

## OPTICAL BRIGADE



In many villages there is little or no opportunity for eye care. The Optical Brigade seeks to meet this need by providing free eye exams and eyeglasses.

Our Optical Brigade cooperates with other non-profit organizations which provide the equipment and an inventory of refurbished used prescription eyeglasses. The patient's eyes are tested with an auto refractor to determine the prescription needed and then a computer finds the best match from a large inventory of donated and refurbished used prescription eyeglasses. The smile on the faces of patients whose eyesight has been made clear is priceless.

We also purchase and distribute reading glasses and sunglasses for those who need them. Both the readers and sunglasses add another dimension of care provided by our Optical Brigade.

Sometimes a person is presented to our Optical Brigade with conditions such as cataracts, strabismus or glaucoma that requires more treatment options than can be provided in our temporary clinic. Borderless Brigade participates with private and national health facilities in those developing countries to arrange for surgeries or extended medical treatments to meet many of those needs at no cost to the patient.

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A typical international trip for our Optical Brigade is made up of about four optical personnel. The average total budget for each international Optical Brigade is \$5,250. This amount does not include international travel expense, we ask each of our participants to pay their own travel cost.

This budget consists of the following expenses:

- \$850 for reading glasses and sun glasses
- \$500 for rental of Auto Refractor
- \$3,100 for in-country expenses (transportation, meals, lodging & security)
- \$150 for translators

You can help by donating supplies from a list found on our website or by donating funds to help offset this budget.

Please allow us to be your emissary as together we equip, embrace and enhance lives.

**Please visit our website for other ways you can help**

**[www.borderlessbrigade.org](http://www.borderlessbrigade.org)**

**Or call us at 901-786-8485**

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