



CASEY EYE
Institute

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM 2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



BRINGING VISION CARE INTO THE COMMUNITY

For over a decade, the OHSU Casey Eye Institute (Casey) Community Outreach Program has been dedicated to addressing preventable blindness and vision loss directly in the community. In collaboration with a dynamic network of community partners across Oregon, the program provides free vision screening services directly to those who experience barriers to receiving eye care.

Donor funded, volunteer staffed and mission driven, the program's vision screenings identify common preventable and treatable eye conditions that often cause blindness.

Despite these efforts, there are still unmet needs for vision services in Oregon. Early detection and access to treatment are critical to preventing blindness and vision loss.

Casey is at the forefront of breakthroughs in high-resolution ocular imaging technology and clinical care. Leveraging these advances, Casey is poised to transform the future of community eye care by detecting the underlying causes of vision loss faster than ever before directly in communities most at risk of blinding eye disease.

SINCE 2010



26% (2,976) of participants received a referral to an eye care specialist



60% (11,287) of participants received a glasses prescription

INTRODUCING THE OREGON VISION HEALTH NETWORK

The Casey Community Outreach Program is introducing a whole new approach to community eye care by building the Oregon Vision Health Network (OVHN). The network is a statewide group of over 50 partner organization working together to overcome the barriers to providing eye care for rural and underserved communities who are at the highest risk for blindness.

By building upon trusted community partnerships, the OVHN combines mobile healthcare, the latest imaging equipment, information technology, donor and community resources, and the expertise at Casey Eye Institute to expand our capacity to save sight in Oregon and beyond by finding and treating disease early.



MOBILE CLINIC OUTREACH

The Casey Community Outreach Program continues to maintain a critical presence throughout Oregon through its mobile eye clinic. In 2022, the mobile clinic provided vision care to communities disproportionately impacted by barriers in accessing health care services. Along with an update to the exterior of the mobile eye clinic, this last year also marked a return of the program's week-long service trips to visit our partners in Western, Eastern and Southern Oregon. **In 2022, the total in-kind economic impact to communities across Oregon was equal to \$432,036.** And with a second mobile eye clinic scheduled to be deployed in 2023, it will provide the program with additional ability to reach more communities across the state.

IMPACT IN 2022

■ **770**

Eye exams provided to adults at highest risk for eye diseases and who experience barriers to vision care, in partnership with **over 30 community agencies, at 35 sites across Oregon.**

■ **322 (42%)**

Individuals **received a referral for a condition that threatens their sight**, including diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and macular degeneration.

■ **525 (68%)**

Individuals **received a prescription and glasses at no cost**, a gift of sight valued at **\$144,450.**

■ **1,596**

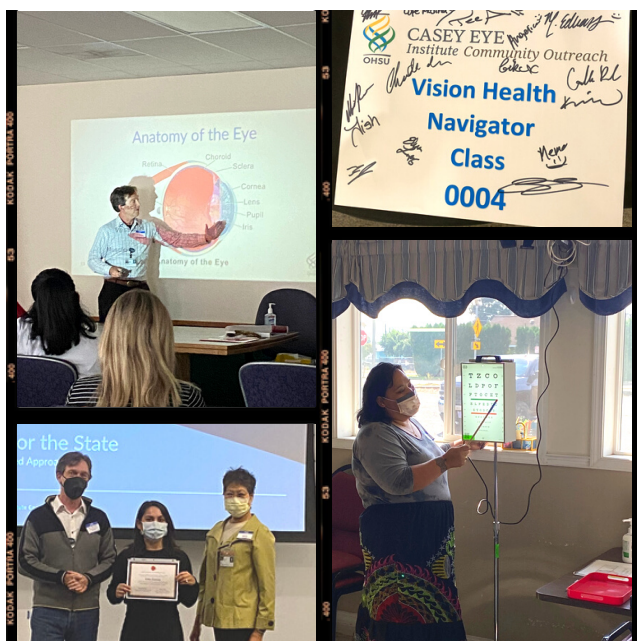
Volunteer hours given, an equivalent of **\$45,053**, based on the value of volunteer time in Oregon.



VISION HEALTH NAVIGATOR TRAINING

Since fully implementing the training in 2021, more than 60 community health workers from 28 agencies across the state have been trained as Vision Health Navigators (VHN). This training was developed by the Casey Community Outreach Program and approved by the Oregon Health Authority Office of Equity and Inclusion. Designed to empower community health workers and other local health advocates, the training teaches VHNs how to perform several types of basic vision screenings, complete risk assessment tools for common eye diseases, and how to identify local resource to share with their patients.

The training also helps the VHNs better understand the prevalence and causes of preventable blindness, and how to identify social and environmental factors that increase the risk of blindness. The VHNs are a key partner for the Oregon Vision Health Network by working to preserve vision right in their own communities.



Vision Health Navigator Training Participating Agencies

- AMN Healthcare
- Canyon Creek Clinic
- East County Community Health
- Good Shepherd Health Care Systems
- Grande Ronde Hospital
- IRCO
- La Clinica
- Lifeways
- Metropolitan Family Service
- Micronesia Islander Community
- Mosaic Medical
- Multnomah County Health Dept.
- NARA
- North by Northeast Community Health Center
- Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center
- NW Human Services
- Orchid Health
- Oregon Health Authority
- Oregon Islamic Chaplain Organization (OICO)
- Oregon Washington Health Network
- Project Access NOW
- Randall's Children's Pediatric Care
- Rockwood CDC
- Salem Free Clinics
- St. Anthony Hospital
- The Equi Institute
- Transition Project Inc
- Virginia Garcia Memorial Health

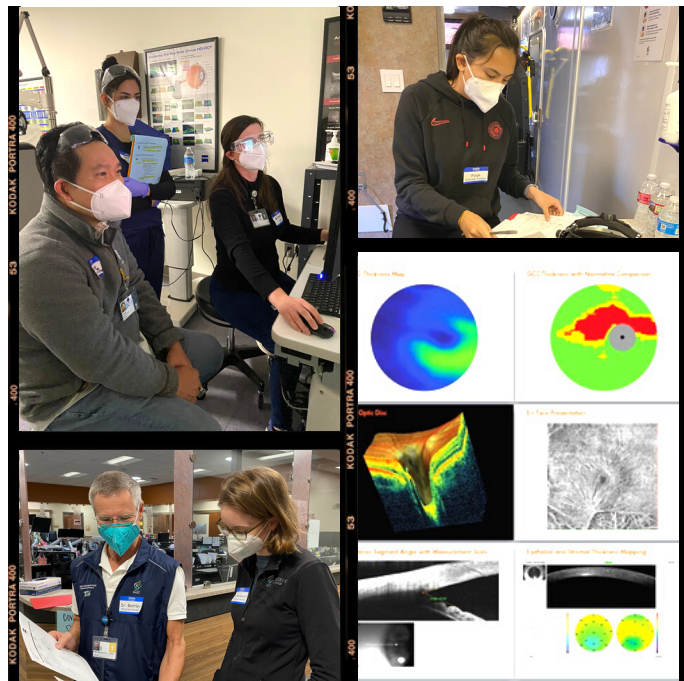


EXPANDING ACCESS THROUGH TELEHEALTH

For the last year, the Casey Community Outreach Program has been building a network of community telehealth screening sites, which allows local health organizations to expand basic eye health services. Each of these community sites will have advanced imaging equipment where patients can be screened and visit an eye specialist virtually. The telemedicine program will dramatically increase the number of access points to improve early detection and monitoring of eye diseases throughout Oregon.

Building the telemedicine program as part of the Oregon Vision Health Network has created a telehealth infrastructure that is robust and flexible, allowing local health organizations to effectively monitor and support vision health outcomes right in their own communities.

At the heart of the telemedicine program is the vision to bring the expertise and advanced technology of a world-class eye institute out of Portland's urban center to Oregonians who experience barriers to accessing high-quality vision care, wherever they live. It will also connect people at risk of losing sight with care closer to home.





OVHN IMPACT STORIES

About two decades ago, **Gisela, from Hood River**, learned she needed glasses after starting kindergarten. Her parents, local farmworkers, didn't know where to turn.

Gisela learned from an early age how important it is to have access to quality vision care that is culturally and linguistically appropriate. She was referred to a local doctor's office, and despite her young age, she had to act as an interpreter during her own vision exam.

After earning a bachelor's degree in community/public health education at Western Oregon University, Gisela became one of the state's very first Vision Health Navigators trained by the Casey Community Outreach Program. She is determined to ensure others have better and more culturally appropriate access to eye care so other families don't have to go through what she did.

Trevor, from Chiloquin, noticed his vision was getting blurry. He experienced access barriers to seeing a local eye doctor regularly, and found it difficult to prioritize his own healthcare needs.

Trevor and his mother were able to get a free comprehensive eye exam at one of the Casey Community Outreach Program's mobile clinics when it came to his area. He learned that he has glaucoma. Trevor was able to receive eye care that prevented him from going blind.

FROM ACROSS THE STREET TO ACROSS THE OCEAN

To improve vision and eye health in Oregon, international partnerships must play a role. When global health experts and local communities exchange knowledge and skills, we learn from each other to better preserve and restore sight for all individuals. Over the last year, Casey faculty and the International Ophthalmology Program have worked to expand access to eye care and conducted research that improves our knowledge of the leading causes of blindness.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Worked with partners in Thailand to translate **a deep learning model for glaucoma diagnosis** to learn how the model could change to adapt to differing populations.
- Developed partnerships in Thailand to **apply artificial intelligence to expand access to diagnoses and treatment for corneal infections**, a major cause of blindness in the tropics.
- **Conducted a needs and clinical site assessment for developing robust pediatric eye care services** at hospitals and in the surrounding community.
- **Trained two doctors at Casey Eye Institute** so they are able to provide better basic and specialized eye care in their communities when they return to Thailand and Myanmar.

OTHER PROJECTS

- **Dr. Nathaniel Gebhard pursued a year-long Global Ophthalmology Fellowship**, which took him to Nepal, India, Tanzania, and American Samoa. He collaborated with local ophthalmologists in skills exchange, cataract surgery outreach, and more.
- **Dr. John Clements worked in Angola, Africa**, during a month-long visit providing training for cataract surgeons. He realized a long-standing goal of creating a functional wet lab for surgical simulation with the National Eye Institute of Angola.

Global Health has always been about addressing the needs of the underserved—whether that is across the ocean or across the street. Once people internalize that calling, they continue to be more aware of unaddressed needs for the remainder of their careers, wherever they live and wherever they serve.

- Joe Robertson, M.D., M.B.A.



THANK YOU!

We appreciate all of our incredible donors, volunteers and community partners who support the Casey Community Outreach Program and its work to create equitable access to essential vision care for all Oregonians.

With generous philanthropic support from The Roundhouse Foundation, Heather Killough, S. Page Evans, the Theodore Rutherford Lilley Fund of Oregon Community Foundation, Rocky and Julie Dixon, and others, the outreach program is able to dramatically increase its capacity to serve more individuals throughout the state through the Oregon Vision Health Network.

“The relationship, very caring trainers who clearly are involved in wanting the best for our communities. LOVED the staff and their knowledge and genuineness.”
- Vision Health Navigator

“We appreciate these services very much. So many of our patients cannot go to the city for vision care. Thank you CEI for coming out to Fossil again!”
- Community Partner

“This partnership and investment in the health of our community is so appreciated! ”
- Mobile Clinic Participant

“This is a wonderful training that will give us the opportunity to provide more access to our patients in our community.”
- Vision Health Navigator

“Thank you all so much. These glasses will help me get through school and have an improved quality of life in general. I really appreciate this resource. It is so important for me to have good eyesight. ”
- Gift Certificate Recipient

“Thank you so very much for your generous contribution in helping our islander community out here in La Grande. Having the clinic was really helpful and convenient for us. Kommol tata!”
- Mobile Clinic Participant

**DONORS MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO CARRY OUT OUR
MOST AMBITIOUS PLANS - REACHING MORE
OREGONIANS FASTER AND MORE OFTEN, CREATING A
WORLD IN WHICH NO ONE HAS TO GO BLIND.**

GO CASEY, GO!

CASEY'S OUTREACH TEAM



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**THANK YOU TO OUR
DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND
COMMUNITY PARTNERS
FOR MAKING THESE
SERVICES POSSIBLE!**



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