



WORLD SIGHT DAY 2021 REPORT

PREPARED BY THE SEVA FOUNDATION
SEPTEMBER 2022

CAMPAIGN SUMMARY

According to the World Health Organization, globally, at least 2.2 billion people live with a vision impairment or blindness, nearly one-third of the world's population. Of these, one billion have a vision impairment that could have been prevented or has not been addressed. The vast majority, 90% of people with vision loss, live in low- and middle-income countries. Almost 60% of people who are blind are women and girls. A life without clear vision often becomes a life devoid of freedom, independence, and dignity. For a person in the developing world, it can be catastrophic. Those without family or friends to care for them have a very difficult time with daily activities. It's nearly impossible to work, feed yourself, or meet your basic needs.

Through the collaboration of Seva Foundation, Focusing Philanthropy, and your support, we're changing that landscape.

In 2021, a major milestone for Seva Foundation and Focusing Philanthropy was reached: 10 years of working together to bring eye care to people who need it most. In recognition of this milestone, the 2021 campaign committed to an ambitious goal of raising \$1,000,000.

CAMPAIGN IMPACT

Through our partnership together, Seva Foundation and Focusing Philanthropy raised the largest amount to date of any campaign - \$964,706 - just shy of our goal. This report gives a snapshot of what you helped achieve in recognition of World Sight Day 2021!

PROJECTS FUNDED

TOTAL SURGERIES	ADULT SURGERIES	PEDIATRIC SURGERIES	PEDIATRIC SCREENINGS	RETINOPATHY OF PREMATURITY (ROP)	EQUIPMENT
10,000	9,000	1,000	250,000	286 babies screened, 15 treated	See equipment table in this report
Funds Distributed	\$450,000	\$150,000	\$250,000	\$14,706	\$100,000

Cover Image: Under Dr. Levi Kandeke's leadership, CTSOE, our partner in Burundi, organized an event to provide free surgery to the community in celebration of World Sight Day 2021. To their surprise, there was an overwhelming turnout, and they were able to provide surgery to more than 50 people.



2021 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

90 hospitals across 18 countries participated in this year's campaign!

SIGHT SAVING SURGERIES PERFORMED

Thanks to the World Sight Day 2021 campaign, people in **18 countries** around the world received critical eye surgery and clinics were provided with vital equipment to make diagnosis and treatment possible on an ongoing basis. Despite the continued challenges of COVID-19, Seva and our partners performed the surgeries we set out to accomplish as a part of this campaign. Seva prioritized the safety of partner staff and patients when providing surgeries. As a result, some hospitals completed fewer surgeries than initially targeted. Seva worked with its network of partners to reallocate surgeries within regions to accomplish our overall target of 9,000 adult surgeries and 1,000 pediatric surgeries.



2021 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS CONT'D.

TABLE HIGHLIGHTING SURGICAL COMPLETED

COUNTRY	SURGERIES COMPLETED					
	AF	AM	TOTAL ADULTS	CF	CM	TOTAL KIDS
Bangladesh	469	431	900			0
Benin			0			0
Burundi	38	49	87			0
Cambodia	736	464	1200	133	172	305
Dominican Republic	8	2	10			0
Guatemala	55	45	100	10	5	15
Haiti	4	6	10			0
India	2137	2013	4150	65	85	150
Malawi			0	68	92	160
Mexico	55	45	100			0
Nepal	845	755	1600			0
Nicaragua	7	3	10			0
Pakistan	362	338	700			0
Paraguay	6	14	20			0
Peru	27	23	50			0
Tanzania	20	18	38	57	63	120
Uganda	14	11	25	96	154	250
TOTAL	4,783	4,217	9,000	429	571	1,000

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

2021 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS CONT'D.

EQUIPMENT

The equipment acquired through this campaign allowed Seva and its partners to move closer to achieving universal access to eye care. Investments focused on bringing care to overlooked communities and allowing specialized services to become available on an ongoing basis. Partners across six countries benefited from investments in critical equipment, including at hospitals not previously supported through our Equipment Campaign with Focusing Philanthropy. The following table displays the estimated human impact.

ESTIMATED HUMAN IMPACT FROM EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION

COUNTRY	EQUIPMENT	ANTICIPATED LIFETIME YEARS	UNIT NUMBER	UNIT COST	TOTAL ESTIMATED PEOPLE SERVED	PRICE PER PERSON SERVED
US (New Mexico) – Native Nations	Autorefractor	5	1	\$15,000	600	\$25
Cambodia	Cataract Sets	2	12	\$660	11520	\$0.69
Nepal	A scan	5	3	\$5,000	10,740	\$0.47
Nepal	AB Scan	5	1	\$15,500	10,140	\$1.53
India	Slit Lamp	15	1	\$1,800	24,840	\$0.07
India	Semi-Automatic Ethylene Oxide Gas Sterilizer	5	1	\$2,400	8,280	\$0.29
Dominican Republic	NIDEK Green Laser	7	1	\$18,900	21,000	\$1.54
Peru	Equipment toward a mobile unit (including ophthalmic unit w/ table, auto-refractor, non-contact tonometer, indirect ophthalmoscope)	7	1	\$23,480	21,000	\$1.12

REACHING INFANTS AND CHILDREN WITH EYE CARE

As a child grows, 80% of what they learn is processed visually. Good vision is critical to a child's ability to participate in and benefit from educational and social activities, which allows them to acquire skills needed to be successful at work as adults. Stigma caused by poor eyesight or eyes that appear different from others often results in children skipping or dropping out of school or feeling socially isolated. Restoring sight is one of the most cost-effective interventions to reduce poverty, and that starts with getting an education.

The true impact of COVID-19 on children's development and education will not be known for years to come. One significant impact has been the increased difficulty in ensuring children receive critical healthcare, including vaccinations and eye screenings. Seva and its partners screened more than 300,000 children the year before the pandemic. That dropped more than 65% at the height of the pandemic due to school closures, where the majority of children's screenings occurred pre-COVID. While it has become more difficult to reach children, Seva and our partners have continued to improvise and introduce new ways to screen children. These include door-to-door household screenings, closer coordination with local health posts, use of social media, and information campaigns targeted at children and their families.

This year we saw an increase in the number of children screened over the previous year, but it remained below our overall target. By December, we had screened 81,238 children. In the remaining six months of the project, we saw an additional 105,957 children, bringing the total to 187,195 children screened in all. This is lower than our original target to screen 250,000 children. Seva and its partners will continue screening the remaining 62,805 children between now and the end of December 2022 to achieve our target.

SPECIAL FOCUS ON RETINOPATHY OF PREMATUREITY

Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) is a heart-breaking disease that causes blindness in premature babies. It occurs when they are administered too much oxygen in the incubator, which can be highly toxic to blood vessels, including those in the retina. If a baby with ROP isn't treated in time, they risk permanently losing their sight or living with partial vision loss.

Fortunately, we can prevent this development by properly screening premature babies at risk of developing ROP. Through this World Sight Day campaign, Seva partnered with Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital in Madhya Pradesh, India, to strengthen its ROP screening program. Through this collaboration, our partner has already screened 286 babies across three districts in Madhya Pradesh, and 15 babies received follow-up care for damaged blood vessels due to ROP.

PATIENT STORIES – WORLD SIGHT DAY 2021

The impact of the World Sight Day campaign via Seva and Focusing Philanthropy's partnership is best seen through patient stories. Restoring a person's sight profoundly impacts the patient, their family, and community for decades to come.



SHANGLA DISTRICT, PAKISTAN

Younas, a 12-year-old student at Government High School in Shangla District, Pakistan, was identified with cataract in both eyes during a free eye camp in his village. Up to this point, he kept his vision problems to himself due to the stigma around disabilities. His failing vision impacted his schoolwork because he could not see the blackboard and relied on copying from his peers. He held his books close to his eyes to read, which gave him headaches. After keeping these issues to himself for so long, it was a relief when the eye camp staff referred him to Tehsil Eye Care Hospital Buner of CHEF International for a free operation. Now, with his restored sight, Younas is slowly regaining his confidence. During follow-up visits, Younas told the health counselor that after surgery, he felt relieved because he could play games and help his mother in the kitchen. His teachers noticed an improvement in his behavior and grades as well. Younas is so happy to be able to see again.

PATIENT STORIES – WORLD SIGHT DAY 2021 CONT'D.



BATTAMBANG PROVINCE, CAMBODIA

SUOR is 64 years old and lives with her son at Boeng Cheng Village in Battambang Province, Cambodia, about 18 km from the Battambang Eye Unit. Her son supports her financially by growing cassava and rice. Two years ago, Suor noticed her vision begin to blur, so she went to a village medicine shop and bought eye drops. She hoped her eye condition would improve, but her condition worsened over the next two years. She was fortunate that her son continued to look after her. Due to the pandemic, she could not get an eye examination at Battambang Eye Unit. Finally, on March 21, 2022, the village office announced that anyone with eye problems could come for an eye screening at Snoeng Health Center, hosted by a Seva community field worker. Suor was overjoyed by the news and graciously participated in the eye screening. The field worker provided a provisional diagnosis of cataract in both eyes and referred her to Battambang Eye Unit. When she arrived, the ophthalmologist examined her eyes and officially diagnosed her with cataracts. The ophthalmologist said Suor would first need surgery on her right eye and then the left one once the right was fully recovered. After her first surgery, she was anxious as to whether she would see or not. When they removed the eyepatch, she was relieved that she could see well. She exclaimed, “I am very happy that I have better vision. I feel like I have a new life. I am confident that I will join social and religious events again. I do not need to burden my son; he can do his job now. I want to say thank you very much to Seva and Battambang Eye Unit that provided my eyesight restoration.”

PATIENT STORIES – WORLD SIGHT DAY 2021 CONT'D.



QUERETARO, MEXICO

PEDRITO is a three-year-old boy from Mexico. When he was one year old, his parents noticed something was not right about his development, so they brought him to Queretaro-based Instituto Mexicano de Oftalmologia (IMO). Pedrito was born prematurely, and the doctor told his parents that he had suffered visual impairment due to retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). With his considerable loss of vision, he could not carry out daily activities such as: walking, playing, going to school, identifying objects, and even eating. Pedrito had no coordination. He was afraid to move from one place to another and of contact with people. He cried all the time. For the next two years, Pedrito underwent special care with follow-up visits, different treatments, and visual aids. Fortunately, after several consultations, they began visual stimulation. Pedrito acquired skills that now allow him to carry out activities independently. His family supports him by adapting things from everyday life to high contrast so that Pedro can see them. After treatment and wearing glasses, his vision improved, and he has become happier and more sociable.

PATIENT STORIES – WORLD SIGHT DAY 2021 CONT'D.



HYDERABAD, TELANGANA, INDIA

YASARAPU is 62 years old and works as a watchman in an apartment complex. He and his wife have one son and two daughters who are grown. In the last year, his vision worsened until he was unable to work anymore. He learned of a community outreach camp through a neighbor and went to have his eyes examined. They diagnosed cataracts and referred him to the hospital for surgery. His surgery was successful! He was so excited to be able to see the doctor's face and was able to return to work and provide for his family again.



TELANGANA, INDIA

MALOVATH is 68 years old and lives in Warangal District in Telangana, India. She experienced vision loss over the last four years. The visual discomfort caused her to depend on her son and daughter-in-law for even the smallest of things, such as picking out her clothes, getting a glass of water, and going to the washroom. One day, her son learned of an outreach camp and took her to the village where it was being held. The result of the examination was a cataract in both eyes. The outreach team took her to the base hospital, where she received surgery the next day. Her operation was successful! A month later, she returned for a follow-up appointment and received a pair of glasses - which brought her vision back to normal. She is immensely happy and satisfied with her restored vision.

ANNEX: HISTORY OF SEVA FOUNDATION AND FOCUSING PHILANTHROPY CAMPAIGNS

- **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, essential equipment, and surgical supplies.
- **IN 2016**, **\$500,454** supported 8,215 surgeries and the purchase of vital equipment.
- **IN 2017**, **\$519,172** provided 8,345 surgeries and \$75,000 for ophthalmic equipment and surgical supplies.
- **IN 2018**, the campaign raised **\$625,634** to provide 10,482 sight-saving surgeries across 16 countries, including 700 pediatric surgeries and vital equipment.
- **IN 2019**, the campaign raised **\$865,391**. The funds supported 11,688 eye surgeries (including 700 pediatric surgeries), the procurement of essential equipment for eye clinics, and introduced a new program dedicated to addressing the growing incidence of pediatric blindness in premature infants due to retinopathy of prematurity (ROP).
- **IN 2020**, the ninth year of the campaign, **\$823,237** was raised to provide 9,600 adults and children with free surgeries to restore and preserve their vision, plus vital equipment and support for the ROP program. This total surpassed the original campaign goal of \$585,000, providing an additional 1,800 free surgeries.
- **WITH THE 2021 CAMPAIGN**, the combined total raised over these ten campaigns is more than **\$5.4M**, providing 78,000 free surgeries to adults and children and critical equipment to support our partner hospitals to provide services for more people each year. We are also very grateful for the support of the new ROP program targeting preterm babies that will help reduce the risk of permanent blindness as they enter the world.