

PROJECT VIETNAM 2014

Optometric and Medical Care in the Back Country

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Optometry students give a presentation to the undergraduate volunteers on refractive error and ocular health. This presentation helps the volunteers preview what will happen in the clinics.



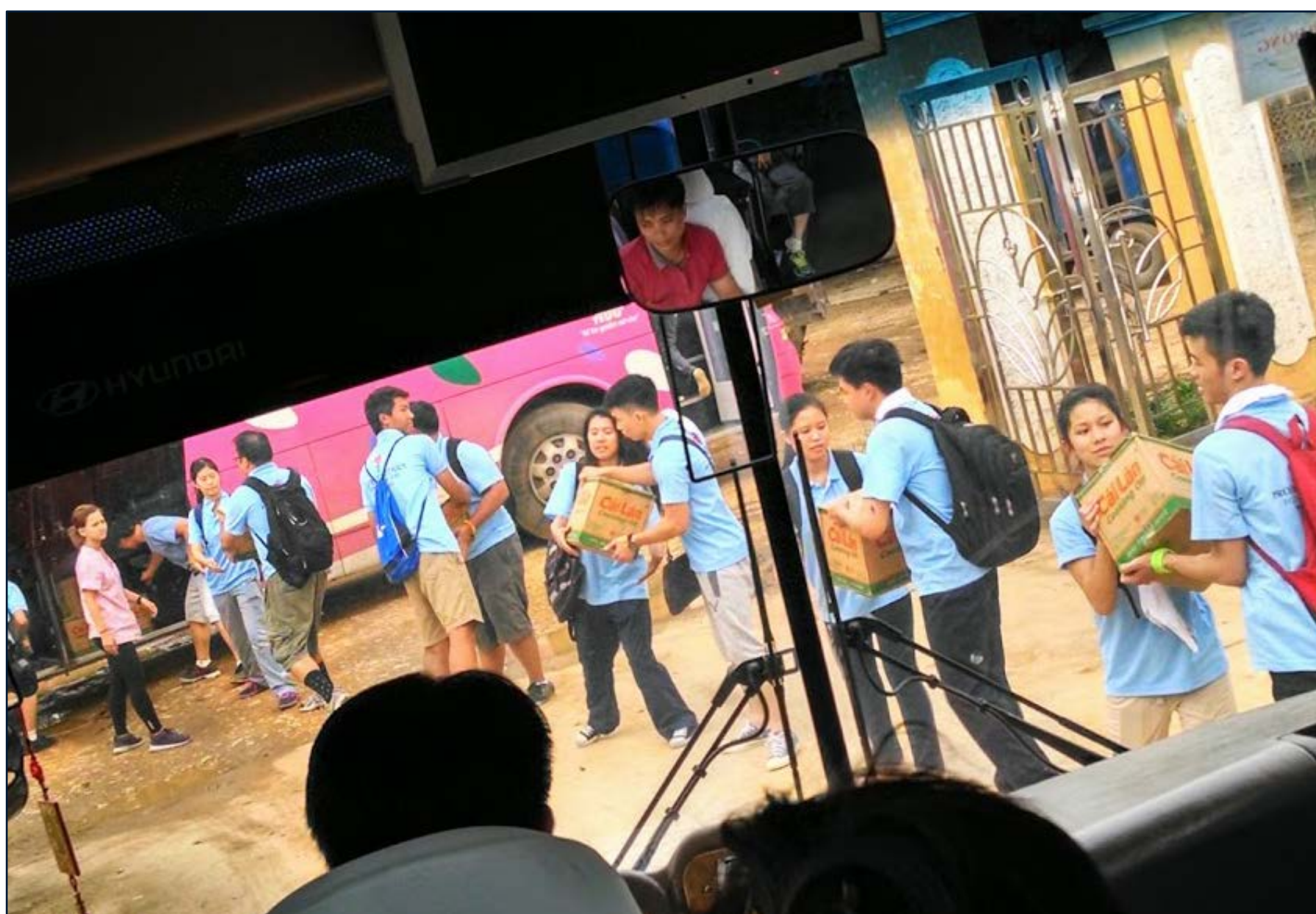
The optometry team consisted of two optometrists, two opticians, and four optometry students from Southern California College of Optometry. (Courtney Dewey, OD, far right.)



Doctors and students set up the optometry room. Minimal equipment is available and charging of instruments is difficult due to inconsistent power.



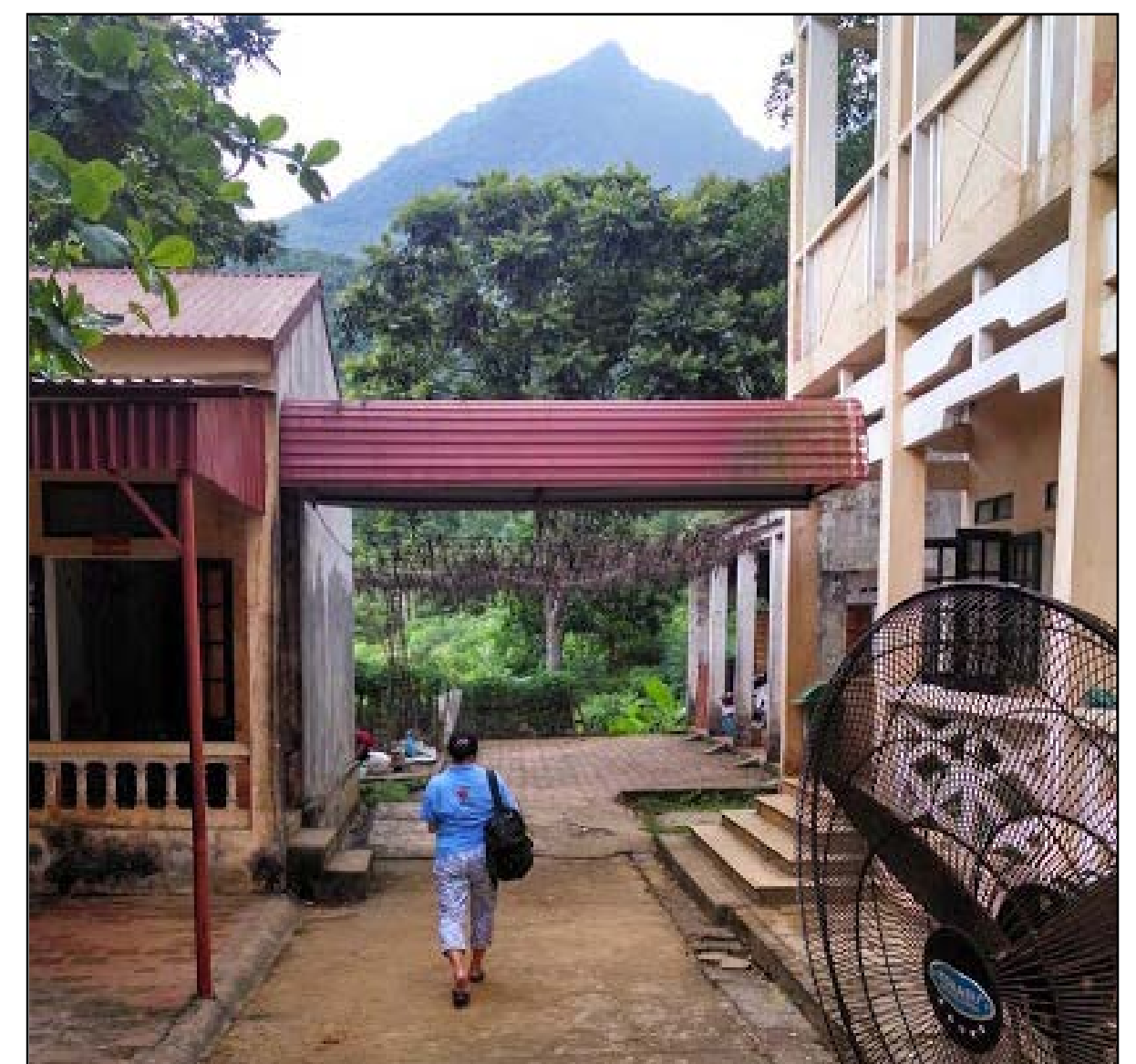
Local volunteers register villagers. The patients wait and wait -- sometimes for hours -- before being seen.



Volunteers unload equipment from the bus. There is no security at any of the clinic sites, so all equipment and supplies must travel with the team.



Uncorrected refractive error is the world's leading cause of visual impairment.



School building in rural Ba Vi is a typical clinic site.