

Quito, Ecuador. 2009 (NOVA)

Our last mission, during March of 2009 was to help the residents of the rural suburbs of Quito, Ecuador. It was a joint effort between the Nova Southeastern University - College of Optometry and the local optometrists of Ecuador. Eye examinations were given over a three day period with the average workday lasting ten hours. The patient's journey through our free "clinic" began with a thorough ocular/medical history, near and distance visual acuities followed by eye motility, confrontation fields, pupil testing, direct ophthalmoscopy and overall health evaluation. Refractions were then performed along with slit lamp, ocular pressure and indirect biomicroscopy. Glasses were distributed to those in need, along with medications and referrals to those diagnosed with disease and other ocular problems. During our mission the team was able to examine over 1,000 patients and dispense over 2,000 glasses and sunglasses.