

2025 Annual Report

THE RIPPLE EFFECTS OF YOUR SUPPORT

How eye health care helps children learn,
adults earn and seniors retain independence



OUR MISSION

To prevent blindness and restore sight.

OUR VISION

The elimination of avoidable vision loss.

OUR VALUES

Equity • Innovation • Citizenship • Compassion • Excellence

On the cover: Amanuel, Bereket and Amen pose after having their eyes screened at school. They took part in a World Sight Day school eye health initiative that screened 1,200 students in Bahir Dar City, Ethiopia.

THE RIPPLE EFFECTS OF YOUR SUPPORT IN 2025

“At Operation Eyesight, we are strengthening eye health systems that do more than restore sight. They help children learn, parents provide and seniors live with independence, dignity and hope.”

– Ivan Zenar, Interim President and CEO



I am honoured to step into the role of interim president and CEO of Operation Eyesight, with deep respect for our history, our global team and the leadership of Kashinath Bhoosnurmath, whose commitment helped advance this mission for many years. As a former board member, I have long admired the lasting impact of Operation Eyesight's work, and I am grateful for the opportunity to help carry it forward during this time of transition.

Most of all, I want to thank you. Because of your support, sight is being restored, barriers are being removed and lives are being changed in ways that reach far beyond one person. A child can return to school and learn with confidence. A parent can work, care for their family and contribute to their community. A senior can regain independence, dignity and the joy of seeing loved ones clearly again.

In 2025, your generosity helped Operation Eyesight complete 204 community eye health projects to date, building sustainable local eye care systems that now reach an estimated 8 to 10 million people.

Behind every number in this report is a person, a family and a future made brighter through access to eye health care.

Thank you for standing with us and helping more people see clearly, live fully and look to the future with hope.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Zenar'.

Ivan Zenar
Interim President and CEO
Operation Eyesight Universal



Girls in Nepal study together after receiving prescription eyeglasses through a school eye health program, a simple intervention that helps children see clearly, stay engaged in school and build brighter futures.

AVOIDABLE VISION LOSS: A GROWING – BUT SOLVABLE – CHALLENGE

Currently, far too many people are living with vision loss that could be prevented or treated, impacting their quality of life. Today, 1.1 billion people are affected, a number projected to rise to 1.8 billion by 2050 without greater investment in eye health.¹

Yet 90 per cent of vision loss is avoidable and can often be prevented or treated with simple, cost-effective care such as an eye exam, prescription eyeglasses or cataract surgery.

The ripple effects of eye health care

Without eye care, people can lose years of learning, income and independence, especially in low- and middle-income countries where most vision loss occurs. With timely care, the benefits can be immediate:

- A child can learn up to 50 per cent more²
- An adult can earn up to 30 per cent more³
- A senior can stay independent and healthy
- Women and girls gain more opportunities⁴

These benefits extend beyond one person to strengthen families, local economies and community well-being.

The cost of inaction is equally far-reaching: vision loss results in an estimated US\$411 billion a year in lost global productivity,⁵ while addressing it could unlock US\$447 billion in the global economy.⁶

Most avoidable vision loss can be addressed through three simple steps: eye exams, diagnosis and treatment such as eyeglasses or cataract surgery. These services are effective, affordable and scalable. With the right support, they can reach those most in need.

Yet the need remains urgent, especially in underserved communities where distance, cost and limited local services still keep too many people from getting care.

¹ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Global data. Available at: View Vision Atlas global data.

² International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. New research shows children who don't get the glasses they need learn half as much as classmates. Oct. 10, 2024.

³ Global economic productivity losses from vision impairment and blindness Marques, Ana Patricia et al. eClinicalMedicine, Volume 35, 100852



Ministry of Health officials and stakeholders celebrate the declaration of Musiem Village as Avoidable Blindness-Free, the culmination of a community eye health project that trained local workers, screened households, referred patients and connected people to treatment. This milestone reflects the ripple effect of donor support: healthier families today, stronger local systems tomorrow and lasting protection for sight.

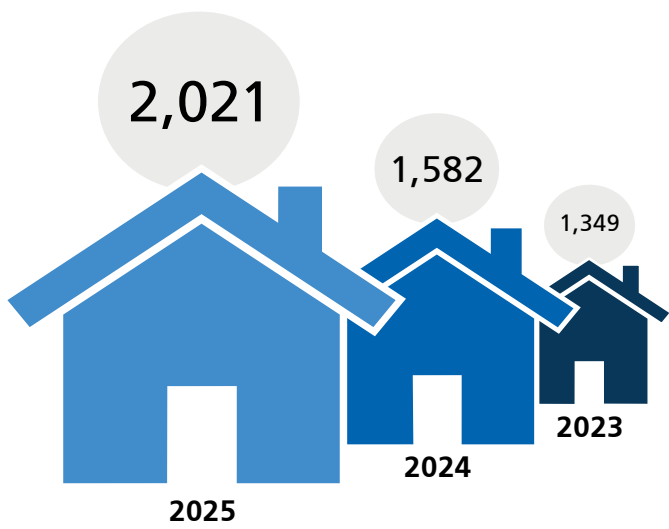
OUR SOLUTION: COMMUNITY EYE CARE SYSTEMS FOR ALL

At its heart, our solution is simple: make quality eye care easier to reach for everyone and build local systems that last.

Through hospital partnerships, nearby vision centres and trained community health workers, your support helps people get screening, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up close to where they live, work and study.

This approach restores sight today while strengthening the local systems families and communities rely on for generations.

Our Avoidable Blindness-Free approach leaves no one behind by building community-led eye care systems that identify needs early, connect people to treatment and strengthen local capacity for lasting impact.



By the end of 2025, we have declared a total of 2,021 villages as Avoidable Blindness-Free.

⁴ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). Vision Atlas: Global data. Available at: IAPB Vision Atlas global data. Accessed June 22, 2026.
⁵ Burton et al., "Lancet Global Health Commission on Global Eye Health: Vision Beyond 2020," The Lancet Global Health, vol. 9, no. 4, pp. e489–e551, 2021.
⁶ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), Seva Foundation and The Fred Hollows Foundation. The Value of Vision: The case for investing in eye health (Full report). Accessed June 22, 2026.

YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING TO ELIMINATE AVOIDABLE VISION LOSS

By the end of 2025, we had completed 204 community eye health projects. Through this work, we not only treated avoidable vision loss but also partnered with communities to build sustainable eye health systems that will endure for generations.

204

Community eye health projects
completed by the end of 2025

Each serves

40,000 - 50,000

people depending on geography
and local factors

BETWEEN 8 -10 MILLION

people now have access to local eye health care systems

Screening

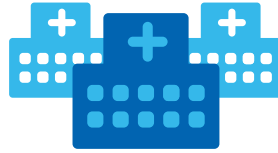
1

Lasting impact

4

Referral

Treatment



IMPROVED HOSPITALS

Provide sight-restoring surgery and advanced care
Equip and train local teams
Support surrounding communities and vision centres



LOCAL VISION CENTRES

Provide eye exams and prescription eyeglasses
Offer trusted, ongoing care in the community



COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

Community members connect families to care close to home
Identify eye problems early
Help people take the first step toward treatment



BETTER SERVED COMMUNITIES

Eye care becomes part of everyday health
Local systems continue long after a project ends



A Maasai woman takes part in a community eye screening in Kenya, where access to eye care helps protect sight, support herding livelihoods and reduce the risk of blinding eye diseases, such as trachoma. These benefits strengthen independence, family well-being and community resilience.

SUSTAINABLE EYE CARE: SYSTEMS THAT LAST

Our approach connects outreach, primary health care, schools, hospitals and evidence so people can be identified earlier, treated sooner and supported through follow-up. With your help, this builds stronger systems for families and communities long after one person's sight is restored.

Community eye health

We train frontline workers to go door-to-door and connect people to nearby care, especially women, children and seniors, all of who face the greatest barriers to eye care. This helps people access care earlier, before avoidable vision loss affects learning, livelihoods or independence.

Hospital strengthening

We strengthen hospitals and vision centres so diagnosis, surgery and follow-up are available locally. With better equipment, trained staff and stronger referral pathways, more people can access sight-saving care when they need it.



Integrated eye health

We connect eye care with primary health care, maternal and child health, and clean water because preventable vision loss is often linked to broader health challenges. Addressing these together creates healthier communities and stronger foundations for long-term well-being.



Disease control

We tackle the leading causes of avoidable vision loss through screening, referral, surgery, eyeglasses and school eye health. When sight is protected or restored, children can learn, adults can work and seniors can live independently, creating benefits beyond the patient.



Research and advocacy

We use evidence to strengthen programs, improve planning and influence policy so more people can access quality eye care long term. Stronger systems help those benefits reach entire communities.

2025 AT A GLANCE: GROWING REACH AND IMPACT

Your support is helping more people access eye care closer to home, with benefits far beyond restored sight. Each community eye health project helps children thrive, adults earn a livelihood, seniors maintain dignity and families build healthier futures.

Because of your support, more people can access quality eye care close to home. Two years into our 2024-2028 Global Strategy, we are expanding reach, building local capacity

and raising awareness so families can get care sooner. **In 2025, with our partners, we screened 1,790,349 people and provided treatment for 640,878.**

We are making progress towards our vision of eliminating avoidable vision loss. In 2025, we completed our 204th community eye health project. This means that **now between 8 and 10 million people have access to sustainable local eye health care.**

Global strategy scorecard

People screened for eye conditions 1,790,349 2028 target: 2.1M/year 2024: 2,360,895 2023: 2,453,654	Established vision centres 229 (cumulative) 2028 target: 255 total 2024: 216 2023: 196	Eyeglasses distributed 335,953 2028 target: 315,000/year 2024: 272,911 2023: 275,800	Eye surgeries performed 305,325 2028 target: 225,000/year 2024: 280,982 2023: 232,767	Avoidable Blindness-Free villages 2,021 (cumulative) 2028 target: 2,900 total 2024: 1,582 2023: 1,349
Water boreholes drilled/rehabilitated 599 (cumulative) 2028 target: 705 total 2025: 88 2024: 129 2023: 25	Countries of intervention 10 2028 target: 15 2024: 10 2023: 9	Countries fundraising 7 2028 target: 7 2024: 4 2023: 2	Active partner hospitals 77 2028 target: 90 total 2024: 65 2023: 60	Annual global revenue \$6,910,912 CAD* 2028 target: \$16.8M/year 2024: \$9.46M 2023: \$5.51M

**Raised through Operation Eyesight Canada and other charitable entities such as the Operation Eyesight India Trust. The financial information on page 36 is for Operation Eyesight Canada only.*

Learnings

In 2025, we again saw that the most lasting impact happens when eye care is local, connected and community-led. Results were strongest where outreach, facilities, school screening, primary health care and community awareness worked together to help people identify vision problems early and access the care they need close to home.

We also saw that access depends on follow-up. Transport, distance, staffing gaps or service disruptions can prevent people from completing care. Stronger counselling, better data and closer coordination help more people reach treatment, while tracking progress across countries and programs helps us identify gaps and strengthen our approach over time.

GLOBAL PRESENCE: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO EYE CARE

Joana Annobil from Ghana's Awutu Senya District saw vision loss affecting her patients and chose to act.

GHANA



In Maskwacis Cree Nation, Alberta, a school vision clinic delivered 400+ free eye exams and eyeglasses in 2025.

CANADA



The Liberia Eye Center in Monrovia helps patients regain sight and return to daily life through cataract surgery.

LIBERIA



School eye health programs are helping students see clearly, improve learning through clear vision and reach their full potential.

KENYA





Yabebal was struggling at school due to a cataract. A school screening changed everything.

ETHIOPIA



For years, Jamku Bai lived with blurred vision and fear of cataract surgery, until a village screening camp changed her life.

INDIA



Born with cataracts, Zara struggled at school until a screening led to sight-restoring surgery.

NEPAL



When cataracts threatened Mohammad's independence, an eyesight campaign helped restore his sight and confidence.

BANGLADESH



A cataract kept Doris Mpundu from fully living her life – until community outreach led to sight-restoration.

ZAMBIA



At Mzimba South District Hospital in Malawi, cataract surgeon Richard Nyirenda is bringing high-quality eye care closer to home.

MALAWI



COUNTRY REPORT – AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Eye care needs in Ethiopia

Ethiopia has a high burden of vision loss, with **an estimated 6.2 per cent prevalence of visual impairment** across the population,⁷ driven by avoidable conditions such as cataract and uncorrected refractive error, which is often treated with prescription eyeglasses or surgery.

How the Ethiopia program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Ethiopia in 2018. Working with hospital, vision centre and community partners, the program helps prevent blindness and restore sight through outreach, school eye health, stronger connections to care and better links between eye care and the broader health system.

What you helped support in 2025

In 2025, we strengthened local eye care through refreshed ophthalmic training, expanded community screening and outreach, and community health worker training to help identify eye problems early and guide people

into care. **A major milestone came when six villages in Ayer Tena Kebele were recognized by the Ministry of Health as the first Avoidable Blindness-Free villages in the country.**

The program also linked eye care with maternal and child health, while disease-control activities expanded access to cataract and non-cataract surgeries, including an outreach surgical camp in Durbetie for people who could not afford surgery or travel long distances. Partner hospitals such as Tibebe Ghion and Debre Markos also expanded specialized services for conditions such as retina disease, retinopathy of prematurity and glaucoma.

The year also showed the value of evidence and adaptability. Ongoing research is how eyeglasses affect student learning and participation, while Ministry of Health recognition affirmed the program's impact.

Safety risks and travel limitations made field monitoring harder, reinforcing how much progress depends on strong local partnerships and flexible implementation.

Yabebal is a 13-year-old boy from Ayer Tena Kebele, Ethiopia. Bright and hardworking, he loved school. But a growing cataract began to steal his sight, his confidence and his place among his peers.

As his vision worsened, classmates mocked him, turning school into a place of fear. He struggled to read, relying on teachers to read exam questions aloud, and quietly worried about his future.

When told surgery would cost more than his family could ever afford, Yabebal refused to

give up. He began walking long distances to sell handmade chewing sticks, hoping to save enough for treatment. But the money went toward food, and hope slipped further away.

Everything changed during a school eye screening. Yabebal was diagnosed and quickly referred for free cataract surgery. The next day, his sight was restored.

Now, Yabebal can see clearly again. But the impact goes far beyond vision. He has returned to school with confidence, free from stigma and ready to learn.

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 7,063 G 973	M 9,160 B 1,228	18,424	14,038	15,161
Students screened	G 6,515	B 5,997	12,512	4,442	3,677
Door-to-door screenings	W 17,643 G 3,257	M 12,522 B 3,386	36,808	14,030	12,052
Surgeries	W 667 G 9	M 692 B 11	1,379	1,375	2,218
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 626 G 2	M 746 B 0	1,374	400	2,219
ABFV declarations cumulative			6	–	–
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

*ABFV stands for Avoidable Blindness-Free Village
⁷ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Ethiopia country data (based on VLEG/GBD 2020 estimates), accessed May, 2026.



COUNTRY REPORT – AFRICA

GHANA

Eye care needs in Ghana

Ghana continues to face significant eye health needs, with **an estimated 3.2 million people living with vision loss**.⁸ Approximately 230,000 people are blind. The leading causes, cataract, uncorrected refractive error and glaucoma, are largely preventable or treatable, yet access to care remains uneven, particularly outside major urban centres.

How the Ghana program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Ghana in 2006. In collaboration with health and education partners, the program helps prevent blindness and restore sight through community screening, stronger facilities, more trained eye care workers, school eye health and better links between eye care and local health services.

What you helped support in 2025

In 2025, more people in Ghana were able to get eye care through stronger hospitals, community projects and school-based screening. Partner hospitals, a vision centre and a polyclinic improved service quality, while Watborg Eye Services continued to train resident ophthalmologists to help grow the eye care workforce for the future.

The year also brought important lessons about what it takes to expand care well. Work expanded to Gomoa East District, research on refractive error among school children in Central Region was completed, and stakeholder engagement continued around a national blindness and visual impairment study. Together, these efforts helped build the evidence, partnerships and local support needed for stronger eye care long term.

A cholera outbreak in Effutu Municipal, optometrist shortages and road construction affecting access to Watborg Eye Services all showed how public health disruptions, staffing gaps and infrastructure can limit access to care.

Joana began her career as a general nurse, caring for patients with many different health needs. After receiving specialized training in ophthalmic nursing with our support, her focus shifted entirely to eye care.

Today, she works at a polyclinic in Ghana, where her training allows her to identify eye conditions early and provide targeted care. What stands out most in her work is what happens after treatment begins. Many patients come with fear or hesitation, often influenced by common myths about eye health. Some believe glasses weaken vision, while others think children cannot have eye problems. By

taking time to explain, Joana helps patients understand their condition and accept care.

This has led to real changes in people's lives. Patients who once struggled with poor vision are now able to move around safely, return to daily activities and care for their families. Others who were unsure about treatment go on to receive surgery or glasses that restore their sight and independence.

Her work is shaped by experience. Joana often thinks about her grandmother, who lost her sight. With the knowledge she has today, she believes that loss might have been prevented.

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 12,574 G 3,018	M 7,357 B 2,084	25,033	19,342	15,161
Students screened	G 5,219	B 4,728	9,947	42,735	3,677
Door-to-door screenings	W 12,246 G 7,101	M 8,144 B 6,737	34,228	21,512	14,821
Surgeries	W 1,487 G 15	M 1,054 B 10	2,566	1,602	2,153
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 1,504 G 373	M 668 B 171	2,716	3,081	2,643
ABFV declarations cumulative			31	–	–
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

⁸ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Ghana country data (based on VLEG/GBD 2020 estimates), accessed May, 2026



COUNTRY REPORT – AFRICA

KENYA

Eye care needs in Kenya

Kenya continues to face significant eye health needs, with **an estimated 3.9 million people living with vision loss**,⁹ driven by cataract, uncorrected refractive error and glaucoma, and compounded by uneven access to timely care in underserved counties.

How the Kenya program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Kenya in 2007. Working with county health systems and partners, the program helps prevent blindness and restore sight through frontline training, stronger local eye care services, school eye health programs and referral support in underserved areas.

What you helped support in 2025

In Kenya, stronger county eye care systems helped bring treatment closer to where people live. Repairs to equipment in government facilities, improvements to patient space at

Miteitei Eye Clinic and support for four local clinics in underserved communities all made it easier for more people to get care sooner.

Community health promoters supported door-to-door screening and referrals in multiple counties, while projects with Kisii, Kajiado and Nandi helped expand access to treatment. In Trans Nzoia, bringing eye care into local health services helped identify problems earlier and connect more people to treatment.

The year also brought progress in treatment, school eye health and policy. Hospitals and outreach teams supported cataract and non-cataract surgeries, school screening in Kajiado reached hundreds of thousands of children, and trachoma work in Narok South surpassed its treatment target. The completion of the Vision Impact Project in Kajiado and launch of a county Eye Health Strategic Plan and Policy showed the value of long-term partnership. Work in hard-to-reach areas reinforced the need for county collaboration, transport, same-day screening and treatment.

Students at Kiserian Primary School in Kajiado County, Kenya, proudly show off their “new shades,” prescription eyeglasses fitted with transition lenses. These photochromatic lenses automatically darken when exposed to sunlight and return to normal indoors when UV light is removed. By reducing glare and protecting young eyes from harmful ultraviolet rays, they help prevent eye strain and conditions such as cataracts and other vision problems later in life.

Each year, thousands of students receive prescription eyeglasses through our School Eye Health Programs, giving them the ability to see clearly and fully participate in learning.

Clear vision plays a critical role in a child’s ability to read, engage with teachers and build confidence in school. Through this work, children are supported not only with treatment but with the tools they need to learn, thrive and reach their full potential.

In 2025, our school eye health programs screened 229,362 students across all countries, provided 8,800 pairs of eyeglasses and supported 276 student eye surgeries. Together, these interventions demonstrate the impact of early detection and school-based care in improving educational outcomes and long-term eye health for children.

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 71,815 G 26,786	M 56,575 B 22,009	177,185	169,648	78,839
Students screened	G 29,109	B 30,365	59,474	153,865	69,891
Door-to-door screenings	W 199,532 G 105,770	M 177,679 B 94,187	577,168	267,314	274,306
Surgeries	W 5,057 G 588	M 4,668 B 640	10,953	8,181	7,468
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 7,849 G 74	M 5,689 B 54	13,666	7,711	8,794
ABFV declarations cumulative			104	–	–
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

⁹ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Kenya country data accessed May, 2026.



COUNTRY REPORT – AFRICA

LIBERIA

Eye care needs in Liberia

Liberia faces significant eye health challenges, with **an estimated 0.48 million people living with vision loss**,¹⁰ driven by cataract, uncorrected refractive error and limited access to timely, affordable treatment, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

How the Liberia program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Liberia in 2024. The program supports partners to strengthen surgical services, expand outreach and screening, and help underserved communities get timely care through stronger connections to treatment.

The program also helped strengthen local capacity by supporting ophthalmology residency training and staff development for vision technicians and specialty nurses. In a context where access to services can be limited, this investment is helping build a stronger foundation for sustainable eye care, so more people can receive timely treatment close to home and within their own communities.

What you helped support in 2025

In Liberia, screening, surgery and specialist eye care became easier to access through our partner, the Liberia Eye Center at JFK Medical Center in Monrovia. From January to August, the centre provided outpatient screening to thousands of people and expanded specialist services, strengthened by the support of ophthalmologists in India.

People received eye screenings, got answers about their vision and were connected to the treatment they needed. Those in need of surgery were referred for surgery, while others received prescription eyeglasses, helping them regain confidence, manage daily life and reconnect with family and community.

In Liberia, we also invested in long-term local capacity through ophthalmology residency training and staff development for vision technicians and specialty nursing.

In 2025, we saw that trust, counselling and follow-up matter. Patients are more likely to accept treatment and complete care when they can rely on a strong local centre.

For years Esther, from rural Liberia, slowly lost her sight due to cataracts in both eyes. As her vision worsened, it became unsafe for her to move alone. She stopped farming, her main source of income, and became dependent on family members for daily care.

Simple tasks such as moving around her home, preparing meals and joining community life required support. Her loss of independence also affected her family, who reduced work and daily activities to care for her.

Everything changed after a community eye screening, where Esther's cataracts were

identified and she was referred to the Liberia Eye Center at John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Monrovia for free surgery.

After surgery, Esther regained vision and independence. Now, she can move freely, resume household tasks and take part in community life again.

The impact extends to her family as well, easing caregiving responsibilities and allowing them to return to work. Esther's story shows that cataract surgery restores not only sight, but also independence, dignity and lasting wellbeing for families.

Three-year results

2023 data not available for Liberia

INDICATOR	2025	2024	2023
Total people screened	19,060	20,043	–
Door-to-door screenings	19,060	–	–
Surgeries	2,613	1,775	–
Eyeglasses dispensed	–	5,949	–

**Eye health care services are provided through our partner LV Prasad Eye Institute in Liberia.*

¹⁰ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Liberia country data accessed May, 2026.



COUNTRY REPORT – AFRICA

MALAWI

Eye care needs in Malawi

Malawi faces significant eye health challenges, with **an estimated 1.68 million people living with vision loss**,¹¹ caused by avoidable conditions such as cataract, refractive error and infections, compounded by limited access to care and a shortage of trained professionals.

How the Malawi program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Malawi in 2022. By partnering with government and local partners, the program strengthens facilities, expands community screening and referrals, and connects eye care more closely with local health services.

What you helped support in 2025

In Malawi, more people were able to get care closer to home in 2025. The new Chitipa Eye Department and stronger hospital services in the north made diagnosis and treatment more accessible, while a biometric machine for cataract surgery and support for pediatric surgery at Mzuzu Central Hospital brought

specialized care within reach for families who would otherwise face access barriers.

Community eye health remained central to the work. Door-to-door surveys helped identify people earlier, while vision centres screened large numbers of patients and awareness activities reached communities with eye health information. Frontline workers and primary health care staff were trained, and the program also linked children, pregnant women and lactating mothers to immunization, antenatal and postnatal services.

The year also brought progress in treatment, advocacy and new approaches. Community Health Workers referred people for care, cataract surgeries and eyeglass dispensing continued, and advocacy secured recruitment of ophthalmic staff, promotions for cataract surgeons and the drafting of a new national eye plan. At the same time, budget constraints, long distances between vision centres and health facilities, and the lack of an operating theatre at Chitipa District Hospital showed that service expansion must be matched by stronger infrastructure and referral support.

Richard Nyirenda, a cataract surgeon at Mzimba South District Hospital in Malawi, can now help more people receive high-quality eye care close to home.

Operation Eyesight’s support has strengthened service delivery at the facility through training for surgeons, nurses and theatre staff, along with donated medications and surgical supplies that have improved efficiency, coordination and overall care quality.

The hospital now performs an average of three cataract surgeries a day that meet World Health Organization standards, reducing

the need for patients to travel 114 kilometres to Mzuzu Central Hospital, easing the financial burden and time costs for families across the district.

“Hundreds of people have been helped through surgeries and medication, and our challenges are now minimal,” Richard says. “We hope one day to have a proper ward for patients recovering from surgery.”

The ripple effect felt by patients and families: people regain sight, return to work and daily life, and families are no longer burdened by long travel and caregiving demands.

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 69,765 G 9,611	M 46,005 B 9,648	135,029	65,384	10,074
Students screened	G 25,333	B 26,100	51,433	18,439	–
Door-to-door screenings	W 16,754 G 5,543	M 11,103 B 5,668	39,068	80,287	1,058
Surgeries	W 1,327 G 54	M 835 B 28	2,244	3,659	425
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 1,907 G 212	M 1,411 B 44	3,574	4,256	301
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

¹¹ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Malawi country data accessed May, 2026.



COUNTRY REPORT – AFRICA

ZAMBIA

Eye care needs in Zambia

Zambia continues to face significant eye health needs, with **an estimated 1.4 million people living with vision loss**, driven by cataract, uncorrected refractive error and glaucoma, and compounded by uneven access to quality care in underserved and rural communities.¹²

How the Zambia program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Zambia in 2001. Alongside government, hospital and community partners, the program expands access to quality eye care through screening, surgery, school eye health and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) initiatives that support healthier communities.

What you helped support in 2025

In Zambia, strengthened hospital and community services helped bring eye care closer to people who might otherwise have gone without it. New equipment at Maamba

General Hospital, along with hospital care, vision centres and outreach, improved access to screening and treatment in underserved communities, reducing travel barriers and encouraging earlier care-seeking. School eye health identified children with vision loss and linked them to timely treatment.

The year also saw progress in prevention and treatment. Cataract surgeries continued, dispensement of eyeglasses exceeded targets and borehole rehabilitation surpassed goals, helping reduce trachoma risk and support healthier communities. A community survey in Chikankata improved understanding of local knowledge, while partnerships supported cataract surgical camps in Nyimba and Mwami.

The year highlighted the importance of turning screening into treatment. Collaboration across hospitals, health staff, traditional leaders and District Health Offices strengthened referral pathways, while low surgical output in Lusaka and Maamba, and delays at Kanyama Level 1 Hospital, underscored the need for coordinated outreach and timely funding.

Doris Mpundu, from Zambia, lived with severe vision loss caused by cataracts for nearly four years. A widow caring for six grandchildren, she struggled with daily tasks and became increasingly isolated from community life.

In July 2025, she heard a radio announcement about a free eye screening camp in Kapiri Mposhi District and decided to seek help. With support from Operation Eyesight Zambia, she was able to travel to the camp, where doctors examined her and confirmed cataracts as the cause of her vision loss. She was immediately referred for surgery.

Following successful surgery on her right eye, performed by a team from Kitwe Teaching Eye Hospital, Doris regained clearer vision, confidence, and independence. Simple activities such as moving around her home and caring for her grandchildren became possible again without constant assistance.

She is now looking forward to surgery on her left eye and hopes to fully restore her sight. Doris says the improvement in her vision has already helped her reconnect with her church and community and has brought renewed strength to her daily life.

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 13,448 G 3,687	M 10,788 B 3,245	31,168	56,554	40,481
Students screened	G 13,388	B 11,813	25,201	25,603	3,555
Door-to-door screenings	W 10,136 G 2,997	M 7,372 B 2,676	23,181	54,986	10,829
Surgeries	W 656 G 26	M 652 B 26	1,360	1,033	913
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 2,763 G 1,790	M 2,420 B 900	7,873	5,564	2,429
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

¹² International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Zambia country data accessed May, 2026.



In 2025, a school-based vision clinic in Maskwacîs Cree Nation, Alberta, delivered more than 400 free eye exams as well as eyeglasses for students in need, helping children see clearly and learn with confidence. The pilot project showed how trust, cultural respect and community-led care can improve eye health in underserved communities.

COUNTRY REPORT – NORTH AMERICA

CANADA: PILOTING EYE CARE IN RURAL ALBERTA

Eye care needs in Canada

Canada faces eye health care gaps, particularly in underserved and remote communities, including Indigenous communities, where barriers to culturally safe, timely and accessible care persist. **Approximately 16 per cent of Canadians live in rural areas¹³ where access to specialist services is limited, while eye care providers are concentrated in urban centres, leaving some regions underserved.**¹⁴

How the Canada program responds

In 2025, we piloted eye health care approaches in underserved Alberta communities, including Indigenous communities, through partnerships grounded in trust, cultural humility and meaningful shared authority.

What you helped support in 2025

In 2025, a week-long clinic in Maskwacîs Cree Nation, Treaty 6, Alberta, provided more than 400 free eye exams as well as eyeglasses for students. The pilot showed the value of school-based, culturally relevant vision care shaped by Indigenous-led partnership and local trust.

The pilot reinforced that sustainable impact comes from community-led care, cultural respect and local capacity building. What we learn from this work will help shape future care, long-term sustainability and next steps.

In Canada, this pilot points to a more community-led, culturally grounded future for eye care in underserved communities, rooted in Indigenous-led approaches.

¹³ Statistics Canada, Population growth in Canada's rural areas, 2016 to 2021, February 9, 2022.

¹⁴ Shah et al., 2020; Canadian Institute for Health Information, Rural health care in Canada.



COUNTRY REPORT – SOUTH ASIA

BANGLADESH

Eye care needs in Bangladesh

Bangladesh faces significant eye health challenges, with **more than 26 million people living with vision loss**,¹⁵ driven by cataract and uncorrected refractive error, and compounded by gaps in access to timely, affordable care in underserved communities.

How the Bangladesh program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Bangladesh in 2023. The program works with hospital and community partners to expand access to screening, referral and treatment through vision centres, outreach and stronger links to surgical care.

What you helped support in 2025

In 2025, we were able to bring eye health care to people through partnerships with Dr. K. Zaman BNSB Eye Hospital and Symbiosis Bangladesh. Community eye health work was

delivered through four vision centres, including a new centre in Madan, helping more people access screening, referral and timely treatment in their own communities. This allowed a clearing of backlogged surgeries.

A new Cataract Surgery Project with Dr. K. Zaman BNSB Eye Hospital helped reduce cataract backlog in Haluaghat, Madarganj and Kendua, bringing sight-restoring care within reach for more people. Across the broader program, results exceeded target in service areas, including hospital and vision centre examinations, cataract surgery and eyeglasses.

The year also showed how quickly access can shrink when local outreach support is reduced. After two vision centres shifted to a model focused on technical support rather than direct funding, Community Health Volunteer support ended, reducing outreach. At the same time, reliance on one surgical partner created referral and scheduling challenges. Even so, these efforts helped more people access screening and treatment closer to home.

Mohammad Babul Mia, 65, from Kona Para in Kendua, Netrokona, is a farmer whose cataract made it impossible to work, manage daily tasks or support his family with confidence. After attending a nearby eyesight campaign, he was referred for cataract surgery that restored clearer sight and renewed his independence.

In the village of Kona Para, Kendua, Netrokona, Mohammad Babul Mia noticed his vision deteriorating over a few months, turning farming and daily life into a struggle. Poverty

meant he could not afford surgery, and he feared losing his livelihood completely.

Hope came through a local eyesight campaign, where the team from Dr. K. Zaman BNSB Eye Hospital diagnosed his cataract and arranged timely surgery. **After the operation, his vision improved significantly, allowing him to return to daily activities with renewed confidence and independence,** with further recovery still underway and continued follow-up care expected for full visual rehabilitation.

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 5,133 G 228	M 2,721 B 117	8,199	199,858	219,744
Students screened	G 4,133	B 2,828	6,961	5,843	16,067
Door-to-door screenings	W 3,164 G 767	M 3,020 B 615	7,566	27,207	24,778
Surgeries	W 22,159 G 378	M 17,521 B 413	40,471	22,792	19,726
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 26,946 G 1,520	M 21,304 B 827	50,597	21,653	17,728
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

¹⁵ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Bangladesh country data accessed May, 2026.



COUNTRY REPORT – SOUTH ASIA

INDIA

Eye care needs in India

India faces very high eye health needs despite significant progress, with **an estimated 275 million people living with vision loss**, driven by cataract and uncorrected refractive error, and ongoing gaps in equitable access to care across states and underserved communities.¹⁶

How the India program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in India in 1963. By partnering with state health systems and hospital partners, the program delivers eye care at scale through community screening, school eye health, vision centres and treatment services.

What you helped support in 2025

In India, donor support helped bring eye care within reach for large numbers of people in 2025. Through partner hospitals, vision centres, community outreach and school eye health, people were able to access screening, treatment and eyeglasses.

The year also reflected the scale and reach of India's work. Across multiple states, integrated eye care projects connected screening, surgery, school eye health and primary health care, while disease-control work expanded access to cataract services, retinopathy of prematurity screening and community-based care. Together, these efforts helped bring more coordinated care closer to the people who need it most.

Important milestones included new government and hospital partnerships, renewed collaboration with the National Health Mission in Madhya Pradesh and continued progress toward Avoidable Blindness-Free communities. This includes village declarations in Rudraprayag and hundreds of villages prepared for declaration under vision-centre-based programs.

Learnings reinforced our knowledge that strong government collaboration, local outreach and flexible implementation are essential in remote and underserved areas. This is key to reaching underserved communities effectively.

Jamku Bai, 60, from Bhagwanpura village in Udaipur, lived for years with blurred vision and fear of cataract surgery before receiving treatment through a village screening camp. Her story shows how outreach, counselling and peer encouragement can help overcome myths and connect people to life-changing care.

Like many older adults in rural communities, Jamku Bai believed common misconceptions about cataract surgery and feared treatment. As her vision worsened, daily activities became

difficult and she grew increasingly dependent on her family.

Her perspective changed after a relative underwent successful cataract surgery and encouraged her to seek care. With support from Community Health Volunteers and counselling at a local screening camp, Jamku agreed to surgery. **After treatment, her vision improved significantly, allowing her to regain confidence, independence and the ability to resume daily life.**

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 653,538 G 36,263	M 630,106 B 35,827	1,355,734	1,458,722	1,710,882
Students screened	G 29,736	B 23,290	53,026	52,893	17,115
Door-to-door screenings	W 265,485 G 51,626	M 221,896 B 56,368	595,375	831,534	715,787
Surgeries	W 110,270 G 651	M 108,218 B 1,174	220,313	223,986	182,395
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 106,520 G 6,009	M 94,784 B 3,678	210,991	202,410	200,850
ABFV Declarations (cumulative)			447	197	86
	W omen G irls	M en B oys			

¹⁶ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: India country data accessed May, 2026.



COUNTRY REPORT – SOUTH ASIA

NEPAL

Eye care needs in Nepal

Nepal continues to face significant eye health needs, with **an estimated 20.7 per cent of adults aged 50 and older experiencing vision impairment**,¹⁷ driven by cataract and uncorrected refractive error, and compounded by uneven access to care in rural communities.

How the Nepal program responds

Operation Eyesight began working in Nepal in 2016. Working with local hospital and community partners, the program helps prevent blindness and restore sight through outreach, school eye health, stronger connections to care and progress toward Avoidable Blindness-Free communities.

We focus on community eye health, hospital strengthening, integrated eye health, disease control, and research and advocacy, working with two partner hospitals to expand access and improve quality of care.

What you helped support in 2025

We strengthened eye care in 2025 through partnerships with Fatehbal Eye Hospital and Nepal Eye Hospital, with six vision centres helping bring screening, refraction and treatment closer to communities in Bagmati and Lumbini provinces.

A new Refractive Error Free Schools project in Kathmandu Valley performed strongly in student screening and spectacle distribution, while Ward No. 4 in Auraha, Bara District progressed toward Avoidable Blindness-Free declaration through the Simara Vision Centre.

The year also showed how fragile access can be. When services moved farther away and local outreach weakened, fewer people came for care. The relocation of Mulpani Vision Centre and the loss of Community Health Volunteers in Fatehbal project areas reinforced the need for strong local outreach and nearby services people can trust.

Zara, 13, from Nepal, had cataracts in both eyes from birth, leaving her unable to read the blackboard or fully take part in school. After a school eye screening led to surgery, she could see clearly, join in at school and regain hope for her future.

Zara lives with her mother and siblings while her father works abroad. From an early age, her poor vision and unusual eye movements set her apart, but her family did not realize she had an eye condition.

Everything changed when a school screening identified congenital cataracts. She was referred for further care and underwent surgery in Kathmandu. Support make treatment accessible for Zara.

After successful surgery in both eyes, her vision improved dramatically. She became more confident, social and fully able to participate in school life. **For Zara, the ripple effect of eye health care was improved access to learning, greater family wellbeing and renewed hope for the future.**

Three-year results

INDICATOR	2025		TOTAL	2024	2023
Total people screened	W 9,392 G 1,822	M 6,218 B 1,702	19,134	377,349	362,853
Students screened	G 5,379	B 5,429	10,808	7,156	15,906
Door-to-door screenings	W 5,914 G 1,148	M 4,328 B 1,185	12,575	65,399	34,279
Surgeries	W 11,858 G 94	M 11,331 B 143	23,426	16,680	17,760
Eyeglasses dispensed	W 22,622 G 1,276	M 20,008 B 856	44,762	28,627	40,518
	Women Girls	Men Boys			

¹⁷ International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Vision Atlas: Nepal country data accessed May, 2026.



The ripple effect of relationships: The Kanada Riders cycled more than 170 kilometres in a day and raised over \$6,000 for Operation Eyesight, turning shared passion into sight-saving support.

Thank you, Lokesh and the Kanada Riders, for your incredible support!

FINANCIALS: OPERATION EYESIGHT CANADA

Thanks to the generosity of Canadian donors and partners, Operation Eyesight advanced sight-saving care in 2025 while strengthening local eye health systems across Africa and South Asia. Your support helped fund screenings, surgeries, eyeglasses, hospital services, vision centres and community-based care, improving access to treatment and building a sustainable future for the communities we serve.

In 2025, Operation Eyesight received \$6.54 million in revenue. This was lower than in 2024, largely because the previous year included exceptional legacy giving that did not repeat at the same scale, alongside fewer institutional funding opportunities. Even in a more constrained year, donor support continued to sustain critical eye health work for people and families who depend on it.

Total expenditures in 2025 were \$9.2 million, including investments in programs, fundraising and administration. Because expenses exceeded current-year revenue, the organization drew

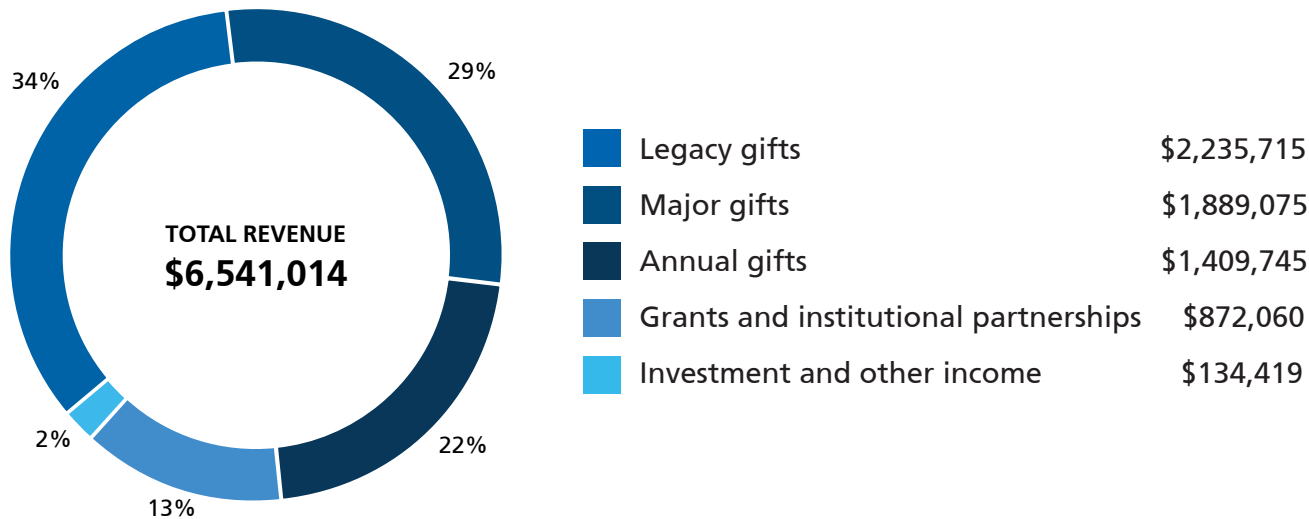
on funds raised in prior years, along with funds designated for program delivery, so support already entrusted to us could be put to work as intended. This reflects our commitment to impact while maintaining the systems, oversight and accountability needed to steward every dollar responsibly.

As we look ahead, the audited results underscore the importance of continued flexible support to help sustain the operating-cost baseline while meeting program commitments. With careful stewardship, disciplined planning and ongoing donor partnership, Operation Eyesight will keep aligning resources to priority needs and investing in the programs and systems that make lasting change possible for more people, families and communities.

Our 2025 financial statements, audited by MNP LLP, are published with this annual report. Visit operationeyesight.com/annualreport2025.

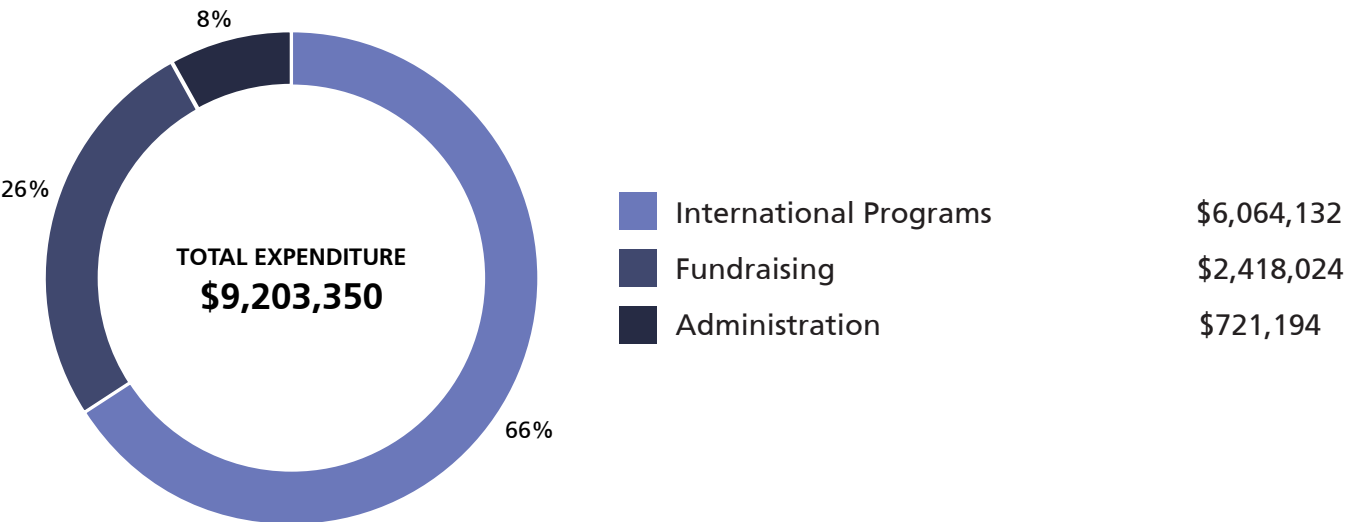
REVENUE IN 2025

This chart shows the sources of support that made our work possible, including legacy gifts, major gifts, annual gifts, grants and institutional partnerships, investment and other income.



EXPENDITURES IN 2025

This chart shows how resources were used in 2025 to support international programs, fundraising and administration.



A note on international fundraising: As Operation Eyesight expands globally, affiliated entities in other countries also raise support. Only donations to Operation Eyesight Canada are included in these financial statements; funds raised by affiliated charities in countries such as the U.S. and India are reported separately. In 2025, affiliated entities raised an additional \$369,898 CAD to support programs addressing avoidable vision loss; this additional amount is not included in the Canadian financial statements.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

To our generous donors, corporate supporters and institutional partners: thank you for standing with us. Your compassion and commitment helped bring eye care, dignity and opportunity to more people in 2025, and we are deeply grateful for your partnership. Due to limited space, we are highlighting donors whose giving totalled \$5,000 or more.

INDIVIDUALS

Agnes E. Hohn
Audrey E Wilson
Chitra Ramaswami
Doreen Richards
Elli Streu and in memory of Henry Streu
Emma Patel
Eric and Vizma Sprott
Florence E Robertson
Homayoun Goshtasbpour-Parsi
Judy Farvolden
Karen Booth and Jonathan Huyer
Margaret and Paul O'Connor
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Ralf and Helga Schmidtke
Robert James Burns
Robert Noakes
Susan and Severin Hoch

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Dorothy May Kelly Fund
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Jack Brown and Family Alzheimer Research Foundation

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Our Better World Fund through
the Victoria Foundation

Peterborough K M Hunter Charitable
Foundation

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the Victoria Foundation

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Ted & Enid Jansen Fund at Calgary Foundation

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Estate of Jonathan Wyn Jones

Estate of Barbara Eveline Burman

Estate of Violet M Marsh

We are grateful to be members of the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation, the Canadian Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases, the Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health, Cooperation Canada, IAPB and the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Together we are working toward a more fair, just and equitable world.

We would like to thank our entire global community for supporting our mission to prevent blindness and restore sight – *For All The World To See!*

Operation Eyesight Canada

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Operation Eyesight Canada is a registered charitable organization: 11906 8955 RR0001

*Our board of directors in Canada is led by Dan Parlow, Chair. There are also boards of directors and charitable registrations for Operation Eyesight Universal entities in Ghana, India, Kenya, the UK and Zambia.