

Operation Access
Bridging the Healthcare Gap

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

"He who has health, has hope. And, he who has hope, has everything."

- Arabian proverb



About one-quarter of uninsured adults go without needed care due to cost. They are less likely to receive preventive care and services for major health conditions - which leads to more serious health problems for many and significantly higher mortality rates.

Kaiser Family Foundation, Five Facts About the Uninsured Population, 9/12

“NOW THAT YOU KNOW, YOU CAN’T PRETEND THAT YOU DON’T.”

This statement is an antidote to the social disease of indifference.

Over the years, I have learned about the needs of many others, which, once I “knew”, I couldn’t ignore. My social consciousness in the medical world was stirred by a family trip to one of the most remote Maasai villages in Africa. There, I had the opportunity to contribute to the construction of their first medical clinic and donate surgical supplies. I was asked by the elders to place my handprint in the still soft cement of the clinic floor. That seemingly small act would eventually lead me to my involvement in Operation Access.

I was aware of my fellow plastic surgeons’ missions abroad. But with four children still pulling on my surgical blues’ strings, travelling for weeks at a time was not a viable option. However, the economic downturn of a few years ago presented a similar opportunity in my own backyard. With the help of my extended family, a foundation was created that allowed me to offer charitable reconstructive care within my private office operating room. And, my integral partner in this local “mission” has been Operation Access. Over the last few years I have had the privilege of taking care of dozens of patients in need of reparative surgery. This endeavor not only inspires me every time I place a healing stitch in another grateful patient, but also my entire office staff and extended family.



Operation Access is truly every physician’s antidote to the creeping complacency that we all can experience in our practices. It has been said that one day can bend your life. Well that one day in a hut bent my life forever. And now you know and can’t pretend you don’t!

Lorne Rosenfield, MD, Operation Access Volunteer

OA’s partnership with Dr. Rosenfield began in late 2010. He has served over 60 patients and encourages us to send him any and all plastic surgery cases referred to OA. He provides a broad spectrum of surgical services to our patients, from skin lesion resections and cleft lip revisions to breast reductions and ear pinnings.

“Before my operation my eye was covered with tissue on one side. If I moved my eye from side to side, I could not see. My work requires that I be outside in the sun. After the operation my eye is like new. Without the help of Operation Access I would not have vision in my eye or work to support my family. Thank you for your help and to Dr. Chandra.” – Juan R., patient