



CASEY EYE  
*Institute*



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS AND  
10,000 SERVED

OHSU CASEY EYE INSTITUTE  
Community Outreach Program  
2020 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

## *A Vision for the Community: A Decade of Service*

Since our inaugural voyage in 2010, the OHSU Casey Eye Institute (Casey) Community Outreach Program has traveled over 35,000 miles across Oregon to bring much needed services to over 10,000 community members who have little, or no access to vision care.

In partnership with local agencies, Casey's 33-foot mobile ophthalmology unit provides free vision screenings to adults from the state's most remote corners to Portland's urban core. Donor funded and service driven, the Casey Community Outreach Program is staffed by volunteer doctors, technicians, students and community members.

### *By The Numbers:*



272 vision clinics held at community partner agency sites



10,075 adults have received a free eye exam



2,390 (24%) received a referral for a condition that threatens their sight



5,972 (59%) received a prescription for glasses



28,842 volunteer hours have been provided to communities across the state in need of vision health services



### Meet Our 10,000th Person Served!

Maria Leonar Carica Pio

Maria had learned to live with blurred vision because she couldn't afford to see an eye doctor. More than 10,000 people like Maria have received a free eye exam from an ophthalmologist or optometrist through the Casey Community Outreach Program, and a network of community partners across the state.

In September 2020, Maria received a free eye exam through Casey's mobile eye clinic, in partnership with Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, offering her a path toward better vision. Dr. Chris Flaxel diagnosed Maria with cataracts, which is when the eye's lens gets cloudy and can lead to blindness if untreated. After receiving this diagnosis, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center was able to assist with a referral to a local eye surgeon for follow-up care. [Read more.](#)

*Go Casey, Go!*



## *Eliminating Barriers to Care: One Mile at A Time*

“During the last four years, La Clinica clients have been recipients of the essential work the Casey Community Outreach Program has been offering to the most vulnerable populations living in the Northeast Cully Neighborhood.

Our partnership has been an effort to help close the financial, cultural, language, race, and equity gap that our clients and especially clients of color face to have access to these services. Clients have appreciated the dedication and commitment each of the providers displayed during the previous community events, and most importantly, clients trust that the services are offered by highly experienced and caring volunteers.”

Amaury Sarmiento, Regional Manager,  
Multnomah County Health Dept.



Multnomah County Health Dept.,  
La Clínica de Buena Salud

2016



Circle on the Court

2010



African American Health Coalition

2013



One Community Health

2019

## 2020: The Year In Review

Although 2020 did not turn out to be the year many had envisioned, the Casey Community Outreach Program continued to support the vision health of all Oregonians.

With community-based outreach clinics paused between early March and August, the program was able to quickly put in place a virtual gift certificate program to help replace broken, or lost glasses in partnership with the [Oregon Lions Eye Promise Optical Lab](#).

Additionally, program staff developed and participated in regional and national working groups, and led the [Mobile Healthcare Association Vision Interest Group](#) in a series of webinars, to develop and share best practices and protocols for operating a mobile health unit during a pandemic. The outreach program's protocols have been adapted by numerous programs, including the [University of Minnesota's Mobile Healthcare Initiative](#), to develop safety protocols for mobile COVID-19 testing, and will be included as a resource within UMN's [National Resource Center for Refugees, Immigrants and Migrants](#).

The outreach team also jumped in to help OHSU mobilize to deliver donations to fire victims from the communities of [Phoenix and Talent](#).

### 2020 By The Numbers:

- 10 community vision clinics held
- 289 adults screened
- 173 (60%) received a prescription for glasses, and a pair of prescription glasses at no cost!
- 98 (34%) received a referral for further care
- 856 volunteer hours were provided to communities in need of vision care



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Dr. Mitch Brinks receives the Vision Excellence Award from the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness!

In 2020, Dr. Mitch Brinks, Medical Director for the Casey Community Outreach Program, was recognized for his outstanding contribution, expertise and energy in organizing [VISION 2020 USA](#).

As chair of Vision 2020, he led collaborative efforts to move the US eye care agenda forward by leading key committees of Prevent Blindness and its Center for Vision and Population Health. [Read more about his work with Vision 2020 and the IAPB Vision Excellence Award.](#)

To support the

OHSU Casey Eye Institute

Community Outreach Program,

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[www.ohsu.edu/casey-outreach](http://www.ohsu.edu/casey-outreach)