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# HelpMeSee



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016



# **WELCOME**

HelpMeSee's simulation-based training program took a major leap forward with the opening of the new Learning & Development Center in Mumbai, India where courseware is developed and integrated into the simulator.

Development of the Eye Surgical Simulator continues at a high pace although the prime contractor, Moog Inc, informed us in late February that further delays in delivery should be expected due to software development bottlenecks. Moog management is looking into solutions.

We continue to advocate and support training for cataract specialists, including a petition to the UN signed by over 12,000 supporters in 2016.

Thanks to the generous support of our donors and partners, HelpMeSee has supported sight-restoring treatment for thousands of people around the world, reaching the major milestone of 250,000 cataract surgeries. Already five districts in India where we have campaigned have been declared cataract-free communities. We launched new campaigns in Myanmar and Indonesia, and expanded operations in two countries - Madagascar and Peru - bringing our mission to eleven countries in total.

In 2016, HelpMeSee received a grant from USAID to test the Reach App in identifying pediatric cataracts in Peru. Our innovative solutions to eliminating cataract blindness led to numerous recognitions and awards, including being named among the top 10 Most Innovative Nonprofits and Social Enterprises at the 2016 Classy Awards.



Through new partnerships in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, we continue to expand our reach and bring support for our training mission. None of this work would be possible without the commitment of our donors and supporters, including Trafigura Foundation, Eye Surgery Fund, and the ongoing support of the Al Ueltschi Foundation. We hope you enjoy looking back at all the highlights of 2016, and will join us in our mission to restore sight to millions.

Sincerely,

& C. Cultachi Tacad Michan Thaghathan Spl Mall

James Tyler Ueltschi **Chairman & Treasurer** 

Jacob Mohan Thazhathu President & CEO

Jeff Mullen Member, Board of Directors

# OUR MISSION

HELPMESEE'S MISSION IS TO ELIMINATE CATARACT BLINDNESS WORLDWIDE BY INCREASING ACCESS TO TREATMENT THROUGH LARGE SCALE TRAINING OF CATARACT SPECIALISTS

Cataracts are the leading cause of blindness around the world. Untreated cataracts are one of the most common, unaddressed health crises in the developing world. Over 100 million people around the world are blind or severely visually impaired by cataracts, even though a cost-effective solution already exists. Without a dramatic increase in the number of cataract specialists in the developing world, millions more will go blind. Through our training and outreach program, we seek to vastly increase access to care to eliminate cataract blindness in the developing world.

We are pursuing this mission by developing, standardizing and delivering quality training in Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (MSICS). MSICS offers a fast, high-quality, affordable procedure to restore sight to millions of the world's poor. The procedure can take as little as 5 minutes, and costs as little as \$50. Based upon clear evidence, MSICS is the procedure of choice to end cataract blindness.

To attain scale, HelpMeSee depends on the utilization of very high-fidelity eye simulators which allows accelerated "learning by doing" without reliance and risk to patients. Our organization has very extensive experience in using simulation for commercial pilot training and is confident that the MSICS technique is well suited for simulator-based training.



We also support technologies and products to improve patient safety, care and quality of treatment outcomes at the most affordable prices and accessible worldwide. We engage in dialogue and development of cataract treatment services and patient care management to find sustainable solutions for the elimination of needless blindness due to cataracts.



HelpMeSee's approach is focused on developing a high-fidelity simulator to train skilled surgical specialists in Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (MSICS), a cost-effective and high-volume procedure that has proven safe and effective for restoring sight. Based on the success of simulation training in aviation, HelpMeSee's Eye Surgical Simulator will enable the rapid transfer of surgical skills to proficiency in a virtual reality learning environment which allows for immersive training without any risk of harm to live patients. Trainees can gain valuable surgical skills which enable them to deliver care, increasing access to affordable treatment within their communities.

**TRAINING - We aim to train medical professionals in Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery.** 

HelpMeSee's Reach App enables community mobilizers to use a smartphone to identify patients and refer them to local hospitals and receive treatment, even in the most rural regions where untreated cataracts are often highest. Using GPS data, this approach enables HelpMeSee to accurately invest resources where treatment is needed most. Now patient information which used to take several days to record can now be completed in minutes.

**OUTREACH** - We empower community mobilizers to reach more patients faster and connect them to care.





We have developed a pre-sterilized, single-use surgical kit which includes all the tools and pharmaceuticals needed to support the standardized MSICS procedure. Use of the kit helps ensure high-quality, safe surgeries, in even the most remote locations. HelpMeSee medical experts can then monitor the outcomes and quality of the surgeries through our cloud-based surgical reporting system.

SAFE SURGERY - We support high-quality, cataract procedures with groundbreaking clinical solutions.

# KEY LEADERSHIP

Updated as of January 2018

#### **OPERATIONS**

Gerry McRae Chief Operating Officer

Jon Pollack Chief of Training Operations

Michael Pogose Director of Project Management, QA, and Compliance

#### **MEDICAL OFFICERS**

Dr. Van Charles Lansingh, MD Chief Medical Officer

Dr. Ranjit Maniar, M.B.B.S, M.S. Medical Officer – Asia

Dr. Jean-Marie Andre, MD Medical Officer – Africa

Dr. Yang Xiao, MD Medical Officer – China

Kayode Odusote Program Officer - Africa

#### **FINANCE**

Madge Bian Accounts Controller

#### SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS (SME) & SIMULATION BASED TRAINING SYSTEMS

Dr. Glenn Strauss, MD Chief Subject Matter Expert

Venudhar Bhatt Chief Learning Officer

Satyajit Patnaik Director – Courseware Development

Dr. Akshay Gopinathan Nair, MBBS, MS Simulation Subject Matter Expert

Dr. Ashish Bacchav, MBBS, DNB, FAEH Lead Instructor and SME

Dr. Chetan Ahiwalay, MS Senior Instructor and SME

Dr. Tejas Sheth, MBBS, MS Instructor

#### **AUDITORS**

Tait, Weller & Baker, LLP Certified Public Accountants

RSM Program Auditors

Venkat Sambandhamoorthy Chief Internal Auditor

#### **PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

Stefany Marranzini Global Campaign Operations Manager

Hinaben Patel Business Intelligence and Quality Assurance (QA)

Matthew Walden Clinical Research Coordinator

Marie Liu, Managing Director Chief China Representative

#### **LEGAL TEAM**

Charlene Caprio, J.D, M.A. Contracts Specialist and Legal Support

Mr. Abhay Sahai BC Das Gupta, India

#### FUNDRAISING

Steven Moore Senior Director Majors Donors

Vivianne Potter Direct Response Marketing

Flora Ip Direct Response Marketing, Hong Kong

Iris Pang Administrative Manager, Hong Kong

Liyin Kelly Tang Marketing and Development Coordinator

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Bradley Jobling Global Social Media Manager

Matthew Hurst Content Marketing Coordinator

#### **TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS**







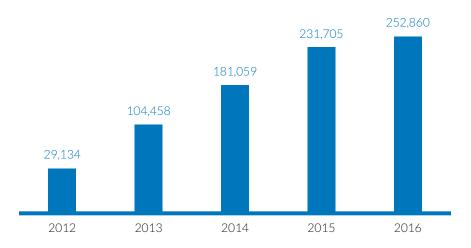






# 252,860

Sight-restoring cataract surgeries supported from 2012-2016



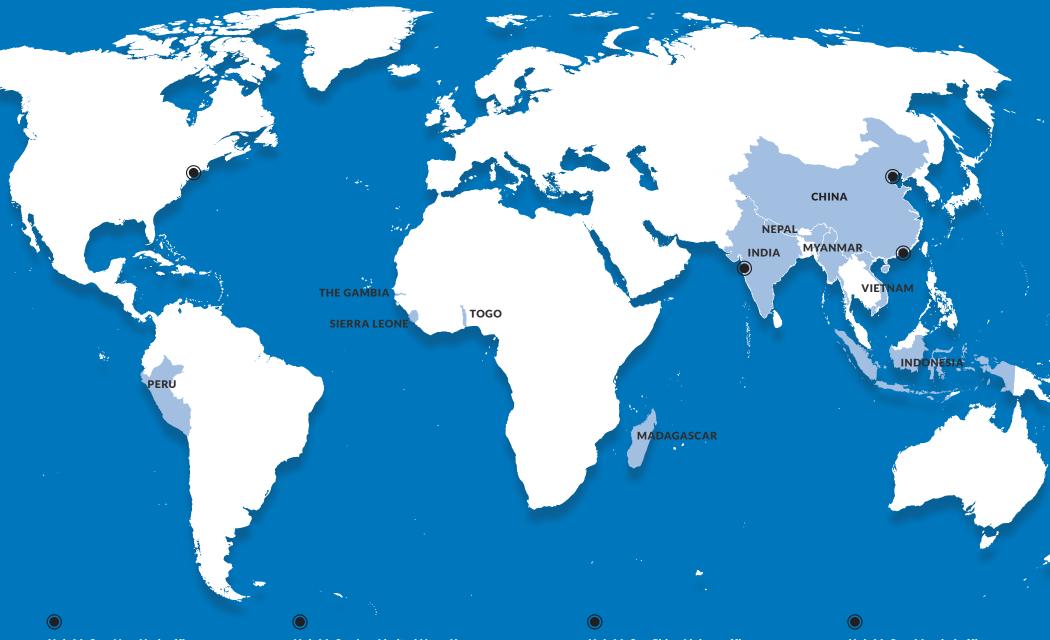
# OUR PROGRESS

**Campaign Countries** 

293

Partner Surgeons

**30** Partner Hospitals



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# OUR IMPACT

#### THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF CATARACT SURGERY

The World Bank considers cataract surgery one of the most cost-effective health interventions. When a person loses their sight in a developing country, it can become a burden on their family and a loss for the community. In fact, the economic cost of blindness and visual impairment caused by cataracts is estimated at \$1 trillion every year.

But when sight can be restored, patients regain independence, returning to work, earning money for their family, sending their children back to school, and living longer, healthier lives.

#### **IMPROVED ECONOMY**

Once someone has sight-restoring surgery, they can return to work to support their families. Their caretaker can return to work or school as well.



#### **IMPROVED WELL-BEING**

Cataract surgery restores hope and allows treated patients to return to meaningful roles in their families and communities.

# 2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

### JANUARY

HelpMeSee was featured in Bloomberg for its innovative technology, the Eye Surgical Simulator, used to eliminate cataract blindness.

## MARCH

Launched the Pediatric Outreach and Mapping Project in Peru with Support from USAID.

### MAY

HelpMeSee released "Randria's Story." the first 360/virtually reality film showing what it's like to live with cataract blindness in Madagascar.

#### JULY

HelpMeSee hosted an online Q&A chat with donors and supporters to answer common questions about cataracts.

## SEPTEMBER

HelpMeSee opened the Learning Development Center in Mumbai, India where the simulationbased training program is being developed.

### NOVEMBER

Clearly Vision Prize recognized HelpMeSee as a winner of Innovation Prize for its training program.

### **FEBRUARY**

Five districts in India were declared cataract-free communities.

## APRIL

GuideStar awarded HelpMeSee its highest rating for charities with new "Platinum" tier, in recognition of transparency and reporting measurable progress.

## JUNE

HelpMeSee was named among the top 10 most innovative non-profits and social enterprises at the 2016 Classy Awards.

A new campaign to end cataracts was launched in Myanmar, HelpMeSee's 10th operating country since its founding.

### AUGUST

HelpMeSee launched its new website design. Visit and learn more at HelpMeSee.org

# OCTOBER

For World Sight Day, HelpMeSee submitted a petition signed by over 12,000 supporters calling on the UN to support training for cataract specialists.

Music For Vision hosted two fundraising concerts in Mumbai and New Delhi.

## DECEMBER

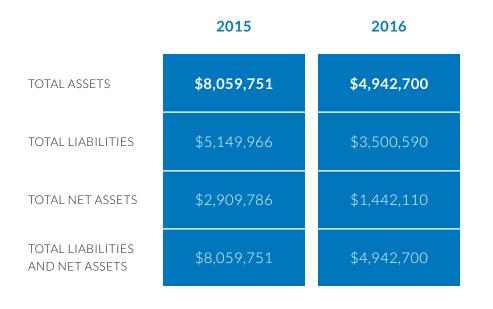
HelpMeSee reached the milestone of supporting 250,000 surgeries since 2012, restoring sight to people who otherwise do not have access to care.

# FINANCIALS

In 2016, HelpMeSee raised a total of \$12,827,178 in revenue, with significant support coming from the Al Ueltschi Foundation as well as contributions from grant writers, corporates, and many individual donors. For every \$1 donated in 2016, 81 cents went towards our work in the developing world to end cataract blindness.

We are grateful the generosity of all our donors and the support of our volunteers and partners who make our sight-restoring work possible every day.

# OVERVIEW OF 2016 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION



# TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES

