



FOCUSING PHILANTHROPY WORLD SIGHT DAY 2017 REPORT

Prepared by
SEVA FOUNDATION
April 2018



Magrabi Foundation conducted a school screening during World Sight Day 2017 to identify students who need further treatment and surgery (Egypt).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Project Summary.....3

Program Highlights.....5

Patient Stories.....9

World Sight Day Snapshots.....14

Concluding Note.....16

PROJECT SUMMARY

There are 253 million people around the world who are visually impaired. Of those, 36 million are blind. Over 75 percent of all visual impairment can be avoided or cured through sight-restoring surgeries, glasses, and medical treatments. An estimated 19 million children under the age of 16 are visually impaired and almost 60 percent of people who are blind are women and girls. Additionally, 90 percent of the world's visually impaired live in developing countries and low-income communities.

To raise awareness of the number of people who cannot see but who could, the World Health Organization and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness created World Sight Day, an annual day of awareness that brings international attention to the issues of blindness and visual impairment.

World Sight Day 2017 was held on October 12, 2017. This year's call to action was *Make Vision Count*, which was marked by hundreds of events that took place throughout the world. Many of Seva's partners held celebrations, parades, and community rallies. They marked the occasion by providing free eye surgery to low-income patients on World Sight Day and in the period thereafter. Based on interest generated through promotional outreach activities in the weeks preceding World Sight Day, partners transported patients to the sites of permanent or temporary eye clinics, performed eye exams, and delivered a range of treatments to protect, improve, or restore sight.



Staff from Grameen Healthcare Services rally to raise awareness on World Sight Day at Barisal Eye Hospital (Bangladesh).

In celebration of World Sight Day, Focusing Philanthropy and Seva marked the sixth year of their partnership with another 1:1 matching fundraising campaign.

In 2012, Focusing Philanthropy and Seva raised \$181,000 to fund a special World Sight Day cataract surgery campaign implemented by Seva that resulted in 4,208 operations in six countries. In 2013, we raised \$200,000 to fund the construction, equipping, and launch of a Secondary Eye Care Center/hospital (SECC) and a Primary Eye Care Center (PECC) in eastern Nepal. For 2014, a matching campaign of \$339,489 supported 7,322 cataract surgeries. In 2015, \$511,557 in donations

resulted in 8,088 surgeries and essential equipment and surgical supplies. In 2016, \$500,454 supported 8,215 surgeries and purchased vital equipment.

For World Sight Day 2017, Seva and Focusing Philanthropy originally targeted to raise \$500,000 to support 7,500 surgeries and vital equipment. Thanks to the support of generous donors, the campaign raised **\$519,172**, almost \$20,000 over the target! These funds resulted in **8,345 surgeries and \$75,000 of ophthalmic equipment and surgical supplies**. Since the partnership between Focusing Philanthropy and Seva began in 2012, our collaborative efforts have resulted in **\$2,251,672 in matching gifts and more than 36,345 sight-saving surgeries performed**.

In early 2017, Seva collaborated with its partners to develop a budget and plan to provide free surgeries and distribute equipment. The resulting priorities, discussed and refined in concert with Focusing Philanthropy, formed the basis of the 2017 World Sight Day campaign.

Following the success of the fundraising campaign, a large portion of the surgeries were completed on or within a few days of World Sight Day – October 12, 2017 – while the rest of the surgeries were completed during the last quarter of 2017 and the first quarter of 2018. Many of the latter surgeries were more complex pediatric cases. Implementing partners consistently express their appreciation for specialized equipment provided (which has long-term impact). The ability to offer underwritten patient surgeries, through the generous support from the World Sight Day 2017 initiative, ensures that people who couldn't previously afford surgery can now see more clearly.

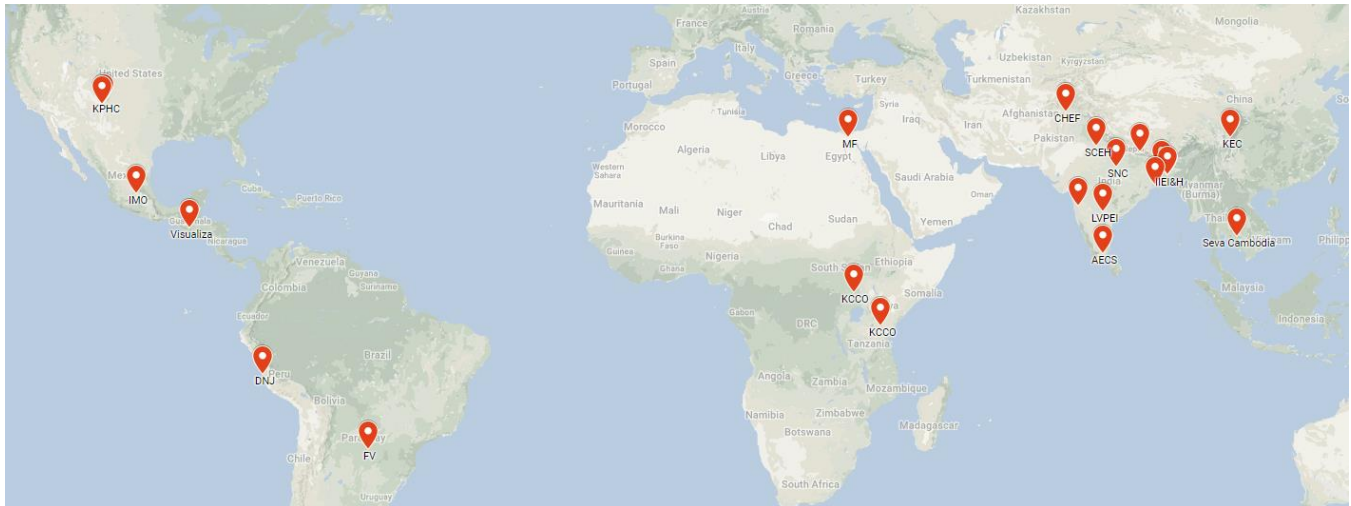
As in previous years, the matching grant from Focusing Philanthropy enabled Seva and our partners to have a strong World Sight Day 2017. Through your generous support, this grant helped more than 8,000 patients regain the independence and dignity that they had lost due to poor vision and blindness. The program highlights and patient stories below show the incredible impact of your support.

Thank you once again for your generous participation in making World Sight Day 2017 a success!



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

21 Seva Partners in 14 countries



The following partners participated in World Sight Day 2017, in most cases by providing free sight-restoring and sight-saving surgeries. Additional programmatic activities (pediatric surgery and equipment procurement) are noted next to partner names, when applicable.

- Bangladesh:
 - Grameen Healthcare Services [GHCS]
 - Ispahani Islamia Eye Institute and Hospital [IIEI&H] (+ pediatric)
 - Quasem Foundation [QF]
- Cambodia: Seva Cambodia (+ pediatric and equipment)
- China: Kham Eye Center [KEC] (equipment only)
- Egypt: Magrabi Foundation [MF]
- Ethiopia: Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology [KCCO] (trachoma trichiasis/TT surgeries)
- Guatemala: Visualiza Clínica Médica Oftalmológica (+ pediatric)
- India:
 - Aravind Eye Care System [AECS]
 - Poona Blind Men's Association HV Desai Eye Hospital [HVD] (+ pediatric)
 - LV Prasad Eye Institute [LVPEI]
 - Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital [SCEH] (+ pediatric)
 - Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya [SNC]
 - Vivekananda Mission Ashram Netra Niramay Niketan [VMANNN]
- Mexico: Instituto Mexicano de Oftalmología [IMO]
- Nepal: Seva Nepal (+ equipment)
- Pakistan: Comprehensive Health Education Forum International [CHEF]
- Paraguay: Fundación Visión [FV]
- Perú: Divino Niño Jesús [DNJ]
- Tanzania: Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology [KCCO]
- USA:

- Kewa Pueblo Health Corporation [KPHC] (equipment only)
- Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute [SIPI] (equipment only)

Seva partner, Mettashin Eye Hospital in Myanmar, was originally allocated support for equipment. However, due to the ongoing conflict in Myanmar, Seva decided not to support the hospital through World Sight Day this year. Seva redistributed these funds along with the \$19,172 that was raised over our target to support additional surgeries in Cambodia, Mexico, and Nepal.

SIGHT-RESTORING & SIGHT-SAVING SURGERIES PERFORMED

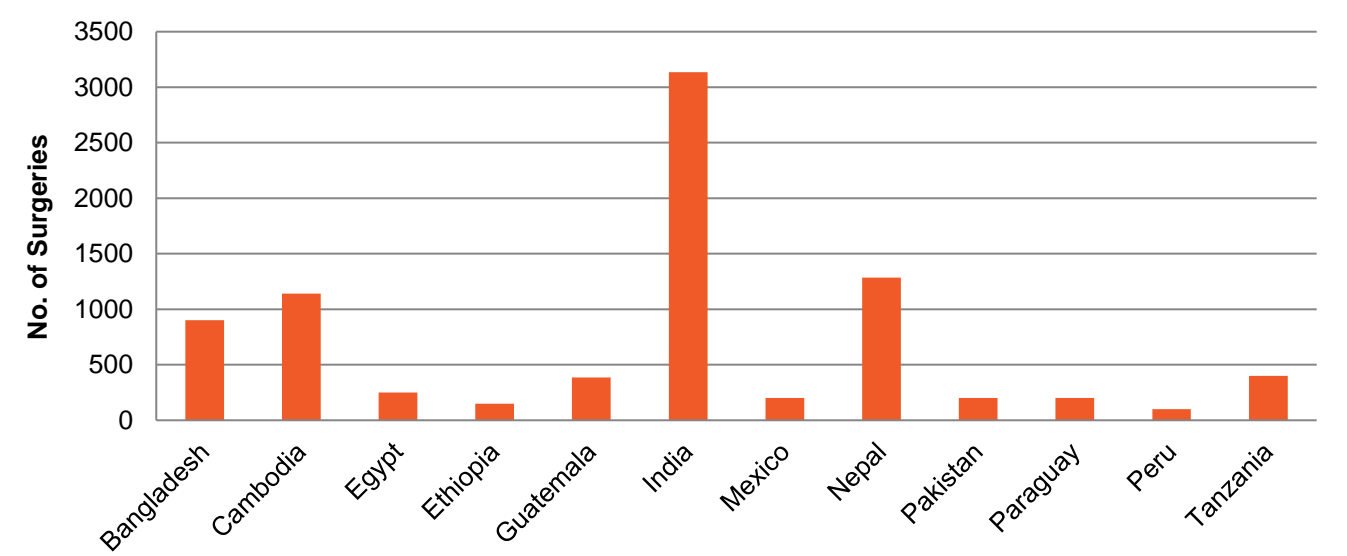
Thanks to the World Sight Day 2017 campaign, **8,345 surgeries** were performed and several pieces of vital equipment were purchased across **14 countries and 21 partners**. Partners exceeded the surgery target **by more than 800 surgeries**. Of the surgeries performed, the majority of patients were women, addressing a great need in global eye care, as women disproportionately carry the burden of visual impairment.

Country	Seva Partner	Target	AF	AM	CF	CM	Total
Bangladesh	GHCS	300	164	136	0	0	300
	IIEI&H	300	96	104	30	70	300
	QF	300	167	133	0	0	300
Cambodia	Seva Cambodia	1,000	531	377	98	135	1,141
Egypt	MF	250	176	72	2	0	250
Ethiopia	KCCO	200	89	62	0	0	150
Guatemala	Visualiza	350	171	111	53	49	384
India	AECS	600	303	296	0	2	601
	HVD	400	136	164	46	86	432
	LVPEI	600	301	301	0	0	602
	SCEH	400	135	165	51	49	400
	SNC	500	214	283	0	3	500
	VMANN	600	303	297	0	0	600
Mexico	IMO	100	104	96	0	0	200
Nepal	Seva Nepal	850	691	593	0	0	1,284
Pakistan	CHEF	200	100	100	0	0	200
Paraguay	FV	200	104	96	0	0	200
Peru	DNJ	100	55	45	0	0	100
Tanzania	KCCO	250	250	186	0	0	401
Adult Subtotal		7,000	4,026	3,645	0	0	7,671
Pediatric Subtotal		500	0	0	280	394	674
GRAND TOTAL		7,500	4,026	3,645	280	394	8,345

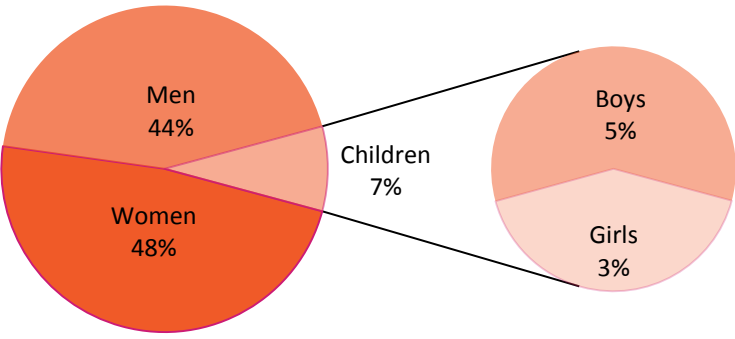
AF: Adult Female; AM: Adult Male; CF: Child Female; CM: Child Male

Seva Partner KCCO supported its partner eye hospitals in Ethiopia and Tanzania through the World Sight Day campaign. In 2017, when KCCO began planning with its partners, Ethiopia was politically stable. Later that year, there were a series of protests in the Amhara region and the government retaliated by shutting off internet services. Without internet, the KCCO team had a very challenging time communicating with its partner hospitals. As a result, KCCO was unable to collect all of the hospitals' reports by April 2018. KCCO redistributed these funds to support surgeries in Tanzania, as noted in the chart above.

More World Sight Day campaign surgeries were performed across India than in any other single participating country. India has the largest population of people in the world who are visually impaired or blind from cataracts. Six Seva partners completed a total of 3,135 surgeries throughout the country, representing 38% of surgeries performed globally as part of the 2017 campaign.



As one would expect, childhood vision impairment and blindness dramatically diminishes educational opportunities and circumscribes life options. The stigma caused by poor vision, or by eyes that appear different from others, often results in children skipping or dropping out of school. Attending school consistently is crucial for a child's future economic and educational prospects. This makes pediatric sight-restoring surgery an extraordinarily meaningful intervention and our ability to restore the sight of 674 children through the 2017 World Sight Day campaign especially gratifying.



Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital (SCEH) is one of our six partners in India. This year, SCEH achieved their target by providing surgeries for a variety of eye care needs, such as cataract, retinoblastoma, and orbit surgeries. With support from Focusing Philanthropy and Seva, SCEH was able to respond to the needs of their patients, which is critical for cases like retinoblastoma, for example, which requires multiple surgeries. SCEH was able to perform 100 pediatric surgeries on 66 patients, which ensured that these children received the appropriate care and necessary follow up they needed.

EQUIPMENT

The equipment provided through this initiative allows partners to reach more patients with comprehensive eye health screenings and provide a higher volume of needed treatments. Five partners in four countries received equipment through this year's campaign.

Country	Partner	Equipment purchased
Cambodia	Seva Cambodia	Partial cost of three vitrectomy machines for three eye units, one retinoscope, and one trial lens set
China	Kham Eye Center	Partial costs of equipment for Vitreo retinal surgery, including one phaco vitrectomy machine, one laser, and one non-contact wide angle surgery system
Nepal	Seva Nepal	One microscope for a district eye care center
United States	Kewa Pueblo Health Center	Low vision devices: two low vision desktop video magnifiers that provide high resolution magnification and a text-to-speech function for low vision users
United States	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute	Frames used for optometric training

Equipment availability and quality are essential to expanding access and maintaining quality of care. Without support for equipment through the Focusing Philanthropy World Sight Day campaign, many priority equipment needs would remain unfunded.

Through the generous support of this year's campaign donors, Seva partners are now able to perform more efficient and high-quality surgeries with vitrectomy machines and provide patients with low-vision devices that allow them to regain independence. Surgical equipment and supplies will continue to serve our partners and programs, and the countless lives they help, long after the World Sight Day campaign ends.

Additionally, support for optometric training supplies for the Vision Technician Program at the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute will provide students with hands-on opportunities in the classroom, training the next generation of eye care providers to serve Native communities.

PATIENT STORIES

The impact of the World Sight Day grants via Seva and Focusing Philanthropy's partnership can best be seen in the patient stories highlighted below. Restoring a person's sight has a profound impact for the patient, his or her family, and their community for decades to come.

SABITRI KUNKAL – WEST BENGAL, INDIA (VMANNN)

Sabitri Kunkal is a 24-year-old mother from Kharagpur in West Bengal, India. She is originally from a tribal community in the neighboring state of Jharkhand. Five years ago, Sabitri migrated to West Bengal with her husband to work in a brick field.

Sabitri lost her first two children due to illness. Then last year, she lost her vision in both eyes. She did not seek any medical treatment because of fear and superstition. Soon after losing her vision, she gave birth to her third child Lakshmi, named after the Goddess of fortune and wealth. Due to her blindness, however, she could not take care of her daughter on her own. Sabitri relied on her sister to help take care of Lakshmi. It was her sister that encouraged her to seek care.



Sabitri attended an eye camp hosted by VMANNN and after receiving an examination, she was diagnosed with mature cataract in both eyes. Soon after, she was brought to the hospital where she received surgery on her right eye on January 2, 2018.



When the patch was removed, Sabitri greeted the staff with a divine smile. For the first time she saw her daughter clearly! Before the surgery, Lakshmi smiled at her mother, but Sabitri wasn't able to reciprocate.

Now they can see each other and talk the silent language of love between mother and daughter.

CHHLOV CHY – STUNG TRENG, CAMBODIA (SEVA CAMBODIA)

Ms. Chhlov Chy is a 56-year-old farmer from the urban area of Stung Treng. Since her vision has worsened, she hasn't been able to work, and housework and taking care of family members has become challenging. During her examination, Chlov Chy shared, "I know that my left eye is dark and my right eye is a bit better than my left eye. It's really difficult to do some jobs at night and to prepare items for sale at the market in the early morning".



Due to a lack of information about eye care and her financial standing, Chhlov chose to ignore her eye problems. "I was wondering why my eyes became blurry, but I have never gone to have my eyes checked to see what happened. And another reason is I don't have money for treatment."

One day Chhlov heard an announcement over the radio that Stung Treng Referral Hospital was providing free cataract surgeries. She finally decided to go to the hospital to get her eyes checked. After her examination, the eye doctor explained that both of her eyes had cataracts and recommended that she have surgery.

After her surgery Ms. Chhlov Chy happily shared, "I remembered that I could see only one meter, and after doing surgery, my vision can see clearer and further distance. I am very much happy to get this result. I felt of hope in life again. I don't have money but I can see well at this age again, just like other young people do!"

GREGORIO PELAEZ – GUATEMALA CITY, GUATEMALA (VISUALIZA)



Gregorio began to lose vision in his left eye two years ago. As a result, he could not continue working. He began looking for care, but due to his financial circumstances he found it difficult to find services he could afford. Aware of his inability to pay for surgery, the Church of Santa Ana informed him about free surgeries offered in celebration of World Sight Day. With the support of Focusing Philanthropy and Seva, he received the surgery he needed. With his improved vision, he hopes to renew his driver's license, and start working as a driver.

KEDAR – GORAKHPUR, INDIA (AECS)

Kedar is a 54-year-old paddy field worker and laborer. When Kedar was 20 years old, a piece of metal became stuck inside his left eye. Due to lack of proper treatment and eye care, he lost his vision in that eye. Even though it was very difficult for him to live and work, he learned to adjust his life accordingly. As he became older, he also developed vision impairment in his right eye. In October, he was diagnosed with a cataract. Upon learning this, he became frightened that he might lose his vision in that eye as well.



The cataract in his right eye affected his daily life and work. He felt his vision diminishing with each passing day. He was no longer able to work and earn food for his family. One day in the evening as it was beginning to get dark, he realized how bad his vision had gotten. At that moment, he realized that if he did not get surgery his vision would be lost completely.



As Kedar was deciding whether to get surgery, he worried how he would be able to afford it. He became disappointed and hopeless. One day in July, one of his friends told him about a free eye camp that was being conducted by Fatima Hospital that week in his village. With renewed excitement, Kedar attended the camp and was scheduled for cataract surgery free of cost at Fatima Hospital. He finally felt relaxed.

After receiving cataract surgery on his right eye, the vision was restored. His entire family is joyous now that he is able to work and live with them happily again. With improved vision, he is able to complete his routine activities without hassle. When the Community Outreach Manager visited his home for follow up, he found Kedar happily working in the paddy field.

BHAGUNTI KUSHWAHA – CHITRAKOOT, INDIA (SNC)

Bhagunti Kushwaha is a 54-year-old housewife and caregiver living in Kaidi, a small village in Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh. Bhagunti and her husband, Gauri, are day wage laborers. Gauri is older and is unable to work regularly due to an illness. Their son and daughter-in-law live far away and are not able to take care of them.

Bhagunti has been suffering from a cataract for the past three years. Due to her cataract, her day-to-day functioning was adversely affected. She thought that if she did not seek care and get the necessary operation there would be no one to take care of her and her husband. She heard about eye camps from SNC's outreach team and found out when the next one would be coming to her town. When she went to the camp, she received an examination and was recommended for cataract surgery. Unfortunately, she did not have enough money to pay for the surgery. Upon hearing this, the counselors informed her that, given her financial circumstances, she qualified to receive free cataract surgery.

SNC provided free transportation for Bhagunti to their hospital where she received surgery. After surgery Bhagunti, with a smile, said "we were helpless and now I can see only due to SNC. Many thanks to SNC and SEVA foundation for such a nice service for poor people."



MARTA CASTILLO CARRINO – MEXICO CITY, MEXICO (IMO)

Marta Castillo Carriño, a 54-year-old housewife, noticed her eye sight changing two years ago, as her vision became blurry. Her vision appeared similar to smoke, blurry like mist. She couldn't read with or without her glasses. Before her surgery, Marta was afraid to go outside. When she went out, she couldn't see the numbers on the buses that were stopping by, and eventually she started missing her bus. Her vision became so bad that she couldn't even



see the bus, so she couldn't signal them to stop. Marta was even afraid inside her own house. She had a constant fear of falling because she couldn't see well.

There was a "Jaland Parejo" event in Alameda, where doctors were providing general health examinations. She signed up to have her eyes checked and was diagnosed with a cataract. She received additional examinations free of charge in preparation for her surgery.

After her recovery, she has been able to see and read very well, even small print. Now she goes out without any fear of falling, moving with newfound confidence. Marta can see the buses without her glasses!

SALMA RAMADAN RAGAB MOHAMMED – ALHARAM, EGYPT (MAGRABI)

Salma Ramadan Ragab Mohammed is nine years old. She suffered from relaxed eye muscles that forced her to keep her head tucked into her neck to avoid seeing in double vision. As her situation worsened, she began experiencing continuous neck pain and was not able to attend her full school schedule. In addition to her physical symptoms, she also experienced nonstop sarcasm and taunting from peers at school.

When her mother sought care for Salma, the orthopedic doctor advised Salma's mother to visit Magrabi vision center at Alharam. Here she was diagnosed as having exotropia, which required immediate surgery.



However, Salma's mother is unemployed and receives limited social welfare which was not enough to cover the costs of the multiple surgeries Salma would need. With support from Focusing Philanthropy and Seva Foundation, Magrabi was able to subsidize Salma's surgeries.

After receiving several surgeries, Salma is now able to raise her head and her vision is improving. Given the severity of her case, she will continue to receive additional surgeries later this year.

WORLD SIGHT DAY SNAPSHOTS

RECEIVING EYE CARE IN PAKISTAN



Dedar Gul, an electrician from the village of Charsadda in Pakistan, receives a visual acuity test (L) and refraction (R) in Islamabad (CHEF, Pakistan)

RAISING AWARENESS THROUGH MOBILE VANS



Seva partners VMANN in West Bengal, India (L) and IIEIH in Dhaka, Bangladesh (R) raised awareness through colorful mobile vans that traveled around their local communities broadcasting messages on eye health and services.

EYE CARE AND GUIDANCE FROM STAFF IN INDIA



An ophthalmic assistant examines a patient (L) and a staff member at Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute in Udaipur, Rajasthan leads cataract patients post-surgery (R) (AECS, India).

CATARACT PATIENTS RECEIVE COUNSELING IN NEPAL



Top left: Patients receive counseling after surgery at Butwal Hospital.

Top right: Patients pose for a photo.

Bottom left: Butwal Hospital provides patients free transportation to and from the hospital. (Seva Nepal).

CONCLUDING NOTE

Our partner in Guatemala, Visualiza Clínica Médica Oftalmológica, created a wonderful video in honor of their World Sight Day efforts. They reached a staggering 180 people in just one day! Their video is in Spanish. Please copy the link below into your browser to watch the video on Youtube. Thanks to Focusing Philanthropy and Seva donors, Visualiza and our other partners are able to provide sight-giving surgeries for patients in need.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zAMhZNHD1es>

