

Legacy Giving



One life, a lasting legacy

Every spring, Gerda Armstrong set up a small flower stand by the roadside to sell flowers and raise money for Operation Eyesight. It was a simple act, but it reflected something much bigger about who she was: she believed in showing up, giving what she could and inviting others to do the same. A lifelong teacher, volunteer and community builder, Gerda brought energy, determination and heart to everything she did. Those who knew her remember her dry wit, her generous spirit and her deep commitment to causes that mattered.

Through her support of Operation Eyesight, Gerda helped people get eye care that could change a life. Her gifts, raised one bouquet at a time, helped children learn, adults keep working and families move forward with less worry when vision was restored or protected. Gerda's story is a reminder that generous acts do not have to be grand to matter. Sometimes they begin in a garden, at a roadside stand, or in one quiet decision to help.

Gerda's kindness continues to reach far beyond her own community. If her story speaks to you,

you might consider holding a fundraiser or leaving a legacy gift in support of Operation Eyesight. Whatever form your generosity takes, it helps to bring life-changing eye health care within reach to more people.

Feeling inspired this summer? Anyone can fundraise to support our eye health work.

Get in touch

- 📞 1-800-585-8265
- ✉️ info@operationeyesight.com
- 📡 operationeyesight.com
- 📘 @OperationEyesightUniversal

To get our newsletter by email, subscribe to our eNews at operationeyesight.com/subscribe

To stop receiving the newsletter by mail, please contact us and we'll update your mailing preferences.



<Donor Name>
<Address Line 1>
<Address Line 2>
<Address Line 3>
<City>, <State/Province>
<Zip/Postal Code>

Yes, I would like to give the Gift of Sight!

By mail: **Operation Eyesight Canada**
Suite #205, 609 - 14 Street NW
Calgary, AB, Canada T2N 2A1

By email: info@operationeyesight.com
Online: operationeyesight.com/donate
By telephone (toll-free): 1-800-585-8265

Yes! I will support Operation Eyesight's sight-saving projects by making a ☐ **monthly gift** **or** ☐ **one-time gift** **of:**

☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ _____

Payment options:

I have enclosed my cheque payable to Operation Eyesight Canada
(or a blank cheque marked VOID to pre-authorize a monthly gift).

Charge my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Signature: _____

Expiry Date: _____ / _____ Security Code: _____

My details:

Telephone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Need to update any information or mailing address details?

2026SLSummer

Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more unless otherwise requested. Monthly donors will receive a consolidated tax receipt in January for the previous year. If more funds are received for a particular program than required, Operation Eyesight Canada will re-allocate funds to areas of highest priority. Operation Eyesight Canada estimates fundraising and related costs for this newsletter to be 17 cents on the dollar. We hope to raise \$40,000 at an estimated cost of \$6,800.

We do not sell, trade or otherwise share our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to keep you up to date on the activities of Operation Eyesight Canada. If you have questions about our organization or wish to be removed from our contact list, phone us at 1-800-585-8265.

I understand that my monthly donation will be automatically withdrawn from my bank account or charged to my credit card. I can change or cancel my monthly contribution at any time. To obtain a sample cancellation form, or for more information about my right to cancel a PAD Agreement, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.

I have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement.

To obtain more information on my recourse rights, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.

Operation Eyesight Canada is a registered charitable organization.
#11906 8955 RR0001



Keep kids learning and having fun this summer with Iris the Squirrel! This engaging activity book is packed with puzzles, colouring pages, games, and challenges that help children learn about eye care in a fun and memorable way. Follow Iris on her latest adventure while building problem-solving skills and healthy eye care habits. Perfect for summer break, rainy days, road trips, or quiet afternoons at home. Print a copy for the children in your life and enjoy hours of screen-free entertainment. Visit operationeyesight.com/free-resources



Summer 2026
SightLines



A clearer future for Pawan

At eight years old, Pawan, who lives with his mother in the village of Dhanwalt, in Ramnagar, India, should have been focused on school, friends and play. Instead, his world was slowly fading from view.

Pawan began struggling to read the blackboard, follow along in class and even recognize familiar faces. As his sight worsened, he withdrew from school and lost interest in playing with his friends.

His mother, who works long days to support him, could see how much he was losing, but the cost of treatment felt out of reach. Even so, she never gave up hope for her son's future.

That began to change when Community Health Volunteers from KLSM Rotary Eye Hospital visited Pawan's village and screened his eyes. He was referred to the Vision Centre, where a comprehensive exam confirmed a cataract in his right eye. From there, the team arranged care at KLSM Rotary Eye Hospital in Udhampur, where Pawan received cataract surgery at no cost. Before long, he was seeing clearly again.

Soon, he was more confident, happier and became interested in school again. He returned to learning, playing and dreaming about his future. Due to support from donors, Pawan and his mother were given something priceless: relief, hope and the chance for a brighter future.

The gift of clear sight. For a child like Pawan, clear sight can change everything. Recent research shared in the IAPB Vision Atlas found that children with poor vision learn half as much as those with clear sight. In 2025, Operation Eyesight screened 393,113 children through community and school eye health programs.

A monthly gift can help more children like Pawan stay engaged at school and look ahead with confidence: **\$20 a month** can provide **12 pairs of eyeglasses** a year, and **\$75 a month** can provide **12 cataract surgeries**. It is a simple, reliable way to bring life-changing eye health care within reach.

OPERATIONEYESIGHT.COM | 1-800-585-8265

Integrated Eye Health



Clean water, healthy eyes, brighter futures

In Zambia, your support strengthened the connection between eye health, clean water and community well-being. Operation Eyesight rehabilitated 72 boreholes, exceeding the annual target and helping bring cleaner water closer to home for an estimated 36,000 people. Access to clean water is essential not only for eye health but for health overall. Without reliable access to clean water, communities face a higher risk of trachoma, a preventable eye disease that can cause blindness.

Clean water supports hygiene, helps prevent infection and makes it easier for communities to

protect their health before treatment is needed. Our team also initiates community WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) education.

The boreholes are a reminder that protecting sight is not only about treatment. It is also about helping communities stay healthier in the first place. When clean water is nearby, children can stay healthier and keep learning, and families can spend less time dealing with preventable illness.

Thanks to your support, communities have access to clean water, and the health benefits that come with it, now and for years to come.

Did you know?

When you support water borehole projects, you support eye health and gender equality. Safe water and hygiene helps prevent trachoma, the world's leading infectious cause of blindness. For women and girls, a nearby source of clean water reduces time hauling water. This means they spend more time in school and earning a living.

Impact Report



A first look at your 2025 impact

Each year, we share what your support made possible. This time, we also want to give you a glimpse of the bigger picture. Two years into Operation Eyesight's 2024–2028 Global Strategy, your generosity is helping eye health care reach more people in ways that are local, practical and built to last across Africa and South Asia.

In 2025 alone, 1,790,349 people were screened, 640,878 were treated for avoidable vision loss, 305,325 sight-restoring surgeries were completed and 335,953 pairs of eyeglasses were provided. Behind every number is a person: a child who can learn with confidence, an adult who can keep working and caring for family, or an older person who can live more safely and independently.

By the end of 2025, Operation Eyesight had completed 204 community eye health projects. Depending on the local setting, each project served roughly 40,000 to 50,000 people. Together, they helped bring affordable eye health care closer to home for an estimated eight to 10 million people by strengthening services families can rely on in their own communities. This approach built local capacity, improved referral pathways, supported outreach and strengthened coordination with partners for lasting impact.

This is just a preview of the 2025 annual report. Watch for it in your mailbox and inbox later in July for more stories, more results and a closer look at what your generosity is helping achieve.



Did you know?

By the end of 2025, we completed 204 community eye health projects, bringing care closer to home for an estimated eight to 10 million people.

Field Insights



Bringing care closer to home

Based on an interview with Caroline Ikumu, Country Director, Kenya

In Kenya, change often starts with women helping women. This is particularly true in Maasai communities where many families live in wide, dry landscapes and move with their livestock across vast distances. For those in need, distance, transport costs and the demands of daily life can make eye care hard to reach.

That is why Operation Eyesight focuses on both treatment and trust. Care needs to feel close, familiar and possible. "We want to ensure that no one is left behind," says Caroline Ikumu. "Our programs are embedded in existing government structures, helping make the work sustainable."

For Caroline, some of the greatest change has come through community health promoters. In many villages, women trained through Operation Eyesight's programs have become trusted leaders. "It gives the women so much status," she says. One woman, once blind from cataract, had surgery and then helped other women in her village get to the hospital. "When they can see, they feel like it is magic," Caroline says.

Caroline also remembers the gratitude of Maasai mothers whose children regained sight. One mother offered a *leso*, a traditional cloth. Another shared beadwork. These were not small gestures, but deeply meaningful expressions of dignity, trust and joy. "You cannot refuse, they are giving with a pure heart," Caroline says.

This is what equitable care can look like in real life: women supporting women, trust growing within the community and local services becoming stronger over time. Just as importantly, county leaders are increasingly taking ownership of this work. In some places, local officials now attend community declarations, provide transport support and help carry eye health forward through county plans and budgets. That kind of partnership helps services last beyond a single project, ensuring long term resilience and continued community led ownership locally.

Caroline relishes this larger change and what it brings to peoples' lives. We restore not only sight, but also hope for the future.