



Ukraine Mission Trip August 2021

The Group



Our team consisted of 16 people with amazing hearts to serve the Lord. We had 2 optometrists, 2 ophthalmologists, 6 MCO optometry students, a wife of one of the optometrists, a husband of a student, and 4 Village church members including a Mission Pastor, optician, and nurse.

While this was just our team that was part of the Mission group, we had many individuals from Ukraine who were critical members. These included numerous translators, volunteers, local pastors, Ukrainian ophthalmologists, and so many more!!



The Vision

Our goal was to serve members of the Ukrainian community through vision care and sharing the gospel. Our partnership with Mission Eurasia, a Christian missions group based in eastern Europe, transformed these hopes into realities. Without the help of these wonderful people, we would not have been able to accomplish all that we did.



The moment we arrived at
the bible college in
Korosten



The team waiting in customs

Obstacles

Immediately upon entering Ukraine we were faced with unforeseen challenges:

- All of our equipment was detained by Ukrainian customs. Despite the tireless efforts of our Mission Eurasia team, the equipment remained in customs for the week.
- One of our ophthalmologists, Dr. Nasser, had planned to perform strabismus surgeries. However, there was not a Ukrainian surgeon available whose license Dr. Nasser could operate under. As a result, no strabismus surgeries took place.

Response to Challenges

Throughout the duration of the trip, we found ourselves amid difficult circumstances. However, instead of getting stirred up in anger and disappointment, the leaders of our group consistently demonstrated submission to the Lord, and an openness to His will. They showed us what it meant to be "content in the Lord always". As a result, we were encouraged instead of disheartened, eager to see what the Lord had in store for our time in Ukraine.

The Bible College



The Bible College was where we stayed while in Korosten, ate breakfast & dinner, and where we were able to socialize after the clinic day was over. On the Sunday while we were there, we attended a church service that was on the second story of this building... so we didn't have to walk far.



Clinic

Our clinic was composed of multiple successive stations, each one building more of the patient's information until they would see the doctors in an examination lane. Despite not having our equipment, over the 5 days of clinic we were able to see 975 patients!

Cultural Center

The Clinic was held in a local cultural center.



History, Readers, VA's, & Pressures



Dilation, Nurse's station & Autorefractor



Doctor's Station



Dispensary



Evangelism

The very last spot our patients stopped in the clinic was the "evangelism station". Here they were greeted by pastors from two different local churches, were asked about their faith, and invited to consider accepting Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Amazingly, about 70% of our patients decided to give their lives to Jesus over the week!



Cataract Surgeries



Dr. White (left) and Dr. Nasser (right),
worked together with Dr.
Martinenko and performed 23
cataract excisions.



The Fun Along The Way!

