

PROVIDING CRUCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THOSE WHO LIE BEYOND TRADITIONAL HEALTHCARE

GIFT OF SIGHT PROGRAM, NEPAL

Dear Friend,

Your Dooley team has been very active over the past few months!

In the fall of 2023, we received a request for help from an eye hospital we have worked closely with in Nepal. Healthcare providers in the developing world have very limited access to specialized equipment or training, and their need for up-to-date knowledge and enhanced surgical skills is overwhelming. One striking example was a local ophthalmologist striving to learn specialized surgical techniques by watching YouTube videos. Clearly, help was urgently needed.



For over 60 years Dooley InterMed has risen to the challenge of providing humanitarian aid, healthcare, and medical training in some of the most impoverished areas of the world. Thanks to your support, we responded with an ambitious cooperative program to provide surgical skills training and free-of-cost expert care to patients in need.

We again joined forces with a team of eye surgeons from Operation Restore Sight (ORS). Specializing in performing complex procedures beyond the capabilities of local care providers, your Dooley/ORS team also engaged in *“knowledge exchange”* teaching new and updated surgical techniques and procedures enhancing the ability of local ophthalmologists to provide ongoing care to the local care population.

This ambitious project took place from November 30th to mid-December and included expert ophthalmologists Ronald Gentile, MD from New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Chris Teng, MD, from Yale, Sanjay Kedhar, MD from UC Irvine, and Omar Ozgur, MD from Scripps Clinic as well as Dooley InterMed’s President Scott Hamilton, COT.



L-R Dr. Kedhar, Dr. Ozgur, Dr. Gentile, and Dr. Teng



Villagers waiting to be examined by the Dooley/ORS team

Upon arrival in Nepal, our team traveled to Janakpur, in the border region near India, to inaugurate a new satellite eye care facility and provide specialized care and training at our newly constructed Eye Hospital in Dhalkebar. Working side-by-side with colleagues from Reiyukai Eiko Masunaga Eye Hospital (REMEH) in Nepal, our team worked day and night, hosting a **free-of-cost sight-restoring “cataract camp”**, and providing specialized consultations, treatments, and surgeries for patients in great need who had nowhere else to turn for help. Our most unusual case was oculoplastic surgery for a local farmer who had been mauled by two bears while tending his fields.



Our next project site was in Banepa, Nepal, near the Dooley InterMed sponsored home for homeless and abandoned children. Working at the main REMEH eye hospital our combined team accomplished a great deal including training in complex surgical techniques. We accomplished many “firsts” at the Hospital including their first corneal transplants and glaucoma drainage implants, the first complex vitrectomy with scleral buckle, and skilled instruction in ocular plastic surgery techniques including dacryocystorhinostomy and blepharoplasty.

During our final two days, your team co-hosted an International Ophthalmology Conference with over 150 ophthalmologists attending from throughout Nepal, along with doctors from as far away as Sudan and Cambodia. The two-day event focused on skill and knowledge enhancement, featuring expert case presentations and lectures including a segment on a relatively unknown eye disease called SHAPU (seasonal hyper-acute panuveitis) an inflammatory condition thought to be caused by moths that can rapidly blind and disfigure children.



This collaborative effort clearly revealed the importance of Dooley InterMed’s longstanding relationships with international partners and facilities to advance medical skills, promote knowledge, and render expert care to patients thereby providing an ongoing benefit for impoverished villagers in these vastly underserved areas.



Dooley InterMed, received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Ministry of Health.



Ophthalmology Conference Participants

FEMALE HEALTHCARE TRAINING PROGRAM



Thanks to a generous sponsor, your Dooley Team is currently hosting a Female Community Volunteer Healthcare Worker training program in the remote villages of Champi and Dukkuchhap, situated in the Godawari Municipality in Nepal.

These female village healthcare workers serving the remote villages of Nepal are extremely motivated and dedicated but often lack fundamental training and basic healthcare equipment. Traveling on foot along trails to outlying villages they serve as the frontline healthcare workers, helping to eradicate diseases like polio and measles, treating childhood diseases, and providing vital medical aid. Upon graduation, each trainee receives a comprehensive backpack medical kit.



Based on the success of our Dooley InterMed training programs, word has spread, and we are now receiving requests from female healthcare workers in many other villages seeking similar training. It costs \$5,000 to conduct a training class, including professional instruction, textbooks, and a modest stipend to enable women from very poor villages to attend.



Graduation Day

Please consider sponsoring a class to empower these truly remarkable and dedicated healthcare workers to bring care to remote villages in one of the world's most impoverished areas.

ECO HOME ORPHANAGE UPDATE

Each year hundreds of children in rural villages of Nepal are abandoned by their families for a variety of heartbreaking reasons including domestic conflict, alcohol and drug abuse, death, or desperate poverty. Dooley InterMed has been instrumental in providing a safe haven for at-risk children in Nepal. The Eco-Home for homeless and abandoned children currently has 19 boys and 13 girls ranging from 8 to 17 years old. 34% of Nepalese children are involved in some type of child labor ranging from agricultural and industrial work to commercial sexual exploitation. Our partners in Nepal, have seen an alarming rise in street children, begging for food and survival, sleeping on floors or the filthy streets of Kathmandu.

Our Dooley InterMed sponsored Eco-home in the Sanku Valley has provided a safe haven for these children for the past 20 years. For the very first time in their young lives, they have known genuine safety, good nutrition, love, and companionship of other children, as well as new clothes and shoes and a high-quality private school education.



Your support makes it possible for these children to have an opportunity for a completely new life. Please consider sponsoring a child's education. The cost includes private school education, school supplies, school uniforms, lunch, and snacks. The cost for all of this is \$1,000 per year for Nursery through 10th grade and \$1,500 for grades 11 and 12.



Thank you for caring!

*Thank you for your support, confidence,
and belief in our mission!*

Scott Hamilton

President & Program Director