

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SEE International Welcomes Michael Colvard, M.D. and Daniel Herlinger to its Board of Directors**

**SANTA BARBARA, Calif., June 11, 2008** — Surgical Eye Expeditions (SEE) International today announced Michael Colvard, M.D. and Daniel Herlinger have joined SEE International's Board of Directors. Dr. Colvard returns to the Medical Advisory Committee and Mr. Herlinger joins the board as Chairman of the Development Committee.

SEE International is a nonprofit humanitarian organization that connects volunteer ophthalmologists to host clinic sites worldwide to provide sight-restoring surgeries in communities that are overwhelmed with the large number of blind individuals who cannot afford surgery. Additionally, the Santa Barbara Vision Care Program (SBVCP) was formed in response to the immense population within SEE's local community that cannot afford vision care.

"We are excited to welcome Michael Colvard and Dan Herlinger to SEE International," said Robert Yamin, President and CEO. "Dan's experience as a healthcare systems executive and Michael's history with SEE International will further strengthen our organization and expand SEE's mission of restoring sight to the disadvantaged blind worldwide."

After a year hiatus, Dr. Colvard has returned to SEE International's Board of Directors where he previously served as a board member. Dr. Colvard is in private practice in Encino, CA and over the last decade, has been recognized as one of the "Best Doctors in America" and one of the nation's "Top Ophthalmologists" in national surveys conducted by independent patient advocacy groups. In addition to his private practice, Dr. Colvard has worked as a volunteer surgeon with SEE International for ten years and has made annual surgical expeditions. Dr. Colvard has served on the clinical teaching staff at the Doheny Eye Institute in Los Angeles since 1981, has published widely in the field of ophthalmic surgery, and is the new technology editor for *Review of Ophthalmology*.

“I have worked as a volunteer eye surgeon in Africa for almost 25 years and have worked with other international organizations over the years. SEE International in my experience is the best of the several organizations which provide eye surgical care to the visually impaired in underdeveloped countries,” stated Dr. Colvard. “It is an efficient, highly professional organization, run by dedicated physicians and staff that truly care about the work they are doing. I’m very proud to be a part of this team of committed professionals.”

Herlinger is currently a Senior Associate with Arthur S. Shorr & Associates, Inc., a management consulting firm which specializes in strategic planning services for hospitals, medical groups and physicians. Herlinger comes to SEE with more than 35 years of experience as a healthcare executive having served as President and CEO of Catholic Healthcare West Central Coast. An active member of the community, Herlinger serves on the boards of several organizations including The Santa Barbara Channels, CenCal Health (Santa Barbara Regional Health Authority), Ventura Center for Dispute Resolution, Santa Barbara’s Rental Housing Mediation Task Force, Cognitive Fitness & Innovative Therapies, Satellite Healthcare Inc. and is active in the Rotary Club of Santa Barbara, and as a healthcare policy advisor for AARP. Herlinger is a Life Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. He received his MBA in Healthcare Administration from The George Washington University and completed his undergraduate work at Loyola University of Chicago.

“SEE International is a compelling cause because it makes such a tangible and significant difference in the lives of individuals,” explained Herlinger. “To restore sight is to restore someone’s life. My goal is to help establish a financial base for SEE to continue and expand its humanitarian works. There is an immense and urgent need for SEE’s free eye surgeries around the world.”

The two new members will join current SEE International board members: George Primbs, M.D., F.A.C.S., Chairman of the Board, Harry Brown, M.D., F.A.C.S., William Coulter, M.D., John Crowder, M.D., Howard Hudson, CPA, Lt. Col. Brian Kelly, Tim Metzinger, Esq. and Robert Yamin.

### **Restoring Sight Around the World and at Home**

SEE International is a pioneer in the fight against global blindness. According to the World Health Organization, every five seconds someone in the world goes blind. Last year, SEE International performed sight-restoring eye surgeries for 9,308 people in 34 countries. Closer to home, SEE’s Santa Barbara Vision Care Program provides community members who cannot afford healthcare, with comprehensive vision care services with the goal of saving eyesight through early detection.

SBVCP services include free glaucoma and vision screening, prescriptions and certificates for eyeglasses, medication for acute eye infections and eye surgery.

**About SEE International**

SEE International is a humanitarian nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring sight to disadvantaged blind individuals worldwide through medical, surgical, and educational services. Founded in 1974, SEE International has screened more than 3.2 million individuals and restored sight to 330,000 patients. More than 600 eye surgeons from 75 countries belong to SEE International's global network of volunteers. For more information, visit [www.seeintl.org](http://www.seeintl.org).

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