



**Bringing Sight to Peru**

Casa Hogar Optical Mission  
W4894 N Kinney Coulee Road  
Onalaska, WI 54650

To Whom It May Concern:

Our organization is looking for volunteers for the Optical Mission in January 2023. This mission takes place every two years but has been on hold since 2019 because of Covid. We have received the go-ahead to continue this important mission, and as such, have scheduled it for January 8-13, 2023.

This mission takes place in Lurin Peru at Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II orphanage, which is a mission of the Diocese of La Crosse. The Optical Mission is a self-supporting mission raising all funds needed except the airfare and \$100 for room and board for the volunteers which is paid by the volunteers. Additionally, we coordinate tours to Cusco and Machu Picchu which are also at the expense of the individual. Many people have found that these tours, scheduled for the week after the mission, are a nice opportunity to experience more of what Peru has to offer.

The mission conducts eye exams and fits glasses with eyewear that has been donated, doing around 2,000 eye exams in the time we are there. We are also happy to be able to refer patients with eye diseases to the local ophthalmologists who have agreed to see them for free or at a reduced rate which is covered by the funds we raise.

Ideally, we would have one or two ophthalmologists on board, along with Optometrists and Opticians. In addition to these roles, the program can't run without 40 or more volunteers, no experience is needed for all other volunteers, speaking Spanish is a benefit but not necessary.

The orphanage has a ten-foot wall around it with a guard at the gate 24/7 so no one gets in unless known. There are beds to sleep in, running water with showers and three meals a day. Modern conveniences also include internet access.

If you wish to talk to some of the doctors that have helped at an Optical Mission in the past, please feel free to contact Dr. James Bardenwerper OD at [eyesrusjas@tds.net](mailto:eyesrusjas@tds.net), Dr. Craig McCormick OD at [mccormick.craig@mayo.edu](mailto:mccormick.craig@mayo.edu), Dr. Monica Loppnow OD at [loppnow.monica@mayo.edu](mailto:loppnow.monica@mayo.edu) or Dr. James Dolan MD at [jdolan@chater.net](mailto:jdolan@chater.net).

Additional information on this amazing cause can be found at Casa Hogar Optical Mission (Facebook) and [www.homeajpm.org/optical](http://www.homeajpm.org/optical) (website).

Interested individuals can contact me at [casahogaropticalmission@outlook.com](mailto:casahogaropticalmission@outlook.com) to request an application or by calling 608-783-4911 or 608-792-4911.

Thank you in advance for sharing this important mission with anyone you feel may be interested.

Sincerely,

*Cynthia L Sjolander*

Cindy Sjolander  
Team Leader