



FOCUSING PHILANTHROPY WORLD SIGHT DAY 2018 REPORT

**Prepared by
SEVA FOUNDATION
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CAMPAIGN SUMMARY



There are 253 million people around the world who are moderately or severely visually impaired. Of those, 36 million are blind. Eighty 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. Furthermore, 90 percent of the world's visually impaired live in developing countries and low-income communities.



However, many people around the world do not realize visual impairment is such an issue or that people are living in darkness unnecessarily. To raise awareness about 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.



This year, countries celebrated World Sight Day on October 11, 2018 with a call to action for *Eye Care Everywhere*. Many of Seva's partners held celebrations, parades, and community rallies. Partner hospitals marked the occasion by providing free eye exams and surgery to patients on World Sight Day. They also organized additional outreach efforts to communities that do not have regular access to eye care services.

Based on interest generated through promotional outreach activities in the weeks preceding World Sight Day, partners transported patients in need of services to the sites of permanent or temporary eye clinics, performed eye exams, and delivered a range of treatments to protect, improve, or restore sight as part of their World Sight Day celebration.

Sabani, a patient from VMANN's partner Kalinga Eye Hospital. She came to the hospital thanks to her community health worker. She had not been able to see for three years and had faced multiple injuries because she kept running into things. But today, thanks to Focusing Philanthropy's collaboration with Seva, she can see. "I can see the roads clearly, I can see faces," said Sabani. "Now I can walk and won't fall."

CAMPAIGN IMPACT

With World Sight Day 2018, Focusing Philanthropy and Seva marked the seventh year of their partnership with another joint 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. In 2017, \$519,172 supported 8,345 surgeries and \$75,000 of ophthalmic equipment and surgical supplies.

For World Sight Day 2018, Seva and Focusing Philanthropy increased our target to a \$600,000 matching campaign. In total, the campaign raised \$625,634. With these funds, Seva and its partners provided 10,482 sight-saving surgeries across 16 countries, including 700 pediatric surgeries. This is our highest number of surgeries provided through the campaign to date. We also purchased vital equipment necessary to provide quality eye care to communities who need it.



Rehema received cataract surgery thanks to the Bugando Regional Hospital in Tanzania and our partnership with Focusing Philanthropy

Since the partnership between Focusing Philanthropy and Seva began in 2012, our collaborative efforts have resulted in nearly \$3 million dollars (**\$2,877,306**) in matching gifts and more than **46,000 sight-saving surgeries performed**.

2018 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

16 Countries across more than 70 hospitals



This year had a broad geographic distribution across 16 countries. Seva’s partners worked with their network of 70+ hospitals to reach dozens of communities. The map above highlights the breadth of the program spanning three continents.

Seva distributed the additional \$25,634 in campaign funding raised to support more surgeries in Nepal.

SIGHT-RESTORING & SIGHT-SAVING SURGERIES PERFORMED

World Sight Day 2018 partners surpassed the original campaign target of 9,200 surgeries, performing a total of **10,482 surgeries**, inclusive of 9,782 adult surgeries and 700 pediatric surgeries. Of the operations performed, most 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
		Adult	Child					
Bangladesh	Grameen Healthcare System	654		494	160			654
	Ispahani Islamia Eye Institute	300	100	153	147	32	68	400
	Quasem Foundation	250		132	118			250
Benin	Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology	115		48	67			115
Cambodia	Aravind Eye Care System	100		63	37			100
	Seva Cambodia	637	305	407	230	128	177	942
Dominican Republic	Visualiza	72		38	34			72
Egypt	Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology	75						0
Guatemala	Visualiza	73	80	40	33	41	39	153
Haiti	Visualiza	73		42	31			73
India	Aravind Eye Care System	700		359	341			700

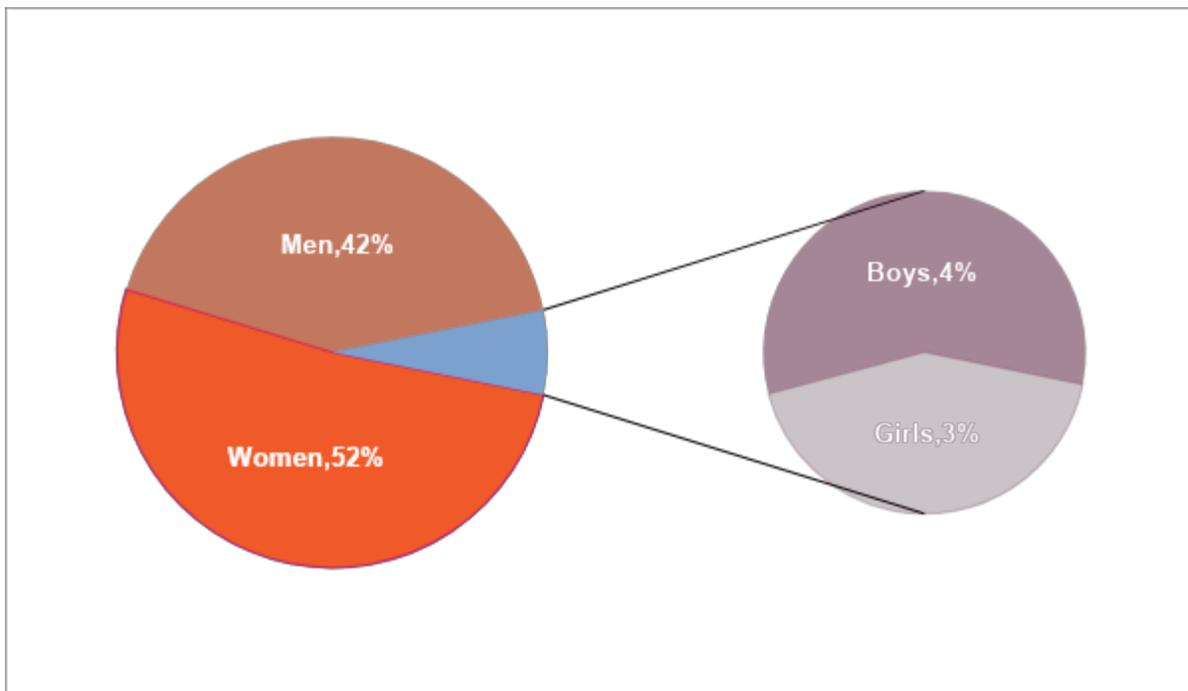
	Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital	400	55	202	198	23	32	455
	LV Prasad Eye Institute	800		411	389			800
	PBMA H. V. Desai Eye Hospital	800	160	439	361	72	88	960
	Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya	608		315	293			608
	Vivekananda Mission Ashram Netra Niramay Niketan	415		201	214			415
Mexico	Visualiza	73		50	23			73
Nepal	Seva Nepal	1,053		1267	1068			2335
Nicaragua	Visualiza	73		43	30			73
Pakistan	CHEF	250		144	106			250
Paraguay	Visualiza	73		44	29			73
Peru	Divino Niño Jesus	428		222	206			428
Tanzania	Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology	383		221	237			458
Uganda	Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology	95		50	45			95
Adult Subtotal		8,500		5,385	4,397			9,782
Pediatric Subtotal			700			296	404	700
GRAND TOTAL		8,500	700	5,385	4,397	296	404	10,482

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

All of the partners have completed their adult surgeries with the exception of KCCO Egypt. In Egypt, the surgeries were reallocated to other partners in Tanzania because the original partner identified is still in the process of setting up its clinic. We are hopeful to begin partnering with the clinic in Egypt in the coming year or two.

Given the burden of blindness in India – fully a quarter of people around the world who are blind live in India – the majority of WSD surgeries took place in India. Partners completed a total of 3,938 surgeries throughout India (inclusive of 3,723 adult and 215 pediatric surgeries).

Growing up, 80% of what a child learns is processed through visually. Good vision is critical to a child's ability to participate in and benefit from educational, social and professional activities. 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 surgeries such an extraordinarily meaningful intervention and our ability to restore sight to 700 children critical for this year's World Sight Day 2018 Campaign and far into the future.



EQUIPMENT

The equipment supported through this grant is vital for working towards universal access to care. Equipment allows partners to reach more patients with comprehensive eye health screenings and provide a higher volume of needed treatments. Four partners in five countries received equipment through this year's campaign.

Country	Partner	Equipment purchased
Cambodia	Seva Cambodia	Cataract sets for Siem Reap Eye Unit and equipment and instruments for Angkor Children's Hospital
India	HV Desai Eye Hospital	Supported the cost of a retinoscope
Nepal	Seva Nepal	Funded an auto-refractometer, retinoscope, ophthalmoscope, slit lamp equipment for tele-ophthalmology, equipment for hospital operating theaters
Uganda	KCCO	Critical diagnostic equipment including retinoscope, tonometer, trial lens sets and surgical equipment including vitrectomy machine, cataract sets, operating tables and chairs
Tanzania		

Final equipment allocations were determined based on partner need. 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 this generous support of the donors to this year's campaign, Seva partners are now able to perform more efficient and high-quality surgeries with vitrectomy machines and provide patients with quality diagnoses that allow them to see more clearly. Eye equipment and supplies will continue to

serve our partners and programs, as well as the countless lives they help, long after the World Sight Day campaign ends.

CONCLUDING NOTE

Our partner in Guatemala, Visualiza Clínica Médica Oftalmológica, created a wonderful video in honor of their World Sight Day efforts. Thanks to Focusing Philanthropy and Seva donors, Visualiza and our other partners we are able to provide sight-giving surgeries for patients in need.

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



PATIENT STORIES

The impact of the World Sight Day grants via Seva and Focusing Philanthropy's partnership can best be seen in the patients' 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.

Bakhtawar – Tehsil, Pakistan (CHEF)

Bakhtawar earns a living driving an auto rickshaw. Recently, he noticed his vision was declining. He wasn't able to see clearly, which impacted his ability to safely perform his job. Eventually, it got to the point where he could barely make out his family's faces and could no longer read the Koran. He had to stop working completely. After a few months of not being able to work, he decided to see if he could get some help and went to the eye clinic. The team diagnosed him with cataract and arranged for him to undergo cataract surgery. Following his surgery, he came back to the clinic for his follow-up exam driving his rickshaw. He was able to go back to work to earn much needed money for himself and his family.



Kodjehou – Benin (KCCO)

"My name is Kodjehou. I am sixty years old and the mother of six children. I have not seen for two years. Despite all the traditional treatment, my vision has remained as it is. My husband and I are poor and we are only farming, so we have not been able to put our children in school so they can help us in the end.

I sincerely thank God for this free surgery and especially the donors. I pray that God will help them because, without them and without this measure of gratuity, I was going to die with my blindness."



Hector – Guatemala (Visualiza)



Hector was a homeless person and he wandered in search of food in the streets of his neighborhood, his neighbors helped him with what they could and sometimes he got to sleep in the house of one of the neighborhood families. Arcelia Oliva, a leader of the neighbors, seeing the situation that Hector was going through, offered her help, food, clothes and a place to live in a shelter for elderly people. She heard about the WSD and without hesitation brought him to our Social Clinic where he had an eye operation at no cost to him. Now Hector will be able to see his way, he will not stumble, nor will he have accidents due to poor vision. Hector also comes from one of the most dangerous areas of the city where assaults and murders are carried out daily.

Cambodia (Seva Cambodia)

Odam is a five-year-old boy living in a rural district of Tbong Khmum province, Cambodia. He is currently in kindergarten and walks two kilometers to school every day with other children from his village. His father passed away when he was two-years old, and his mother works in a clothing shop in Phnom Penh. She rarely gets to visit him and his younger brother, so his grandparents have become their primary caretakers.



His grandmother noticed that Odam had an eye problem last year when she was picking a fruit for him to play with. When the fruit dropped down from the tree, Odam did not see it clearly and had to use his hands to find it on the ground. His grandmother instantly knew that Odam had an eye problem and became very concerned. She decided to bring him to a hospital in Phnom Penh. That hospital did not specialize in children's eye care though, so the doctor advised them to go to Angkor Children's Hospital (AHC) in Siem Reap.

Upon arrival at AHC, the eye specialist diagnosed Odam with congenital cataract in both eyes. After a series of consultations and check-ups, AHC's Ophthalmologist, Dr. Phara, advised that Odam undergo cataract surgeries on both eyes.

After Odam's first surgery on his left eye was conducted successfully, the doctor advised the grandmother to bring Odam for regular follow-up visits to monitor his visual acuity and healing. The doctors and nurses were very happy with the result of his first surgery. *"His left eye has improved a lot and it is also expected that there will be great result for the other side"* said Dr Phara. Three months later, Odam's grandmother brought him back to AHC's eye clinic for the second surgery on his right eye.

Odam's grandmother hopes Odam has great sight in his future. She said, *"I feel very glad that I was advised to come to AHC and it is a really good hospital for children. I will introduce other people in my village to bring their children here."* She feels that with good vision, her grandson will have a new life. *"My grandson's vision is very important. He depends on us, his grandparents, so I want him to do well on his education and have a good job for himself in the future before I am no longer able to support him."*

Sahu – Indore, India (HVD)

Sahu lives in Khargone with her son and her son's wife who both work as farmers. Sahu earns money to help the family by finding odd jobs in her village. However, as time went on she was unable to find jobs that she could do. She was suffering from an eye problem, which affected her ability to work and earn money.

One day, another community member told her about an eye hospital that was not too far and might be able to help her. Sahu went to the hospital and was diagnosed with cataract. Although she did not have money, the hospital was able to support the costs of her surgery. Following the surgery, she could see perfectly. She is now home again, helping her son and his wife, as well as doing what she can to earn money to support the family. Today, she finds great satisfaction being able to once again contribute to the wellbeing of her family.

