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Sight-saving surgeries Brownsville eye doctor travels globe restoring vision

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Posted: Sunday, November 15, 2015 10:19 pm

By Christina R. Garza | Staff Writer



Yvette Vela/The Brownsville Herald

Once a year, Brownsville ophthalmologist Dr. Madhavi Reddy forgoes the ease and convenience of working at the SouthTexasEyeCenter with its modern technology and plumbing. She travels to third world countries to restore the sight of people who would otherwise remain blind.

For the past 11 years Reddy has traveled the globe with Surgical Eye Expeditions International (SEE International) to restore sight to thousands who otherwise would never see.

Last month Reddy spent a few days in Ethiopia in the village of Dembi Dolo, where she and another doctor performed more than 200 eye surgeries in a matter of days. Eye surgeries that take minutes in the United States are done in makeshift operating rooms overseas thanks to the determination of volunteer doctors like Reddy.

Reddy first began working as a resident doctor in her native India. As a university student in the city of Hyderabad, she completed several medical missions, which included eye camps to bring eye care to disadvantaged people in areas of India.

Reddy said her volunteer work wouldn't be possible without the support of her husband Dr. Sundeep Reddy and her medical partners Dr. Eric Barron and Dr. David Hyde.

"We are so fortunate here, we have unbelievable resources, opportunities to grow I feel so blessed and I am aware that the rest of the world doesn't have those things. Volunteering my time is the least I can do,"

Ophthalmologist Madahavi Reddy sits in her office at the South Texas Eye Center in Brownsville.

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Eye doctor visit

Once a year, Brownsville ophthalmologist Dr. Madhavi Reddy travels to third world countries to restore the sight of people who would otherwise remain blind. For the past 11 years Reddy has traveled the globe with Surgical Eye Expeditions International (SEE International) to restore sight to thousands who otherwise would never see.

Reddy said.

Reddy pays out of pocket for the expenses related to the trip and receives donations from pharmaceutical companies for the products used.

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The costs of the trip are overshadowed by the countless lives Reddy touches.

cgarza@brownsvilleherald.com A more complete version of this story is available at www.myBrownsvilleHerald.com

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