This isn’t just about restoring sight to 10 million individuals with corneal blindness – it’s about eliminating the waiting list completely, in our lifetime.

—

Claire Bonilla
Chief Global Officer
FROM SIGHTLIFE’S CHIEF GLOBAL OFFICER

As Chief Global Officer of SightLife, I am proud to report that 2016 was a record-breaking year for the mission to eliminate corneal blindness worldwide. SightLife and its partners made 16,939 transplants possible in India, Greater Asia and Ethiopia – 33 percent more than the previous year. In addition, SightLife trained more surgeons than ever before – a total of 240 – while reducing per-surgeon training costs by 75 percent. We rounded out the year by inaugurating the first SightLife operated eye bank outside of the U.S., the King George Medical University Community Eye Bank, in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India.

These are all highlights, to be sure, but we know we have a long way to go. This isn’t just about restoring sight to 10 million individuals with corneal blindness – it’s about eliminating the waiting list completely, in our lifetime. We will get there and you are the reason we know we will. It is an honor to partner with you in this transformational mission – thank you for all you do to ensure individuals around the globe can see the world through new eyes.

Yours in eliminating corneal blindness,

Claire Bonilla
Chief Global Officer
2016 Highlights

30,000+
THE NUMBER OF CORNEAS PROVIDED BY SIGHTLIFE AND OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS FOR SIGHT-RESTORING TRANSPLANTS

5
LAUNCHED THE PILOT OF OUR ONLINE SELF-SERVICE PORTAL WITH FIVE EYE BANKS ACROSS MEXICO, VIETNAM AND THAILAND

4
EXPANDED OUR GLOBAL WORK INTO CHINA, SRI LANKA AND TAIWAN ADDING FOUR NEW EYE BANK PARTNERS

240
SURGEONS TRAINED WITH A 37 PERCENT INCREASE IN THEIR NUMBER OF SURGERIES POST-TRAINING

40%
OUR CORNEA DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ENABLED 2,640 TISSUES TO REACH 220 SURGEONS ACROSS 40 RURAL VILLAGES IN INDIA—A 40% INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.
WHAT WE ARE LEARNING ALONG THE WAY

Grassroots efforts such as direct, one-on-one eye bank consulting is moving the needle, but to turn the tide, favorable policies – such as donor registries and mandatory notification of death – need to be in place in developing countries. SightLife is formally launching its policy and advocacy work focused on increasing access to tissue, reinforcing operating standards and promoting appropriate reimbursement policies.

In addition, we’ve learned that efficiently addressing the shortage of corneal tissue doesn’t require a large volume of operational eye banks. Instead, having strategically located high-volume eye banks with collection and distribution hubs in remote regions, powered by our Cornea Distribution Services, is key to resolving this issue. Based on this approach, SightLife is strategically selecting partners based on capacity and location, as opposed to working with all interested parties.

Surgeon Training at the KGMU UP Community Eye Bank
Uttar Pradesh, India

Photo © 2016 Mark Swatzell
Community Eye Bank Opens in Uttar Pradesh, India

On December 5, 2016, SightLife and King George Medical University (KGMU) celebrated the opening of the KGMU UP Community Eye Bank, a state-of-the-art facility in Lucknow, the capital of the state of Uttar Pradesh (UP) in India. Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state in India, with two-thirds the population of the U.S. The U.S. performed almost 50,000 transplants last year, but in UP only 650 cornea transplants were done.

“With the advent of this eye bank, we are now in a position to remove corneal blindness in our state and we are very excited about that,” proclaimed Dr. Arun K. Sharma, Associate Professor of KGMU, Ophthalmology Department and KGMU UP Community Eye Bank Medical Director.

SightLife intends for the KGMU UP Community Eye Bank to be the gold standard of partnership, excellence and commitment to eliminating corneal blindness across India and beyond.
Clear Eyes on the Future

As we work toward eliminating corneal blindness by 2040, we will be expanding our presence online. The Eye Bank Learning and Community Portal will provide a vibrant web-based environment for information sharing, training, webinars and network-building for eye banks around the world.

SightLife will also launch learning and development lectures, hands-on trainings and labs, certification opportunities and peer-networking and connecting opportunities. The first event will be for the Pan-Asia eye bank community of partners with plans to hold events in other countries soon after.

Additionally, SightLife will be bolstering its patient care program efforts to ensure that patients who receive corneal transplants are able to reap the long-term benefits of having their sight restored. Given that approximately 75 perfect of patients travel a minimum of 60 miles for their surgery, it is vital that a follow-up plan is in place.

Corneal Transplant Recipient, Karthik, age 12
Hyderabad, India
Corneal Transplant Recipient, ChandBee, age 29
Hyderabad, India
ChandBee

CORNEAL TRANSPLANT RECIPIENT

ChandBee lives outside of Hyderabad, India, and she developed corneal blindness in her mid-20s. Her sight became so impaired and her condition so painful that she could no longer work in the fields. She and her husband – both farmers – could no longer support their family, so the children were forced to move to a foster home.

Fortunately, ChandBee was able to get connected to a SightLife partner, the L.V. Prasad Eye Institute, where there was an opportunity for patients to receive sight-restoring corneal transplants as part of a surgeon training seminar taking place at the Institute. Just one day after an Indian surgeon performed her transplant, with the guidance of a SightLife-sponsored surgeon mentor, she could see again.

ChandBee has now returned to farming and her children are now back home. Her story is an excellent example of how restoring sight – while clearly an admirable end unto itself – is a means to even more important “ends”: families are reunited, and people can pursue productive lives of hope and opportunity. Thank you for making transformational outcomes like this possible, thousands of times a year and all around the world.
Financial Report

**SIGHTLIFE REVENUES, GAINS, & OTHER SUPPORT**

$47.3 Million

- **94.2%** Eye Bank Operations
  - $44.6 Million
- **5.0%** Contributions and Other Revenue
  - $2.4 Million
- **0.5%** Investment Return
  - $0.2 Million
- **0.3%** Lions Programs
  - $0.1 Million

**SIGHTLIFE STATEMENT OF EXPENSES**

$52.5 Million

- **73.4%** Eye Bank Operations
  - $38.6 Million
- **16.7%** General Administration & Fundraising
  - $8.7 Million
- **4.5%** Mission Acceleration*
  - $2.4 Million
- **4.2%** Global Programs
  - $2.2 Million
- **1.2%** Lions Programs
  - $0.6 Million

**GLOBAL PROGRAMS STATEMENT OF EXPENSES**

$2.2 Million

- **86.0%** Eye Bank Capacity-Building and Development
  - $1.9 Million
- **14.0%** Surgeon Training Programs
  - $0.3 Million

*One-time, start-up expenses related to the formation of SightLife Surgical, the subsidiary of SightLife that adds a for-profit engine to power and accelerate SightLife’s mission of eliminating corneal blindness worldwide by 2040.
2016 Leadership

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Rey Pangilinan, M.D.
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Audrey Talley Rostov, M.D.

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Claire Bonilla

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Gretchen Coker

Chief Development Officer
Scott Garrepy

Chief Operating Officer
Bernie Iliakis

Chief Marketing Officer
Rusty Kelly

Chief Financial Officer
Tim McLaughlin

Senior Advisor to the CEO
Sandy Jeghers
We Are Grateful for Your Tremendous Support

THE GORADIA FOUNDATION

Thanks to the generosity of the Vijay and Marie Goradia Charitable Foundation, all philanthropic gifts made to support SightLife’s work in India will continue to be matched 1-to-1, up to $6 million – the total commitment made by the Goradia Family. That means your impact will be doubled as we work together to raise the necessary funds to ensure that all corneal blind patients in India can see the world through new eyes.
$1,000,000+

Vijay and Marie Goradia
Charitable Foundation

$100,000 - $999,999

The Alcon Foundation
The Estate of Kermit & Margaret Alskog
The Hans Foundation
Indiana Lions Eye Bank
Richard & Jaci Lindstrom Foundation
Miracles in Sight
Seeing is Believing Innovation Fund/Standard Chartered Bank
SightLife staff and their families
S. Lynn Vaughn in Memory of Harold Vaughn

$10,000 - $24,999

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Gretchen and Mark Coker
Dr. Doug Holsclaw and Melody Summers
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Alpa and Kush Parikh in honor of Aasha and Aanya Parikh
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