



RET. PRAY. LOVE.  
FOUNDATION

Christ-Centered. Eyecare. Ministry.

# ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

April 2020

## PRESIDENT'S VIEW...

They say the most technical parts of any flight are the takeoff and the landing. On takeoff there is a steep ascent, and sometimes a little turbulence. RPLF is still climbing toward our cruising altitude! The slope of our progress is nothing short of astronomical. Who knew there were *so many* documents, policies and position statements that need to be in place?



Our Board of Directors held our first Strategic Planning Meeting on July 27, 2019. We brought into sharper focus our Mission, Vision, and Purpose, and outlined our Core Values. Key strategic goals were laid out, setting our flight plan for the next three years.

RPLF partnered with JMSM Missions for a very successful eyecare and evangelism trip to Puerto Rico. We had a scouting team meet up with Seeds of Love Missions in Peru to set a course for a full mission team to follow in October 2020. Plans for a Nigeria Glaucoma/SLT and Discipleship Conference have been re-routed through divine intervention. God's radar helped us avoid the storm of COVID-19 this year, so we look forward to 2021.

Our flight crew continues to grow as RPLF has added to our team David Eakin, Nick Silvestros (VP), and Heather Horn as Treasurer.

And... be sure to check out our new website at [RPLF.org](http://RPLF.org)! This is your ticket to keep up with all things RPLF - like watching a flight-tracker. Be sure to sign up as a "Visionary" - we want as many folks on board as possible.

So settle in and adjust your seat. We are looking for a smooth ride!

~ Lee S. Peplinski, President

## OUR LEADERSHIP...

Lee S. Peplinski, O.D., President

Nicholas J. Silvestros, O.D., Vice President

Bro. Jason R. Horn, Spiritual Care Director

Darlene W. Eakin, Director

Keith R. Slayden, O.D., Visionary Professional Education Director

Christopher W. Wroten, O.D., Visionary Partnerships Director

Nicole D. Pogue, O.D., Visionary Volunteer Service-Learning Director

Rayanne LaBruzzo Peplinski, Secretary

Heather Horn, Treasurer

Aaron C. McNulty, O.D., Director

David A. Eakin, Director

***We envision creating a world where everybody sees better, both physically and spiritually. Our ministry is sharing the Gospel of God's love through the provision of education and eyecare in underserved areas throughout the world.***

## OUR IMPACT IN 2019...

A team of 34 persons with RPLF, including 9 optometrists, 11 student doctors from New England College of Optometry FCO, 9 student doctors from Kentucky College of Optometry FCO, 1 PhD administrator, and 4 family members, partnered with Jimmy Squires Ministries (JMSM) for their first medical eye care and evangelism mission in communities around Bayamon, Puerto Rico. JMSM has been serving these communities and helping their recovery ever since Hurricane Maria, including Ingenio/Toa Baja, Corozal, Bayamon, Arecibo, and Manati.

An amazing **1440 patient exams** were completed, and more importantly **250 salvations for Christ!** The synergy of the teams was truly a gift from God, providing for both the physical and spiritual vision needs of those served. Each patient had an opportunity to be prayed over, and connected with a local church community. As a result, over 639 pairs of reading glasses, 216 prescription glasses, more than 634 sunglasses, numerous safety glasses, and countless artificial tears were provided to these patients. In addition, 70 patients received prescription eye drops for their medical eye condition (thanks to our generous sponsors!). Medical eye problems identified included 112 patients with glaucoma or as a glaucoma suspect, 257 cataract patients with 37 referred for surgery, 34 diabetic retinopathy referrals, and 27 various other med/surg referrals.

Of more significance and of greater lasting impact, the ministry team was able to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in each of these communities. In the process over 500 bibles were provided, along with bible tracts to encourage the local churches. Support and supplies were provided to local pastors in each community to help them continue in their ministry.

In summary, this was an excellent eyecare and evangelism outreach experience. Care was provided to meet both the physical and spiritual vision needs of the people of Puerto Rico. Ways have been identified to improve and enhance both the reach and impact of future mission trips. And God is glorified in the process!

## OUR IMPACT TO-DATE...

RPLF shares the Gospel freely with each patient while tracking the number of Bibles given and Salvations for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. In clinic, we are able to identify individuals with ocular health diseases such as cataracts, glaucoma, and dry eye then treat these conditions through medications or via appropriate surgical referral to local surgeons or potential surgical follow-up teams. Measurable statistics include the number of examinations performed, glasses prescribed, eye diseases diagnosed and treated, and referrals made to local providers for surgery and follow-up. Also tracked are age ranges, genders, low-vision diagnoses, readers, sunglasses, and safety glasses. RPLF shares clinic data with all local government, spiritual, and educational leaders without compromising patient confidentiality. Look at our impact since 2011:

Individuals Benefiting From Our Services: 7602  
Salvations For The Kingdom Of Jesus Christ (since 2018): 350  
Communities Impacted From Our Services: 55  
Countries Served: 4

## AS WE BUILD OUR WEBSITE...

We are building an interactive site with secure VIP logins, peer-to-peer fundraising platforms, online forms, professional education training videos, multimedia albums, and weekly #SpiritualCareSunday vlogs. We are excited to share how God has used YOUR time, talents, and treasure to further His Kingdom! It should be completed by month's end. Get in the Know now: [www.RetPrayLoveFoundation.org](http://www.RetPrayLoveFoundation.org) or [www.RPLF.org](http://www.RPLF.org).

## STEWARDSHIP TRANSPARENCY...

As believers in Jesus Christ, we adhere to a Standard of Excellence we pray gives glory to God through continued transparency. We received Guidestar's 2020 Platinum Seal of Transparency by providing up-to-date financials, metrics, and corporate information. Our profile includes the latest IRS Form 990 and is available for viewing at <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/82-4915247>. Our governing documents and financial records are available for viewing at any time. We might be little but we are mighty and making significant impacts using YOUR investments to honor God. We thank you for trusting in RPLF and our vision where everybody sees better both physically and spiritually throughout the world eyecare, education and discipleship.



## VISIONARY OPPORTUNITIES

*"It is more blessed to give than receive."*  
The Lord Jesus, Acts 20:35



## TALENT = VISIONARY VOLUNTEER

*"...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."*  
Matthew 25:40 NKJV

When YOU give of your talent, whether volunteering in the mission field or for our Foundation, YOU are walking in the Good Works which God has prepared for YOU to do.

## TREASURE = VISIONARY INVESTMENT PARTNER

*"...store your treasures in heaven..."* Matt 6:20 NLT

When YOU give of your treasure, YOU are making an investment to serve others through eyecare, education and discipleship. YOU have the power to improve someone's physical and spiritual vision with your investment and YOU decide where it is applied. RPLF will send you monthly email updates sharing how YOUR investment blessed those we have served or will be serving. Make an impact-become a VIP today on our website!

## TIME = PRAYER FOCUS

*"When a believing person prays, great things happen."* James 5:16 NCV

When YOU give of your time in prayer, YOU are joining God in advancing His Kingdom through RPLF.

## ENGAGE WITH US!



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@RetPrayLoveFoundation



#ret.pray.love.foundation/#RPLF



#RetPrayLove



## Christ-Centered. Eyecare. Ministry.

**Our Mission...**To create a world where everybody sees better both physically and spiritually.

**Our Vision...**To be the foremost Christ-centered eyecare ministry focusing on physical and spiritual well-being throughout the world.

**Our Purpose...**To use our gifts to provide eyecare while fulfilling the call to share God's love.

### Our Values...

**Bold Courage:** We accept the risks and challenges of bringing eyecare and the Gospel to a world in need. Hebrews 13:5-6

**Compassion:** We show God's love, grace, and mercy through our interactions with others. Psalm 116:5

**Excellence:** We provide outstanding quality and the highest standard of care wherever we serve. Gal 5:13-14

**Faithfulness:** We are committed to being obedient in following God's will to love others, through the ministry of eyecare. Rev 2:10

**Servanthood:** We are hands, feet, and voice of Jesus Christ giving of our gifts to the underserved throughout the world. Col 3:17

**Humility:** We value others above ourselves to glorify our Father in Heaven. Phil 2:3

**Integrity:** We firmly adhere to the highest standards of personal actions, spiritual faithfulness, and professional ethics. Titus 2:7

**Partnership:** We build relationships on the foundation of God's Word and love for others. Acts 2:42-47

Not limited to: communities, mission organizations, ministries, schools, churches, local and national governments, health authorities, facilities, spiritual leaders, caregivers, prayer warriors, donors, industry and corporate entities, eyecare providers, friends, family, and teammates.

### Goals...

- Providing free eye care to under-privileged nations.
- Utilizing personal gifts to share the Gospel.
- Forming a bridge from physical health to spiritual well-being through prayer and connection to the local church.
- Partnering with local health authorities, facilities, and spiritual leaders.
- Empowering people to self-manage ocular health needs.
- Making better eye care providers through education and interactive/hands-on learning.
- Opening the spiritual eyes of the Optometry profession toward compassionate clinical care.
- Developing corporate partnerships to share in our mission.

**"Let your light be so laser-focused that others may see, and glorify your Father in heaven."  
Matthew 5:16 (RPLF paraphrase)**