

Our Success

SightFirst's accomplishments since 1990 are significant:

- US\$318 million approved for 1,227 projects in 102 countries
- Restored sight through 7.8 million cataract surgeries
- Built, expanded or equipped 700 eye centers
- Provided management training for 278 facilities
- Trained 706,000 ophthalmologists, ophthalmic nurses, other professional eye care workers and village health workers
- Launched the world's first-ever initiative to combat childhood blindness in partnership with the World Health Organization. The 60 pediatric eye care centers established or strengthened have impacted the lives of 125 million children.



About Lions Clubs International Foundation

Lions Clubs International Foundation, the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International, provides grant funding to Lions and their partners to carry out large-scale humanitarian projects in their communities. Since LCIF began in 1968, it has awarded more than 12,000 grants totaling over US\$900 million for projects that address issues of youth, disaster, disability and sight.

LCIF administrative expenses are paid by interest earned on investments, so every dollar donated goes directly towards a grant project. LCIF is largely supported through the generous donations of Lions. The *Financial Times* has named LCIF as the #1 non-governmental organization worldwide with which to partner.

For 20 years, I did not see well with my left eye and saw nothing with my right eye. I could not walk alone. I depended on someone for everything. After the cataract operation, everything was different. Thank you, Lions for restoring my sight!

—Patricio Gomez, Ecuador



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**

For more information, please contact:
Lions Clubs International Foundation
300 W. 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60523
USA
630-571-5466
www.lcif.org/sightfirst
SightFirst@lcif.org

SIGHTFIRST LIONS' VISION FOR ALL 30

million people saved from vision loss

**We Care.
We Serve.
We Accomplish**



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**



SightFirst: Lions' Vision for All

SightFirst is a program of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) to prevent blindness and vision loss and assist people who are blind or visually impaired. SightFirst is a leading member of VISION 2020, an international effort to eliminate the main causes of avoidable blindness and to prevent the doubling of avoidable vision impairment by 2020.

Since 1990, thanks to the investment of US\$318 million by Lions worldwide, SightFirst has helped save or restore the sight of more than 30 million people worldwide. These funds enable the program to control and eliminate avoidable causes of blindness, including cataract, trachoma and river blindness, while combating emerging threats to vision, including childhood blindness, diabetic retinopathy and uncorrected refractive error. SightFirst is active in supporting educational and rehabilitation services for people with irreversible vision loss.

706,000

Number of ophthalmologists, ophthalmic nurses, other professional eye care workers and village health care workers trained.

SightFirst Strategy

SightFirst projects help to build comprehensive eye care systems in underserved communities so that high-quality, low-cost, and sustainable services can be provided. Lions develop and manage SightFirst projects in partnership with local health authorities, eye care professionals and non-governmental organizations. Successful SightFirst initiatives typically include one or more of the following elements:

- **Delivery** of comprehensive eye care and rehabilitation services
- **Training** of various eye care, rehabilitation, education professionals and management personnel
- **Provision** of equipment and/or spatial improvements
- **Support** for eye health awareness, disease prevention and improved access to education and employment for blind and low vision persons

Key Priority Program Areas

SightFirst projects address one or more of the following specific objectives in the development of comprehensive eye care systems:

- Cataract
- Childhood Blindness
- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Eye Health Education
- Low Vision
- Rehabilitation & Education for Persons Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired
- River Blindness
- Trachoma
- Uncorrected Refractive Error

Call to Action

The tremendous success of SightFirst would not have been possible without the dedication, hard work and generosity of the 1.4 million Lions around the world. There is still much to be done. There are a number of ways that Lions can make an impact:

- Educate Lions and the community about the SightFirst program
- Advocate for increased governmental attention to the problem of worldwide preventable and avoidable blindness
- Continue to develop and implement effective eye care projects through SightFirst
- Raise community awareness about the importance of maintaining good eye health
- Donate to SightFirst to support eye care projects at www.lcif.org/donate.



Lions play a key role in the SightFirst program, such as in Ethiopia where they help in educating communities and distributing 10 million doses twice annually of the drug to prevent trachoma.