



**Combat Blindness**  
INTERNATIONAL

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Restoring sight. Empowering people.





In 2022, Combat Blindness International (CBI) made a large-scale, sustainable impact on avoidable and preventable blindness around the world. While CBI remains true to its mission of alleviating preventable blindness by providing free cataract surgeries and screening children in schools, our vision is to increase our focus on the underlying issues that affect access to quality, equitable eye care, such as the lack of trained ophthalmologists, ophthalmic technicians, and screeners.

The shortage of trained eye care professionals is one of the greatest obstacles facing eye care programs and global health worldwide, but nowhere more so than in low-income countries where these programs are devoted to treating the rural poor. In 2022, CBI expanded its support of both the Certified Ophthalmic Paramedic Program (COP) and the Aadya Initiative. By building the workforce in the countries we serve, we are helping build the capacity of our partners from within, and moving one step closer to ensuring our programs become sustainable.

For the woman in Kenya receiving an eye screening for the first time, for the man regaining his sight after a free cataract surgery in India, for the young child in Paraguay whose screening and glasses allows them to see the chalkboard, and for the young woman in India whose education and training means she can be financially independent, we are committed to opening the doors to opportunity and hope.

We continue to be humbled by your generosity and enthusiasm for the work of Combat Blindness International. It is because of support from friends and donors such as yourself that CBI is positioned to accomplish these goals. Your support impacts people's lives in transformational ways by giving the opportunity for life, work, education, family, and community.

We thank you.

**With gratitude,**

**Reena Chandra, MPH**  
*President (ex officio) & Executive Director*

**Suresh Chandra, MD**  
*Founder & Chief Visionary Officer*





# Our Impact So Far 1984-2022

**18**

Countries Where  
We Have Restored Vision

**3.84+ MILLION**  
Vision Screenings

**2,958,133**  
Adults Screened


**888,588**  
Children Screened

**410,000+**  
Sight-Restoring Surgeries

**725+**  
Women Empowered  
by Technical Training

**420,000+**  
Pairs of Glasses Distributed

**\$530,000+**  
in Equipment and Medication  
from 2005 to 2022

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Photos marked with a  were originally produced by  
Deepanjali Chopra / Deepanjali Productions.*







UNITED NATIONS  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# UN SDGs addressed by Combat Blindness International

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a global call to action to build a healthier world for the entire population and the environment by 2030. The 17 SDGs and 169 targets are integrated which mean they recognise that action in one area will affect outcomes in the others.<sup>1</sup>

The issues of blindness and vision loss cut across many of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including reducing poverty, promoting good health and well being, increasing gender equity and reducing inequalities, increasing education, work opportunities and economic growth and using partnership to achieve these goals. According to the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), eye health and access to quality care is essential to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



## NO POVERTY

Poverty is both a cause and a consequence of poor eye health.



## DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH

Good eye health and vision promotes inclusive economic growth, employment and improved living standards.



## GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Eye health is key to ensuring good health, mental health and wellbeing.



## REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Poor eye health is driven by inequality. Women, older people, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, refugees and internally displaced persons and migrants are among those most affected.



## QUALITY EDUCATION

Eye health has a positive impact on school enrollment, educational attainment and learning.



## PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Partnerships are the key to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



## GENDER EQUALITY

Women and girls are more likely to have vision loss and experience additional barriers to eye care services.

<sup>1</sup> *Eye Health and the Sustainable Development Goals*, IAPB. <https://www.iapb.org/advocate/eye-health-and-sdgs/>

### SDG DESCRIPTION SOURCE:

*Eye Health: Why it matters*, IAPB.

[https://www.iapb.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Eye-Health\\_Why-it-matters\\_18052021.pdf](https://www.iapb.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Eye-Health_Why-it-matters_18052021.pdf)





aadya  
Women - Community - Welfare

INNOVATIVE  
SOLUTIONS

# From our pilot in 2021 to the end of 2022, Aadya screeners completed over 340,000 eye screenings

**97%**  
of those screened had never  
previously received an eye exam



## The Aadya Initiative: Access to Quality Eye Care in Action

**314,124**  
Eye screenings completed in 2022

**51**  
Women trained as Aadya screeners

**26,941**  
Referrals for further treatment

The Aadya Initiative evolved through CBI's collaboration with Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital (SCEH) in Delhi, India, and University of Wisconsin-Whitewater chapter of Enactus, a global social entrepreneurship group, and has grown exponentially, providing access to quality, equitable eye care to rural communities in India.

The Aadya Initiative brings vision screeners and mobile technology to the very doorsteps of the rural poor. By training teams of women to conduct door-to-door screenings using a custom-built smartphone screening survey, Aadya is reaching significantly more people in less time than conventional screening efforts. Reading glasses are dispensed on the spot to those who need them, while those requiring follow-up care are referred

to vision centers, a regional surgical center, or the main hospital in Delhi.

At the same time, it promotes gender equity by equipping women with technical training, patient skills, and jobs with decent wages. Aadya screeners earn an income from their referrals and through the sale of glasses to those who can afford them.

The impact of this initiative is substantial. From our pilot in 2021 to the end of 2022, Aadya screeners completed over 340,000 screenings in rural Saharanpur. People in rural communities get the screenings they need, and there are more screenings and referrals in less time compared to the old approach of using vision camps. In addition, young women in these communities are empowered with medical training, flexible employment, and income, putting them on a path to financial freedom.

"I am excited that in 2022 we were able to expand the Aadya Initiative in Saharanpur and into Vrindavan, providing many more underserved people access to a simple eye exam, glasses, and treatment if needed," says Reena Chandra, CBI's president and executive director. "We are now focusing on how we can expand this program to new health systems and countries."





## POONAM: THE STORY OF AN AADYA SCREENER

Struggle came early in the life of Ms. Poonam when her husband's accident left her alone with a one-year-old baby. In deep sorrow, but determined to move past the trauma and provide for her daughter, Poonam earned her B.Ed. to become a primary school teacher. Her father-in-law was a retired government officer, and their family depended on his pension financially. When her father-in-law passed away, Poonam was left to support both her mother-in-law and her baby girl on her own.

After 5 years, Poonam began searching for better earning opportunities. She learned about the position through the vision center at Chhutmalpur, Saharanpur (UP). Poonam created her resume at an internet café and applied for the role. In September 2021, Poonam became part of the first cohort of Aadya screeners.

After a rigorous one-month training and field exposure, Poonam built her understanding of visual impairment, blindness, and the signs and symptoms of different eye diseases such

as cataract and glaucoma. She also learned about the different types of lenses and their uses, the handling of visual assessment using mobile technology, and how to build rapport and create positive discussion in communities. All of this boosted her confidence and communication skills as she went door-to-door screening patients.

In Poonam's year-and-a-half journey with the Aadya Initiative, she has impacted the learning of thousands of people. To date, she has screened over 17,000 people, referred over 578 people to the local vision center, helped over 58 people get surgeries, and distributed over 236 spectacles in her community for near vision. In addition, Poonam provided training and support to over 70 subsequent Aadya screeners. She traveled to Vrindavan, the second Aadya Initiative site, to train new Aadya screeners at the newly expanded location. And she promotes the success and learnings of the Aadya Initiative to delegates visiting from different departments of SCEH and beyond.







“Joining the Aadya Initiative has helped me realize the needs of my community and people suffering from blindness or low vision. It gives me a great feeling inside when I support such people. The position provides me with so much flexibility, allowing me to be both an Aadya screener and mother.”

**Ms. Poonam**

*Aadya Screener  
Chhutmalpur, Saharanpur (UP)*



## EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH COLLABORATION

The Aadya Initiative is a collaborative effort by SCEH and CBI focused on eye care and women empowerment. Along with providing eye screening to villagers at their doorstep, these Aadya workers end up developing a strong connection with them. The program has provided excellent employment opportunities for rural women who wanted to work but needed flexible working hours to take care of their family commitments.

We are thankful to Combat Blindness International, which has provided constant support for this program. The CBI team has been keenly involved in the development and process improvement of the Aadya Initiative and has been regularly in touch with Aadya screeners on the ground.

**Dr. Shalinder Sabherwal**

*Director of Public Health and Projects  
Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital Network*



DEOBAND INAUGURAL DATE 30 SEP

OCT - NOV	OPD	CAT SX	SASLTY SX	GLASS
2022	1089	51	4	
2023				
FTM SCR	229	6		
YTD SCR...	695	39		

WOMEN'S  
EMPOWERMENT







## Certified Ophthalmic Paramedic Program (COP): Addressing the Eye Care & Gender Equity Gap

In low-income countries, the severe shortage of eye care professionals is a major obstacle to providing care to those who need it the most.

It is an urgent issue particularly in India, which has the most visually impaired people in the world,<sup>2</sup> and yet it has only 13 ophthalmologists per million people,<sup>3</sup> compared to 54.7 ophthalmologists per million people in the United States.<sup>4</sup>

Since 2014, Combat Blindness International has proudly supported training young women to become eye health technicians via the Certified Ophthalmic Paramedic Program (COP) at Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital (SCEH) in Delhi, India. These energetic women fulfill a variety of roles, including ophthalmic nursing assistants, vision technicians, medical record

administrators, and patient counselors. In the process, they significantly reduce ophthalmologists' workloads, increase the hospitals capacity to screen and treat patients, and provide a more personal experience for the patient.

At same time, CBI's support for this innovative program empowers young women with technical training, patient relationship skills, employment, financial literacy, and a path to career advancement that typically is unavailable to them.

<sup>2</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
[iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/countries](http://iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/countries)

<sup>3</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
[iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/countries/india](http://iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/countries/india)

<sup>4</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
[iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/countries/united-states-of-america](http://iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/countries/united-states-of-america)



## PROGRAM EXPANSION TO ENSURE ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE

In 2022, based on the success of establishing a satellite training center in Saharanpur, India, about 125 miles from New Delhi, SCEH established training centers at each of their six regional surgical centers. As a result, SCEH experienced a 24% increase in the number of patients screened and a 47% increase in surgeries performed at the main hospital. In addition, there was a significant increase in capacity to screen patients and perform surgeries in regional surgical centers. Specifically, the COP technicians helped achieve an increase in outpatient visits by 36% and an increase in surgeries performed by 51%. The creation of these satellite programs stemmed from student and family feedback to have a program closer to rural communities and to have COP graduates work in the regional surgical

centers. This expansion allows us to increase the number of women we educate, reduce attrition, support the center's staffing needs, and provide a facility closer to home for these young women.

In addition to the satellite COP program, CBI supports a fellowship program for promising students at SCEH. We feel that supporting these programs is vital to creating a career path for these young women as they receive an additional year of advanced training in one of the following tracks: administration, clinical care, patient counseling, or surgical support. This gives the fellows the education and training to become clinic and vision center trainers and supervisors within the SCEH health system and beyond.







Combat Blindness International has empowered over 725 women through education and technical training.



## IQRA: THE STORY OF A VISION TECHNICIAN

Iqra Khan is a 21-year-old cancer survivor. She had a difficult childhood as she was diagnosed with stomach cancer at the very early age of three. Iqra went through numerous treatments and therapies, taking more than 1 year to recover.

Now fully recovered, she is living a healthy life. Iqra learned about the COP Program during one of her routine cancer check-ups. She has completed her training as a COP vision technician and she is posted as a Fellow VT in a vision center near Meerut, UP.

“Participating in both the COP program and the Aadya Initiative pilot helped boost my confidence. I enjoy helping so many patients.”

**Iqra Khan**  
Vision Technician







OUR INTERNATIONAL  
CATARACT PROGRAM



# International Cataract Program Impact in 2022

**27,320**

Adult Cataract Surgeries Performed

**527,629**

Adult Patients Screened



## Taking a Stand Against Preventable Blindness

For over 38 years, Combat Blindness International has been dedicated to reducing the leading cause of vision loss worldwide: cataracts. Over 100 million experience vision loss due to cataracts, and of those, more than 17 million are blind.<sup>5</sup>

For the vast majority of people in low-to-middle-income countries, where 90% of the world's visually impaired live,<sup>6</sup> cataract surgery is too costly, or simply unavailable.

CBI is committed to supporting free cataract screenings and surgeries as the most impactful ways to restore sight to people in these regions. To date, our International Cataract Program has supported over 2.95 million adult vision screenings and over 410,000 surgeries.

For as little as \$25, CBI provides cataract surgeries that take roughly 20 minutes, and can give someone their sight back in 24 hours. Not only is their sight restored,

but people who regain their vision generate 1,500 percent of the cost of their cataract surgery in increased productivity during the first year after their surgery.<sup>7</sup>

For the father in Nairobi, this means returning to work and contributing financially to his family. For the mother in India, it means participating in the care of one's family, home, and community. For a young Indian woman, it means the ability to gain new skills and thrive. To the people we serve, the ability to see opens the door to a world of possibility not only for them, but also their family and community.

<sup>5</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
[iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/causes-of-vision-loss](http://iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/causes-of-vision-loss)

<sup>6</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
[iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/](http://iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/)

<sup>7</sup> "Blindness and Poverty in India: The Way Forward,"  
*Clinical & Experimental Optometry: Journal of the Australian Optometrical Association*, 90,  
pp. 406-14; 2007.



## CONTINUING OUR COMMITMENT IN KENYA

Combat Blindness International re-established its partnership in 2021 with Lions SightFirst Eye Hospital (LSEH), a well-known comprehensive eye care institution in Nairobi, Kenya. Combat Blindness International's support for vision screenings and cataract surgeries came at a crucial time.

LSEH used an innovative and robust schedule of eye camps and trained cataract surgery technicians to treat the underserved in its community. As a result, they were able to conduct 288 comprehensive eye screening

camps, screening 117,939 patients, providing 5,108 sight-saving cataract surgeries, and distributing 12,083 pairs of glasses in 2022.

Where it was not economically possible to transport the patients to Nairobi, and where there was a backlog of cataracts, the hospital organized 4 surgical camps where the team went to selected rural sites, set up make-shift operating theaters and carried out 438 cataract surgeries.

With CBI's support, the hospital is looking forward to carrying out 6,000 free cataract surgeries in 2023.





# OUR GROWING PARTNERSHIP WITH JMF

In 2022, Combat Blindness International continued its partnership with Jayapriya Medical Foundation (JMF), the charitable arm of Jayapriya Eye Hospital in Hubli, India.

After the successful completion of "Mission Jyoti 1.0 and 2.0", a joint CBI-JMF effort providing over 2,500 free cataract surgeries in North Karnataka, Combat Blindness International provided additional support for 3,000 free surgeries, launching Mission Jyoti 3.0 in 2022.

CBI is proud to partner with the Jayapriya Medical Foundation, who is providing much needed eye care to their community with commitment and dedication.



## RESTORING ROSE'S VISION

Rose Mbilo is an 87-year old-woman from Tala who helped develop her community group from just a "merry-go-round" where women needed to contribute weekly to support their own well-being into a government-registered welfare group. Unfortunately in 2021, Rose started skipping these group meetings because she was finding it difficult to read meeting minutes to the other group members.

One of her children heard about a free eye screening camp and told her to attend. Rose was found to have mature cataracts in both her eyes. After surgery in one eye mid-2022, she could not believe her eyes when she saw how beautiful her grandchildren had grown. According to Rose, "I am not only going to lead my women's group, but I am going to ensure all the members attend the free eye camps, and it will be entered into our annual minutes for us to see which members have gone to the screening." She is grateful to donors who made it possible for her to receive this free care.







OUR INTERNATIONAL  
PEDIATRIC PROGRAM



# International Pediatric Program Impact in 2022

**152,039**  
Children Screened

**68**  
Pediatric Surgeries Performed

**1,503**  
Pairs of Glasses Distributed to Children



## Giving Children a Brighter Future

Fighting childhood vision loss remains an urgent priority.

Around the world, there are 90 million children and adolescents living with vision loss. Of these, 30.2 million have moderate to severe vision impairment,<sup>8</sup> and given that 80% of learning takes place visually,<sup>9</sup> it is crucially important to screen and treat children at an early age. Without early intervention, they will face a lifetime of barriers and lost opportunities.

Combat Blindness International has supported more than 880,000 vision screenings, more than 2,100 surgeries, and provided over 28,000 pairs of glasses for at-risk children over the past 38 years.

In 2022, CBI rekindled our partnership with Fundación Visión to provide school-based screenings to low-income children

in Paraguay. The project aims to train school teachers in early detection and provide ophthalmological care to kids in need. So far, 89 teachers in Coronel Oviedo, a city 150 km from Paraguay's capital, were trained to screen students in 14 schools. By December 2022, they had screened over 2,400 children, referring those who needed further treatment for proper care. Our collaborative goal is to screen 10,000 kids by 2024.

At CBI we are committed to providing every child, no matter their circumstances, the opportunity to learn, thrive, and pursue their dreams, free of visual disabilities.

<sup>8</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
<https://www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/child-eye-health/>

<sup>9</sup> IAPB Vision Atlas, 2021  
<https://www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/magnitude-and-projections/child-eye-health/>

SPECTACLES  
ARE ONE OF  
THE MOST  
EFFECTIVE HEALTH  
INTERVENTIONS  
FOR CHILDREN,  
REDUCING THE  
CHANCE OF  
FAILING A  
CLASS BY 44%.

Burton MJ, Ramke J, Marques AP, Bourne RRA, Congdon N, Jones I, et al. *The Lancet Global Health Commission on Global Eye Health: Vision Beyond 2020*. The Lancet Global Health. 2021 Apr;9(4):e489–551.



## GIVING SIGHT: JOSÉ & FACUNDO

José María Rivas is 11 years old, and his nephew Facundo Franco is 5 years old. They are part of a large family that lives in a humble house in the Sol Naciente Settlement in the city of Coronel Oviedo. José María's mother sells food in a small dining room in the municipal market, and his father is a bricklayer. He is currently in 4th grade and Facundo is in pre-school at the Fray Teodoro School, which is located 5 km from their home and which they walk to every day.

This school is part of CBI and Fundación Visión's school-based screening program that provides visual acuity screening for their students. Through this program, José María and Facundo had the opportunity to receive an eye screening in their school. Because both José María and Facundo were born prematurely, they were diagnosed with refractive errors. Although their parents tried to support their large family, the resources were not available to buy the glasses the boys needed. Through the support of CBI, José María and Facundo were screened and received the glasses that will help improve their vision.







## SHILPI SINGH & MANISH SINHA: COMBAT BLINDNESS ALLIES

We're proud to be an ally of Combat Blindness International

Hello! We are Manish and Shilpi, co-founders of the digital marketing company Studio4. online, based in Portugal and India.

Working with Reena and the CBI team is like working with a family for a brave cause.

In our three years of association with Combat Blindness International, we have seen how their lean team works efficiently to ensure that all resources are optimized to restore vision for people from low-income regions and marginalized societies.

Here's one story we would like to highlight. This is the story of a couple in India - the woman had a vision impairment and the man had a physical disability. They wanted to become parents but decided against it because of their economic situation.

The wife was treated and operated at Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, one of CBI's key partners. She got her vision back. They're proud parents today. All it took was a \$25 cataract operation.

Every year, CBI touches hundreds of lives. You'll find stories of Hope, Transformation, Opportunity, Empowerment, and Equity.

In 2023, we're working on CBI's Allyship Program to spread awareness about preventable blindness using the power of allies. We truly believe that mobilizing individual allies and organizations can make an even greater impact on the lives of those affected by blindness.

**We are committed to sustainability and purpose-led causes. We're grateful to CBI for this partnership and look forward to creating a #rippleofchange together!**



## ACTIVE PROJECTS

- 1 India
- 2 Brazil
- 3 Kenya
- 4 Pakistan
- 5 Paraguay
- 6 United States

## PREVIOUS PROJECTS

- 7 Angola
- 8 Botswana
- 9 Gambia
- 10 Haiti
- 11 Lebanon
- 12 Mali
- 13 Myanmar
- 14 Namibia
- 15 Nigeria
- 16 Philippines
- 17 South Africa
- 18 Vietnam

## Our Impact in 2022

### THE AMERICAS

**Madison Metropolitan School District Vision Project**  
*Madison, Wisconsin, USA*  
 2,795 Pediatric Screenings  
 16 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

**Right to Sight Clinic**  
*Madison, Wisconsin, USA*  
 106 Screenings  
 34 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

**Fundación Visión**  
*Asunción, Paraguay*  
 89 Teachers Trained as Screeners  
 2,422 Pediatric Screenings  
 3 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

### AFRICA

**Lions SightFirst Eye Hospital**  
*Nairobi, Kenya*  
 117,939 Screenings  
 5,108 Surgeries  
 12,083 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

### ASIA

**Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital**  
*Delhi, India*  
**COP Program Capacity Impact**  
 134 Scholarships for Ophthalmic Paramedic Training  
 101,861 Additional Screenings  
 8,042 Additional Surgeries

**The Aadya Initiative**  
 51 Stipends for Aadya Screeners  
 314,124 Screenings  
 746 Surgeries  
 1,662 Pairs of Glasses Distributed



# 38 Years of Vision Around the World



## **Graham Layton Trust**

*Karachi, Pakistan*

837 Surgeries & Screenings

## **Jayapriya Medical Foundation**

*Karnataka, India*

6,552 Screenings

2,762 Surgeries

1,342 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

## **L.V. Prasad Eye Institute**

**Bijayananda Patnaik Eye Center**

*Keonjhar, India*

22,537 Screenings

1,575 Surgeries

## **Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra**

*Bihar, India*

31,637 Screenings

5,345 Surgeries

Intraocular Lenses Donated

## **Rai Govind Shyam Trust**

*Mumbai, India*

Phaco Machine Donated

## **Shri Jalaram Arogya Seva Trust Hospital**

*Meghraj, India*

46,893 Screenings

2,910 Surgeries

522 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

Intraocular Lenses Donated

## **Usha Kiran Eye Hospital**

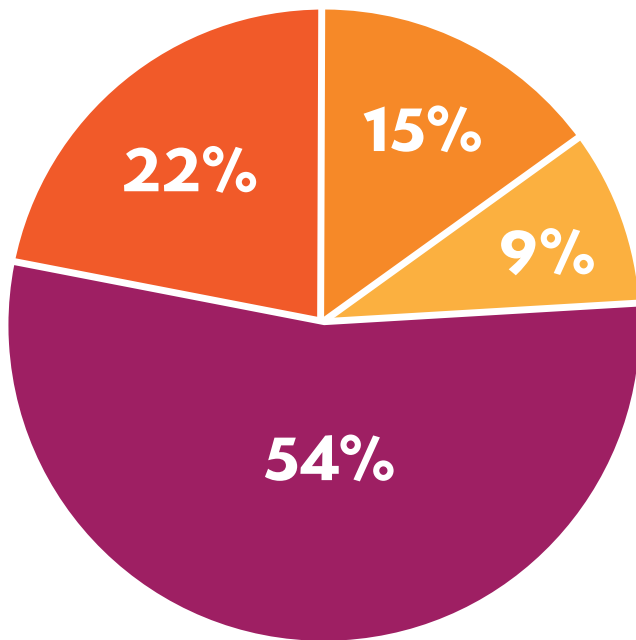
*Mysore, India*

31,965 Pediatric Screenings

63 Pediatric Surgeries

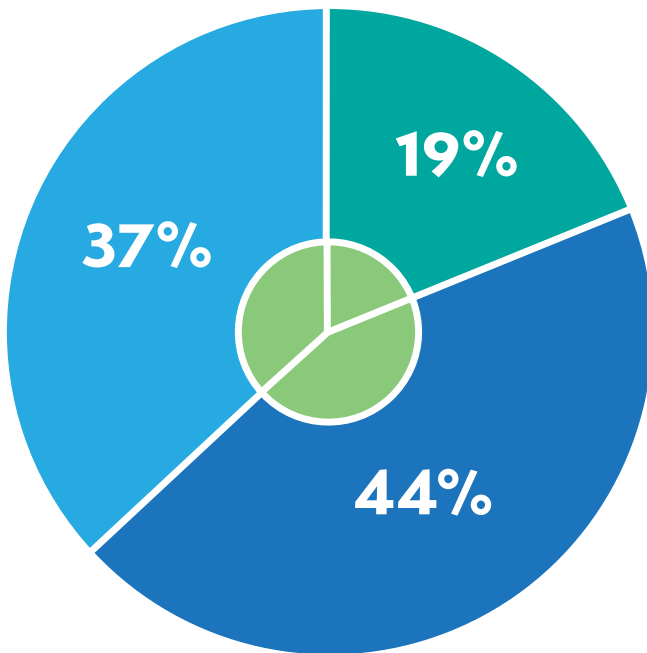
962 Pairs of Glasses Distributed

# 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT OVERVIEW



## INCOME

- INDIVIDUALS
- GIFTS-IN-KIND
- GRANTS
- SPECIAL EVENTS



## EXPENSES

- CORE MISSION SUPPORT: FUNDRAISING + MANAGEMENT GENERAL EXPENSES
- CATARACT PROGRAM
- PEDIATRIC EYE CARE PROGRAM
- PERSONNEL TRAINING

We are proud of CBI's commitment to growing its programs and to funding direct patient care. Our new graphic highlights how our fundraising, management, and general expenses are not slices of the pie that "take away" from our program spending. **Instead, they provide a core foundation for our programs and contribute directly to our ability to carry out our mission.**







Because you cared, 679,668 people received eye care in 2022.

## OUR 2022 FINANCIAL DETAILS

### INCOME

Individuals	\$421,060
Gifts-in-Kind	\$170,807
Grants	\$117,300
Special Events	\$70,149
Investments (Loss)	-\$127,940
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$651,376</b>

**TOTAL NET ASSETS**  
**\$667,198**

### EXPENSES

Program Services (72%)									
Cataract Program	\$251,441								
Pediatric Eye Care	\$132,247								
Personnel Training	\$303,075	<b>Program Services Subtotal</b>	<b>\$686,763</b>	Fundraising (18%)	\$172,654	Management & General (10%)	\$93,608	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$953,025</b>
<b>Program Services Subtotal</b>	<b>\$686,763</b>								
Fundraising (18%)	\$172,654								
Management & General (10%)	\$93,608	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$953,025</b>						
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$953,025</b>								





## CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY

For 38 years, Combat Blindness International has focused on providing quality, equitable eye care to the most vulnerable around the world.

Your support has given millions of people equitable access to vision screenings, glasses, surgeries, and more, regardless of their geography or ability to pay.

With your ongoing commitment, we can continue giving hope to people who are needlessly suffering from vision loss.

Your support allows CBI to fulfill its mission of alleviating preventable blindness by providing free cataract surgeries and screening children in schools, while also focusing on the underlying issues that affect access to quality, equitable eye care, such as the lack of a trained ophthalmic workforce.

Thanks to you, we continue to expand our cataract and pediatric programs in new regions, while growing our programs in India, Africa, South America, and the US. By building the workforce from within our partner countries, we are empowering even more women with valuable skills and a career path through the Certified Ophthalmic Paramedic Program. And we're excited to continue building on the success of the Aadya Initiative, which aims to expand access to quality eye care in rural regions while empowering women and setting them on a path for financial freedom.

Your transformational support empowers a father to continue working, a child to return to school, and a woman to gain professional skills that financially benefit her, her family, and her community.

**We are deeply grateful for your generosity and your continued support.**

**Reena Chandra, MPH**  
*President (ex officio) & Executive Director*







## ANDREW C. THOMPSON: WHY I JOINED CBI



I've had the good fortune of traveling to many places off the beaten path and have tried to develop a healthy perspective to ground me back home. As my professional and personal lives have developed and stabilized after graduate school, I began to look for ways to engage with the wider world and give back to the global community.

I decided to join Combat Blindness International because the mission speaks clearly to who I am and what I try to accomplish every day. It's an organization and a cause that is just so easy to understand and get behind.

I was afforded the opportunity to travel to India this year with the CBI staff. Meeting with our partners and some of the individuals receiving care was a life-changing experience that I treasure each day. There simply aren't the right words to describe the incredible work being done with limited resources, and I am proud to call these amazingly selfless humans my friends. It was amazing to see the transformational effect of the Aadya Initiative, which has given fulfilling careers to over 60 underemployed young women who have collectively screened more than 340,000 patients in their own homes, 97% of whom had never had an eye screening in their lives.

**CBI's efforts are changing the world for so many people, and I am humbled to be a small part of it.**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Suresh Chandra, MD**  
FOUNDER &  
CHIEF VISIONARY OFFICER

**Gordon Derzon, MHA**  
CHAIRMAN

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INTERNATIONAL

Combat Blindness International  
PO Box 5332  
Madison, WI 53705

[www.combatblindness.org](http://www.combatblindness.org)  
[info@combatblindness.org](mailto:info@combatblindness.org)

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## Save the Date

### CBI ONLINE BIRTHDAY CHALLENGE

Tuesday, June 27 –  
Wednesday, June 28, 2023

### CBI WORLD SIGHT DAY EVENT

Friday, Oct. 6, 2023

For updates, visit [combatblindness.org](http://combatblindness.org) in the future.

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