



Join the biggest global movement  
of volunteer optometrists

# 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

## CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN'S VISION AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S FUTURE

OCTOBER 12TH, 2025  
8 AM - 1 PM

NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY  
424 BEACON ST  
BOSTON, MA 02115

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# PROGRAM

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young people's future

📅 Sunday, October 12th, 2025

🕒 8.00 AM - 1.00 PM

7:30 - 8:00 am

**Registration -Breakfast**

8:00 - 8:05 am

**Welcome by our host  
NECO**

8:05 - 8:30 am



**Welcome**

**Reflections on his  
legacy**

**Hector Santiago, OD, FAAO**

**President VOSH/International**

8:30 - 8:40 am



**VSP Vision:  
impacting children's  
vision in the US.**

**Stephanie Ganiban**

**University & Student Relations Manager**

**VSP Vision**

8:40 - 9:00 am



**Evaluation of the  
effectiveness of training  
schoolteachers to  
conduct vision  
screening for  
schoolchildren in  
Jordan.**

**Prof. Yazan Gammoh, PhD**

**Head, Optometry Program, Al-Alhiyya**

**Amman University, Jordan**

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9:00 - 9:20 am



**All children deserve  
good vision.**

**Lessons from Special  
Olympics.**

**Katherine Green, OD, FAAO, FOVDR  
Clinical Director Special Olympics**

9:20 - 9:40 am



**Healthy vision from  
the start. The  
Colombian experience  
of caring for children  
under five.**

**Dr. Mónica Márquez  
Faculty Optometry Program  
Fundación Universitaria del Area Andina-  
Pereira, Colombia.**

9:40 - 10:00 am



**Keynote Speaker**

**Addressing  
children's vision in  
Kenya.**

**Jacqueline Grove  
President 20/20 Quest Foundation  
National Vision Inc.**

**with Elizabeth Muchoki, Kenya Country  
Manager, the Coalition for Clear Vision**

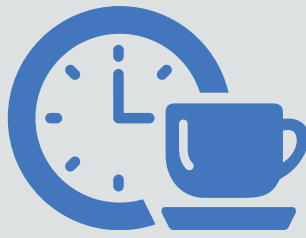
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10:00 - 10:30 am



**Coffee Break**

**Informal networking  
Plenoptika demonstration or  
tour of NECO.**

10:30 - 11:00 am

**Recognition of volunteers.**

**Inauguration of the new President,  
Dr Vicki Weiss and Board member.**

**Franklin Harm Society  
VOSH/International Fellowships  
Student Fellowships**

11:00- 11:15 am



**The Child Eye Health  
Statement.**

**Global Goals, local  
action.**

**Prof. Kovin Naidoo, PhD, FAAO  
Head Global Advocacy and Partnerships  
One Sight EssilorLuxxotica Foundation**

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11:15 - 11:30 am



**2025  
Harry Zeltzer  
Lifetime  
Achievement  
Award**

**Dr. Marcela Frazier, OD, MSPH, FAAO**  
Associate Professor at the University of  
Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of  
Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology and  
Visual Sciences.

11:30 - 11:50 am



**Scaling up children's  
vision through  
interprofessional  
collaboration: the  
Mongolia experience**

**Prof. Emeritus Bruce Moore**  
New England College of Optometry

11:50 am- 12:00 pm



**2025 Humanitarian  
of the Year Award**

**Dr. Levi U Osuagwu, OD, PhD, FAAO**  
Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead, Rural  
Health, Western Sydney University, Australia

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12:00 pm - 12:20 pm



**Exploration of mental  
health conditions  
among optometry  
students in selected  
African universities**

**Dr. Levi U Osuagwu, OD, PhD, FAAO**  
Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead, Rural  
Health, Western Sydney University, Australia

12:20 - 12:40 pm



**Mental health  
challenges among US  
optometry students:  
preliminary results.**

**Benjamin Konig, OD**  
Associate Professor -Director of International  
Affairs, Kentucky College of Optometry

12:40 - 12:55 pm



**Vision and learning:  
improving the  
recognition of children's  
vision in Nicaragua**

**Dr. Jairo Mercado**  
Head, Optometry Program, Universidad  
Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua

# PROGRAM

12:55 - 1:00 pm



**Closing remarks and  
thanks**

**Victoria Weiss, OD, FVAO, FVI  
President, VOSH/International**

**With appreciation to our loyal  
sponsors, exhibitors, and  
partners**



**NECO**

New England  
College of Optometry

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**PlenOptika**

Vision Driven Innovation

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