

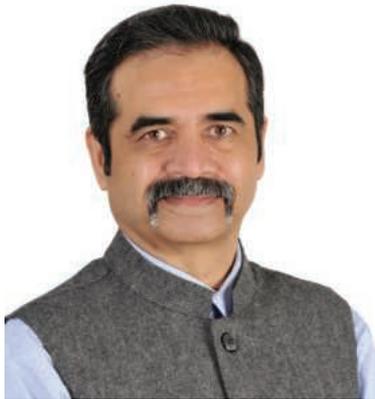


2021 ANNUAL REPORT

For All The World To See



THANK YOU



I write this letter having just returned from a trip to India, where I saw first-hand the impact our partners, staff and volunteers have in the lives of patients and families, every day.

Speaking with our health workers in the community and patients who have undergone sight-restoring cataract surgery has been a rather emotional experience for me. Sharing in their joy at seeing again and being able to live independently has been the highlight of my travels. Wherever I have travelled and in various languages and dialects, the message to me has been the same: Thanks!

On the cover: Operation Eyesight community health nurse Isaac Baiden conducts an eye exam on Willow, held by her mother Abigail, in the community of Jei Krodua in central Ghana.

2021 was a landmark year for Operation Eyesight.

Last year, we raised \$5.16 million. I'm excited about this accomplishment not only because we achieved our fundraising goal. I'm excited because our teams are seeing the impact our donors and partners have every day in communities where we work. None of this would be possible without you.

It's the resilient communities we work alongside that help ensure our impact is sustainable and long-lasting. It's our donors and partners who give their time, energy and resources to make our vision a reality. It's the frontline staff, volunteers, eye care professionals and physicians who are our first point of contact with patients in the community and who directly touch the lives of children, women and men every day. None of this would be possible without our people.

A big part of our success in 2021 was the strength and collaboration between our international teams across continents and time zones. Despite the distance, our teams have never been clearer in our mission and how to achieve it.

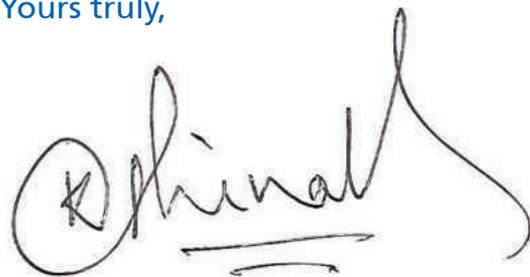
Our people's presence on the ground and in communities meant that we especially felt the aftershocks of the pandemic.

In these challenges, we found new opportunities to strengthen local health systems and impact lives. Our people's ability to adapt and be nimble has only made us better at what we do best.

In 2021, we saw traffic to our website grow by nearly 70 per cent, accompanied by a 35 per cent increase in online giving. In 2022, we look forward to engaging with you across our digital channels, especially on social media.

As we enter our 60th year and work gets underway to expand our programs into more countries, we have much to celebrate. Together, we are poised to have a greater impact than ever before. When I see the work our teams do every day, the strength of our partner communities, and the passion of our partners and donors, I know our work is in capable hands.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kashinath' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kashinath "Kash" Bhoosnurmath
President & CEO

YOUR GLOBAL IMPACT IN 2021



1.68 million people screened for eye conditions



168,776 life-changing eye surgeries



29 villages declared avoidable blindness-free



1,127 community health workers and volunteers trained



186,400 pairs of prescription eyeglasses dispensed



77,140 students and school staff screened for eye conditions



31 water boreholes rehabilitated

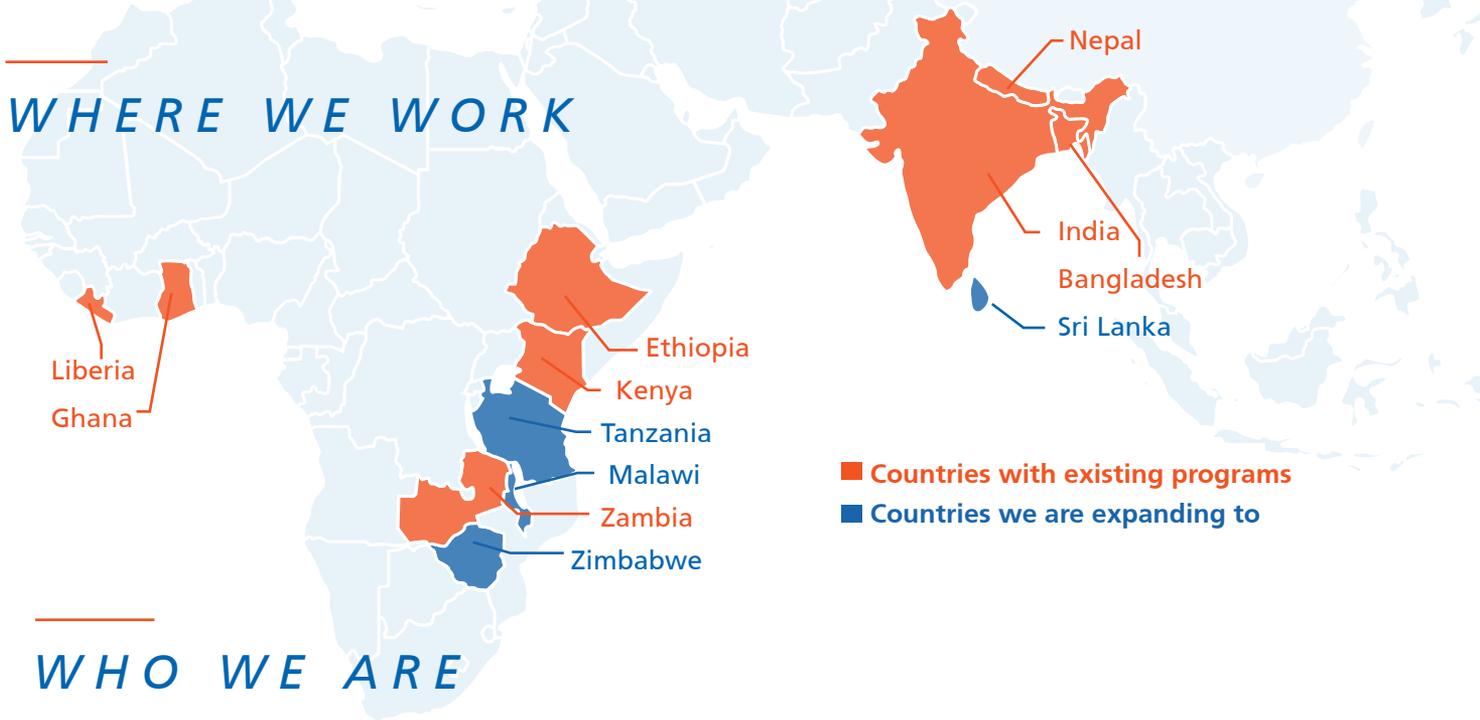


31 new vision centres established



811,771 impressions on social media

WHERE WE WORK



WHO WE ARE

We are 55 staff and 550 volunteers worldwide.

We are hundreds of communities of work.

We are a network of 10,000+ donors, 20 partner institutions and 54 partner hospitals.

Together, we are a global team working to make avoidable blindness a thing of the past.

For nearly six decades, we have been partnering with communities, empowering leaders and bringing life-changing eye health care to people who need it most.

We leverage the unique strengths of our communities of work and recruit community members to become local eye health champions – champions like Sonam from India. As one of the nearly 2,000 women and men who make up our worldwide team of community health workers and volunteers, Sonam provides assessment, specialist referral, follow-up and public health education to others in her community. *Read more of Sonam's story on page 6.*

It's our team's presence in communities across eight countries and our partnership with local health providers and hospitals that allows us to create impact that is both enduring and sustainable. It enabled us to provide life-changing surgery to nearly 169,000 people in 2021.

By equipping communities with the resources and tools to care for their own eye health, we're working to declare entire regions avoidable blindness-free – like the Kamariny Ward of Kenya, where we have declared 30 villages free of avoidable blindness.

We partner with governments and other organizations and identify opportunities to improve eye care within existing health systems. That's why in 2021 we supported the training of 896 frontline medical staff in primary eye care worldwide – people like Joana, who is pursuing a degree in ophthalmic nursing at Ghana's Ophthalmic Nursing School, thanks to the generosity of our donors. *Read Joana's story on page 8.*

Restoring sight is just the beginning. Our people are addressing the root causes of blindness, including bringing access to fresh water and sanitation in countries like Zambia, where our work drilling and restoring boreholes is bringing new life to communities and giving girls like Natasha the chance to attend school full time. *Read Natasha's story on page 18.*

We are a global community. Together, we are advancing our mission to prevent blindness and restore sight – For All The World To See.



ETHIOPIA

We launched our programs in Ethiopia in 2018 through our work with Partners in Education Ethiopia. We have also established a partnership with Bahir Dar University (BDU), located in the state of Amhara. BDU's College of Medicine and Health Sciences voted us 'Best Partner' in 2020/21.

Community eye health programs continue to be an area of focus in Ethiopia, including establishing new vision centres, training health workers, conducting door-to-door eye screenings and school eye health activities.

Thanks to our academic partnership in Ethiopia, we are also strengthening the country's health system by training health staff in primary eye care.

2021 IMPACT

 **9,798**
eye exams performed

 **207**
sight-saving surgeries

 **637**
pairs of eyeglasses dispensed

 **56**
health workers,
volunteers and ophthalmic
staff trained

 **14,312**
people empowered through
health education and
promotion

 **17,527**
screened through
door-to-door surveys

 **1** new vision
centre established

MEET OUR PEOPLE *Community health workers and volunteers*

We recruit and train health workers and volunteers from the community, who provide vision screening, referral, health assessments and health education.

Across South Asia and Africa, these local eye health champions also reached nearly 800,000 people with education sessions about key health issues, like child and maternal health.



Sonam, community health worker, India

After Sonam's mother received sight-restoring cataract surgery at one of our partner hospitals, she was inspired by the impact it had on her entire family.

"My mother's surgery helped me experience the impact avoidable blindness can have on a family," she says. "I was impressed by her visual outcome. I got free of my duties towards my mom and took up new responsibilities."

In addition to now being able to work in the pasture and feed cattle, Sonam has been trained as a community health worker and joined our India project team.



Salina, community health volunteer, Kenya

For Salina, what makes her work doing door-to-door screenings rewarding is the appreciation of patients and families in her community.

"Working as a community health volunteer makes me interact with the community, who appreciate the help they get through the door-to-door screening program," she explains.



GHANA

Our partnership with the Ghana Health Service has been a key part of our success in bringing a full range of eye health care services to patients who previously faced barriers in accessing eye health care. Together, we're also integrating eye health care services into Ghana's primary health system.

We have partnerships with three hospitals, including Watborg Eye Services, which we established in 2006. We support these facilities in delivering primary- and secondary-level eye care services and surgical outreach to patients who need it.

In 2021, our local health workers in Ghana surveyed 14,734 people in the community, screening them for eye conditions and connecting patients with the local health system, through door-to-door survey.

Together, we are helping communities take ownership of their own eye health, creating sustainable change after a project is completed.

In 2022, in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development's Child Blindness Program, we are preparing to screen, educate and provide treatment to 75,000 schoolchildren and 3,000 teachers across four districts in Ghana's central region.

2021 IMPACT

 **18,303**
eye exams

 **2,671**
sight-saving surgeries

 **1,176**
pairs of eyeglasses dispensed

 **4,711**
people empowered through health education and promotion

 **7**
frontline eye care professionals trained as trainers of primary eye care

 **28**
health workers trained in primary eye care

MEET OUR PEOPLE *Joana Annobil, ophthalmic nursing student*



By supporting the education and training of health staff in their own communities, our donors and partners offer students like Joana a chance to enhance their careers and serve their community.

If you ask Joana Annobil what it's like to pursue a degree in ophthalmic nursing, her answer is simple.

"It's a dream come true," she smiles.

Now in her final year at the Ophthalmic Nursing School in Korle-Bu, Accra, Joana says she is most excited that her presence in her community will have an impact on the health and quality of life of her neighbours as well as Ghana's health system.

"Becoming an ophthalmic nurse will help improve the state of human resources for eye health in Ghana, especially in my district of Awutu Senya, where the need for eye health services is very high," Joana explains. "The people at the community level will have quality eye care services at their doorsteps."

Her school, Ghana's only institute of its kind, recently upgraded from providing diplomas to awarding academic degrees, thanks to Operation Eyesight in partnership with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. It's a step up for Joana and her whole community.

"This will enhance my career in the health service," Joana adds. "I'm extremely grateful to Operation Eyesight for funding my studies."



INDIA

In India, where we are approaching our 60th year of operation, we are working with communities in 90 districts across 17 states.

Our partnership with 35 hospitals and 144 vision centres enabled our teams to declare 14 villages avoidable blindness-free in India in 2021.

Last year we screened more than 1.3 million Indians for eye conditions through our partner hospitals and vision centres, enabling us to perform nearly 150,000 sight-saving eye surgeries.

By creating a local primary eye care workforce in communities and equipping facilities with ophthalmic equipment and tools, our donors and partners are building capacity for India's health system. This approach has also allowed us to bring quality, sustainable eye health care to the most underserved rural patients and advance our goal of eliminating avoidable blindness in India.

In the last five years, we have trained more than 7,000 local health workers, including community health workers and eye care professionals such as ophthalmic staff and physicians, empowering them to be local eye health champions in their own communities.

2021 IMPACT



1,321,617
eye exams



149,783
sight-saving surgeries



157,136
pairs of eyeglasses dispensed



80
community health workers trained



769
frontline staff trained



14
villages declared avoidable blindness-free



19
new community projects launched

MEET OUR PEOPLE *Bitul Hazarika, paramedical ophthalmic assistant*



It's our team's passion for working in the field and caring for patients that allowed us to impact more lives in 2021.

"I have seen people who never expected to see again, because eye care services were far out of reach, not affordable and not accessible. They waited for their death," explains Bitul Hazarika, a paramedical ophthalmic assistant with one of our partner hospitals. "But when we reach them... with services and care to see again, I feel satisfaction of seeing these people smiling and thanking us for the services."

Bitul has been working in the field since 1996. In addition to working in a vision centre, over his 26 years of service he has attended more than 500 screening camps, provided prescription eyeglasses to 700+ people and referred more than 300 patients for surgery.

Today, he's working to make his home state of Arunachal Pradesh completely free of avoidable blindness.

SUCCESS STORY

Vision centres bring sight to the community

For 40-year-old Wasim from India, cataracts not only prevented him from seeing the faces of his wife and son, but also led to a number of injuries.

Without the means to travel and pay for cataract surgery at the nearest hospital, which was 65 km away, his situation seemed hopeless.

When a vision centre was opened in his neighbourhood, Wasim was able to have a comprehensive eye exam and he underwent sight-restoring cataract surgery, free of charge.

After his cataracts were removed, he went home, and he was able to see his dear wife clearly for the first time. Without hesitation, he enthusiastically proclaimed how beautiful she was and that it was a joy to see her.

His son ran up to him to give him a hug, and Wasim proudly looked at his son, seeing his adorable face for the first time. It was truly a heartwarming moment for the family.



Today, Wasim earns a living by driving an electric rickshaw. This one cataract surgery changed the lives of an entire family.

Focusing on the unique needs of each community, we establish vision centres which link communities with hospitals.

In the last six years, we have established 140+ new vision centres across India.

These local eye health hubs bring primary eye care to communities, offering comprehensive eye exams, dispensing eyeglasses and referring patients to a hospital if needed.

MEET OUR PEOPLE *Neya Chander, artist and donor*



Each individual who gives to Operation Eyesight has a reason for giving, as well as a unique gift to give.

For Neya Chander, art and philanthropy come together to give the gift of sight.

Neya Chander is painting her future as an artist. She recalls always feeling drawn to canvasses, eager to share images drawn from personal experiences.

“Every piece represents a unique experience or time in my life,” says the 17-year-old. “When I was little, my grandfather told stories of a pond in India covered in water lilies. After years of hearing about them, we finally visited the pond together. That memory was so meaningful that I felt compelled to capture it in a painting.”

In early 2021, two of Neya’s paintings became the first of many philanthropic gifts from sales of her work through www.KaiArt.Work.

Operation Eyesight was grateful to be a recipient of her generosity. Neya plans to expand her website to feature more charities as well as artists who wish to donate proceeds of their work.

“I want to create a space for artists and buyers to come together to foster change. The proceeds from each piece will go to the buyer’s charity of choice.”

Neya says she supports organizations that create meaningful impact. “Globally, access is limited. Prescription glasses or cataract surgery has a profound impact on someone’s quality of life.”



We are collaborating with Kenya's national and county governments and other partners to eliminate trachoma from Kenya by 2025.

We are currently distributing antibiotics in Narok County to treat and reduce transmission of blinding trachoma. In 2021, our team distributed antibiotics to more than 460,000 people needing treatment, covering 90 per cent of the population.

In 2021, we declared 15 villages in the Kamariny Ward of Elgeyo Marakwet County avoidable blindness-free. This was made possible by door-to-door surveys conducted by our community health volunteers. With a total of 30 villages declared free of conditions that lead to avoidable blindness, together we are on track to achieve our goal to declare 50 villages in the area avoidable blindness-free.

Across the country, our 11 eye units ensure that patients from surrounding remote communities can access primary eye health care and that patients can be referred to our partner hospitals for more advanced care.

KENYA

2021 IMPACT



145,903
eye exams



5,038
sight-saving surgeries



2,980
pairs of eyeglasses
dispensed



1.2 million+
people educated on eye health



1,005
community health
volunteers trained



36
specialists provided training



5
latrines constructed

SUCCESS STORY

Futures coming into focus

Did you know an estimated 80 per cent of a child's learning is through vision?

Today, 14-year-old Rehema from Kenya can participate in class and read the blackboard and her schoolbooks, but it wasn't always this way.

Worsening vision since birth made it difficult to participate in school. Ridicule from other students isolated her, leaving her friendless and alone when she did attend school. Nevertheless, Rehema's family was unable to afford the cataract surgery she needed.

Thanks to donor support, our school eye health program was able to provide diagnosis and referral to one of our partner hospitals for cataract surgery, free of charge.

"Now I can follow the teacher when he is calculating sums on the blackboard like the other pupils," says Rehema. "I know that my performance will improve, and I'll have the opportunity to pursue my dreams."

Launched in January 2021, our school eye health program in Uasin Gishu County has screened more than 70,000 children and 1,800 teachers for eye conditions at 209 schools, providing treatment to 1,422 patients, including 16 vision-saving surgeries.



With her vision restored, Rehema can clearly read her textbooks – without having to hold them right up to her face.

Made possible by the United States Agency for International Development's Child Blindness Program and our partnerships with Kenya's ministries of education and health, we are identifying and treating children with vision loss, using the Peek Acuity vision screening app.

Similar school eye health programs are now underway in Ghana and Zambia.

"Women and girls are more likely to suffer vision impairment and face many barriers to treatment. This project helps educate parents, families and communities about the barriers girls face," says Alice Mwangi, our Country Director for Kenya.



NEPAL AND BANGLADESH

We began working in Nepal in 1973 and established Nepal Eye Hospital, the country's first full-fledged eye hospital. Along with our other partner, Fateh-Bal Eye Hospital, we deliver eye health care to those who need it most.

Throughout the pandemic, our work in Nepal and Bangladesh has focused on training community health workers, distributing hygiene kits and providing health education to communities.

In Bangladesh, despite being impacted by the pandemic, our partner hospitals continued to deliver health services through local vision centres in 2021.

2021 IMPACT



165,727
eye exams



11,641
sight-saving surgeries



23,720
pairs of eyeglasses dispensed

SUCCESS STORY

Whole-person health

When Chiri’s vision began going cloudy, many things disappeared along with her vision, including her ability to do daily tasks unassisted and to see the faces of her grandchildren.

When she injured her head in a bad fall, her family feared for not only her loss of vision but also her loss of independence.

The solution to Chiri’s failing vision lay within her own community of Thankot, with the arrival of Meena, an Operation Eyesight-trained community health ambassador, at Chiri’s doorstep. Meena was conducting a door-to-door eye health screening in the community to ensure every household was reached.

Meena diagnosed Chiri with cataracts, but surgery was not an option due to her diabetes and unstable blood sugar levels. However, over the course of a few months, Meena visited Chiri regularly to help her stabilize her blood sugar and eventually escorted Chiri the 15 km to Nepal Eye Hospital for her cataract operation.

With her diabetes under control and her vision restored, Chiri is living independently again and is overjoyed to watch her grandchildren grow up.





Working in partnership with the Zambian government, in 2016 our teams established eye units at primary health centres in three underserved compounds of Lusaka: Bauleni, Chawama and Mandevu. Thanks to our advocacy efforts, the Ministry of Health ensured these eye units were staffed with trained ophthalmic personnel.

Based on the success of this project and our door-to-door eye health screening by community health workers, the Ministry of Health asked us to replicate this model in two other underserved compounds of Matero and Kanyama.

We also launched a school eye health program in Matero, and we plan to build on its success by expanding similar programs to other schools in 2022.

ZAMBIA

2021 IMPACT

 **8,709**
people received eye exams

 **23,519**
people reached through door-to-door survey

 **226**
sight-saving surgeries

 **757**
pairs of eyeglasses dispensed

 **17**
community health workers trained in primary eye care

 **31**
boreholes rehabilitated

SUCCESS STORY

Downstream impact

In the village of Kwanga, in southern Zambia, the rehabilitation of a borehole has meant local access to abundant, fresh water for the entire community.

For Natasha and several other girls in her community, it's brought the opportunity to attend school full time. Previously, she had to walk several kilometres each day to fetch water for her family. This took so much extra time and energy that she began missing school.

Kwanga's borehole is one of 96 non-functioning boreholes that our teams rehabilitated in the past three years in the Sinazongwe district, in Zambia's arid south, thanks to the generosity of donors.

This has helped eliminate blinding trachoma infections from the district. It has also brought a host of benefits across communities like Natasha's, including improved health outcomes, thriving local economies and improved opportunities for women and girls.

"Access to fresh water prevents the spread of trachoma and other infections and also brings many benefits to the local community," explains Vikas Gora, our Global Director of International Programs.



Access to clean water doesn't just help prevent blinding trachoma, it transforms entire communities. It gives students like Natasha the chance to attend school instead of spending hours hauling water for her family.

Ready access to water enables people to wash their hands, faces and clothing more frequently, preventing the spread of trachoma and other infections. Our team in Zambia has also found that bringing water closer to where people live improves school attendance.

Thanks to our donors and partnerships with local communities, we have created a ripple effect that is being felt in other communities across the country.

2021 FINANCIALS

Thanks to the compassion of our global community, 2021 was a year of success for Operation Eyesight. Despite another challenging pandemic year, we met our revenue goals while also taking steps to reduce costs and bring eye care services closer to communities.

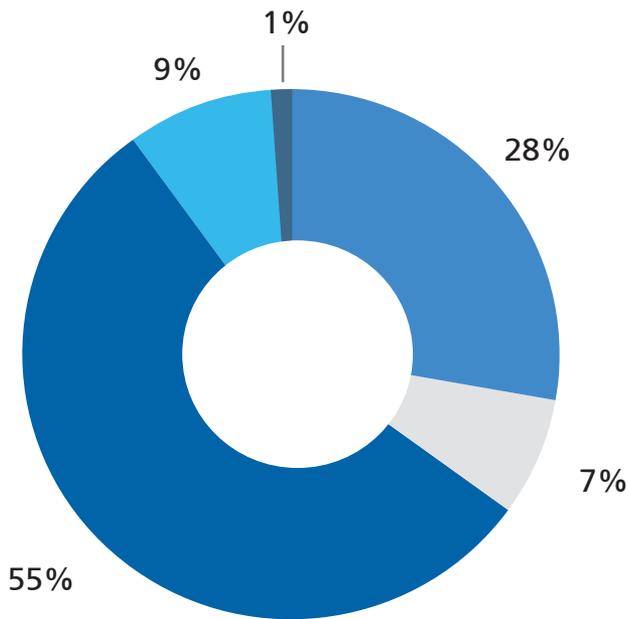
Although COVID-19 restrictions at times limited our regular program activities globally, we found ways to work virtually and, as a result, our administrative costs remained present.

We received \$5.16 million in donations from individuals, service clubs, institutional partners and foundations, as well as through legacy gifts.

Of note, we saw a significant increase in investment and stock donations. We are also incredibly grateful for the bequests we received in 2021, totalling nearly \$370,000.

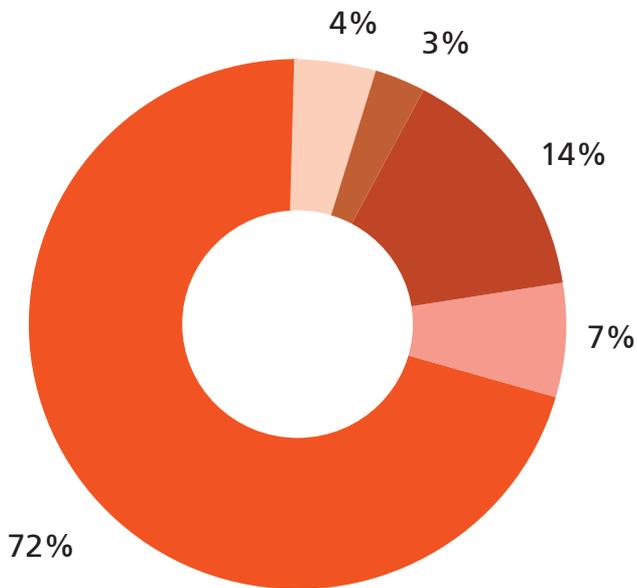
We remain committed to ensuring that every gift has the most impact in our communities of work, so every dollar donated directly translates into lives changed.

We know that 2021 was a challenging year for many, and we are incredibly grateful for supporters like you who continued to help transform lives through the gift of sight. Thank you!



REVENUE

Annual Gifts	\$1,433,231
Legacy Gifts	\$368,469
Major Gifts	\$2,861,324
Grants & Institutional Partnerships	\$447,827
Investment & Other Income	\$51,041
TOTAL	\$5,161,892



EXPENDITURES

Governance & Administration	\$191,615
IT	\$164,404
Fund Development	\$647,484
Marketing & Communications	\$345,617
International Programs	\$3,421,645
TOTAL	\$4,770,765

MEET OUR PEOPLE *The Cutlers*



Our donors are the driving force behind our progress, enabling us to make a real difference in the lives of people affected by vision loss and preventable blindness.

For the Cutlers, philanthropy is a family affair.

Marty Cutler is many things – a certified business and life coach, a former Operation Eyesight board member, lover of funky hats and the patriarch of a large, blended family.

An Operation Eyesight supporter since 1985, Marty says it's time to engage the next generation.

"Recently, Marilyn and I have included one of our children and their spouse in our philanthropy," he says. "Making these decisions as a unit fosters the next generation of philanthropists."

Marty's favourite thing about our work is knowing how far his dollar goes to save a life.

"It's not life and death in the literal sense," he explains. "When someone becomes blind, their access to education and employment becomes limited. They're no longer living – they're surviving."

Marty says when one family member loses vision, the whole house suffers.

"Someone in the family steps up to be a full-time caregiver, meaning that their opportunities are also limited."

Marty and Marilyn know their investment in us stretches to the individual, the family, and greater community.

"It's important we teach our grandkids the importance of philanthropy and its impact on other families. Each time we contribute to Operation Eyesight, we know our dollar goes further than we can imagine."

DONORS (\$5,000+)

The transformational impact we are having together is made possible by the generosity of donors. We are grateful to all our donors, including legacy, annual and monthly donors, for their ongoing support. Due to space limitation, we are listing donors of \$5,000 and higher.

CORPORATIONS

Heathbridge Capital Management Ltd.

Karen Booth and Jonathan Huyer

Kyle T. Farms Ltd.

Les Productions Eclipse

Meadowlark Resources Corp.

Port Royal Mills

Transleaders Inc.

ESTATES

Estate of Martin Wason Albright

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The Eileen Egan Alter Ego Trust

Estate of Catherine Elizabeth Frame

Estate of Margaret Vejgaard Gallagher

Estate of Hannelore Helene Gewers

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Estate of Clara Lahmer

Estate of Merrill Lathem

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Estate of Constance Jill Sewell

Estate of Eliseo Spagnolo

Estate of Ruth Maureen Stonier

Estate of Selma A. Thompson

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FOUNDATIONS

Christine A. Sethi-Van Impe Foundation through the Victoria Foundation

DKM Foundation

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Jack and Doris Brown Foundation

Ted & Enid Jansen Fund at Calgary Foundation

The Lawrason Foundation

The P & P Murray Foundation

Toronto Theosophical Society

Zita and Mark Bernstein Family Foundation

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Marty Cutler, Marilyn Minden and Family

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Rosemary Nation

Nashila Noor-Ali

Daniel Parlow

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Diane Pezzini

Chitra Ramaswami

Jane Ramin

Mary Reid

Doreen Richards

Ralf and Helga Schmidtke

C. Smith

Eric and Vizma Sprott

The Late Gloria Taylor

Suresh R. Tulsiani

V. Jean Wilson

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Lucy Koziol in memory of my husband, Dr. Jan K. Koziol

Elfriede Streu in loving memory of Henry Streu



Operation Eyesight Canada and International Office

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Canada: 11906 8955 RR0001

United Kingdom: 1135169

United States: 20-2682468

India: 04592/2013

* Our board of directors in Canada is led by Mr. Shaad Oosman, Chair. We also have boards of directors in the United States, the United Kingdom, India, Kenya, Zambia and Ghana.