MEDICAL CARE
AROUND THE WORLD**

Spring Newsletter 2021

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Holiday Celebration at the Eco-Home Orphanage

A Message from the President

Dear Friend,

This year Dooley Intermed celebrates our 60th year of bringing vital care to people living in the most impoverished areas of the world. Thanks to your support we have continued our legacy of bringing care to thousands of people in great need.

As we enter 2021, we are nearing completion of our new Eye Hospital on the border of Nepal and India. This is the largest and most ambitious project we have ever undertaken. Along the way, we have encountered, and overcome numerous obstacles and will soon be able to prevent blindness and restore sight for an estimated 100,000 patients each year. Your support makes it all possible, and profoundly touches the lives of many people who have nowhere else to turn for help.

In this newsletter, we share some highlights of current projects along with a retrospective look at some of Dooley Intermed's remarkable humanitarian initiatives since our early days. Dr. Tom Dooley and Dr. Verne Chaney led the way and left some very large footprints for us to follow. **Of course, all of this is made possible by your support.**

With sincere thanks,

Scott Hamilton

Eco-Home Orphanage update

We are pleased to report that all the children and staff are safe and doing well! Our Nepal-based team has very successfully been taking extensive safety precautions inside and outside the Eco-Home. No outsiders are allowed to enter the home, and staff wear masks, use sanitizers, and maintain proper physical distancing. Overall, the pandemic has abated somewhat in Nepal and a limited supply of vaccines has recently become available.

The Eco-Home garden provides the children with fresh spinach, cauliflower, garlic, onion, cabbage, tomatoes, and other seasonal vegetables. Our mini-farm provides the children with fresh eggs and milk with a flock of chickens and several goats. We currently have 32 children at the Eco-Home. They participate in online classes, via cellular internet, and also assist the caretakers by helping in the kitchen, garden and assisting younger children with their studies and homework. A variety of extracurricular activities are organized to keep the children engaged during their free time. We have, so far, managed to handle the COVID-19 pandemic successfully, and extend our sincere thanks for your support during the many challenges of the past year.



Greenhouse vegetables



Holiday Celebration



Fresh eggs from the coop

The Eye Hospital in Nepal, *we're on the home stretch...*

Four years ago Dooley Intermed embarked on the largest and most ambitious project in our organization's 60-year history, the construction of a new full-service Eye Hospital in Dhalkebar, Nepal. This brand new Eye Hospital, the Bogoni Vision Center, will provide care to an estimated 100,000 patients per year from multiple districts of Nepal and nearby bordering districts of India. Bringing this project from dream to reality has been a multi-year saga, especially with the economic turmoil and disruptions caused by the worldwide pandemic.



Construction update

The first and second floors (medical floors) are nearly done. The floor tiles have been installed along with windows, doors, and most of the wiring and plumbing. The final step is to install the plumbing and electrical fixtures and complete the electrical hookup.

The Eye Hospital, *we are almost there...*

The remaining need for full completion is the 3rd floor staff lodging area, with six bedrooms and a roof deck area to enable doctors and medical personnel to reside at the facility. Thanks to generous year-end donations the upright supports, roof slab, and exterior walls have just been completed.

Our remaining need is for \$20,000 to complete the hospital and enable it to become fully functional and open for patient care in 2021. Donations of any amount toward this goal will have a HUGE impact and help us bring the Gift of Sight to thousands of people in great need.

Please help us if you can...we're so close to completion!



Eye Camp for Nepal villagers –“Gift of Sight” outreach eye camps were conducted early in 2021. All of the cataract surgery candidates were brought to our new Eye Hospital, the Bogoni Vision Center, where a field surgical suite was set up in the unfinished building by our local partners. To ensure safety, all surgical patients received COVID-19 testing making the whole process considerably more complex and expensive, but much safer. As the pictures show, this is an area of enormous need!

The team examined 622 patients from multiple villages, provided numerous refractions, and conducted 188 sight-restoring cataract surgeries.

Women’s Health Care Worker Training Program

Dooley Intermed’s integrated Female Volunteer Health Care Worker Training Program is designed to create a basic level of knowledge and skills. Graduates of our program are able to provide fundamental medical care including prenatal, perinatal, postnatal, and child health training.

These healthcare workers have unique and trusted status in the remote villages where there is ongoing competition between modern medicine vs. ancient superstition and ritual healing practices. These women can accomplish things that no one else can.



With Dooley Intermed’s training program, they gain the capability to counsel mothers, dispense health commodities such as vitamins, oral rehydration salts, basic medicines, check blood pressure, infant weight, body temperature, and refer women and children to appropriate health professionals or health facilities when needed. Upon completion of the course, each graduate also receives a comprehensive medical kit.

Our recent training programs in districts of Nepal were a HUGE success. This is one of the best programs we have ever run, bringing ongoing care to the most remote villages. We have been overwhelmed with requests from additional groups of village healthcare workers seeking access to our unique FVHW training program. It costs \$4,800 to conduct a one-week training program for 20 women, \$240 for each participant. ***Can you help us help them?***



Mobile Health Unit for Tibetan Refugees, Northern India



Physical Therapy Training Program Nepal



AIRINTERMED Program Leprosy Colony, Nepal

A few notable highlights from our early years...

- **1961-Present** - Training programs for nurses, medical technicians, physical therapists, auxiliary health workers, vaccinations, nurse-aids in Nepal, India, and Laos.
- **1962-Present** - AIRINTERMED established; 300 flight attendants from 26 airlines volunteered to assist in remote clinics as part of the AirIntermed program. Volunteers gave up ¼ of their annual salary to do three months of service in SE Asia.
- **1963-1968** First National Health Survey of Nepal.
- **1967- 69** Project Showboat—Two 40-foot houseboats modified as medical clinics with x-ray, laboratory, minor surgery, & training facilities providing medical care to Mekong River Villages along with five 18-foot ambulance boats
- **1972-1986** First Physical Therapy Training Program and Therapy Center in all of Nepal. 1961-1984 Immunization program in Nepal, India, and Laos.
- **1974-1975** Schistosomiasis study on Mekong River with Smithsonian Institute and Mahidol University, Bangkok.



**1960 - Dr. Albert Schweitzer
Dr. Verne Chaney, Lambarene, Africa**



Project Showboat, Mekong River Laos.



Dr. Tom Dooley with Dr. Verne Chaney, founder Dooley Intermed, Phnom Penh Airport, Cambodia, 1960.



Immunization Program, Nepal

