2015 at a Glance

In 2015, Combat Blindness International with you, our family, have continued to change lives. We have helped over 50,000 people suffering from cataracts, refractive errors, and other vision problems. Together, we reached the most vulnerable people throughout the world; in India, Myanmar, Mali, Kenya, South Africa, Namibia, Nigeria, Paraguay, and Madison, WI, USA. We helped our global neighbors through their darkest moments.

We have given more than just sight. We have given the hope of a life of productivity and independence. We have helped grandparents see their grandchildren for the first time, parents provide for their families, and children see the world through renewed eyes.

We believe that no one should remain blind simply because they lack access to care or cannot afford a $20 surgery.
This report will detail our 2015 progress in the fight to eliminate avoidable blindness. From cataract surgeries to school vision screenings - we are pursuing new and innovative ways to address avoidable blindness in the developing world. With all the lives transformed in 2015, we are excited to see what we can be a part of in 2016!

All this was possible because of you, and we thank you. We are in this together.

*Suresh Chandra, MD*
**FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN**

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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INCOME

CHART VALUES

- **80%** $1,035,475
- **8%** $100,572
- **7%** $94,805
- **5%** $60,494

NOTE: $901,475 was granted for an eye center. The funds have been, and will be, issued throughout 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

EXPENSES

TOTAL NET ASSETS $1,362,093
ASIA

- Ayodhya Eye Hospital • Ayodhya, India $5,000
  578 Adult Cataract Surgeries
- Bhubaneswar (L.V. Prasad) Eye Institute
  Bhubaneswar, India $32
  179 Child Eye Surgeries
  1,387 Adult Cataract Surgeries
  76 Staff Members Trained
- Gujarath Project $65,563
  Meghray, Surat, Sankheda, Bhavnagar,
  Chikhodra, Vadodara, India
  IOLs & Consumables
  Van for School Screenings
  202 Child Eye Surgeries
  5,355 Adult Cataract Surgeries
  23,334 Children Screened
  511 Child Glasses Given
  Consultation & Leadership
- Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital
  Rampur Clinic • Rampur, India $53,322
  1,710 Adult Cataract Surgeries
  124 Scholarships for Paramedical Personnel
  Vitrectomy Kits
- Sitapur Eye Hospital • Sitapur, India $5,000
  8,315 Adult Cataract Surgeries
  44 Child Eye Surgeries
- Tarabai Desai Eye Hospital • Jodhpur, India $9,600
  Hospital Administrator Salary
- Usha Kiran Eye Hospital • Mysore, India $35,000
  1,269 Adult Cataract Surgeries
  140 Child Eye Surgeries
- Stage Cakkhu Dana Hospital
  Hsipaw, Myanmar $51,675
  185 Cataract Surgeries
  Medical Supplies
  Consumables & Equipment
  Volunteer Ophthalmologists

AFRICA

- IOTA University of Bamako Eye Department
  Bamako, Mali $2,975
  IOLs & Consumables for
  300 Cataract Surgeries
- Lions Sight First Eye Hospital
  Nairobi, Kenya $10,000
  3,001 Adult Cataract Surgeries
  115 Child Eye Surgeries
- Ujima Bakehouse • Nakura, Kenya $5,049
  Sustainable funding source for
  eye care with 1CEH/PBEB (London, UK)
- African Vision • Durban, South Africa
  Windhoek, Namibia $5,000
  491 Cataract Surgeries
- Ministry of Health & Social Services
  IOLs & Consumables for
  200 Adult Cataract Surgeries
- Mesu International Foundation
  Emekuku, Nigeria $1,900
  IOLs & Consumables for
  45 Cataract Surgeries

THE AMERICAS

- Haiti Medical Missions of Wisconsin
  Thiotte, Haiti $1,445
  Situational Assessment/
  Survey Trip
- Fundación Vision • Asunción, Paraguay
  $8,000
  Child Vision Screening Program
- Madison Metropolitan School District
  Madison, Wisconsin $8,864
  School Screenings for 2,554 Children
- Right to Sight Eye Clinic • Madison, Wisconsin $1,000
  Free Right to Sight Clinic
Cataract Surgeries

Everyone deserves to see, and when the only thing keeping people from that ability is a 20 minute surgery that costs as little as $20, we believe that there is no reason this person should remain blind. A simple cataract surgery should not be the barrier separating a person from one of their most powerful senses. That is why CBI has been dedicated to eliminating cataract blindness for over 30 years.

We have a strong relationship with our medical partners, working to ensure that they are not only able to treat more patients, but also provide high-quality, safe care.

We are proud to state that the CBI family has helped to support 23,930 cataract surgeries in 2015!

It doesn’t just effect one person.

It is important to remember that these surgeries help more than one person. They help all those who care for a blind loved one, such as a child taken out of school or an already burdened parent. Together, we have helped not only provide people with eyesight, but also hope, peace of mind, and security.
Eye Care Mission

In the rural areas of Myanmar, ophthalmologists are very rare, 1 per every 500,000. The need for ophthalmologists to perform cataract surgeries is great. In 2015, our major eye care mission was led by Dr. Suresh Chandra who was joined by Dr. Peter Holm (CBI Board Member), Dr. Peter McCanna, and nurse Mitra Sinha. Other volunteers on the trip include Mary Kay McCanna, Sunita Chandra, Cheena Chandra, and Bisu Sinha. They performed approximately 200 free cataract surgeries and provided eye care to hundreds of patients in Hsipaw, Myanmar.
Eyesight for Children: Around the World

Investing in eyesight for children is investing in the amazing potential they can achieve with 60 years, or more, of sight. It ensures that they will have the same education available to their peers without the burden of poor vision. Access to high quality eye care allows children to learn and play just like any other child.

In the developing world, families are already struggling to provide for their children without the cost of added medical treatment. This is why it is so important to provide access to eye care, it provides life altering changes not only for the child, but for the entire family.
Eyesight for Children: At Home In Madison

In Madison, Wisconsin, USA, where CBI is headquartered, we have been busy working to prevent vision problems locally. In 2015, the Madison extension of our Pediatric Vision Program was able to screen almost all 4K (4 year old) and 5K (5 year old) students in the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD). That’s 2,554 children screened in our own backyard! We were able to achieve this through CBI staff coordinating with the schools, MMSD Health Services Coordinator Sally Zirbel-Donsich, and our dedicated team of volunteer ophthalmic nurses to complete the screenings. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize Guy Somers, Kathryn Burke, and Diane Quackenboss for their efforts screening these children and helping them realize their full potential.

58,764 children screened

680 child surgeries

1,473 pairs of glasses provided
Behind the Scenes

Just as this has been a great year for CBI in tangible work, it has also been a great year behind the scenes as we prepare for future projects. Those who read our newsletters or attended 2015’s World Sight Day celebration will recognize the name PEEK as one of these upcoming new ventures. PEEK, which stands for Portable Eye Examination Kit, is a revolutionary smartphone adaptor and application that allows a trained operator to administer a high-quality, professional eye exam from a smartphone any where in the world. This technology will change the way we address preventable blindness in the developing world by helping people to provide eye care in a truly mobile form without the need for thousands of dollars worth of equipment and building costs. CBI will be joining PEEK in an advisory role, providing them with best-practices to set up their own foundation and in creating sustainable solutions for the PEEK network. We will also be joining their mission to eliminate all preventable blindness in the country of Botswana, Africa within the next few years, providing the means to cure the country's backlog of cataract patients and build the capacity, in country, to prevent cataracts for years to come.

Also in 2015, we moved forward with our long time partners at the renowned LV Prasad Eye Institute in India in the construction plans of a sustainable eye
hospital in the state of Odisha, India. This hospital should serve 500,000 to 1,000,000 people in one of the poorest regions of the country. This is one of the most ambitious projects to end avoidable blindness that we have undertaken. Combat Blindness International would like to thank the Jack DeLoss Taylor Charitable Trust for their generous donation towards making this project a reality.

The staff and board aren’t the only people working behind the scenes at CBI. In 2015, we partnered with Professor Choton Basu of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and his chapter of Enactus, a student social entrepreneurship organization. We are working with them to set up an E-Learning program to increase the number of students that our ophthalmic paramedical training program in India can reach.

We extend a special thanks to all our volunteers and those who made 2015 such a transformative year!

If you have any questions about our programs or financials, please email our Executive Director, Melissa Kueker Witte, at mwitte@combatblindness.org.
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Combat Blindness International is a 501(c)(3) organization.