In 1984, when Combat Blindness International was founded, we provided just one eye camp and a few hundred surgeries.

Then, over the course of 30 years, hundreds of amazing supporters, like yourself, joined our effort. You believed in the incredible benefit of sight for people living in the most desperate situations around the world. You have given generously, and now, tens of thousands of men, women and children are receiving the gift of sight every single year.

On October 1, we gathered for World Sight Day to celebrate the lives that have been changed over the last 30 years. People like Marta (whose story you will read in this newsletter) can see today only because of compassionate people like you. That’s a cause for celebration! (Above, you’ll see photos from the event and a sample of the artwork painted by our keynote speaker, Lon Michels.)

When I look back at all of the lives that have been changed in the last three decades, I can’t help but think about what’s possible in the future - how much more we can accomplish together.

To celebrate CBI’s 30th anniversary, a group of generous supporters have provided a $30,000 matching challenge.

When you give right now, your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, essentially doubling your donation. Don’t wait!

The last 30 years of giving sight would not have been possible without you, and I am deeply grateful for your partnership. Let’s continue working together and bring the gift of sight to many more.
Meet Marta.

When she was just 18 years old, she went blind. She lived that way for 2 years in her poor village on the border of Namibia and Angola, trying to navigate life without her sight. Her life was changed the day that one of CBI’s medical partners met her and shared the good news - her blindness was caused by cataract and could be cured.

On the morning of her operation, she was living in complete darkness. By afternoon, she could see clearly out of both eyes. Light had been restored to her life.

Her reaction of complete joy made a deep impact on her doctors and nurses. Can you imagine how she must have felt? Just days earlier, she believed she would never see again and yet there in the hospital room, she opened her eyes and saw the doctors and nurses who had given her what she thought was impossible.

Her life has been profoundly changed. She returned home to her village as an independent woman - no longer requiring help from a caregiver for daily routines. She is now able to contribute to her family and community. You have made Marta’s story possible. You have given Marta and many more like her the chance to see again and live life free of such a powerful disability. Thank you!

To celebrate 30 years of restoring sight, a generous group of donors has provided a matching challenge of $30,000.

All donations received by the end of October will be matched dollar for dollar up to $30,000!

The great news is that the matching opportunity INCLUDES monthly pledges.

For example:

- If you pledge $20 a month, we will apply a full year’s total to the matching gift, meaning that your $240 gift over the course of a year will be doubled to $480.

- If you pledge $50 a month, your $600 gift will be $1200 by the end of the year.

Monthly giving to CBI is easy and a great way for you to be able to change even more lives. You can sign up to give monthly on the enclosed donation envelope. Thank you for partnering with us and doubling your impact!