



Borrowing a concept from Coach Schlossnagle, “engaging the grind” might be the phrase to describe Child Vision Center 2017. We focused almost all efforts on fulfilling the mission: ***Provide the best possible care to all those in our region who need our expertise in the arenas of sub-specialty care, diagnostic testing and research.*** In addition, we grew our partnership with Cook Children’s Medical Center and the Alexander Vision Center, providing almost double the number of free eye exams for needy patients in 2017.

CELEBRATING THE TEAM!

I will put this team up against any in the world! We remain extremely grateful for the time, expertise and sacrifice of our subspecialty team of doctors. The original group has now been with us for almost eight years. I am often amazed by the skill of the team but most respect and appreciate the willingness they have to help unconditionally, often giving time and incurring risk with little or no payment for their services.

Dr. Rand Spencer (Retina) remains the authority for pediatric retina in the region. He works tirelessly to help children, especially those affected by Retinopathy of Prematurity and Retinoblastoma, two of the most complex and litigious areas of pediatric ophthalmology. Dr. Spencer is always a text or phone call away and makes a great impact on the health of children in our community.

Dr. Brad Bowman (Cornea) offers hope for children born with or afflicted with corneal disease. His corneal transplants are second to none. He has the skill and courage to tackle the most complex issues, always with a joyful smile.

Dr. Mark Alford (Oculo-plastics) is basically on call 24/7 for severe trauma and/or large tumors around and behind the eye. When eyelids threaten to prevent vision development, he provides an extra level of experience and expertise.

Dr. Brian Flowers (Glaucoma) has been carrying out the mission since before we arrived. Since 2000, he has stepped in the gap for children who would go blind from glaucoma if he did not provide vision saving procedures.

Dr. Kory Cummings (Low-vision) has a special gift for seeing the needs of our low-vision patients and putting them at ease as she finds ways to maximize the vision they have.

Our next generation of subspecialists has served far beyond what could be asked or expected.

Dr. Tosin Smith (Glaucoma) quickly became a foundational member of the team, always available for the most complex glaucoma issues. She does it all for children with glaucoma and remains on the cutting edge of glaucoma innovations.

Dr. Matthew Hammons (Oculo-plastics) and Dr. Josh Zaffos (Cornea) have been great additions and are tremendously appreciated.

Dr. Tim Fuller (Retina) and Dr. Ash Abbey (Retina) joined us after training with the most renowned training programs for ocular cancer and retinopathy of prematurity, respectively. Very few are willing to embrace children and families with Retinoblastoma and ROP and, alongside Rand Spencer, MD, they have provided excellent care.

We hope to continue to grow the team!

CELEBRATING ED STONE, MD, and CARVER LAB, our Iowa Partners

Ed Stone, MD, is a brilliant mind a relentless worker. He has labored 70 hours per week over the last 30 years to build an \$80m lab with the sole purpose of treating and, ultimately, preventing many forms of blindness. Now, Dr. Stone and his lab have FDA approval to use the RPE65 gene to treat humans. Our patients have direct access to Dr. Stone's lab and treatments.

THE DIAGNOSTIC LAB

We risk taking for granted that we can send a patient upstairs to CVC's diagnostic lab to get many studies that are not available to most pediatric ophthalmologists. The \$300,000 worth of donated equipment continues to serve patients well. We will have performed approximately 500 exams/studies in 2017. We aspire to purchase an Optos Fundus Camera in 2018 as it represents a great advancement in the quality of this technology. We are long overdue for Teller Acuity Cards and will add this in 2018. We will need about \$90,000 to purchase these items.

THE FELLOWSHIP – TRAINING FOREIGN DOCTORS

After hosting four outstanding fellows from North Vietnam, Nigeria, Kenya and Jamaica, our training program took a slightly different direction. Through Cook Children's Hospital, we received a request to train Dr. Santiago Ruano from Mexico beginning immediately after Dr. Ibi (Nigeria) finished in May 2017. He has a brilliant mind and was a true pleasure. We look forward to working with him in the future in some capacity.

THE ALEXANDER VISION CENTER

Olga Uriegas, Executive Director of the AVC, continues to expand our radius of service. In 2017, we provided free exams and glasses for almost 300 patients whose families do not have insurance or

financial resources. This represents a 100% increase compared to the previous year. In 2018, we will add twelve more clinics as Dr. Giridhar joins the effort.

COOK CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER

Our friends and colleagues at Cook Children's Hospital are growing their reputation for innovation and excellence in pediatric medicine. Cook Children's Hospital now has more than 450 beds and performed more than 23,000 surgeries last year. Cook Children's Hospital provides ongoing support and a world-class facility in which we can perform the most complex surgeries. Our geographic radius of service continues to expand with an increasing number of referrals from the Amarillo area, West Texas, Southern Oklahoma and the Austin area.

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

2018 will require funding to keep the diagnostic lab open and to acquire the Optos fundus camera which costs approximately \$90,000. The annual budget required to keep the clinics and diagnostic lab open is approximately \$80,000. The doctors of Pediatric Eye Specialists will continue their annual pledge of \$75,000. **Please consider partnering with us as you plan your end-of-year giving by donating through www.childvisioncenter.org.**

THANK YOU to so many of you who have made and are making this possible!

Gratefully,
Eric Packwood, MD
President
Child Vision Center

