



# Guyana Mission Trip

— ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ —  
March 2000  
— ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ — ■ —

# Guyana, the Country

---



- ✧ Located between Venezuela, Brazil, and Suriname.
- ✧ Population of 756,000.
- ✧ English is official language.
- ✧ Religions include Christianity (46%), Hindu (37%) and Muslim (9%).

# Climate and Landscape

---



- ✧ Guyana's year-round tropical climate creates lush vegetation like these sugar cane fields.
- ✧ Rain showers can be a part of daily life for the Guyanese.

# Wildlife

---



✧ Guyana is the home for many unique and beautiful animals, like these Macaws.

# Wildlife

---



✦ But it can also be home to ordinary animals like these roaming cows. They sure like Mimi!

# Living Accommodations

---

✧ Homes in Guyana  
vary from huge  
mansions like this...



# Living Accommodations

---

✧ To run down houses as shown here. The disparity of wealth is very apparent.



# Georgetown

---



✧ Here is a look at the bustling streets as well as the famous St. George's Cathedral in the background.

# Georgetown

---

✡ Our first night in Guyana was spent at the Guyana Bible College.



# Georgetown

---



- ✧ A fruit stand in one of the local markets found in Guyana.
- ✧ The markets are full of life and activity.

# Our Home For the Week

---

✠ Here are the  
Girwarnauths, the  
missionary family we  
worked with and our  
gracious hosts for the  
week.



# Our Home For the Week

---

✧ The Girwarnauth's house would be our home sweet home and base of operations for the week.



# Living Accommodations

---



✡ These guard dogs are resting in their pens awaiting another night of hard work protecting the Girwarnauth's home.

# Living Accommodations

---



✡ Although the lack of screens lets the fresh air in, mosquito nets like these are needed to keep biting bugs at bay. It was tough to tuck them in correctly but we soon got the hang of it.

# Living Accommodations

---



✦ A generator is a necessity to counteract the daily brownouts of power.

# Living Accommodations

---



✧ This tower supplied the household's water. Although the sun warmed it all day, our showers were lukewarm at best.

# Living Accommodations

---



- ✧ Some of the team eating lunch. The fruit was incredibly sweet! We also had the chance to eat Laba (a large rodent similar to a capybara).
- ✧ We never went hungry, that's for sure!

# Waiting For Doctors

---



✡ We were greeted each morning by hundreds of patients. Many began lining up in the early morning hours in the hopes of receiving eye care.

✡ We saw over 1,200 patients in four days!

# Waiting For Doctors

---

✧ Tarps and benches provide shade and some rest for those who have waited so patiently.



# Preaching the Gospel

---



- ✠ Pastor Gary shares the Gospel with those sitting under the tarps.
- ✠ As you can see, many heard the Good News of Jesus.

# The Examination Process

---

✠ The exam begins with a case history. Many church volunteers helped us out with this vital step.



# The Examination Process

---

✡ Juli, Salome, Bitool, Ice, and Brenda had the important job of controlling patient flow.



# The Examination Process

---

✱ Jorie tests this young schoolgirl's distance vision. This would help determine her need for glasses.



# The Examination Process

---

✠ More church volunteers help out at the other end by pointing to the letters.



# The Examination Process

---



- ✦ Mimi happily checks this woman's near vision.
- ✦ This was used to determine if the patient needed reading glasses or a bifocal.

# The Examination Process

---



✦ Julie uses the automated refractor to determine this patient's prescription.

# The Examination Process

---



- ✦ Sally uses her ophthalmoscope to check for cataracts in this patient.
- ✦ It was also used to examine the internal health of the eye.

# The Examination Process

---



- ✧ Our more difficult cases were sent to Cyndi.
- ✧ She is using retinoscopy bars to refine this patient's prescription. On occasion, the phoropter in the background was also used.

# The Examination Process

---

✦ Dr. Miller discusses his treatment plan with the patient.



# Dispensing Glasses

---

✡ Josh, Maryjane, Amanda, Maribeth, Andy, Joe, and Dan were invaluable members of the dispensing team.



# Dispensing Glasses

---

✡ Here is the dispensing team in action. They were responsible for finding the appropriate glasses and adjusting them to fit each patient.



# Dispensing Glasses

---

✦ Josh tests lenses to find the best prescription for reading glasses.



# Dispensing Glasses

---



- ✡ Maryjane is also finding a prescription for reading glasses.
- ✡ Since the Guyanese need reading glasses at a much younger age, we brought down over 1,000 pair.

# Dispensing Glasses

---



- ✦ Maribeth looks for a close match to this patient's prescription.
- ✦ The prescriptions for the glasses were catalogued to help locate the best match quickly.

# Dispensing Glasses

---

✡ The glasses were kept in boxes and a numbering system was used to locate the correct pair.



# Dispensing Glasses

---



- ✧ Andy adjusts this young boy's reading glasses.
- ✧ Andy is an optician and helped coordinate the dispensing team.

# Dispensing Glasses

---



- ✧ Dan tells this patient how to clean and care for her glasses.
- ✧ Although he had never adjusted glasses before, he was ready and willing to help!

# Dispensing Glasses

---

✦ Like Dan, Amanda was ready and willing to adjust glasses even though she had never done it before.



# Happy Patients

---

✧ Joe looks on as this man reads the fine print with his new glasses.



# Happy Patients

---

✧ Gary talks with this elderly man after he had seen the doctors.



# Happy Patients

---



- ✦ Andy poses with this smiling young boy.
- ✦ He is about to get his first pair of glasses.

# Happy Patients

---



- ✠ After receiving their glasses, patients had the opportunity to pray with some of the church members shown here.
- ✠ Over 65 patients prayed to accept Christ into their lives.

# Free Time

---



- ✦ Jorie and Amanda went “knocking.” This involves smacking the water with a sugar cane to scare fish into the awaiting nets.
- ✦ Oh by the way, pirhana live in these waters.

# Free Time

---



✧ Maryjane takes a break to blow bubbles with this little girl.

# Georgetown

---



- ✧ We returned to Georgetown the day before our departure.
- ✧ Those who had the energy, shopped around Georgetown and explored the zoo.

# The End

---

- ✠ We saw 1,200 patients over the course of four days and fit many of these patients with glasses.
- ✠ Over 65 people became Christians during these four days.
- ✠ While we returned home exhausted, we were happy to have served the Lord and the people of Guyana!