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**SEE INTERNATIONAL PERFORMS FREE EYE SURGERIES
AND VISION SCREENINGS AROUND THE GLOBE FOR WORLD SIGHT DAY**

Fighting Vision Impairment in Later Life

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., September 26, 2008 – Surgical Eye Expeditions (SEE) International today announced that it is organizing free surgical eye clinics and vision screenings through its affiliate volunteer eye surgeons around the world in celebration of World Sight Day on October 9th. World Sight Day was created by VISION 2020, a global initiative to eliminate avoidable blindness by the year 2020, to promote eye health and awareness.

As an active member of VISION 2020, SEE International supports this year's World Sight Day theme "Eyes on the Future: Fighting Vision Impairment in Later Life." Approximately 80% of the world's 45 million blind people are over 50 years of age, but nearly 75% of blindness is avoidable. Early detection can help prevent unnecessary vision loss.

"More than 90% of blind people live in developing countries where older people often face barriers to health care," explained Robert Yamin, President and CEO of SEE International. "These are the men and women that we help through free sight-restoring surgeries. Last year, our volunteer eye surgeons performed more than 9,000 surgeries in 34 countries, with two-thirds of procedures devoted to cataracts, the leading cause of blindness in older people."

SEE International will host free surgical clinics during the first two weeks of October in Costa Rica, Belize, Mexico, Honduras, Bangladesh, Tanzania, and the United States. More than 240 patients will regain their eyesight and regain their productivity. In addition, free vision screenings will occur around the world on October 9th.

(more)

Worldwide Vision Screenings

More than 600 eye surgeons from 75 countries belong to SEE International's global network of volunteers. Listed below are the volunteer ophthalmologists who will provide free vision screenings on World Sight Day, including screenings at SEE International's headquarters in Santa Barbara, California:

- Sanjiv Desai, M.D. Jodhpur, India
- Marco Barrera, M.D. Guayamas and Ensenada, Mexico
- Eduardo Irusteta, M.D. Celaya, Mexico
- Mark Wood, M.D. Tanzania
- Ken Anthone, M.D. West Amherst, New York, USA
- Kimberly Bass, M.D. Falcon Heights, Minnesota, USA
- James Davies, M.D. Carlsbad, California, USA
- Rise Ochsner, M.D. Santa Barbara, California, USA

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. In addition to direct surgical interventions, SEE International helps train U.S.-based ophthalmologists in specialized surgical techniques that are appropriate and effective in developing countries. SEE International also promotes skills exchanges between host and visiting ophthalmologists.

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 360,000 patients. For more information, visit www.seeintl.org.

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