



## Seeing a Brighter Future\*

Vision has been at the forefront of Lions service for more than a century. Though tremendous strides have been made, there is still work to be done:

- The US is ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among countries with the highest incidence of visual impairment.
- Cataracts is the top cause of blindness among older U.S. adults.
- Vision loss and eye disorders cost more than 153 billion dollars.

Globally, vision challenges look like this:

- 1 billion people live with vision impairments that could have been prevented or can be corrected.
- 14.3 billion dollars is needed to treat existing cases of refractive error and cataracts worldwide.
- Unaddressed distance vision impairment in many low and middle income regions is 4 times higher than in high income regions.

More than 2 billion adults and children worldwide have a near or distance vision impairment. Vision plays a vital role in every stage of our lives. Without healthy vision people struggle to learn, walk, read and participate in school or work.

More than 365 million dollars in LCIF grants have helped Lions show the world a brighter tomorrow:

- 9.3 million cataract surgeries have been performed.
- 2.3 million professional eye care and community health workers have been trained.
- 493 million doses of medicine have been provided for trachoma and onchocerciasis.

Ever since Helen Keller inspired Lions to champion the cause in 1925, Lions have served and advocated for the blind and visually impaired. A century later, this long-standing mission continues. LCIF Vision Grants supports Lion-led service activities that fight blindness and preventable vision loss and assists people who are blind and visually impaired in underserved communities.

Thanks to you, LCIF and Lions will continue to be Helen Keller's Knights of the Blind, one person at a time. Together we are moving closer to a world where everyone can enjoy the gift of sight.

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