



CENTRES for  
HEALTH &  
EDUCATION  
PROGRAMMES

Empowering | Promoting Health, Education and Development | Improving lifestyles

## **CHEPs 49<sup>th</sup> Eye Camp**

**Garissa County**

29<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Sponsored by Hameed Sheriff

### **Introduction**

It is alarming that 282 million people worldwide have abnormal vision and 14% of them are completely blind. Also of concern is the fact that 90% of visually impaired people live in low-income settings.

CHEPs is on a mission to improve the eye sight of such needy communities and prevent blindness among them. We do so by conducting eye camps, to examine them, conduct tests, and treat their eye diseases thereby preventing progression to blindness as well as provide them with spectacles to improve their vision. We also provide surgeries to restore vision among cataract blind people.

We have so far conducted 49 eye camps in low-income setups across Kenya providing services to over 11000 needy people. We have treated over 6000 of them with various eye medications, and providing over 4000 of them with spectacles. We have also operated over 700 cataract blind people to restore vision.

Our 49<sup>th</sup> eye camp was held in Garissa, one of the three counties that make up the arid North Eastern Region of Kenya. Located 200km from Kenya's border with Somalia, the County is internationally famous for hosting Dadaab refugee camps which house over 250,000 Somali refugees, making it the largest refugee camp complex in the world. Garissa has a total population of over 620,000 people, most of whom live nomadic lives.

This eye camp was a follow-up camp to our 48<sup>th</sup> eye camp, which we conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016, at the same venue, during which we operated a total of 106 cataract patients to restore their vision. As we had indicated in the report (available on our website [www.chepskenya.org](http://www.chepskenya.org)) we had however left another 100 patients un-operated due to limited resources, and we intend to return to attend to them whenever opportunity arises. This time we managed to operate another 14 patients from the stated backlog.

## Photo gallery



## Acknowledgements:

We are grateful to Mr. Hameed Sheriff for sponsoring the camp. The support went a long way in providing much needed services to the needy communities of Garissa. We look forward to collaborating with them again in the near future. We also thank Garissa County Hospital for allowing us to use their theatre.