



**2013-14 | ANNUAL REPORT**



## A MESSAGE FROM SEVA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In a world where most news seems to be about disaster, war and tragedy, I am happy to share an annual report filled with good news. Acts of kindness and generosity by Seva's donors and friends throughout the year helped restore sight to thousands of men, women and children around the globe. Places where access to eye care, and certainly to sight-restoring surgery, would never have been possible without the Seva programs you supported. These acts of kindness, large and small, do more than offer the miracle of sight; they spread a message of hope in a troubled world. They remind us that we can all be connected as a force for good through simple acts of compassion.

Last year Seva enabled over one million people to receive eye care, and for a third year straight over 100,000 sight-restoring surgeries were performed. We may not be a big organization, but thanks to the inspiration we draw from our supporters and friends, and especially the people we serve, we feel BIG!

Through 35 years of experience in delivering eye care in some of the world's poorest and most remote communities, we've learned that high quality, high volume eye care and surgery are not only possible, but must be the standard all eye organizations strive for. Across the 22 countries where we work and with the many local partners we assist, assuring sustainable programs for quality eye care is our goal and "compassion in action" our mantra. Coincidentally, during this 35th anniversary year we reached an incredible milestone of 3.5 million sight-restoring surgeries thanks to 3.5 decades of steadfast support from dedicated donors, staff, and volunteers. Given all we've learned and the ever expanding community of friends and donors who believe in our mission, just imagine what we'll do in the next 35 years!

I know you will join us in our quest to reach our ultimate goal, the elimination of unnecessary blindness, so that the 39 million who remain blind and the 246 million who are sight impaired may see again.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jack Blanks'.

Jack Blanks  
Executive Director



“ I admire Seva’s spirit of innovation. Seva is constantly looking for new ideas that can benefit the world, especially the poor, and they aren’t afraid to try something that no one has ever tried before.”

—DR. MUHAMMAD YUNUS  
Founding Chairman of Grameen Health Services



# SEVA: A SOLUTION IN SIGHT

We began our work 35 years ago through a small group of dreamers who committed to change the world by eradicating preventable blindness through selfless service.

Using a systems-building approach and by cultivating partnerships, Seva has helped more than 20 countries develop their own high quality eye care infrastructure.

This fiscal year, the Seva community supported sight-saving surgery for 104,826 children and adults who were otherwise unable to afford care.

A total of 1,035,024 people received eye care services including eye exams, free and low-cost glasses, medicine to treat infection, and sight-saving surgery.

Our outreach programs continue to have a particular focus on reaching women and girls. Due to cultural and financial barriers, women and girls are twice as likely to suffer from preventable blindness and low vision.

We’re working to make eye care accessible for all.

## Sustainability

Around the globe, Seva supports capacity building at over 100 hospitals and clinics. Each is located in areas where poverty levels are high and outreach services are low.

Sustainability is key. In each of the 22 countries where we work, Seva invests in top quality personnel, equipment and training. The goal is to build local resources and ensure communities become able to provide self-sustaining eye care services that are accessible by all.

This year, Seva inaugurated a new eye clinic in western Nepal, and another in eastern Nepal was upgraded to a full service eye hospital with sight-saving surgical capabilities.

## Global Sight Initiative

Creating healthy eye care programs through capacity building remains Seva’s core program strategy and guides everything we do. To build capacity, Seva works to strengthen underperforming eye hospitals through a formalized system for training, consultation, and mentoring by mature, high-performing eye hospitals.

The Global Sight Initiative builds upon the guidelines of VISION 2020, and includes leading institutions such as Aravind Eye Care System, LV Prasad Eye Institute, and others.

Seva links our local partners to a network of international development and eye care specialists that span 15 countries. Our network enables the transfer of key strategies that are helping to increase the number of people able to access eye care, improves the quality of services, and makes hospitals more sustainable. This year, we were proud to add 12 new eye hospitals to our global network.

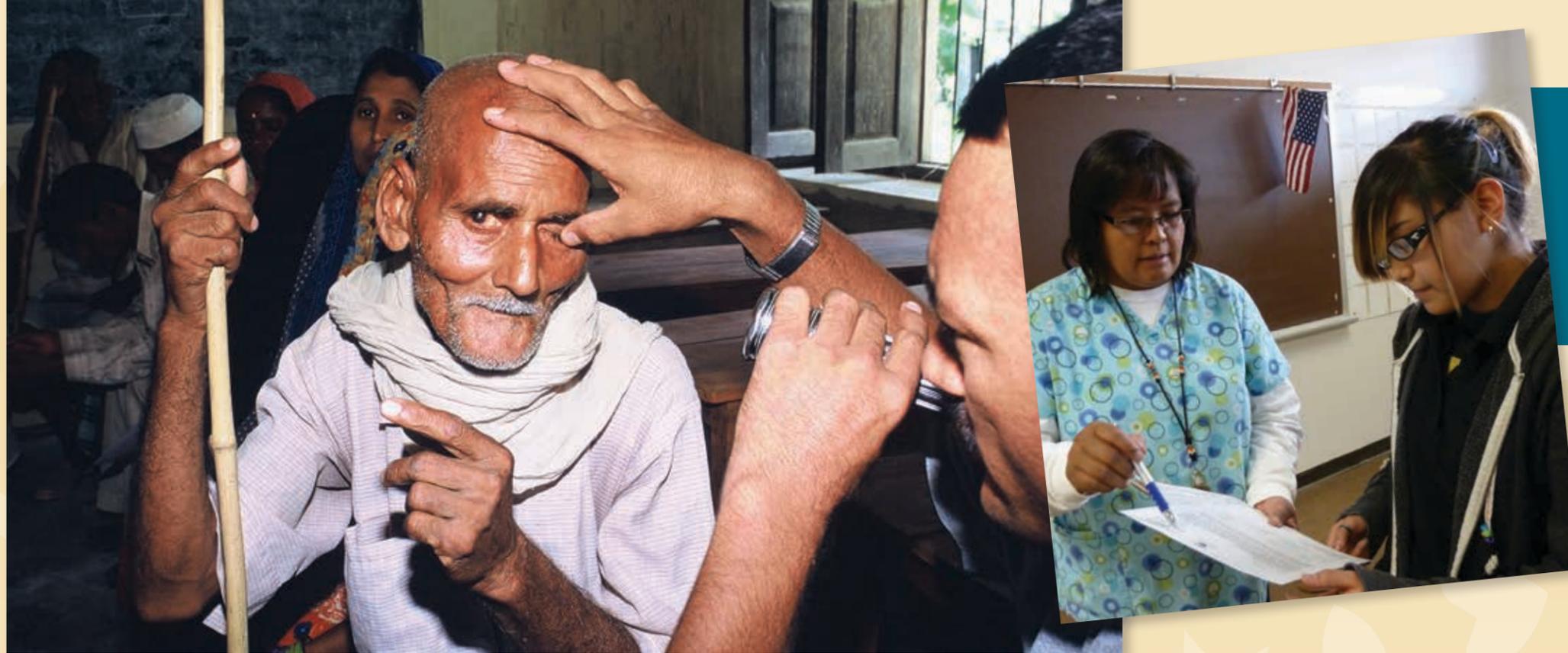
## Advanced Medical Training

During the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the Seva community supported the training of 158 doctors, nurses and staff. Trainings took place in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Tibet, and in many other countries where Seva works. These well-trained medical professionals now work to provide accessible high quality eye care where it is needed most. In addition, thousands of hours of time were donated by Seva’s team of expert volunteers who have spent the year working diligently to train local staff with the skills they need.



## GLOBAL SIGHT INITIATIVE PARTNERS

- Aravind Eye Care System, India
- International Eye Foundation, US
- Kilimanjaro Center for Community Ophthalmology, Tanzania
- Lumbini Eye Institute, Nepal
- LV Prasad Eye Institute, India
- Magrabi Foundation, Egypt
- Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya, India
- Seva Canada, Canada
- Visualiza, Guatemala
- Vivekananda Mission Ashram Netra Niramay Niketan, India



“ Seva has given so much help to so many thousands of people for so many years — such a wonderful example of love in action.”

— BONNIE RAITT  
Singer/ Songwriter



### AIDS Eye Initiative

This year, Seva trained 14 HIV/AIDS doctors in Myanmar to diagnose and treat Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Retinitis and prevent blindness. CMV Retinitis, a condition that attacks the retina in people with compromised immune systems, causes over 90% of avoidable blindness in patients with HIV/AIDS.

More than half of patients with HIV/AIDS in Myanmar are now being cared for in clinics with physicians trained by Seva's AIDS Eye Initiative.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology highlighted the success of this initiative in an article distributed to its members, increasing awareness and attention to this disease.

### American Indian Sight Initiative

For over 30 years, Seva and our donors have been committed to improving the health and wellbeing of American Indian communities throughout the United States.

Seva's American Indian Sight Initiative brings attention to the disproportionately high rates of preventable and treatable eye conditions that negatively impact the lives of Native Americans.

Key program accomplishments this year included eye screenings for 5,272 American Indian school children. 1,662 pairs of glasses were prescribed and given to students in need, and an additional 233 children were identified as needing advanced eye care.

Seva is also focused on training the next generation of American Indian eye care professionals. This year we provided support and equipment for the training of 35 Native American students to become skilled vision technicians. These students are now on a path to become leaders in their field, providing eye care to Native communities where cultural and language barriers continue to present obstacles to accessing care.

To further this work, a new partnership was formed with the Kewa Public Health Corporation eye clinic, which serves 2,250 Native American patients per year.

### Donated Eyeglasses and Equipment

This year, Seva was able to expand our impact through the distribution of valuable in-kind donations. Nearly \$600,000 in donated supplies and equipment was distributed to support our programs worldwide.

### Advocating for Eye Care Globally

Seva advocates internationally for improved access and delivery of eye care, with a focus on gender equity, high-quality service delivery, and financial sustainability.

One highlight of our advocacy this year was the organization of a working session at the 2014 World Ophthalmology Congress on increasing eye care delivery throughout Myanmar. The meeting produced an active dialog and has paved the way for an upcoming World Health Organization planning meeting on Myanmar.

This year, Vision 2020 USA elected Seva's Senior Director of Innovation and Sight Programs, Dr. Suzanne Gilbert, as co-chair. In this role, Dr. Gilbert will create greater visibility for local and global eye care issues among US leaders and the public.

Seva is also proud to be leading a global literature review on human resources in eye health to support the work of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness.



### NEWS FROM THE FIELD

#### Increasing Access to Eye Care:

This past year, MBA students from the University of California Berkeley traveled to India's LV Prasad Eye Institute in order to assess the productivity of their Vision Centers. This work not only informed LV Prasad's decisions about staff training but provided a case study of the vision center model that Seva and LV Prasad can share with other partners and the broader eye health community.

#### Champalimaud Vision Award:

Congratulations, Seva partners in Nepal! Long time Seva partner, the Lumbini Eye Institute, was one of four Nepali eye care organizations to receive the Antonio Champalimaud Vision Award, the most prestigious recognition in the field of global blindness prevention.



# SEVA'S GLOBAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## UNITED STATES

Seva's AISI program supported the screening of 5,272 children and distributed 1,662 pairs of glasses to students who couldn't afford them.

## LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

**Paraguay:** TOMS: Seva's partner, Fundación Visión, performs 45% of all cataract surgeries done in Paraguay. This past year, we supported 2,500 cataract surgeries through the TOMS Sight Giving Program.

## AFRICA

**Tanzania:** Financial sustainability is possible. Seva is working with Kilimanjaro Center for Community Ophthalmology in Burundi to document that providing primary eye care in communities can be a cost-effective, financially sound investment for public-private partnerships. This year Seva will introduce the approach in Malawi and Republic of Congo, Brazzaville.

## ASIA

**Nepal:** To address complex patient needs, Seva sponsors sub-specialty training. In September 2013, a Nepali Ophthalmologist began an 11-month pediatric ophthalmology fellowship at the Lumbini Eye Institute.

**Myanmar:** Seva's AIDS Eye Initiative trained 14 Burmese doctors this past year to identify and treat CMV Retinitis, the leading cause of blindness among HIV/AIDS patients.

**Tibet:** Seva has expanded its presence and is now active across all Tibetan areas in China providing training, equipment and outreach.

**Cambodia:** At the request of the Ministry of Health, Seva is working in two new provinces, Kampot and Pursat, reaching over 1 million additional people.

Seva is making eye care accessible in more than 20 countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, China-Tibet, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Russia, Tanzania, Uganda, and the United States.



# THIS YEAR:

Seva and our partners provided **104,826** sight-saving surgeries. Vital eye care services were delivered to **1,035,024** people in the form of eye exams, glasses and medicines to treat infection.



**ONE** new eye clinic was built and another was converted into an eye hospital that now has the capacity to provide sight saving surgeries.



Seva strategically distributed **\$600,000** worth of donated eyeglasses, ophthalmic equipment and medicines to communities in need.



**3,935** people, including teachers and community health workers, were trained to recognize eye diseases and refer people to eye care providers.

Seva support in Nepal has expanded to **24** eye care facilities.



**158** clinical professionals were trained.



**24** Global Sight Initiative hospitals have seen an average increase of **87%** in the number of cataract surgeries performed over the past four years.

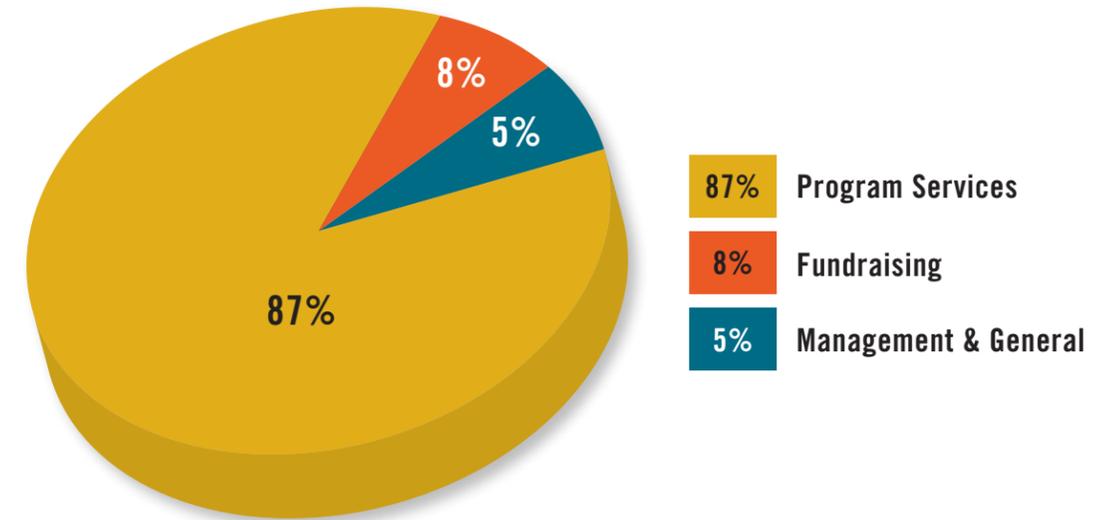


**5,272** American Indian school children were provided eye screenings, **1,662** pairs of glasses were prescribed and given to students in need.



## 2013-2014 SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014



### REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions	\$ 2,516,299
Contributions - In-Kind	1,037,146
Grants - Federal	130,986
Grants - Foundations and Corporations	1,641,462
Grants - Other	
Realized and Unrealized gain/(loss)	55,618
Special Events	362,694
Dividends, Interest and Other Income	62,802
<b>Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support</b>	<b>\$ 5,807,007</b>

### EXPENSES

Program Services	\$ 6,512,778
Management & General	401,682
Fund Raising	565,981
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,480,441</b>

<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(1,673,434)</b>
Net assets, beginning of year	4,415,562
Net assets, end of year	\$ 2,742,128

### PROGRAM EXPENSES

Sight General	\$ 451,688
Aids Eye Initiative	29,290
Center for Innovation in Eye Care	680,522

#### ASIA

Bangladesh	204,622
Cambodia	396,514
India	1,207,397
Myanmar	4,183
Nepal	762,211
Pakistan	102,092
Tibet	470,144

#### AFRICA

Egypt	40,500
Ethiopia	142,534
Tanzania	286,569
Uganda	24,102

#### NORTH & LATIN AMERICA

Guatemala	407,165
Haiti	153,596
Paraguay	47,500

US Sight Program	380,927
Program Education	721,222

**Total** \$ **6,512,778**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### DESIGN

Stoller Design Group

The financial information as of and for the year ended in June 30, 2014 has been derived from Seva Foundation's 2014 financial statements audited by DZH Phillips LLP independent auditors. The condensed financial information should be read in conjunction with the 2014 audited financial statements and related notes. Contact Seva Foundation's office for copies of the complete audited financial statements.



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