

SEE HOW WE'RE
RESTORING
SIGHT

& KNOW YOU'VE CHANGED
MANY LIVES

Report to Donors **2016**

 **OPERATION
EYESIGHT™
UNIVERSAL**
For All The World To See

Dear friend...

Your generous support has changed lives over the past year! Today, children, women and men can see the world around them and realize there's hope for the future – hope made possible because you know that the gift of sight transforms lives and communities for generations.

Because you share our deep commitment to preventing blindness and restoring sight, our comprehensive eye health programs made great progress this year. Our work expanded in India, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, and – new in 2016 – Nepal. (See program highlights on pages 3 through 8.)

Besides seeing strong growth in our eye health programs, 2016 saw other noteworthy happenings. For instance:

- Financially, this was an extremely strong year, thanks to support from generous people like you and funding from service clubs, foundations and corporations. **Our total revenues were 34 percent above 2015**, allowing us to expand the work we're doing on your behalf. (See financial summary on pages 9 and 10.)



We're preventing the spread of blinding trachoma by providing communities with safe water. Learn more on pages 7 and 8.

- We finalized a **new strategic plan** for 2017-2020. This guiding plan has a bold vision: to declare 2,020 communities free of avoidable blindness by the year 2020.
- Besides our newest programs in Nepal, we're regularly contacted by other countries and organizations eager to partner with us or contract our expertise to help them reach the World Health Organization's standards of quality eye care. We're strategically **expanding our work** to make the largest impact on avoidable blindness possible!
- Thanks to a generous matching donor, we raised over \$485,000 for well projects in Zambia through our **"Washing Away Blindness"** fundraising campaign. As a result, more than 10,000 people will receive access to fresh water and improved sanitation, which helps stop the spread of blinding trachoma.
- We had more cause for celebration when we surpassed our fundraising goal for our third annual **GivingTuesday** campaign. With a goal to raise \$15,000 to provide 300 cataract surgeries, we raised more than \$22,000 – an outstanding effort from our friends, volunteers and staff.
- Operation Eyesight was well-represented amongst our peers in the eye health world at the 10th General Assembly of the **International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)** in October. Our staff were invited to present the results of our work in poster presentations and sessions. Also, one of our senior staff, Dr. Boateng Wiafe, was honoured as an "Eye Health Hero" in recognition of his years of work. At the same event, our Global Director of Programmes, Kashinath Bhoosurmth, was elected to IAPB's board of trustees. We commend both these dedicated leaders for their years of service.
- In honour of our most dedicated supporters, we created a new "society" called **OPERATION EYESIGHT ALWAYS** for donors who've announced their commitment to leave a gift to Operation Eyesight in their will. We hope to connect with these special people and show our appreciation for their legacy of hope to come.
- One of those very special legacy donors, Una Jenkyns, passed away in May at age 98. Una was the wife of our founder Art Jenkyns, and our biggest supporter. It's because of Una's dedication to Art's work that Operation Eyesight grew to be the organization it is today, and we honour her commitment to our work.

& KNOW

you've transformed many lives!



A community eye health worker in India screens a woman for vision problems during a door-to-door survey.

No summation of this year would be complete without our heartfelt thanks to our staff, both here in Canada and around the world. The hard work and dedication each staff member pledges to our cause sets Operation Eyesight apart from other organizations.

And finally, we'd like to extend warmest thanks to our board of directors here in Canada – a committed, diverse group of volunteers from all walks of life who dedicate their time, talent and treasure to Operation Eyesight. We'd also like to thank our committed volunteer boards in the countries where we work.

With passionate, dedicated, caring people standing behind us, and trusted friends and supporters like you standing with us, we foresee that 2017 will prove an even more productive year. We know that our vision of a world where all enjoy the gift of sight will one day be a reality – **For All The World To See!**

With great appreciation for your support,

Rob Ohlson

Chair, Board of Directors,
Canada

Brian Foster

Executive Director

Our mission

To prevent blindness and restore sight.

Our vision

Elimination of avoidable blindness.

Our team in 2016

Canada Board of Directors

Mr. Rob Ohlson, Chair
Mr. Ray Mowling, Vice-Chair
Mr. Dan Parlow, Past Chair
Ms. Sophia Langlois, Treasurer
Dr. Mary Alton Mackey

Mr. Ken Evans
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Mr. Kashinath Bhoosnurmath,
Global Director, Programmes
Ms. Lynne Dulaney, Director, Communications
Mr. Jordan Lehmann, Director, Donor Relations
Dr. Boateng Wiafe, Director, Quality and Advocacy
Ms. Linda Dent, Financial Consultant

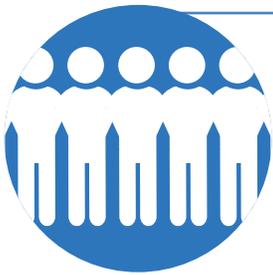
SEE

your donations hard at work

With your generous support, we're making life-changing, sustainable, *measurable* impacts in the countries where we work. Not only are we restoring eyesight today – we're preventing children, women and men from going blind tomorrow. Thank you for making this all possible!



2016 highlights:



3.4 million patients
examined through hospitals,
community outreach programs and
school screenings



111,139 individuals
reached through Mass Drug
Administration

210,700 eye surgeries
performed by our partner hospitals
(for cataract, Trachomatous
Trichiasis and other conditions)



22 boreholes
drilled in Zambia



224,341 pairs of new prescription eyeglasses dispensed



23 Vision Centres
established in India



3,919 frontline staff/volunteers
trained in primary eye health



130 villages
declared avoidable blindness-free



India: 2016 highlights

In India, we impacted the lives of more than **three million people** by partnering with **56 hospitals across 17 states**. Early in the year, we launched our first **Community-Based Rehabilitation Project** in the slums of Bangalore, reaching a population of 66,000 people. Approximately 70 individuals living with incurable blindness or visual impairment are now being provided with medical, educational, economic and social rehabilitation services. We also implemented a **Community-Based Diabetic Retinopathy Program** in the cities of Kanpur and Jorhat, where we conducted 80 screening programs and screened over 10,000 people for diabetic retinopathy.

We expanded our community eye health projects to 217 and, in collaboration with our partners, **declared another 130 villages** as avoidable blindness-free in 2016. The prevalence of blindness across all our areas of intervention was **reduced by over 27 percent!** In addition, nearly 640,000 people received health education from community eye health workers and now know where to seek eye care services in the future.

Through our **Hospital-Based Community Eye Health** projects, we established 23 Vision Centres, bringing our total in India to 92. These permanent facilities are delivering quality, sustainable eye care services within the communities, and 93 percent have become **financially self-sustainable**. To further build the capacity of India's eye health workforce, we also conducted 24 workshops and training programs for over 2,000 eye health professionals.

With support from the **Gerald A. Cooper-Key Foundation**, we launched a Hospital-Based Community Eye Health project in collaboration with the National Programme for Control of Blindness and Chandraprabha Eye Hospital, our first public-private partnership in India. The project was implemented in the Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh, the state with the



Fourteen-year-old Atul overcame his fear of eye surgery and received treatment at one of our partner hospitals in India. "I'm deeply indebted to those who never gave up on me," he says. "They visited me continuously for a week, spoke to village leaders and school teachers, and motivated me to go to the hospital. I'm so thankful!"

second highest prevalence of blindness and the lowest cataract surgical rate. Within a few months, we were performing **nearly 40 percent of the state's load of cataract surgeries**. By 2018, we expect the Changlang district to become the first avoidable blindness-free district in India. ▶

Our impact in India	Adults		Children		Totals
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Patients examined through hospitals	495,606	578,207	47,201	59,001	1,180,015
Patients examined through Hospital-Based Community Eye Health Programs	88,371	105,204	6,313	10,520	210,408
Patients examined through school screenings	-	-	69,438	81,513	150,951
Patients examined through other types of outreach programs	193,505	174,155	7,740	11,610	387,010
Cataract surgeries	63,225	56,421	291	341	120,278
Other eye surgeries (to treat a condition other than cataract)	32,991	21,735	679	388	55,793
Prescription eyeglasses dispensed	84,679	100,799	5,762	12,779	204,019
Frontline staff/volunteers trained in primary eye health	1,662	70	-	-	1,732



Namey, 91, from India, used to suffer with cataracts in both eyes. Today, after receiving surgery at our partner hospital in India, she's all smiles! She can see again, thanks to your support!

The **Operation Eyesight Universal Institute for Eye Cancer**, which was established in Hyderabad in late 2015 thanks to support from a Canadian donor family, also expanded its services in 2016. Since its opening, the Institute has **screened nearly 40,000 people**, diagnosed more than 1,700 patients with eye tumors and performed 6,445 procedures, including surgeries and chemotherapy. In addition to opening a new chemotherapy unit, the Institute trained several ophthalmologists and optometrists as part of its fellowship program, and published research papers in reputable journals.

We were fortunate to partner with two Asian companies to launch new initiatives in India. Working with **Pellucid Inc.**, we introduced new technology at 40 of our Vision Centres, enabling our partners to collect and report data in real time. We also piloted the use of an application for tablet computers, which allowed community health workers to capture door-to-door survey information digitally.

In partnership with **Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd.** and other partners, we conducted **857 screening programs** across nine states. Together, we screened over 76,000 people for potentially blinding conditions and performed over 15,000 cataract surgeries. All reporting was done online through a software application developed by Operation Eyesight and Pellucid specifically for this project.

Nepal: 2016 highlights

Building on our success in India, we expanded our **Hospital-Based Community Eye Health Program** (HBCEHP) to neighbouring Nepal in 2016. Our work in Nepal goes back to 1973 when we established Nepal Eye Hospital, the first full-fledged eye hospital in the country. We also played an instrumental role in establishing and/or strengthening five other eye hospitals in Nepal before withdrawing from the country to focus our blindness prevention programs elsewhere.

After receiving requests for support from our former hospital partners, and after conducting a needs assessment of the hospitals, we made the decision to re-enter Nepal in partnership with Nepal Eye Hospital in Kathmandu and Fateh-Bal Eye Hospital in Nepalgunj. Our model HBCEHP strengthened our partners' abilities to conduct community outreach programs and provide quality eye care services to more people. Together in 2016, the hospitals screened over **250,000** patients, dispensed almost **18,000** pairs of new prescription eyeglasses and performed nearly **15,700** sight-saving surgeries.

With support from the Gerald A. Cooper-Key Foundation, we **upgraded the operation theatre complex** at Nepal Eye Hospital, as well as the **out-patient department** at Fateh-Bal Eye Hospital. To further build capacity of the hospitals, we provided

training for over **30 eye health personnel**. We also established our first Vision Centres in Nepal and implemented two **Vision Centre-Based Community Eye Health Projects** linked to Fateh-Bal Eye Hospital. Our Nepalese partners made great progress in 2016, and we look forward to expanding our work with them in the coming years.



Ghana: 2016 highlights

In addition to supporting over 5,000 cataract surgeries in Ghana, we focused on **building capacity** of our partner hospitals, thanks to funding through **Seeing is Believing**. With support from Ghana Health Service, we conducted **training workshops** for primary eye care workers, which focused on mobilizing and educating communities, identifying various eye conditions, treating minor eye health issues and referring patients for appropriate care. In partnership with Australia's Brien Holden Vision Institute, we also trained optometrists to identify and work with patients with low vision. In addition, we procured and installed low vision **diagnostic equipment** for 18 of our 35 partner hospitals and conducted training workshops for equipment technicians, who were taught how to maintain the hospitals' ophthalmic equipment.

We supported our partners and other personnel from Ghana Health Service in running an **awareness campaign** in the hospitals and surrounding communities. The campaign included the distribution of educational brochures, as well as radio and television programs where people could phone in and ask questions.



Dr. John Welling

By educating people about eye health and creating awareness of the services offered by our partner hospitals, we're encouraging people to take charge of their own eye health.

Working with the Swiss Red Cross, Ghana Health Service, and the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons, we completed a **National Blindness and Visual Impairment Study**, which was supported by Seeing is Believing and aims to provide nationally representative data on blindness and visual impairment in Ghana. This study, a first of its kind in the country, was spearheaded by Operation Eyesight and included nearly 4,600 survey participants. The study will be finalized and disseminated in 2017 and will be a valuable resource as we continue to develop our eye health advocacy efforts in Ghana.

And finally, through funding from Seeing is Believing and with support from our partner hospitals and volunteers from Standard Chartered Bank, we **screened over 60,000 students** and dispensed over 450 pairs of new prescription eyeglasses in Ghana.



Michael (left) and his sister Priscilla from Ghana each received a new pair of prescription eyeglasses, thanks to your support! "We're grateful to Operation Eyesight and its partners for this kind gesture," says their mother.

Our impact in Ghana	Adults		Children		Totals
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Patients examined through hospitals	104,288	80,115	4,945	3,147	192,495
Patients examined through school screenings	-	-	32,227	30,374	62,601
Patients examined through other types of outreach programs	389,129	373,974	-	-	763,103
Cataract surgeries	2,951	2,362	14	15	5,342
Other eye surgeries (to treat a condition other than cataract)	2,270	1,975	153	133	4,531
Prescription eyeglasses dispensed	113	146	94	103	456
Frontline staff/volunteers trained in primary eye health	859	437	-	-	1,296

Kenya: 2016 highlights

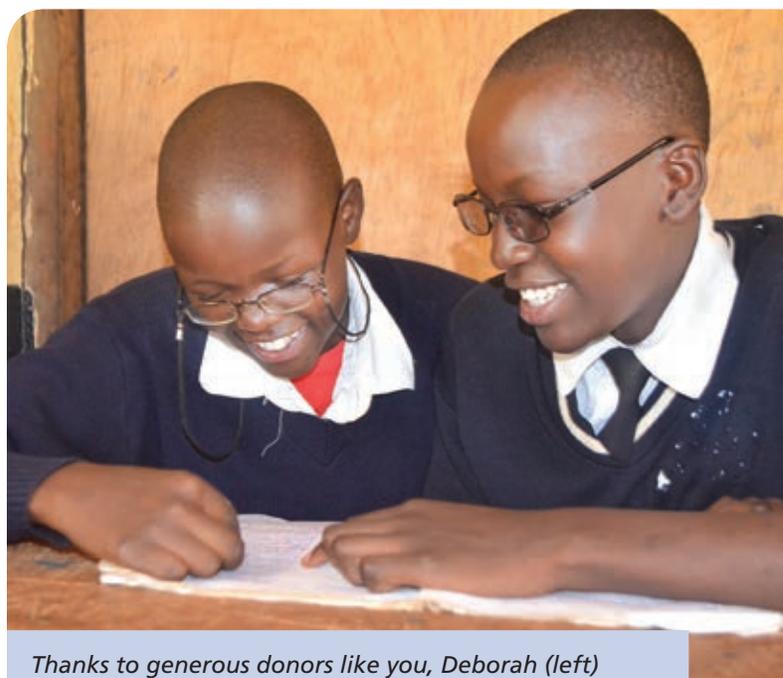
Our Kenya programs created a tremendous impact in 2016, especially those benefitting children. Together with **Seeing is Believing** (SiB) and other organizations, we continued an innovative **Child Eye Health project** to reduce avoidable blindness and visual impairment in children. In 2016, we focused on service delivery, clinical assessment, field monitoring, advocacy and sustainability. We screened over **67,000 children** for eye health problems and treated more than 3,000 children. We also assisted with ophthalmic clinical officer assessments and participated in advocacy meetings with educators. With targets and sustainability strategies now in place, the Child Eye Health project was handed over to the ministries of health and education, who will provide continuous eye care services for children.

Thanks to our **GivingTuesday 2015** donors, we screened nearly 20,000 students from over 40 different schools in Narok County in 2016. Over 500 students were treated for various eye conditions. Teachers and ophthalmic clinical officers also educated students on eye health and sanitation.

With our partners, we scaled up the **PEEK school screening program** in Trans Nzoia County. PEEK (Portable Eye Examination Kit) is an application enabling teachers to screen students for vision problems using a mobile phone. Thanks to funding through SiB, we implemented the PEEK system at Kitale Eye Unit and two satellite clinics, and provided refresher training for teachers who had been part of our pilot project the previous year. In 2016, over **40,000 students** were screened across 70 schools, and nearly 870 of the children were treated for various eye health issues.

With support from SiB, we continued to strengthen our community outreach programs in the former Rift Valley Province. In 2016, over **100,000 patients** were screened for eye problems. In collaboration with the county government, we established a new eye unit at Huruma Sub-County Hospital. We also supported training for three ophthalmic nurses and one cataract surgeon.

And finally, with support from **The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust**, we continued implementing the **SAFE strategy** to eliminate the blinding eye disease trachoma. Working with Narok County Referral Hospital, we trained 121 community health workers as **Trachomatous Trichiasis (TT) case finders** to help identify those suffering from the late stage of the disease, refer people for surgery and follow up with patients. Over **41,000 people** were screened for TT, of which 358 were identified and 273 received surgeries. We also educated 15 school communities on sanitation and eye health, and trained 30 community health volunteers to facilitate **Community-Led Total Sanitation programs**. This resulted in the construction of 11 new latrines, increasing latrine coverage by 24 percent in the targeted communities.



Thanks to generous donors like you, Deborah (left) and Claries each received a pair of new prescription eyeglasses. Today, they're happy, studious teenagers!

Our impact in Kenya	Adults		Children		Totals
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Patients examined through hospitals	20,557	18,162	28,569	25,113	92,401
Patients examined through school screenings	-	-	51,143	53,742	104,885
Patients examined through other types of outreach programs	9,221	8,610	9,662	9,050	36,543
Cataract surgeries	1,406	1,273	35	272	2,986
Trachomatous Trichiasis surgeries	1,816	963	-	-	2,779
Other eye surgeries (to treat a condition other than cataract or trachoma)	1,103	949	365	883	3,300
Prescription eyeglasses dispensed	613	616	366	326	1,921
Frontline staff/volunteers trained in primary eye health	245	397	-	-	642

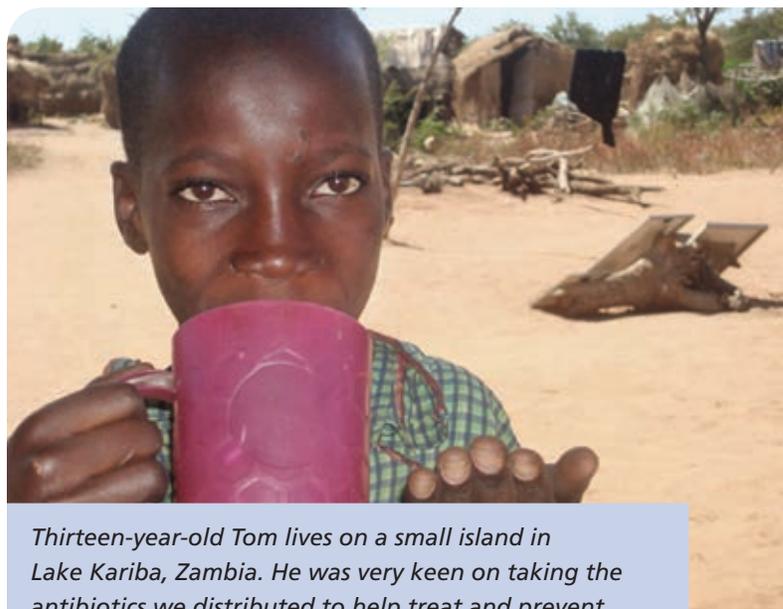
Zambia: 2016 highlights

We're also implementing the full **SAFE strategy** in Zambia, with 2016 seeing great progress in these programs. We successfully drilled **22 boreholes** in Sinazongwe, bringing our total number of boreholes in the district to 96. These boreholes serve as many as **48,000 people**, or 40 percent of the district population.

In 2016, we concentrated our efforts in Mweenda, the largest ward in Sinazongwe district. **Our goal is to declare Mweenda trachoma blindness-free by the end of 2017!** Establishing each borehole program included partnering with the Ministry of Health and local Water Affairs Department; identifying a viable location; drilling the borehole; analyzing the water quality; monitoring and evaluating the program; training the village water committee; and educating the community on sanitation, eye health and general health.

We also trained and equipped 30 local villagers as **pump minders**, who repaired 15 dysfunctional boreholes originally drilled by other international NGOs. The pump minders now have the knowledge to maintain the boreholes in their communities, which will ensure our trachoma programs are sustainable.

In partnership with the Ministry of Health, we conducted our third **Mass Drug Administration** of antibiotics to treat and prevent the spread of trachoma infection. Distribution coverage of the antibiotic was **95 percent**, and we reached many small islands in Lake Kariba, where children and adults received antibiotics for the first time.



Thirteen-year-old Tom lives on a small island in Lake Kariba, Zambia. He was very keen on taking the antibiotics we distributed to help treat and prevent blinding trachoma.

Not only has implementation of the SAFE strategy helped prevent blindness, but it has also provided other important benefits. Improved sanitation has **reduced other serious illnesses** such as diarrheal diseases, upper respiratory infections, skin diseases and malaria.

By preventing the chronic recurrence of trachoma in children, and by eliminating the need for children to travel long distances to fetch household water before going to school, we've contributed to an **increase in school attendance** for both girls and boys. The presence of water close by has led to the construction of schools, encouraging teachers to accept postings at these schools.

Established water points have also **reduced the number of human-animal conflicts**. With a safe water source nearby, people are no longer at risk of crocodiles or other animal predators that may be lurking in rivers or lakes. And finally, a reliable water source has given communities the ability to irrigate crops, grow vegetable gardens and raise healthier livestock, thus improving nutrition and providing a means to earn an income.

The SAFE strategy to eliminate trachoma:

- S**urgery to treat Trachomatous Trichiasis (the painful late stage of the disease)
- A**ntibiotics
- F**acial cleanliness
- E**nvironmental improvement, including wells and latrines

Our impact in Zambia	Adults		Children		Totals
	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Patients examined through hospitals	160	185	20	14	379
Patients examined through school screenings	-	-	14	26	40
Trachomatous Trichiasis surgeries	4	6	-	-	10
Other eye surgeries (to treat a condition other than trachoma)	6	25	-	-	31
Prescription eyeglasses dispensed	3	7	-	-	10
Frontline staff/volunteers trained in primary eye health	77	151	-	-	228
Individuals reached through Mass Drug Administration	47,169	41,768	13,149	9,053	111,139

Financial summary 2016

After strong years in 2014 and 2015, Operation Eyesight was well-positioned going into 2016. Much of the funding accumulated in 2015 was utilized in 2016, and we continued raising funds in anticipation of our international programs planned for 2017. We saw a 52 percent increase in major gifts over last year, which can be attributed to our "Washing Away Blindness" campaign (see page 1) and significant gift increases from some of our longterm donors.

We truly cannot thank our donors enough for their incredibly generous support! Every gift, no matter the size, has the power to create an incredible impact in the countries where we work. Because of you, we head into 2017 with renewed optimism and ambition, and with great pride for the work we've been able to accomplish together. We look forward to another successful year ahead – thanks to your continued support!

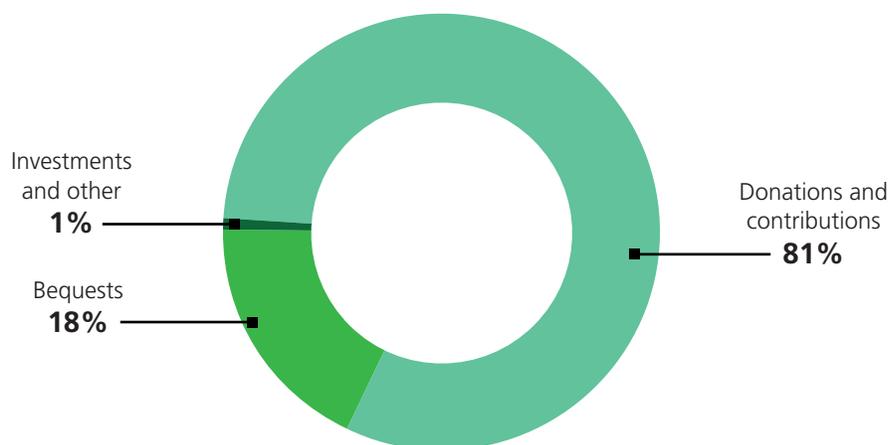
Summarized statement of financial position

As at December 31 (in thousands of dollars)

Operation Eyesight

	2016	2015
Assets		
Current assets	3,720	2,497
Investments	1,760	2,048
Capital assets	10	6
Other assets	61	58
	5,551	4,609
Liabilities and net assets		
Current liabilities	326	251
Net assets	5,225	4,358
Total liabilities and net assets	5,551	4,609

Revenue

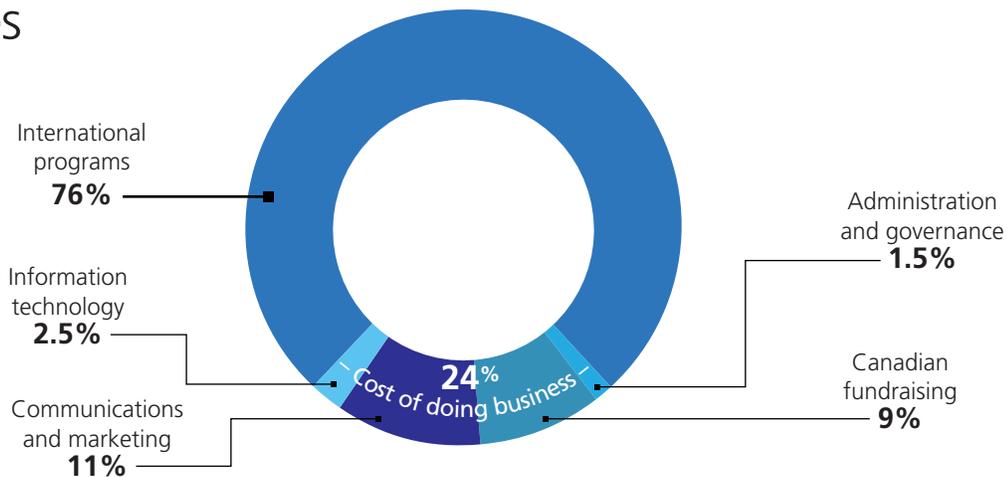


Summarized statement of operations

As at December 31 (in thousands of dollars)

	2016	2015
Revenues		
Annual gifts	1,134	1,155
Major gifts	3,311	2,184
Legacies	972	659
Total donations and contributions	5,417	3,998
Government contributions (Global Affairs Canada)	-	55
Investments and other	39	32
Total revenue	5,456	4,086
Expenses		
International programs	3,467	3,229
Fundraising	917	849
Administration	204	174
} Cost of doing business		
Total expenses	4,588	4,251
(Deficiency) Excess of revenues over expenses	868	(166)

Expenditures



Notes about our financial summary

Operation Eyesight follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

The financial information in this summary is drawn from Operation Eyesight's financial statements. If you would like a copy of the complete financial statements, please contact us or view a PDF version on our website at operationeyesight.com/financials.





our community of support

Operation Eyesight is fortunate to have the support of many individuals, foundations, clubs and corporations around the globe. Thank you for investing in our blindness treatment and prevention programs – For All The World To See!

Individuals \$5,000+

- Karen and Bill Barnett
- Eglia Bregani
- Deborah Cullen
- Marty Cutler
- Margaret Duncan
- Henning Freybe
- James Killam
- Alexander and Marlene MacKenzie
- Robert Ohlson
- Khorshed S. Patel
- Penelope M. Pattison
- Doreen Richards
- Florence and Ross Robertson
- Henry and Elfriede Streu
- Maurice and Gloria Walsh
- Audrey E. Wilson

Corporations \$1,000+

- Annapolis Capital Ltd.
- Callow & Associates Management Consultants
- Dr. Michael Stefanelli Inc.
- Heathbridge Capital Management Ltd.
- LASIK MD GMA SEC
- LASIK MD Ontario LP
- Meadowlark Resources Corp.
- Paul O'Connor Funeral Home Ltd.
- TELUS Corporation

Clubs and Groups \$1,000+

- Mechanical Contractors Association of America Inc.
- Mechanical Contractors Association of Newfoundland
- Rotary Club of Brantford
- Rotary Club of Charlottetown Royalty Inc.
- Rotary Club of High River
- Rotary Club of Kentville
- Rotary Club of Kitchener Westmount
- Rotary Club of London South
- Rotary Club of Victoria
- Rosedale United Church Women
- Sisters of Charity of St. Louis, Calgary, AB
- Trinity United Church Women, Vernon, BC

International Investors

\$10,000+

- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, administrator for Standard Chartered Bank's Seeing is Believing program
- The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust

\$2,000+

- Mechanical Contractors Association of America Inc.

\$1,000+

- Hoyt Purcell
- Frank J. Schell

Foundations \$1,000+

- Andrew Mahon Foundation
- Christine A. Sethi-Van Impe Foundation
- Colin and Janet Campbell Fund
- Doreen and Bernard Crook Fund at the Victoria Foundation
- Dorothy May Kelly Trust at the Victoria Foundation
- Ethan and Joan Compton Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- Florence and Otis Munday Foundation
- The Foster Family Charitable Fund
- Francis and Marjorie Lefavre Family Charitable Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- Frank J. Flaman Foundation
- Jack and Doris Brown Foundation
- Jamshed K. Pavri Memorial Fund at the Vancouver Foundation
- The Lawrason Foundation
- M. Craig Storey Endowment Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- MacEwan Family Charity Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- Margaret Clementi Fund
- Marjorie and John Foofat Foundation, United Kingdom
- Maunder McNeil Foundation Inc.
- Nickle Family Foundation
- The P. and P. Murray Foundation
- Ralph and Gay Young Family Fund held at the Edmonton Community Foundation
- Robbie and Mary Robinson Family Fund at the Victoria Foundation
- Ross Lynn Charitable Foundation
- Sook Ching Foundation
- Ted and Enid Jansen Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- William H. and Nora Hickson Kelly Fund at the Community Foundation of Ottawa

Legacy Gifts

Thank you to those who have communicated their intention to include a gift to Operation Eyesight in their wills and/or estate plans.

James and Rosalie Alexander
Doreen G. Antliff
Valerie Argue
Ashok and Kanchan Bhasin
David R. Boldt, in loving memory of his wife Doris
Glen W. Bryan
Margaret Burkhart
Joseph A. Carr
Laurence and Irene Christie
Anthony J. Cole
John and Gwendolen Crowe
Margaret N. Cutt
Joyce Dann
David Vaughn Dubois
Brian Foster
M. K. Hankey
David C. Hochman
Jill Huggins
Allyn and Donna Mae Humber
Monayem Huq
Kerman Katrak
Frank and Lisa Kordiaka
Ronald and Ruth LaFlair
Kenneth M. Macpherson
Beverly Marriott
Jean E. Marsh
Nina Marshall
John W. Masters
Robert Ohlson
Ernest Ooms and Wendy Guillemaud
Christine J. Parkes
Penelope M. Pattison
Carol (Harris) Raynes
Karine J. Rietjens
Lenore Sheehan
Naju B. Shroff
Jean Stahnke
Brian Stevenson
Henry and Elfriede Streu
Bhagwan and Philomena Vaswani
Alyson Witts
Herbert D. Wyman, Q.C.

Estate Gifts

Operation Eyesight recognizes the loss of those people who have made a difference in our world, and who supported us during their lifetimes. We thank the following individuals who demonstrated their enduring commitment to help the needlessly blind by giving estate gifts in 2016.

Estate of Mary Jean Baxter
Estate of Margaret Jean Baxter
Estate of Elsie Rosemary Diamond
Estate of Hannelore Helene Gewers
Estate of Helen Katharine Gibson
Estate of Christopher Ross Gillespie
Estate of John Adrien Hacault
Estate of Robert Ferrier Harrison
Estate of Una Jenkyns
Estate of Edna Mary Mann
Estate of Paul James O'Neill
Estate of Jacquelyn Alexandria Peitchinis
Estate of Kathleen Lily Porter
Estate of David Richard Godfrey Rule
Estate of Marjorie Sanders

Monthly Donors

Operation Eyesight acknowledges and thanks the more than 700 monthly donors who supported our mission in 2016. Your monthly gifts are the foundation for the sustainability of our work to eliminate avoidable blindness. Please know how much we value your ongoing investment in Operation Eyesight.

As a matter of policy, Operation Eyesight does not sell or trade donor names or contact information.

Every effort has been made to ensure this list is complete. If any errors or omissions have occurred, Operation Eyesight sincerely apologizes.



how your support is helping people around the world

A bittersweet tale

Anne, a 48-year-old woman living in Kenya's Narok District, had many responsibilities: caring for her nine children, herding livestock and fetching water and firewood while a serious drought gripped the area. But Anne was afraid because she was going blind.

"I was angry at life," she said. "How could I be losing sight at such a young age? I lost sleep thinking about a future where I would be helpless in complete darkness. I was afraid." Anne suffered from trichiasis, the painful late stage of trachoma infection when the eyelashes turn inwards and scratch the cornea. She was left with low vision in her left eye and no vision in her right.

Without intervention, Anne would lose her sight permanently. "Since my mother-in-law was blind, I was afraid that I would suffer as she did – depending on others for everything in my life."

The surgeries to correct Anne's inverted eyelids were funded by The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust's Kenya Trachoma Elimination Project. We are proud to be one of the implementing partners, working to end trachoma through the World Health Organization-endorsed SAFE strategy. (*Learn more on page 7.*)

Today Anne has recovered from trichiasis, her pain is gone and her eyesight preserved, but her lost vision will never return. This bittersweet ending is why we're working to eliminate trachoma and prevent people from losing their sight in the first place. We won't stop our work until there are only happy endings to stories like Anne's.



While Anne feels regret for her lost vision, she is thankful for everyone who helped end her suffering. Operation Eyesight is grateful to have many wonderful donors who share our dream of a world where nobody is avoidably blind.



Ankita during a community engagement meeting. At the meeting, villagers praised Ankita for her efforts. "She is not only the daughter of her native village, but she is a daughter of our village as well."

Daughter of many villages

For 27-year-old Ankita, the opportunity to become a community health worker for Operation Eyesight was a miracle. Ankita's father died when she was a teen. She had to drop out of school to work to support her mother and younger brother – not an easy task in her rural village in West Bengal, India.

One day, her neighbour told her that Siliguri Greater Lions Eye Hospital was recruiting community health workers. For Ankita, it was an opportunity not to be missed! She applied for the post and after an interview and written exam, was selected for the training program.

That was four years ago. Today, Ankita works with all her might to serve nearby villages with eye care. She's helped 755 patients get their eyesight restored, and has contributed to 13 avoidable blindness-free villages. Meanwhile, she's also joined a distance education program and is pursuing a degree.

Ankita enjoys her role. "I feel so happy when people approach me and recognize me as a community health worker and thank me for helping to get their eyesight restored. Now, people come to my house for any eye problem and seek support. I thank Operation Eyesight and the hospital for believing in me and giving me this opportunity!"

& KNOW

you're making a difference in the lives of others

By supporting Operation Eyesight's work, **you cared enough to make a difference to vulnerable children, women and men like these:**

- A young boy like Rounak, pictured here, who received life-saving treatment at the Operation Eyesight Universal Institute for Eye Cancer. His right eye was saved and he is now cancer-free;
- A young mother like Arti, whose husband abandoned her and their children when she became blind with cataracts. Thanks to one of our community health workers, Arti was referred to the hospital and her cataracts were removed. Because she can see today, she can work to support her young daughters; and
- An elderly man like Bunu-Nye, who had lost his eyesight and his dignity due to cataracts. Today, with his vision restored, he told our staff that he has come back to life!

Yes, it's true: losing one's sight can be much worse than simply not being able to see. In developing countries, where health care is often scarce or unaffordable, **sight is life.**



And because you saw a need and knew you could help, your generosity has bettered the lives of people you will never meet, but who will thank you for the rest of their days. Your support is helping us prevent blindness and restore sight for millions of people.

***Together, we're making the world a better place...
For All The World To See!***

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Operation Eyesight is a proud member of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight,
a global initiative for the elimination of avoidable blindness by 2020.



JUNE 2017

A Kenyan boy receives an antibiotic to prevent and treat trachoma infection. Photo by Ronald Keifa.

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