



Medical teams a sight for sore eyes

Doctors from Oudomxay provincial Hospital, the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation and two Thai hospitals recently teamed up to offer free eye-related surgery to rural Oudomxay residents.

The activity offered various types of oculoplastic surgery procedures that can fix problems related to the eyelids, tear ducts or eyes in general – to help poverty-stricken families who cannot afford to pay for surgery, while developing Lao doctors' and nurses' skills.

Nineteen operations were completed over a two-week period, each with successful results.

Sustainable Comprehensive Eye Care Project Manager, Dr. Phetsamone Indara, said the outcome had been good for patients.

Medical teams also offered free check-ups for the people of Chom-ong village in Xay district and provided treatment for ear, nose, throat and dental problems.

The group assessed the health of pregnant women, provided fluoride for primary school children and donated equipment to Chom-ong dispensary, helping almost 600 people in the short and long term.

The two activities cost about US\$15,000, funded by the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, Thailand's Bumrungrad International Hospital and Mettapracharak Hospital, and the Fred Hollows Foundation.

By Times Reporters (October 10, 2013)