Team Belaire completed a very successful mission trip to Clinica de Los Angeles in Belaire, Honduras, during February 11 – 21, 2010. We were able to hold six full days of clinics. At least a couple of those clinic days were in excess of eight hours long. Belaire is a small village on the main road from La Ceiba to Tocoa. It is just beyond the turn-off at Jutialpa to go to Balfate and the hospital at Loma de Luz. The clinic serves the people from numerous surrounding villages plus a large population of mountain people.

The medical team (Andres Hernandez, Javier Hernandez, Marty Reddell, Sharon Bentley, Peggy Polhemus, Beth Chatham, Evelyn Castellar, Gloria Lacaya, Brent Brady, and Gail) saw 996 patients and did 35+ surgeries. Andres is an OB-GYN from Quito, Equator. Javier is his son. Evelyn is the founder of Clinica de Los Angeles and she and her husband, Jose, were our hosts in Belaire. Gail has just recently moved to Utila from Montana and is a friend of the Bradys. Beth is a pediatric clinical nurse educator at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital in Nashville. Beth and Fred Bess, who is Director of the National Center for Childhood Deafness and Family Communication at Vanderbilt, visited Plan de Flores to evaluate the deaf school to provide screening and services for the hearing impaired.

The eye-care component was composed of Gregg Rushton, Doris Brady, Jose Castellar, Mary and Hugh Guffey. We examined and served 237 patients (at least that is the number we had paperwork on).

In addition, we were able to do a good deal of relationship building. We reaffirmed our relationship with the Clinica de Los Angeles, revisited and resupplied the hospital at Loma del Luz, met Marion Dobson and were treated to lunch at his innovative agriculture compound, established initial contact with two area orphanages, and revisited MARC's (Methodist Church of the Caribbean) central compound in El

Pino. This is not a bad record given the fact that it rained most every day.

This gentleman had to be led into the eye clinic. He was virtually blind. With trifocal glasses his far vision acuity was 20/25 and he was able to read our large print "Story of Jesus" booklet.

The clinic serves a substantial area that has tremendous need. And the Castellars are grateful for any assistance that they can get. Hopefully some of the AHMEN teams that go through La Ceiba will be able to arrange a "stop-by" with Evelyn and Jose, or possibly with Elmer (their farm foreman) when the Castellars are stateside. Once acquainted with the people of this small village, some teams may want to incorporate working at the clinic in their future plans.

The eye-team wants to get a couple of Evelyn's "nurses" trained in how to measure near vision acuity and fit reading glasses. We also want to show them how to measure far vision acuity to determine if a person's eyesight needs correction and then use the pinhole occluder to see if

Rx glasses would help. If the clinic can find the necessary funding, we should be able to help with sourcing and delivering readers and sunglasses to the clinic.

Gregg refracts a young girl.

Ever since the team's return to Alabama, Mary has been busy summarizing the patient reports in preparation for submitting these to KOM. Her report is copied below:

Team Belaire Mission to Belaire, Honduras
February 11-21, 2010
Eye Team Report

The Eye Team consisted of Gregg Rushton and Hugh and Mary Guffey with Doris Brady and Jose Castellar alternating as translators. Several local residents graciously assisted with set-up, clean-up, registration, and gate keeping.
We screened 237 patients to include children from two orphanages for possible eye diseases and abnormalities such as cataracts, pterygia, glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, tumors, and muscular malfunctions. We measured near visual acuity (NVA) and far visual acuity (FVA) of each individual both before and after "new" glasses were dispensed in order to determine the degree of improvement.

Every patient was encouraged to select Christian literature for themselves and their children/grandchildren. This literature encompassed age-specific stories of the life of Jesus generously donated by One Hope (www.onehope.net) and purchased from Biblica Direct (BiblicaDirectService@biblica.com). A large print booklet printed with permission from Biblica, Inc. (RightsPermissions@biblica.com) composed of selections of New Testament Scriptures relating the life and teachings of Christ were available for low vision patients; i.e., those patients whose near vision could not be corrected sufficiently to read normal text. In addition each patient was given eye care information, sunglasses, and eyeglass cases.

Eye Care Clients by Age and Gender

Age Gender	0-9 years	10-19 years	20-39 years	40-59 years	60-79 years	80-100 years	Unknown Age	Total
Female	19	21	28	61	17	1	1	**148**
Male	14	12	15	24	19	5	0	**89**
Total	**33**	**33**	**44**	**85**	**36**	**6**	**1**	**237**

The team fitted 146 readers, 60 pairs of prescription glasses, and 270 pairs of sunglasses. Approximately one-third of the patients needing Far Visual Acuity correction were near-sighted; i.e., required negative lenses--this was an unexpected high percentage. Twenty patients were referred to Dra. Alicia Ponce in La Ceiba for further evaluation/treatment. The breakdown by age groups follows:

Correction and Referral by Age Group

Age	0-9 years	10-19 years	20-39 years	40-59 years	60-79 years	80-100 years	Unknown Age	Total
Only NVA Corrected	12	5	21	52	13	2	1	**106**
Only FVA Corrected	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	**3**
Both NVA and FVA Corrected	1	3	1	24	19	3	0	**51**
Referred to Drs. Ponce	2	4	5	4	4	1	0	**20**

At the end of the last day of clinic there were still many people who had wanted to visit the Eye Clinic, but could not. Evelyn Castellar gave Christian literature to each of them and distributed approximately 70 additional pairs of reading glasses.

Additional Fun Stats:

Near Visual Acuity Corrections

To / From	20/25 or Better	20/32	20/40	20/50	20/63	20/80	Could Not Improve NVA	Total
20/25	17							**17**
20/32	25							**25**
20/40	13	1						**14**
20/50	16		1					**17**
20/63	18	4						**22**
20/80	16			2	1			**19**
20/100	13		1					**14**
20/125	11	3						**14**
20/160	3	2		2				**7**
20/200	2							**2**

20/250	1				1			**2**
20/320	1						**1**	**2**
20/400 or Worse				1		1	**1**	**3**
Total	**136**	**10**	**2**	**5**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**158**

Note:

We do not offer far vision glasses to clients whose far visual acuity measurement is 20/32 or better in each eye. As a matter of fact, a far visual acuity of 20/40 is considered functional. So the 66 patients described below had at least one eye measuring less than 20/32 or they would not have appeared on the list. Of the 50 patients (highlighted in yellow) whose best eye measured less than 20/32, the glasses we provided improved overall far visual acuity for 27 of them to 20/32 or better.

Unfortunately, we could not help 11 patients with far vision. Two patients were so far sighted that we did not have the appropriate prescription in inventory; nine of them had ocular distress (trauma, cataracts, pterygia, or disease) such that we could not improve vision with glasses.

Far Visual Acuity Corrections from Vision in "Best" Eye to Vision Using Both Eyes

To Overall From "Best" Eye	20/20	20/25	20/32	20/40	20/50	20/80	?	Could Not Improve FVA	Total
20/20	1							1	**2**
20/25	2	2							**4**
20/32	1	2	2				3	1	**9**
20/40		1	2					3	**6**
20/50	4	2	1		1		1	1	**10**
20/63	3	3			1			1	**8**

20/80	2	1	2	2			2		9
20/100		1		2		1			4
20/125	1	2			2		1	1	7
20/200		1			1				2
Less than 20/200			1					3	4
?	1								1
Total	15	15	8	4	5	1	7	11	66

Mary tests near vision acuity on one of the orphans that attended the eye clinic.