



CENTRES for
HEALTH &
EDUCATION
PROGRAMMES

Beta Charitable Trust



GIFTED SIGHT BY BCT
KILIFI COUNTY EYE CAMP
17th-19th November 2019

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Acknowledgement

We are grateful to Beta Charitable Trust for sponsoring this camp, and special thanks to our hosts; Riyadhha Malindi Mosque & Cultural Centre and Malindi Sub-County Hospital. The support went a long way in providing much needed ophthalmic services to the needy people of Kilifi County and Kenya at large, thereby correcting their vision and empowering them. We look forward to more collaboration in future.

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. Vision impairment can create great difficulty among people and limit opportunities in education, employment and social engagement. It contributes greatly to lost productivity and poverty among communities. Many eye health problems can be prevented and treatments are among the most successful and cost-effective of all health interventions provided the intervention is timely. Major causes of visual impairment include: refractive error; age-related macular degeneration; cataract; diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

CHEPs is on a mission to improve the eye sight of 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 reversibly blind people such as cataract patients, as well as surgeries aimed at preventing blindness such as patients suffering glaucoma, which leads to irreversible blindness.

We have so far conducted 92 eye camps in low-income setups across Kenya providing services to more than 38,239 needy people. We have treated over 26,828 of them with various eye medications, and providing over 12,645 of them with spectacles. We have also operated over 4,370 cataract blind people to restore vision.

The eye camp

Our 92nd eye camp was held in Kilifi County. It is one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located 562km South East of Nairobi, Malindi being its largest town. The county's total population is over 1,100,000. The inter-census population growth rate for the county is 2.9 percent per annum. On poverty levels, human development indicators show that the county has 70.8 percent of residents live below the poverty line compared to the national poverty level of 46 percent. The team held the camp at the Malindi Sub-County Hospital to provide the much-needed ophthalmic services.

Outpatient clinic:

Held at Riyadhha primary school the following services were offered free of charge:

- Eye drops dispensed to treat various eye diseases – 344
- Spectacles given out to improve vision – 209
- Cataract blindness diagnosed --- 60
- Total number of patients served – 359

Surgical clinic:

The team held a surgical camp at the King Fahad Hospital to provide the much needed ophthalmic surgical services. The team conducted the following surgeries free of charge:

- Cataract surgeries to restore vision – 48
- Other surgeries to prevent damage to the eye cornea -4
- Total surgeries 52

On follow up, all surgeries were successful with vision restored in the patients. No complications have been reported, and all the beneficiaries have expressed heartfelt gratitude. Most of them were elderly, who had lived in a state of blindness for many years, but could not access treatment as it was not available locally and they could not afford to travel for it.



Map of Kenya showing the location of Kilifi County

Photo Gallery

Photographs of the outpatient camp:





Surgical camp photographs

Administration of local anesthesia



Performing the surgeries







Post operation

















