



A story of sight – and confidence! – restored Warmest thanks to you from 'The Smiling Granny'!

This bright smile belongs to Namey, who lives in a small village in Arunachal, India. Namey is 91 years old and very popular with the children of her tribe, who affectionally call her "The Smiling Granny."

But Namey's face hasn't always been so happy. Over the past few years, her vision slowly became worse and worse, until finally, she became completely blind. She needed support from her family to walk, both inside and outside – and she was always worried about falling. She felt she was a burden to her extended family. Even for personal hygiene, she was dependent on others.

Like so many elderly people faced with extreme poverty and the limitations of blindness, The Smiling Granny became depressed and withdrawn. Her family and friends were concerned about the formerly-cheerful Namey. They advised her to visit the nearby hospital for medical treatment, but Namey was deeply afraid of medical



Your support has restored Namey's independence! Thank you!

treatment. She was adamant that she would not see a doctor.

But fortunately, some community health workers from an Operation Eyesight hospital partner were conducting a door-to-door survey, searching for people

suffering from eye diseases... and Namey was diagnosed with bilateral cataracts.

Still stubborn, Namey initially refused help; but the trained health worker counselled her and followed up with her numerous times. Thanks to encouragement from her family, Namey slowly gained confidence to seek help.

On the day of her operation, Namey was nervous. But the next day, when the bandages came off and she discovered her vision was restored, she was overjoyed!

Today, Namey's no longer dependent on others' help. And much to the village children's delight, The Smiling Granny is walking around the community by herself again, visiting friends and attending church, which she hadn't been able to do for a few years, due to blindness. **She's very grateful to generous donors like you for helping her regain her sight and her independence. Thank you!**



This Kenyan boy receives an antibiotic to prevent and treat trachoma infection. He and his community send you their heartfelt thanks for your support!

SEE what your kindness helped accomplish in 2016!

Ever wish you could see a year at a glance? Well, we're offering you that opportunity inside this issue of *SightLines*, featuring highlights from our *2016 Report to Donors*.

Brand new eyeglasses that bring the world into focus; cataract surgeries that restore sight and hope; hospital-based programs that improve the eye health of entire communities; and Mass Drug Administration

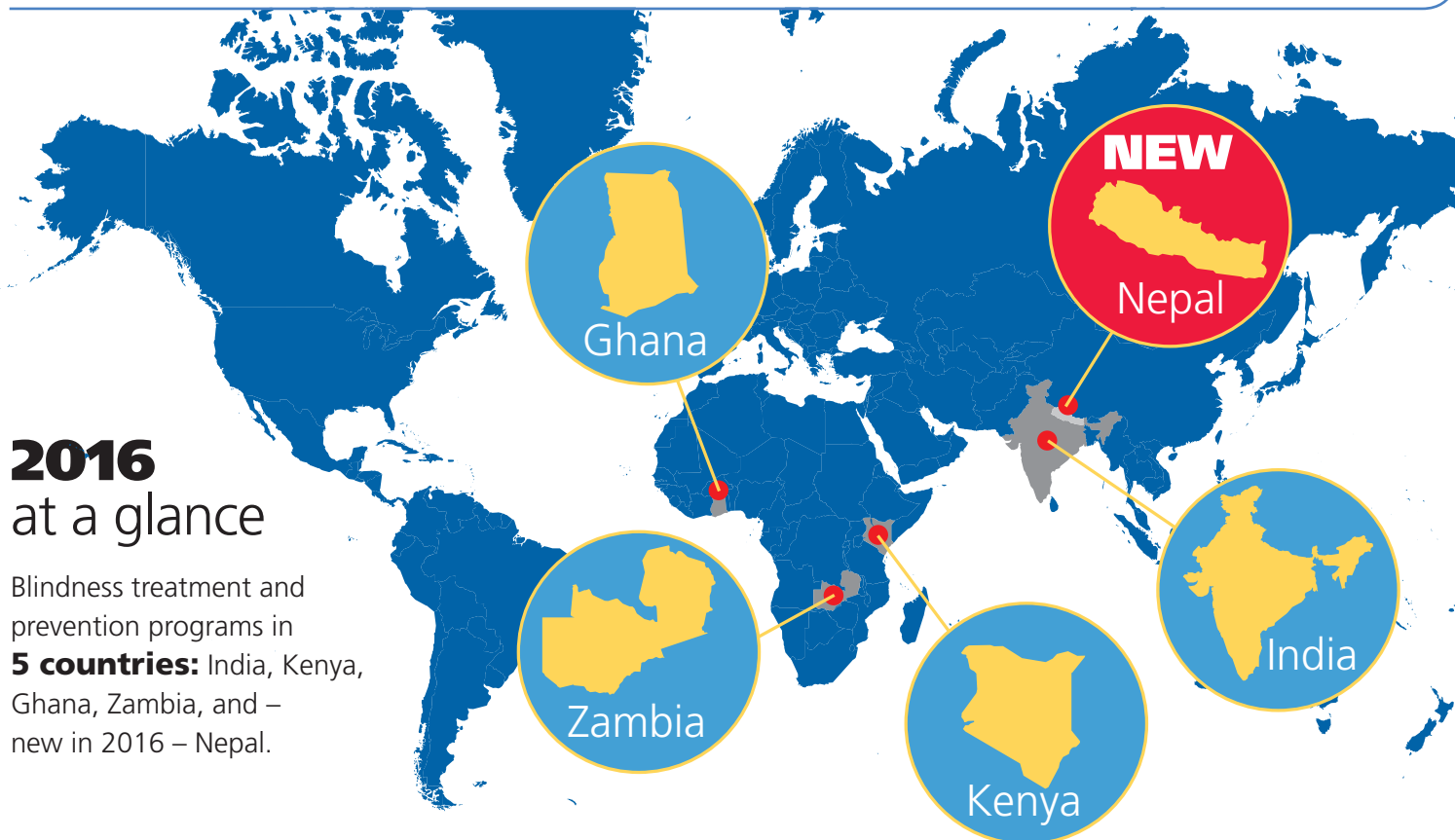
that treats blinding trachoma... **each little nugget of information represents hundreds of thousands of children, women and men who are so grateful for kind-hearted people like you.** Turn the page and read on!

**Comments? Questions?
We'd love to hear from you!**

SEE

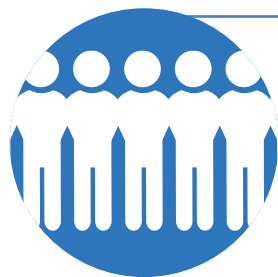
how we prevent blindness and restore sight

Your generous support changed lives in 2016! Today, children, women and men can see the world around them – because of **YOU**. Here are just a few of the achievements you helped make possible over the past year!



2016 at a glance

Blindness treatment and prevention programs in **5 countries:** India, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, and – new in 2016 – Nepal.



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



224,341 pairs of new **prescription eyeglasses** dispensed

210,700 eye surgeries

performed by our partner hospitals



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



Your support helped prevent blindness and restore sight for patients in all our countries of work in 2016. Thanks to you, local communities obtained the training, equipment and facilities they need to help their own people. We're making a tremendous difference together!

2016 country highlights

India

- Partnered with 56 hospitals to implement **Hospital-Based Community Eye Health** projects across 17 states
- Declared another 130 villages as **avoidable blindness-free**
- Established 23 **Vision Centres**
- **Trained** over 2,000 eye health professionals
- Launched our first **Community-Based Rehabilitation Project**
- Implemented a **Community-Based Diabetic Retinopathy Program**
- Diagnosed more than 1,700 patients with eye tumors and performed 6,445 procedures at the **Operation Eyesight Universal Institute for Eye Cancer**
- Introduced **new technology** at 40 of our Vision Centres



Photo by Dr. Shivam Maini

Nepal

- Expanded our **Hospital-Based Community Eye Health Program** to the country
- **Upgraded eye care facilities** at our two partner hospitals
- Established two **Vision Centres**



Zambia

- Drilled **22 boreholes** in the Sinazongwe district
- Trained 30 local villagers as **pump minders**
- Distributed **antibiotics** to 111,139 individuals through a door-to-door strategy



Kenya

- **Examined 177,279 children** through hospitals, community outreach programs and school screenings
- Established a **new eye unit** at Huruma Sub-County Hospital
- Continued to fight trachoma through implementation of the **SAFE strategy: Surgery, Antibiotics, Facial cleanliness and Environmental improvement**, including wells and latrines.



Melua, a young mother from Kenya, used to suffer from trachoma, a painful eye disease that leads to irreversible blindness. Because of your support, she received surgery to correct her inverted eyelashes and preserve her remaining sight. Today, she is pain-free and can continue caring for her children, thanks to you!

Ghana

- Completed the first-ever **National Blindness and Visual Impairment Study**
- Ran an **eye health awareness** campaign in partnership with Ghana Health Service
- Conducted **training workshops** for primary eye care workers and optometrists
- Equipped 18 partner hospitals with low vision **diagnostic equipment**



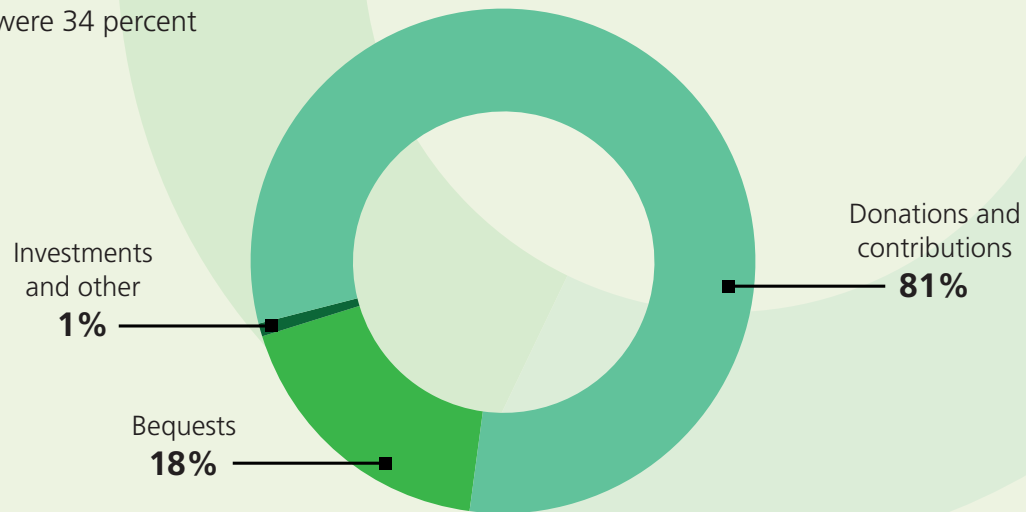
Michael and his sister Priscilla from Ghana each received a new pair of prescription eyeglasses, thanks to your support! "We're grateful to Operation Eyesight and its partners for this kind gesture," says their mother.

2016 financial summary

Thank you to our staff and board members around the world – and thank YOU for your dedicated support! Together we'll continue to transform lives by restoring sight and preventing blindness – **For All The World To See!**

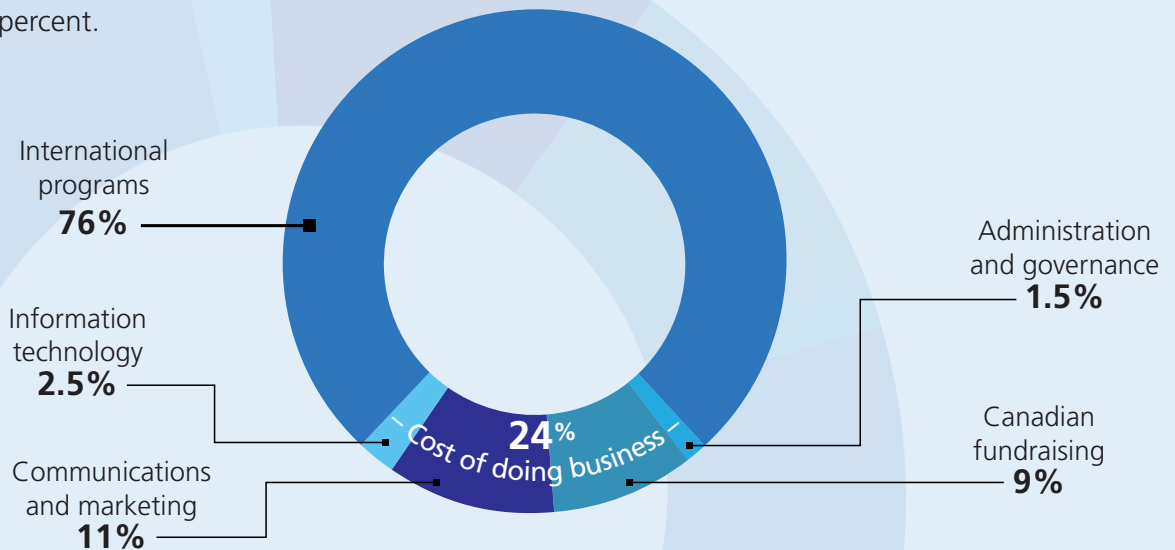
Revenue: \$5.46 million

- A strong financial year, thanks to YOU!
- Total revenues were 34 percent above 2015.



Expenditures: \$4.59 million

- “Cost of doing business” held steady at 24 percent.



To request a print copy of our full 2016 *Report to Donors*, please contact us toll-free at **1-800-585-8265** or **admin@operationeyesight.com**. The full report will also be available on our website, **operationeyesight.com/financials**, by July 1. **We're grateful for your loyal support!**

Saving sight and **lives**

Make your family proud with a legacy gift



Winagean Alberg, 1921 – 2016

After someone chooses to leave a gift to a charity in their will, they often ask themselves, "What will my family think?" Well, in most cases, we've found **your family will be proud of you for leaving a legacy gift – especially if they understand how important it is to you!**

Be sure your wishes are clearly stated in your will, and tell your family and friends why you have a passion for that charity's good work.

When one of our longtime supporters, Winagean Alberg, passed away in Wetaskiwin, AB in May 2016, she left a special gift to Operation Eyesight. This legacy gift came as no surprise to her daughter, Linda Mullen, who said she and her brother were aware of their mother's deep attachment to Operation Eyesight. "When it came to charity, we always knew Mom had a huge heart."

Winagean's early support of Operation Eyesight came in the form of tribute gifts for others. Whenever there was a birthday or anniversary, she'd donate in the name of the friend or family member celebrating.

Winagean also volunteered as a driver for CNIB in her later years. Linda says her mom had a deep passion for helping those who were blind, as one of her best friends had slowly lost her own vision.

Winagean's gift of sight is a tangible reminder of "how beautiful she was and continues to be" to her family. "There are still tears," Linda says, "But the tears are ones of pride and appreciation... and inspiration to do as my mom has done in helping others."

Special thanks to Linda for sharing her memories of her mom. We're very grateful that Winagean chose to change the world by leaving a gift to Operation Eyesight in her will!

SEE what a lasting gift can do

Designating a gift to Operation Eyesight in your will is your opportunity to give the gift of sight and leave a lasting legacy of hope. For more information, contact Susan at **403-670-2635** or toll-free at **1-800-585-8265**, or email her at **DeikeS@operationeyesight.com**.



7 ways you can connect with us!

1. Call our friendly office staff at **1-800-585-8265**.
2. Provide us with your email address, and we'll be happy to send you *SightLines* electronically instead of in the mail. You'll also help us cut down on printing costs!
3. Visit **operationeyesight.com/newsletter** and sign up for our *Glimpse* eNews bulletin for quick email updates.
4. Read our weekly posts at **operationeyesight.com/blog**
5. Visit us on Facebook: **OperationEyesightUniversal**
6. Watch us on YouTube: **OpEyesightUniversal**
7. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram: **@OpEyesight**

Make your gift today!



Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more unless otherwise requested.

We do not sell, trade or otherwise share our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to keep you informed and up to date on the activities of Operation Eyesight, including our programs, special events, funding needs, and more. If you have questions about our organization or wish to be removed from any of these contacts, please call us at 1-800-585-8265 or email admin@operationeyesight.com.

I understand that my monthly donation will be automatically withdrawn from my bank account or charged to my credit card. I can change or cancel my monthly contribution at any time. To obtain a sample cancellation form, or for more information about my right to cancel a PAD Agreement, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.

I have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. To obtain more information on my recourse rights, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca.

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Operation Eyesight USA is a registered charitable organization.
#20-2682468

You can help someone see a brighter tomorrow.

By telephone: Toll-free in Canada and the USA: 1-800-585-8265

By mail: Canada: Operation Eyesight Canada, Suite 200, 4 Parkdale Crescent NW, Calgary, AB T2N 3T8
United States: Operation Eyesight USA, 14900 Interurban Ave. S. Suite 271 PMB 35, Seattle, WA 98168-4654

Fax or scan and email this form: Fax: 403-270-1899 Email: admin@operationeyesight.com

Online: Go to operationeyesight.com and follow the links

Yes! I will support Operation Eyesight's sight-saving projects by making a regular monthly gift of:

\$50 \$30 \$20 \$10 Other \$ _____
(\$5 minimum)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

I prefer to make a one-time gift of:

\$100 \$75 \$50 \$20 Other \$ _____

Payment options:

I have enclosed my cheque payable to Operation Eyesight (or a blank cheque marked VOID to pre-authorize a Monthly Gift)

Charge my: Visa MasterCard American Express

Name on card: _____

Card number: _____

Signature: _____

Expiry date: ____/____ Security Code: _____

This donation is made on behalf of: an individual a business

Please note that if more funds are received for a particular program, project or item than required, Operation Eyesight will re-allocate the funds to areas of highest priority.

My details:

Title: _____

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Province/State: _____

Postal/Zip code: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Please send me:

information about how to leave a gift in my will

Full 2016 Report to Donors

2017-n13

Tell us your story!

I support Operation Eyesight because: _____

Please cut or tear this page out before filling it out and mailing it back to Operation Eyesight.



Thank you!