



Your Legacy:
A Brighter Tomorrow

“You can’t change the world, but you can change some people’s world.”

– Art Jenkyns, Operation Eyesight Founder

Come with us to Laholiya, a small village in India. There, we meet Kuluki: *A widow. A mother. A grandmother.*

Her entire life, Kuluki took care of others. She fed her family by toiling in the fields day after day. She cooked, cleaned and sewed. When her kids were grown, she looked after her grandkids so their parents could work.

Then, Kuluki’s sight began to fade.

“I felt very scared. My world was turning dark. I thought I would never get to see my grandchildren grow.”

She became dependent on her family. After years of being the provider, she felt like a burden to them.

A brighter future: Through an Operation Eyesight community eye health program, Kuluki was visited by a community health worker. She learned that she had cataracts and received free, sight-restoring surgery at a nearby hospital.

Now, with her vision restored, she cares for her grandkids and reads them bedtime stories. **“I feel more alive,”** she says. And about you, Operation Eyesight’s incredible donors, Kuluki says, **“There are no words to thank them** as they supported my surgery without even knowing me.”





Help women like Kuluki get their lives back by including Operation Eyesight in your estate plan. When you restore the vision of even one person, you impact their whole community. Make the commitment to change a life today!

As an Operation Eyesight donor, Kuluki's story may not surprise you. You already know that, without intervention, some people miss out on opportunities and feel isolated. You know children can fall behind in school – just because they lack the eyeglasses they need to see the chalkboard.

Without donors like you, countless girls and boys won't have a chance to build a better future for themselves, their families and their communities.

According to the World Health Organization's *World Report on Vision*, over **one billion people** suffer from visual impairment that could have been prevented or could be treated (most in developing countries). And this number will go up, as the global population grows, and as people live longer.

This problem can't be solved this year or even in this lifetime. But Operation Eyesight is not going anywhere. We will not quit until everyone everywhere has access to the eye care they need.

With so much needless suffering that happens in this world, **we need you** to help ensure that Operation Eyesight can continue to bring quality eye care where it is needed most.

If you, like us, envision a future free of avoidable blindness, where everyone everywhere has access to the eye care they need, please join us to make that vision a reality!

Join other caring Canadians in giving the ultimate gift.

A modest man. An enormous impact.



John was quiet, unassuming and sometimes overlooked in a crowd. He was kind, patient, dependable and honest. He worked hard all his life and spent his money wisely and thoughtfully. So, when he started to plan what would be done with his estate, he planned carefully, and prayed about his decisions. First, he made sure that his loving wife would be well looked after. Then, he turned his mind to what should be done with what was left.

He spent hours researching various organizations, checking to see how they conducted their business and what their mission was. John chose Operation Eyesight as one of the charities that matched his values and hopes for the future. He appreciated Operation Eyesight's Canadian roots and our longstanding, consistent dedication to caring for the overlooked.

Most importantly, John wanted to help people see. Sight was important to him because he crafted intricate stained-glass work and matchstick sculptures – both impossible to do without keen eyesight. His family misses him dearly, but they are proud he made the world a better place through his gift to Operation Eyesight.

Sharing the joy of sight with people in need.



Marilyn was born in Edmonton, and she and her husband Brian have been living in Calgary for many years. She loves her dogs and her garden, and it's important to her to be able to share the simple joys of life with others.

Marilyn has supported Operation Eyesight for decades, and she has been a monthly donor for over 20 years. She can't imagine what it must be like to live with blindness and have no hope of getting help. She has continued her support of Operation Eyesight because she knows that every dollar she gives helps someone who really needs it. But she wants to make an even more impactful gift.

Marilyn feels strongly that everyone in the world should be able to see. It was an easy decision for her to leave half of her estate to Operation Eyesight. She knows that when the time comes, her gift will help many people for years into the future.

A legacy gift, or planned gift, is a special gift. It takes thought, foresight and planning. Most of all, a legacy gift reflects the future you want to see.

What will your impact be?

“The most profound impact I think you can have on someone's life is to give them the gift of sight.”

- Harvey, Operation Eyesight Donor

Take a moment to reflect on the future you hope for. Do you wish girls around the world were just given an equal shot at success? Do you dream of a world where no child goes hungry? Do you wish education was within everyone's reach?

We do too. **Together, we can make those dreams a reality.** With nearly 60 years of experience, you can be

confident that your personal, meaningful gift to Operation Eyesight will be used strategically and efficiently to create lasting change. You can empower generations to come.

Together, we can solve this needless problem. Your gift will support a proven model of sustainable treatment, prevention and community development to address the root causes of avoidable blindness. Your support not only restores sight but prevents people from going blind in the first place. Avoidable blindness can be eliminated. Please join us in creating a better tomorrow.

You can help reach the unreached.

Your gift can ensure every person in every household of each village is screened, counselled and referred for further care. You will help individuals thrive and build resilient communities.



You can bring fresh water to communities who don't have it.

Diseases such as blinding trachoma are spread through poor hygiene. Clean water, along with education, helps build resilient communities and can even increase the enrollment of girls in schools.



You can provide quality eye care to people who can't afford to pay for it.

By making trained professionals available in well-equipped vision centres, they become self-sufficient. Revenue generated from patients who can afford to pay offsets the costs of those who can't.

Legacy Giving Options

No matter your financial circumstances, there is a gift type that will ensure your financial needs are met, while still making a meaningful gift to Operation Eyesight. Depending on the type of planned gift, it can reduce your costs and taxes now or lessen taxes and prevent unfair distribution of your hard-earned assets. We encourage you to speak with your lawyer, financial planner or trusted advisor to help you understand the tax advantages associated with each type of gift and make the necessary arrangements in your will or estate plan.

Gift in your will

A gift in your will, also known as a charitable bequest, is the most common way Operation Eyesight's donors choose to leave a lasting legacy. A will ensures that your wishes are known and followed. Leaving a gift in your will can significantly reduce your estate taxes, helping you ensure that the people and organizations you care about are taken care of. These gifts are easy to arrange and won't affect your income today.

There are different kinds of bequests:

1. **General bequests** give a specific amount or percentage of your estate.
2. **Residuary bequests** leave leftover assets to charity after providing for a loved one, for example.
3. **Contingency bequests** allocate all or a portion of your estate to Operation Eyesight if your named beneficiary does not survive you.

In making changes to your will, or when drafting a new will, you should consult with your own legal advisor.

Please contact us today for your free Will Preparation Guide for more information on leaving a gift in your will or for specific wording for your will or codicil.



Other ways to make a once-in-a-lifetime gift.

Gift of stocks and securities

By donating securities directly to Operation Eyesight, you avoid capital gains taxes, maximize the return on your investment and preserve your tax credits to be used against other taxable income.

Life insurance

By naming Operation Eyesight as the owner and beneficiary of a life insurance policy, you could receive a charitable tax receipt for the value of the policy and charitable tax receipts for paying the premiums each year. You pay a little each year, to give a large future gift to Operation Eyesight.

You may also retain control of the policy, but name Operation Eyesight as your beneficiary. When the policy is paid out, the tax receipt will offset your estate taxes.

RRSPs or RRIFs

A remaining balance of an RRSP or RRIF upon death can lead to a large tax bill. By naming Operation Eyesight as the beneficiary to your RRSP or RRIF, the proceeds would go to sight-saving work and your estate would receive a charitable tax receipt. The tax credits counterbalance your final tax return, transforming any final tax liabilities into a charitable gift.

Annuities

Depending on your stage of life, a charitable annuity is a great way to take care of a favourite charity while giving you some income for the rest of your life. You make a gift of cash or other property to Operation Eyesight and receive an immediate tax receipt plus guaranteed income at a lower tax rate. Operation Eyesight can use the remainder of your gift to further the sight-saving work you love!

Charitable remainder trusts

If you want to make a charitable gift but also want to provide for a loved one, consider creating a charitable remainder trust. You would create an irrevocable trust by contributing cash, securities or other property. The minimum amount required to establish the trust is \$100,000. Throughout your lifetime, or for a set time, you or your loved one would receive the net income of the trust. Upon the death of the trust beneficiaries (or the expiry of the term), Operation Eyesight receives the remainder of the trust.

Residual interest

A gift of residual interest is made when you give any property (your home, art, valuables, etc.) to Operation Eyesight. You receive a charitable tax receipt for the value of the property when the gift is made. Then, you continue to use and enjoy the property throughout your lifetime. Upon your death, Operation Eyesight would receive the deed of the property.



“The greatest use of life is to spend it on something that will outlast it.” – William James

Thank you again considering leaving a lasting legacy of sight and hope. Planning for the future now will bring you peace of mind that your loved ones and the organizations you support will be taken care of. Through a legacy gift to Operation Eyesight, you will change the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in Africa and South Asia.

Discuss your giving with your family and advisors

This document does not provide any legal advice, but only offers general information that may be useful. Please speak with your lawyer or financial planner to make the necessary arrangements in your will or estate plan.

We encourage you to share your intentions with your family and explain why you wish to leave a legacy gift. You may want to share why you believe it's important that Operation Eyesight's work continues in the future and remind your loved ones that leaving a charitable gift may significantly reduce the tax burdens on your estate.

Contact us

If you have any questions or wish to discuss your options, we'd be glad to hear from you! Please also let us know if you plan to leave a legacy gift to Operation Eyesight. This helps ensure that you are properly recognized, if that is your wish, and that your gift can be used in the way you intend. We will work with you and your family confidentially to ensure your legacy gift goals are met.

**Together, we can achieve great things
- For All The World To See!**



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