THE HIMALAYAN CATARACT PROJECT

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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On the cover: Dr. Reeta Gurung, CEO of the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology, at HCP's first-ever outreach in Eritrea.

Dr. Ruit and Dr. Tabin co-founded the Himalayan Cataract Project to cure as much unnecessary blindness as they could in their lifetimes as described in *Second Suns: Two Doctors and Their Amazing Quest to Restore Sight and Save Lives,* by David Oliver Relin.

Dear Friends,

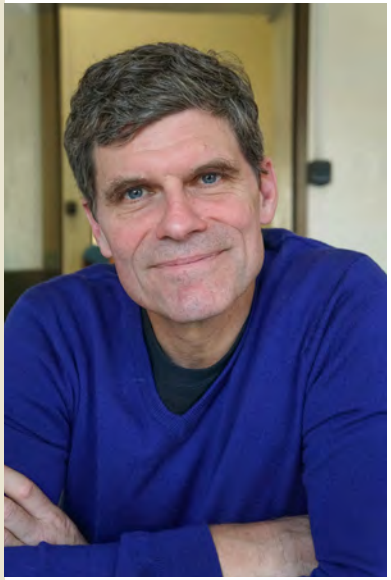
We are pleased to share our 2019 Annual Report with you, encapsulating a year of expansion and increased impact, furthering our work of eliminating needless blindness. With your support, we are delivering care on a scale we could not have imagined a decade ago and are thrilled to highlight milestones you helped make possible:

- 1.7 million people were screened and provided basic eye care — including over 128,000 sight-restoring surgeries in coordination with our 35 implementing partners across two continents.
- 729 training opportunities were provided to 606 eye care personnel from countries across the world including Nepal, Ghana, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Israel and the United States.
- Our flagship training partner, the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology, was designated a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center, and three months later, the WHO launched its first ever World Report on Vision.
- Gyalyum Kesang Choeden Wangchuck National Eye Centre was inaugurated in Bhutan. The 27,000 square-foot, modern state-of-the-art clinical training facility was built with support from HCP, Wen Giving Foundation and Tilganga and will further strengthen the national eye care system.
- 142 outreach cataract skills transfer campaigns were held including three in new territories — Asmara, Eritrea; rural Wa, South Sudan; and Juba, South Sudan.

Our aim is to continue strengthening systems of eye care, with maximum efficiency, providing training and care so that no one is needlessly blind on this planet. We take great pride in our financial efficiency and accountability. We know you expect us to use your funds wisely, and we are committed to maximizing the value of every donation we receive, directing those funds where they are most needed.

On behalf of our board, staff, and program partners, thank you for the support you have provided to make our work possible. Your ongoing commitment and tremendous generosity will continue changing lives forever.

Geoffrey Tabin
Chairman & Co-Founder

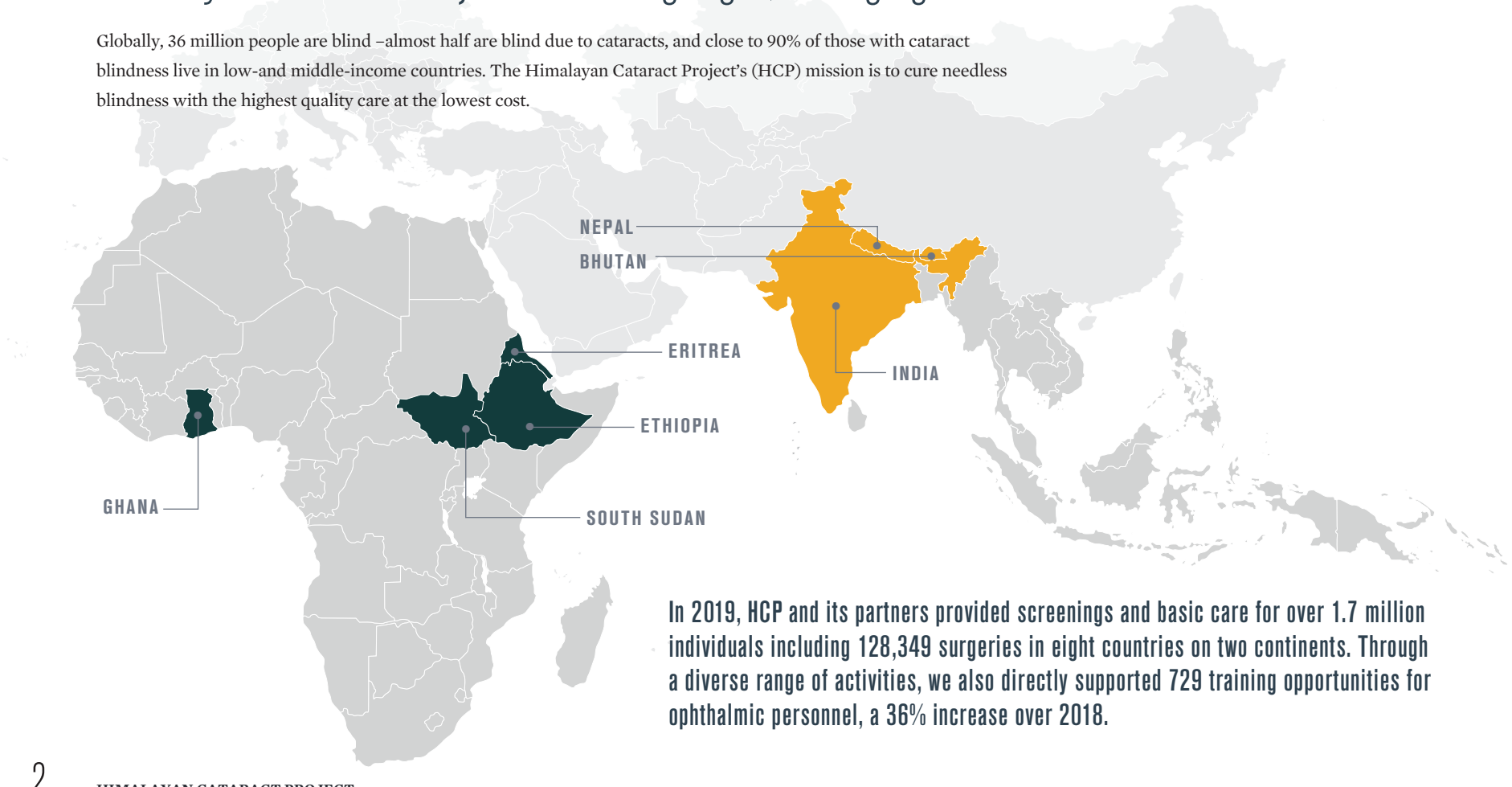


Job C. Heintz
Chief Executive Officer

WHO WE HELP

Himalayan Cataract Project: Restoring Sight, Changing Lives

Globally, 36 million people are blind –almost half are blind due to cataracts, and close to 90% of those with cataract blindness live in low-and middle-income countries. The Himalayan Cataract Project's (HCP) mission is to cure needless blindness with the highest quality care at the lowest cost.



In 2019, HCP and its partners provided screenings and basic care for over 1.7 million individuals including 128,349 surgeries in eight countries on two continents. Through a diverse range of activities, we also directly supported 729 training opportunities for ophthalmic personnel, a 36% increase over 2018.

HOW WE HELP

Strengthening Eye Care

The Himalayan Cataract Project brings life-changing eye care to people in low- and middle-income countries with a focus on training local personnel. We work in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, providing care, education, training and equipment to reduce the rates of blindness and strengthen eye care systems. We maximize our impact by working with an extensive network of partners, leveraging available talent and resources where they exist.

2019 NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Tilganga receives World Health Organization Collaborating Center designation on 25th anniversary

At the core of the Himalayan Cataract Project's success is its long-standing, trusted partnership with the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology based in Kathmandu, Nepal. Together, HCP and Tilganga have dramatically improved eye care by creating a proven model worthy of worldwide replication. HCP supports the transformational work of Tilganga and strives to replicate its innovations in eye care delivery and training throughout South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

In July, Tilganga celebrated its 25th anniversary. In that same month, Tilganga was recognized as a World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Ophthalmology — a designation bestowed upon institutions that provide expert advice and scientific and technical collaboration to the WHO. Tilganga is the first Institute in Nepal to receive this recognition in the field of ophthalmology.

The WHO Collaborating Center status was given to Tilganga based on three specific areas:

- EYE CARE SERVICE DELIVERY
- EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE FIELD OF OPHTHALMOLOGY
- OPHTHALMIC RESEARCH

Tilganga marked the occasion with a celebration at its 133,000 sq ft facility in Kathmandu, which was constructed and equipped in part through USAID/AHSA support.

WHO Releases World Report on Vision

In October, the World Health Organization (WHO) released the long-anticipated, first-ever World Report on Vision.

The report includes information critical to understanding the magnitude of global vision impairment and lack of access to high-quality eye care in many underserved and under-resourced communities across the globe.

Key findings from the report include that 2.2 billion people have some form of vision impairment or blindness and over 1 billion of these cases can be treated or prevented. According to the report, $14.3 billion is needed to eradicate the over 1 billion curable cases of blindness in the world, with the majority of impacted individuals residing in low-and middle-income countries, predominantly in rural areas.

The report shines attention on this global issue and highlights the critical and urgent need for increased resources and swift action to ensure that comprehensive eye care is available and affordable to the people that need it the most across the world.

LEAD FUNDING FOR BAHIR DAR EYE CENTER SECURED

Establishing a Specialty Eye Center in Ethiopia - based on the successful and proven Community Eye Hospital in Nepal - has been a collective vision of the Himalayan Cataract Project's founders and board members for over a decade. The concept is to establish a social enterprise model that provides quality eye care to everyone who needs it, while also building ophthalmic capacity in the country by offering specialized training programs.

This vision took a leap forward in 2019 by securing key funding to establish the Bahir Dar Specialty Eye Center. Made possible in part by a grant from Patrick and Tamar Pichette, the Bahir Dar Specialty Eye Center will provide quality eye care to the people of the Amhara region and serve as a scalable model to be replicated in other regions.

The Center will implement a cross-subsidization model that will provide care to those who are not able to pay through subsidies from paying patients and other streams of revenue. After the initial start-up investment and support, the Center is projected to become self-sustaining within the first five years.

Ethiopia shoulders one of the highest burdens of blindness in the world, with a prevalence of 1.6 percent for a population of over 100,000,000 people. Eliminating the backlog of people with cataract blindness - estimated to be over 800,000 in the country - requires the pace of eye care to dramatically increase. Currently only 70,000 cataract surgeries are provided each year, and the annual rate of new cataract cases outpaces the number of surgeries performed.

ASIA

NEPAL

HCP's flagship training partner, the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology continues to excel and serve as a model for developing world-class eye care infrastructure in under resourced environments. Tilganga serves as a hub for eye care personnel from around the world, providing critical hands-on training and mentoring to the future generation of eye care professionals.

In 2019, HCP provided support for 32 individuals to receive long-term training opportunities for ophthalmic personnel from Ethiopia, Ghana and Bhutan, and for additional short-term training opportunities for individuals from Bhutan. The trainees returned to their home countries with new skills and knowledge to create stronger ophthalmic capacity in their home countries. Tilganga also hosts medical symposia on specialized topics in ophthalmology including a refractive error symposium in 2019 attended by 167 medical professionals.

Angelia Rorison

Innovative Laser Assisted Cataract Surgeries Offered Through HCP

Himalayan Cataract Project is one of two Signature Initiatives supported by Johnson & Johnson Vision (J&JV). As part of its corporate and social responsibility program, J&JV donated a Catalys Laser to HCP that was installed at Tilganga.

In August, a training consultant from J&JV traveled to Nepal to train a select group of Tilganga ophthalmologists to remove cataracts using the Catalys Laser. Eleven senior physicians were trained and certified to use the system, including both the Founder of Tilganga, Dr. Sanduk Ruit, and Tilganga's CEO, Dr. Reeta Gurung. Tilganga is the first location in Nepal and the wider Asian region to be able to perform femtosecond laser-assisted cataract surgery using the J&JV Catalys Laser. This cutting edge technology continues to bolster Tilganga's ophthalmic expertise as a leading Center of Excellence in the Himalayan region and allow trainers to build ophthalmic knowledge and expertise with the latest technology available.

The excitement and momentum around the training were tremendous, prompting great interest from an additional cadre of ophthalmologists at Tilganga in also becoming certified to use the Catalys.

Nepal Eye Bank has Banner Year

In 2019, the Nepal Eye Bank exceeded their target number of corneas suitable for transplant goal with a total of 1,105. Approximately 70% of the tissue was utilized within Nepal, including at Tilganga, and 30% was supplied for corneal transplantation procedures to international partners in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iraq, Bhutan and Cambodia.

Tilganga Institute Ophthalmology

2019 TILGANGA PATIENT CARE

SCREENING

Tilganga Hospital Based Screenings	**309,061**
Outreach Screenings	
Hetauda Community Eye Hospital	106,324
Outreach Microsurgical Eye Clinics (OMECs)	55,370
Community Eye Centers (12 CECs)	205,852
Outreach Total	**373,396**
Total Screenings	**621,237**

SURGERY

Tilganga Hospital Based Surgeries	**23,225**
Outreach Surgeries	
Hetauda Community Eye Hospital	4,434
Outreach Microsurgical Eye Clinics (OMECs)	7,034
Community Eye Centers (12 CECs)	1,198
Outreach Total	**12,666**
Total Surgeries	**35,891**

ASIA

BHUTAN

New Eye Hospital Opens in Bhutan

October marked the inauguration of the Gyalyum Kesang Choeden Wangchuck National Eye Centre - the new eye hospital in the Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan, on the eastern edge of the Himalayas. The hospital was inaugurated by Her Majesty Gyalyum Kesang Choeden Wangchuck, the Queen Grandmother of Bhutan.

Made possible by a magnanimous gift from Wen Giving Foundation, the 16-bed tertiary eye hospital will offer a variety of specialized in-patient and out-patient eye care services with three operating theaters that will tend to the population of the entire country (almost 1 million people).

The new hospital is a collaboration between HCP, Dr. Sanduk Ruit and the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology, the Royal Government of Bhutan and Wen Giving Foundation. The hospital will also provide clinical training for eye care providers to further strengthen the national eye care system of Bhutan.

Job Heintz

BHUTAN	HOSPITAL-BASED	OUTREACH	TOTAL
Screenings	141,935	1,975	**143,910**
Surgeries	2,002	1,079	**3,081**

Partners in Bhutan increased total surgeries by 22% in 2019 by increasing the number of outreach campaigns and improving advocacy and promotional efforts.

HCP has been supporting the development of eye care in Bhutan since 2000. At that time, Dr. Kunzang Getshen was the only ophthalmologist in the country. With early support from generous donor Mr. Mark Daniell, HCP partnered with the Royal Government to develop a national eye health care program. Over the past two decades, HCP has supported specialized training for eight practicing ophthalmologists and dozens of paramedical staff, and provided support for outreach services throughout the rural and mountainous regions.

School Health Program

The Royal Government of Bhutan School Health Program continued its work in 2019, serving 571 schools with 175,000 students receiving examinations for refractive error.

Training

HCP supported training opportunities for 86 eye care professionals from Bhutan in 2019. These include:

- Three Doctors from Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital attended the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA.
- Seventy-four ophthalmic personnel continued their medical education through multi-day courses.
- Two doctors from Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital and Lungtenphu attended a 1-month course in Diagnostics Procedures at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.
- Five Ophthalmic Assistants, Optometrists, Ophthalmologists, and Health Administrators participated in one month of low vision rehabilitation and outreach management education at the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology.

Job Heintz

Her Majesty Gyalyum Kesang Choeden Wangchuck, the Queen Grandmother of Bhutan meets with Dr. Ruit and Dr. Govinda Paudyal at the opening of the eye center.

Job Heintz

ASIA

INDIA

Building Local Capacity in Three Regions

In partnership with Tilganga's international outreach team, HCP supports eye care programs and partners in northern India. In 2019, HCP support resulted in 1,502 surgeries at three outreach events in Mangarh, Uttar Pradesh (2) and Kalimpong, West Bengal (1).

The outreach in Kalimpong took place in November, when Dr. Ruit joined long-time partner Dr. Sona Bhutia at the Jamgon Kongtrul Eye Centre in Kalimpong. Together they provided a total of 85 cataract surgeries and one corneal repair surgery during the one and half day workshop. HCP has worked with Dr. Bhutia and the Jamgon Kongtrul Eye Centre (JKEC) since 2004 when the facility was established as a joint initiative between the Paramita Charitable Trust, HCP and Tilganga. Thanks to a generous gift from HCP donor, Alex Chapple, JKEC will be receiving a substantial upgrade in equipment critical for quality eye services.

AFRICA

SOUTH SUDAN

The Himalayan Cataract Project's efforts to support eye care in South Sudan date back to 2008, when two young men from Duk County, South Sudan who were living in a refugee camp traveled to Nepal for 6 months of ophthalmic technician training at the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology, at the suggestion of John Dau.

As South Sudan has emerged from civil war, HCP has established partnerships with several local and international NGOs, including the Buluk Eye Center in the capital of Juba, to offer high-volume cataract surgical campaigns and capacity-building training opportunities.

With a backlog of 150,000-250,000 people who are blind and a shortage of ophthalmologists and necessary surgical equipment, there is a strong need for eye care in South Sudan.

In February, HCP's clinical team of three ophthalmologists, six nurses and two ophthalmic assistants traveled from the U.S. and Ethiopia to work in both the northern village of Old Fangak and the southern capital of Juba, providing surgery as well as training to a small number of local clinicians. Getting people, supplies and materials to South Sudan was a massive logistical hurdle, but HCP has been helping deliver eye care to some of the hardest to reach places on the planet since its foundation.

As South Sudan begins to shift its focus from emergency response measures to initiatives to rebuild the country's infrastructure, HCP sees a myriad of opportunities to strengthen the country's eye health systems, stimulating a network of public, private, national and international stakeholders to build vital long-term capacity. The outreach was made possible from partial funding provided by the Arizona Community Foundation, Ed Eisele, Lisle and Rosalyn Payne, and Steve Strong.

By The Numbers

PATIENTS SCREENED:

2,900

NUMBER OF CATARACTS OPERATED ON:

1,128

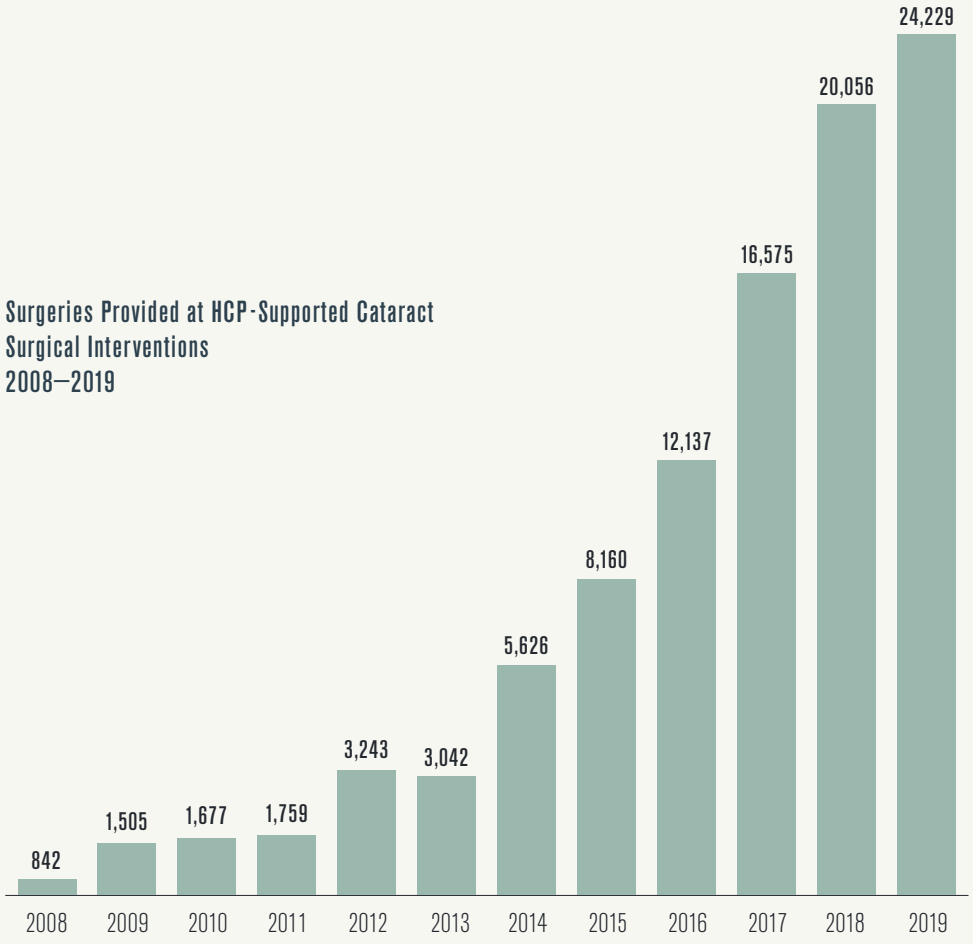
AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

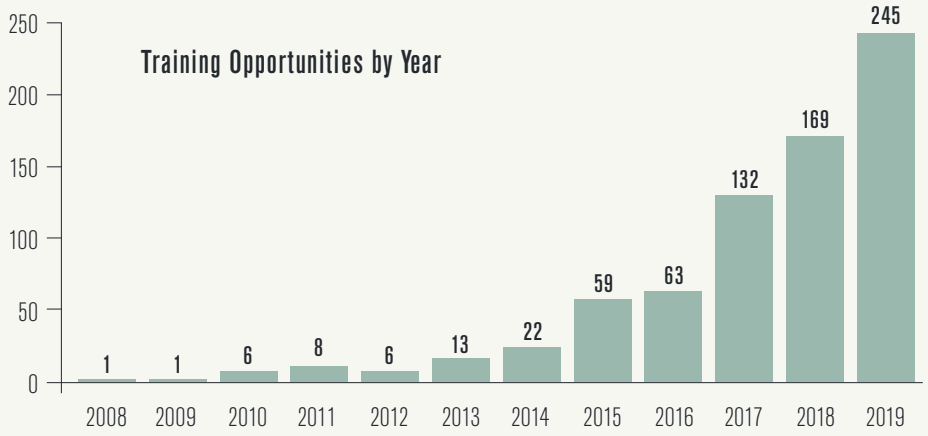
HCP's Impact Expands

For 11 years, HCP has been working to strengthen Ethiopia's system of eye care by supporting surgical interventions aimed to reduce the high backlog of cataract blindness, providing specialized training opportunities to ophthalmic personnel, sourcing necessary supplies and advocating for additional human and financial resources to be dedicated to eye health. In 2019, HCP directly supported 24,229 sight restoring surgeries at surgical events, accounting for approximately 30% of all surgeries performed in the country.

HCP continued to focus on training in Ethiopia, a requirement to support the immediate eye care needs of the country and an important investment in local practitioners and their ability to address needless blindness in the future. In 2019, HCP provided 245 training opportunities for Ethiopian eye care personnel - a 46 percent increase over 2018. Trainee placements represent a wide range of ophthalmic skill sets at geographically diverse institutions at partner hospitals in Nepal, India, Israel and the US.



Christopher Briscoe



In-Country Training Capacity Increases

Each year, HCP increases the number of in-country training opportunities provided to eye care personnel through both hospital based programs and skills transfer during HCP-supported surgical training interventions. HCP Affiliated Ophthalmologists or Master Trainers from Tilganga serve as the primary trainers. In 2019, Tilganga's Dr. Ben Limbu visited three partner institutions, worked with five Ethiopian oculoplastic sub-specialists, provided 13 lectures and participated in 1,687 procedures related to cataracts and oculoplastics over the course of 11 days! All five of the sub-specialists had previously trained at Tilganga and this was a follow-up mentoring visit.

Resident Support Delivers Results

In 2017, HCP launched the Residency Program Director's Initiative in partnership with the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) Foundation. The initiative set out to improve residency education at the five teaching institutions in Ethiopia, strengthen the role of program directors, and continue to align the curriculum across the MD ophthalmology programs.

HCP continued to provide support for Ethiopian ophthalmology residents to take exams administered by the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO). In collaboration with Orbis and Emory University, HCP managed a review course for residents in advance of the exams.

ETHIOPIA

The results have demonstrated year over year improvement, with rising scores as well as a significant increase in the number of residents sitting for the exam. Ethiopia had 87% achieving pass scores in Basic Sciences, as compared to an average of only 57% across all countries.

	2017	2018	2019
Registered	45	65	81
Present for Exam	40	63	71
Passed Clinical Sciences	-	61%	76%
Passed Basic Science	78%	74%	87%
Passed Optics / Refraction	30%	55%	65%

Establishing a World Class Infrastructure

The American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Foundation helped source in-kind donations from Carl Zeiss Meditec valued at over $750,000 to greatly enhance the residency program's clinical teaching and patient assessment resources. We are deeply appreciative of both ASCRS Foundation and Zeiss. Thanks to this collaboration, we were able to provide equipment to Jimma, Menelik II, Sinskey, Quiha Zonal Hospital and Hawassa.

> “Dear all—It is great pleasure to see things moving forward in Hawassa department of ophthalmology at such an amazing pace because of your generous support to our institutions. We received and installed our dream and state of the art equipment like OCT and Iol master from the best innovators Zeiss company. Which would have been delusional for us without your presence. Our wet lab has been digitized with newly arrived tablets and really am fascinated and wish to be a Hawassa University ophthalmology resident. I really thank you and God bless you all!!!”
>
> — DR. DEMOZE , RESIDENCY DIRECTOR AT HAWASSA, SSNPR.

Christopher Briscoe

AFRICA

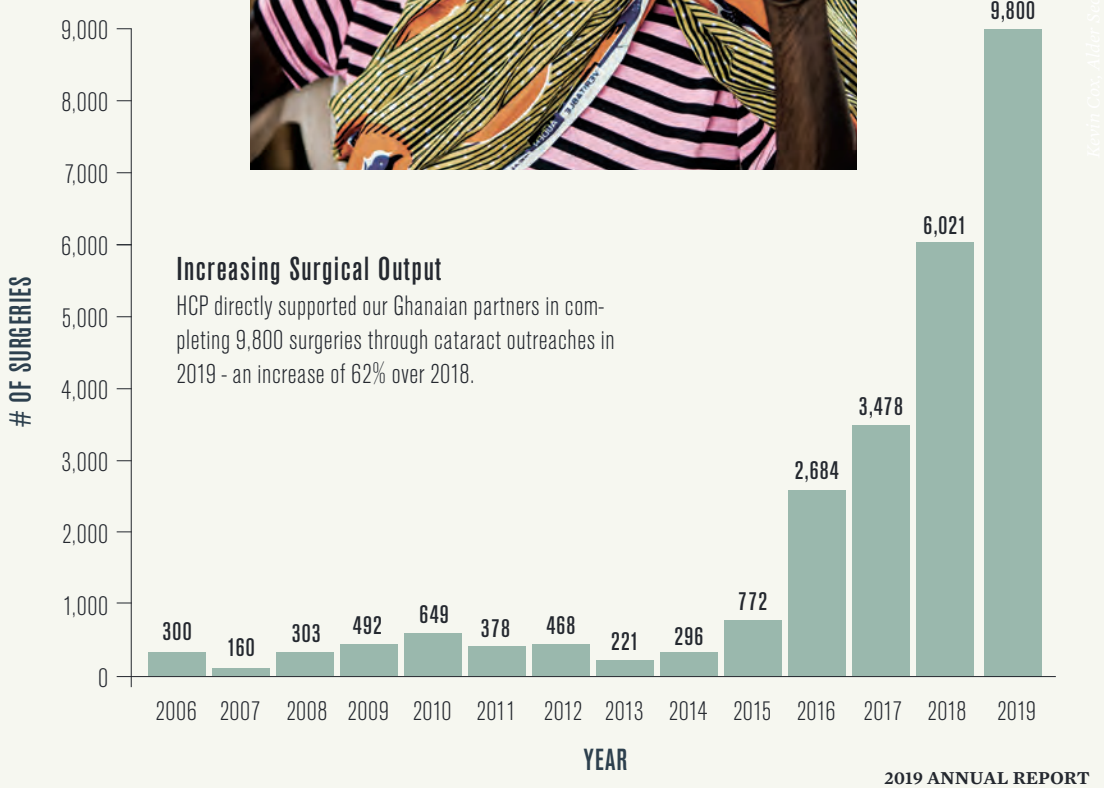
GHANA

Building Out a Stronger System of Care

In 2019, HCP continued to increase our impact in Ghana by expanding the number of partners we support. We welcomed four new implementing partners - Tetteh Quarshie, Bolgatanga, Friends Eye Center and Cape Coast Teaching Hospital - bringing our total to 13. Collectively HCP and our partners examined 250,406 people and performed 18,265 surgeries - 9,800 of which were provided through outreach events.

The large increase in the number of surgeries provided at surgical interventions can be attributed to the National Cataract Outreach Program (NCOP), which launched in 2018 as a partnership between Ghana Health Services, HCP and Ghanaian ophthalmologists from the private and public sectors. The goal is to establish a self-sustaining program over a five-year time period operated by Ghanaians and leveraging the National Health Insurance Scheme that reimburses service providers for cataract surgical

Ammon Cluff



Kevin Cox, Adar Security

Ammon Cluff

“Financial Sustainability is very critical to the continuity of the Programme. This will be achieved through the reimbursements for cataract surgeries under the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). Ghana has about 70% of its populace insured with the Scheme... We pledge our continued support and commitment to the Programme’s sustainability even after the project's duration.”

– DR. JAMES ADDY, *Eye Health Coordinator, Ghana Health Services*

services. In 2019, for the first time in three years, the total number of cataract surgeries provided in Ghana surpassed 23,000, demonstrating progress towards eliminating the backlog of blindness in the country.

Training Highlights

In 2019, HCP provided 163 individual training opportunities to Ghanaian eye care personnel — a 68 percent increase over 2018. The training offerings were wide ranging and included clinical, hospital management, outreach management and equipment maintenance training. We supported an in-service training on eye health screening and cataract detection at Tetteh Quarshie Memorial Hospital for 88 allied health workers.

Continued success in strengthening systems of eye care in Ghana is bolstered by the connection to the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology in Nepal. Through HCP, Tilganga has played a critical role in training Ghanaian eye care professionals. Those investments over the past 15 years are paying dividends as the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH) has emerged as a training hub with Tilganga-trained ophthalmologists now providing training in-country to emerging eye care professionals.

In July, KATH piloted a training initiative, the first of its kind in West Africa, Expanding Access to High Quality Eye Care in West Africa: Clinical Skills and Outreach Management Training.

The first participants from new partner Cape Coast Teaching Hospital (CCTH) applied their knowledge and refined skills to the screening, preparation and execution of a high-volume surgical outreach in October. They provided 715 sight-restoring surgeries and broke a record for number of surgeries at an outreach event in Ghana.

In addition to piloting their training initiative, the KATH training team also participated in Eyexcel Global 2019, a week-long train-the-trainers program hosted by the Aravind Eye Hospital in India and taught by internationally recognized ophthalmic educators from the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO).

As our Ghanaian trainers continue to become more skilled and proficient instructors, HCP will be working to develop an in-country fellowship program at KATH in addition to primary and advanced skill development opportunities for allied health professionals in 2020.

GHANA 2019: TRAINING DISTINCTION	TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES	DAYS OF TRAINING
Conference	6	34
Hands-on Workshop	12	159
Management	3	767
Mid-level/allied health	122	1110
Resident Support	13	120
Sub-specialty	7	1250
GRAND TOTAL	163	3440

“I have been equipped with skills and knowledge to treat a group of patients that hitherto would have been referred to go elsewhere for treatment elsewhere. With these now being managed fully in my practice, The KATH eye centre will come closer to becoming the centre of excellence that it seeks to become.”

– AKWASI AHMED, *(KATH) subspecialty in retina at Aravind*

Ammon Cluff

AFRICA

ERITREA

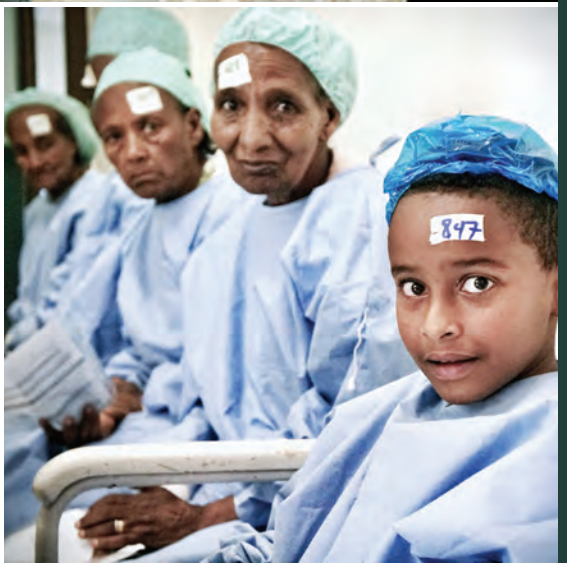
In November, HCP performed its first-ever surgical outreach campaign in Eritrea in an event that brought together ophthalmic teams from three different continents and highlighted sight restoration as a unifying force.

During the campaign, Ethiopian and Eritrean medical professionals were joined by HCP Board Member and Ethiopia Clinical Director, Dr. Matt Oliva as well as Tilganga CEO, Dr. Reeta Gurung.

In coordination with the Federal Health Ministry, HCP and its partners performed 1,320 cataract surgeries over the course of a week during the outreach in Asmara, while also providing exposure and skills transfer for ophthalmic teams. The Eritrean Minister of Health attended the campaign, highlighting the cooperation and coordination of the event with the federal government.

In the month prior to the outreach, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for improving his country's relations with Eritrea. As tensions on the border have thawed, access between the neighboring states has improved, allowing HCP to work more closely with Eritrean ophthalmologists in Eritrea as well as creating opportunities for them to train in Ethiopian residency programs.

Christopher Briscoe



Christopher Briscoe

TECHNOLOGY & PROCUREMENT

HCP procured more than $3.194 million in ophthalmic equipment and supplies for programs in 20 countries. Funding from HCP supporters helps to ensure that dependable equipment and materials are available where and when needed for HCP programs.

COLOMBIA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
GUYANA
PARAGUAY
PERU

CAMEROON
CAPE VERDE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
ERITREA
ETHIOPIA
GHANA
REPUBLIC OF CONGO
SIERRA LEONE
SOUTH SUDAN
TANZANIA

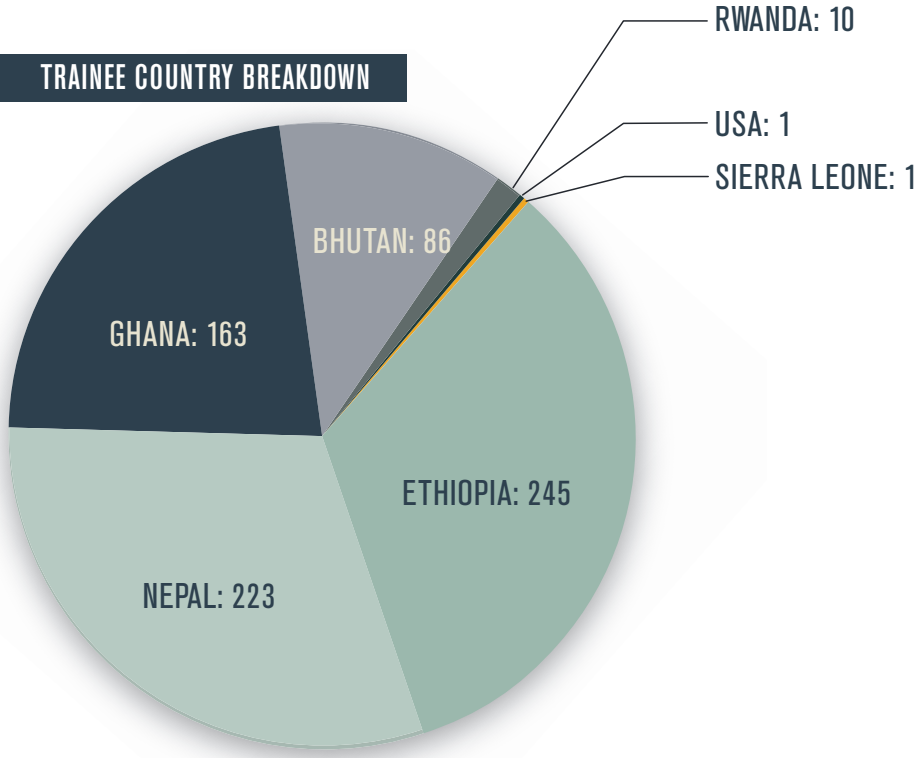
UKRAINE

BHUTAN
INDONESIA
LAOS
NEPAL

TRAINING

ENHANCING CATARACT & OPHTHALMIC SKILLS WORLDWIDE

TRAINEE COUNTRY BREAKDOWN



TYPES OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

406 MID-LEVEL/ALLIED HEALTH CARE TRAININGS

29	9	33
Hands-On Workshops	Management Trainings	Conference Attendees

17 IN-COUNTRY WORKSHOPS

5 OBSERVERSHIPS

204 RESIDENT SUPPORT

(SICS outreach experience, residency rotations, workshops for residents, ICO Prep Course (80), lectures (10)

26 Subspecialty trainings

TRAINING

AFFILIATED OPHTHALMOLOGIST EXCHANGES

In 2019, Affiliated Ophthalmologists provided 30+ weeks of critical teaching and mentoring at our implementing partner institutions in Nepal, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Ghana and India. These hands-on, in-country workshops form the backbone of HCP training programs.

AFFILIATED OPHTHALMOLOGISTS	HOME INSTITUTE	COUNTRY VISITED	SPECIALTY
Dr. Karim Damji	University of Alberta	Ethiopia	Pediatric Glaucoma
Dr. Michael Feilmeier	University of Nebraska Medical Center	Ethiopia	Cornea & Cataract
Dr. Sam Farmer	Retina Consultants	Ethiopia	Retina
Dr. Michael Richard	Neigel Center for Cosmetic & Laser Surgery	Ethiopia	Oculoplastic
Dr. Peter Spitellie	Medical Eye Center	Ethiopia	Oculoplastic
Dr. Sara Wester	Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, UMiami	Ethiopia	Oculoplastic
Dr. Ben Limbu	Tilganga Eye Institute	Ethiopia	Cataract & Oculoplastic
Dr. Huck Holz	Kaiser Permanente Medical	Ethiopia	Cornea & Cataract

AFFILIATED OPHTHALMOLOGISTS	HOME INSTITUTE	COUNTRY VISITED	SPECIALTY
Dr. James (Chris) Fleming	Hamilton Eye Institute, UTennessee	Ethiopia	Oculoplastic
Dr. Dale Meyer	Albany Medical Center	Ethiopia	Oculoplastic
Dr. Rohit Saiju	Tilganga Eye Institute	Ethiopia	Cataract & Oculoplastic
Dr. David Khorram	Global Ophthalmology, UVirginia	Ethiopia	Cataract
Dr. Mike Brush	Kaiser Permanente Medical	Ethiopia	Phacoemulsification
Dr. Sam Cady	Maine Eye Center	Ethiopia	Cataract
Dr. Andrea Kossler	Byers Eye Institute, Stanford University	Ethiopia	Oculoplastic
Dr. Rick Whitehead	Northwest Pediatric Ophthalmology	Ethiopia	Pediatric
Dr. Devin Gattey	Oregon Eye Specialists	Ethiopia	Cataract
Dr. Geoff Tabin	Byers Eye Institute, Stanford/ HCP	Ethiopia & Ghana	Cataract & Cornea
Dr. Allison Jarstad	Byers Eye Institute, Stanford/ HCP International Fellow	Ethiopia & Ghana	Cataract
Dr. John Hinkle	Byers Eye Institute, Stanford/ HCP International Fellow	Ethiopia, Ghana, Nepal	Cataract
Dr. Matt Oliva	Medical Eye Center / HCP	Ethiopia & Eritrea	Cornea & Cataract
Dr. John Welling	Medical Eye Center / HCP	Ghana	Cataract
Dr. Keri Allen	Massachusetts Eye & Ear, Harvard	Ethiopia	Wet Lab Instruction
Dr. Barb Erny	American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery	Ethiopia	Cataract
Dr Sadik Taju	Menelik II Hospital	Eritrea	Cataract
Dr. Reeta Gurung	Tilganga Eye Institute	Eritrea	Cataract
Dr. Bidya Prasad Pant	Tipitaka Chakkupala Eye Hospital	Ethiopia	Cataract
Dr Erik Letko	Kaiser Permanente	Ghana	Cataract & Cornea

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2019

The Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities for the Year ended December 31, 2019 have been drawn from audited financial statements. To obtain copies of the complete 2019 audited financial statements, please contact us at info@cureblindness.org.

Ammon Cluff

Designated Net Assets

The designated net assets of HCP consist of the following:

ENDOWMENT $4,296,133
To support administrative and unusual expenses.

CONTINGENCY FUND $1,557,368
To ensure uninterrupted continuation of programmatic and administrative operations in the event of an unanticipated disruption of planned and anticipated funding sources.

TOTAL $5,853,501

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and equivalents	$2,236,576
Investments	5,977,163
Grants and contributions receivable	1,934,947
Interest receivable	12,037
Inventory	597,610
Deposits on equipment and consumables	789,133
Prepaid expenses	50,967
Total Current Assets	**11,598,433**

FIXED ASSETS

Property and equipment	11,951
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(9,734)
Net fixed Assets	**2,217**

OTHER ASSETS

Security deposits	1,250
Grants receivable, net of current portion	212,683

TOTAL ASSETS $11,814,583

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	$830,230
Deferred revenue	457,204
Total current liabilities	**1,287,434**

NET ASSETS

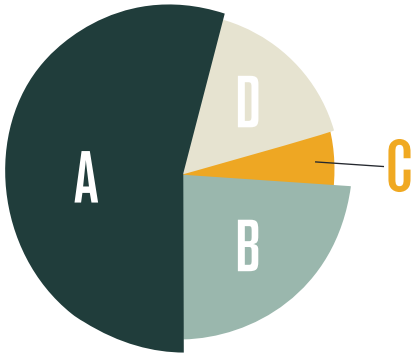
Without donor restrictions	8,307,766
With donor restrictions	2,219,383
Total net assets	**10,527,149**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $11,814,583

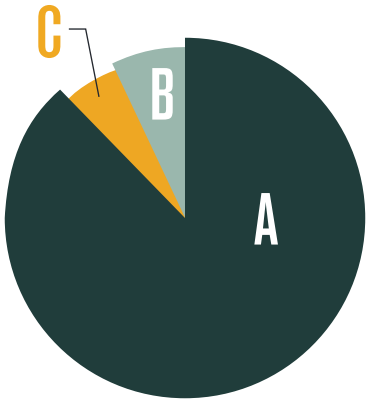
FINANCIALS

REVENUE AND EXPENSES FY 2019

CONTRIBUTIONS REVENUE BY SOURCE



EXPENSE ALLOCATION



A:	Individuals	58%	$5,491,804
B:	Foundations	23%	$2,225,631
C:	Government	3%	$252,190
D:	Gifts in Kind	16%	$1,528,929
Total:		**100%**	**$9,498,554**

A:	Program	87%	$10,553,094
B:	Mgmt. & General	9%	$1,092,623
C:	Fundraising	4%	$488,749
Total:		**100%**	**$12,134,466**

Christopher Briscoe

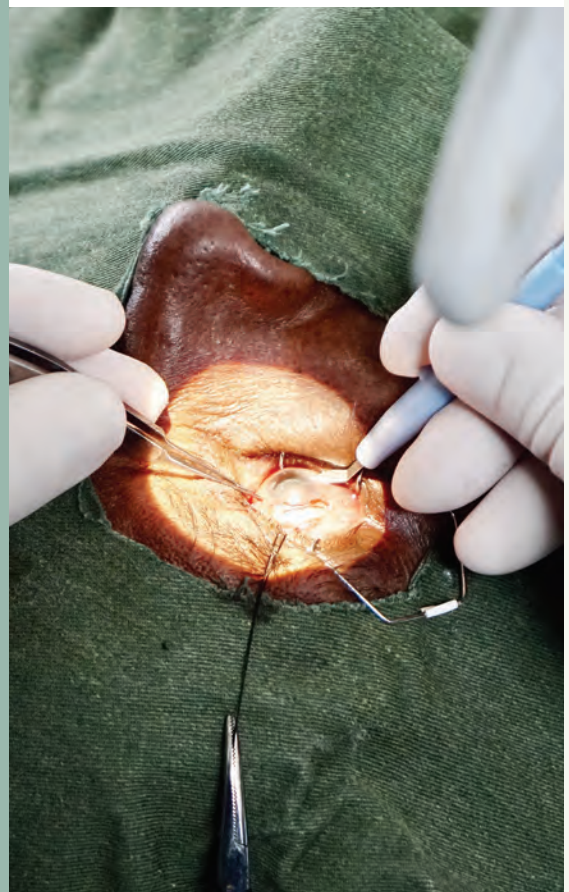
PROGRAM EXPENSE BY REGION

HIMALAYAS:	22%
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA:	69%
OTHER:	9%

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019



	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL
REVENUE			
Contributions	$4,002,321	$1,489,483	$5,491,804
Foundation grants	615,827	1,609,804	2,225,631
Contributed services & materials	1,528,929	–	1,528,929
Government grants	252,190	–	252,190
Investment income	907,280	–	907,280
Technology & procurement program revenue	848,636	–	848,636
Net assets released from donor restrictions	2,779,145	(2,779,145)	–
Total revenue & support	**$10,934,328**	**320,142**	**$11,254,470**
EXPENSES			
Program Services:			
Eye Care and Education	10,553,094	–	10,553,094
Support Services:			
Management and General	1,092,623	–	1,092,623
Fundraising	488,749	–	488,749
Total Support Services	**1,581,372**	**–**	**1,581,372**
Total Expenses	**$12,134,466**	**–**	**$12,134,466**
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(1,200,138)	320,142	(879,996)
NET ASSETS: BEGINNING OF YEAR	9,507,904	1,899,241	11,407,145
NET ASSETS: END OF YEAR	$8,307,766	$2,219,383	$10,527,149

IN-KIND SUPPORT

The generous financial support of HCP's donors is enhanced by the invaluable services of volunteers who share their time, expertise and services, as well as businesses, organizations and individuals that provide equipment, consumables and goods for our work. The medical volunteers assist in our educational programs, teaching the next generation of ophthalmologists from the developing world. The non-medical volunteers share their special expertise and promote the organization.

The Himalayan Cataract Project greatly appreciates the generosity of the following businesses, organizations and individuals that contributed in-kind support, totaling more than $1,528,900.

EQUIPMENT, CONSUMABLES AND GOODS

Alcon
Halma Group
Johnson & Johnson Vision
Carl Zeiss Meditec

NON-MEDICAL SERVICES

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Dr. Sam Cady
Dr. Alan Crandall
Dr. Mike Feilmeier
Dr. Devin Gattey
Dr. Huck Holz
Dr. David Khorram
Dr. Erik Letko
Dr. Matt Oliva
Dr. Michael Richard
Dr. Pete Spitellie
Dr. Geoff Tabin
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The Himalayan Cataract Project extends our sincere gratitude to the many individuals, foundations, organizations, and businesses that support our work.

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Help Us Eliminate Needless Blindness. Every Month.

The Sustainers Circle is a special community of donors who provide steady, reliable funding to HCP every month. They allow us to enhance our impact while maximizing the resources we direct to programs and minimize those directed to fundraising. We have identified Sustainers Circle members by placing a asterix next to their name in this report. We invite all of our friends to consider joining the Sustainers Circle at: **www.cureblindness.org/donate/sustainers-circle.**

SUSTAINER ALL-STARS 2020

Jim and Joyce C.

COLORADO, USA

"We attended a presentation explaining the work of the Himalayan Cataract Project at the Colorado Mountain Club, in Golden, Colorado and we were both struck by the emotion of an elderly woman seeing her grandchildren for the first time. We decided that we could send a monthly check to cover the cost of 2 surgeries each month. Now, we are both retired and in our 70's. With nearly forty years of monthly donations behind us, we are very proud of the impact our support has provided. Our gift is truly the easy part of this project. We feel that we have made a difference but the true heroes are the Himalayan Cataract Project. They do the work to give the gift of sight to people living in some of the poorest regions of our world. We are proud to be members of this remarkable team."

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Rich & Margo H.

CALIFORNIA, USA

“Margo and I have been contributing to HCP for 15 years. We especially appreciate the tremendous tax advantage derived from contributing directly from our Required Minimum Distribution, RMD, through a Qualified Charitable Distribution, QCD. I’ve been empathetic to eye issues since my father went blind due to glaucoma and I’m under treatment for some of the same conditions. So when I discovered HCP on National Geographic, I was so impressed by the impact of your work that I gave Geoff Tabin a call to congratulate him personally and have been a supporter ever since. As a contributor, I feel that HCP gives me a great bang for my buck. With a focus on financial efficiency, HCP is training local doctors to restore sight to the blind in their own communities. I feel proud to be playing a role in supporting it.”

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Chris W.

ONTARIO, CANADA

Chris read about HCP in an article and became curious about our work to restore sight to the blind. He went to the HCP website and was struck by the impact that a small amount of money could have in transforming someone's life. Since then he's been following international stories in the news and marvels at the capacity of people in low-income countries to effect real change with what we in the West consider an insignificant amount of money.

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SUSTAINER ALL-STARS 2020

Anders

OSLO, NORWAY

"I donate monthly to HCP because I think that being blind and living in an environment with very limited financial resources must be one of the hardest positions to be in. Not only is it extremely hard for the person who is blind, but it is also especially hard for a family with low income. They have to use time looking after the blind person that they might otherwise have used for generating income or doing other important tasks. I find it shocking (in a good way) how little money it costs to turn someone's life completely around, and it is an absolute privilege to be able to be part of that."

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SUSTAINER ALL-STARS 2020

Nickrooz & Neeloufar G.

ONTARIO, CANADA

Losing sight is truly an awful thing to happen to a person, especially when it is avoidable. Thanks to our free Canadian healthcare system both of our grandmas had cataract operations for both eyes. Unfortunately, not everyone has these privileges - we saw people go blind for they could not afford to have cataract operations. For many, being poor means that normal functioning becomes exceedingly more difficult and can often be extremely strenuous not only on the individual, but also their family. And we found it quite unfair. We thought it would be right to support HCP, especially when so many people around the world suffer from a preventable cause of blindness and do not have the opportunity to access timely healthcare, often due to socioeconomic barriers."

"My family is a multi-generational one. There are six of us living in the same household. My wife (Shirin Family), my son (Nickrooz, meaning 'one with happiness' in Farsi) and my daughter (Neeloufar, meaning 'morning glory' in Farsi) are all supporting HCP. My mother-in-law who is 90-years old and my mother who is 99 years old are also living with us."

— FROM THEIR FATHER, ALI G.

Neeloufar and Nickrooz have been sustaining donors since 2016, and Neeloufar also fundraises for HCP on behalf of a university club she founded at McMaster University. Two more family members, including Ali Grami, their father, became monthly donors! That's four people in the same house.

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Living with a rare vision disorder that is not treatable, Tracy feels that since cataracts are so easily treatable that more funding should go to cure needless blindness. After first reading about HCP in Nicholas Kristof's column in the New York Times, she signed up as a Sustaining Donor and has been giving monthly for the past 6 years. It gives her great satisfaction to restore sight for those in need.

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HCP is able to accept a wide array of assets as contributions. Every donation, no matter the size, has a meaningful impact on our ability to provide sight-restoring surgeries, train doctors to serve in areas of great need, and restore lives limited by blindness. We have multiple donation options for you to choose from:

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Please visit our website or contact HCP's Development Office for more information on which option is best for you.

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Thank you for choosing Himalayan Cataract Project!

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Challenging times remind us of what's truly important. Many people are thinking of their future and have inquired about making a gift to HCP through their estate. This is an impactful way to give without affecting current finances. We are here to help. Please **contact HCP's Development Office at donations@cureblindness.org** to answer your questions.

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