

Be a Part of the Solution to End Cataract Blindness

HelpMeSee is successful because of the strength of our donor partnerships and founding leaders such as the Ueltschi Family and Ueltschi Family Foundations, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, our Board of Directors as well as a network of local and international corporations, foundations, NGOs, governments and private individuals. Because HelpMeSee is a campaign model, we are uniquely positioned to build strategic, revenue-generating partnerships. We continue to seek and establish new partnerships that will allow us to build and equip the training centers, purchase the simulators and courseware, and sponsor trainees through the program. We also continue to seek support to underwrite as many surgeries as possible in the coming year and beyond.



www.HelpMeSee.org

HelpMeSee—Curing Cataract Blindness

About Us

HelpMeSee is a global campaign to solve the crisis of cataract blindness in two decades. HelpMeSee's unique strategy combines simulation-based proficiency training of highly skilled cataract surgical partners; high quality, patient-centered surgical service delivery; and community-based mobilization monitoring and patient follow-up systems. Despite the fact that cataract surgery is an effective intervention, in many remote and poor areas of the developing world people remain blind from cataracts due to the lack of access to qualified cataract surgeons. HelpMeSee's unique model combines best-in-class surgical partners, effective use of technology and best practices to eliminate blindness caused by cataracts globally over the next 20 years. We are doing this by delivering low-cost, high-quality Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgeries (MSICS) to adults and children in the developing world regardless of where they live or how underserved they may be.

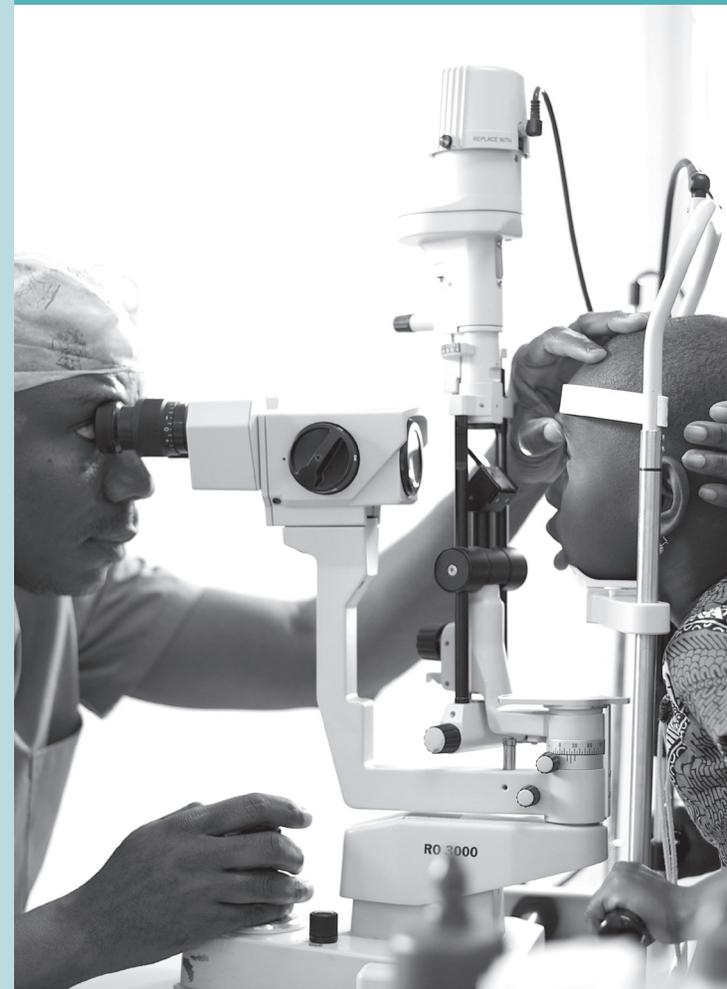
Contact Us

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HelpMeSee Training Centers



HelpMeSee
Helping the blind see.

How We Can Cure Cataract Blindness

Within the next 20 years, HelpMeSee aims to train 30,000 highly skilled cataract surgical specialists at training centers established by the organization. Trainee competence will be determined by objective measurements of skills, training, and independent validation. The project would also train nurses, administrative assistants, and technicians skilled in specialized areas relating to cataract surgery. Each surgical specialist will be capable of delivering at least 2,500 high quality cataract surgeries per year, leading to vision restoration for millions of underprivileged visually impaired and blind people, while eliminating the current backlog of cataract blindness globally.

HelpMeSee plans to establish 6–7 training centers across the world wherein aspiring cataract surgical specialists can enroll and undergo a thorough proficiency-based training program on Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (MSICS).

Contingent on each individual's background and experience, a trainee will be able to reach proficiency in MSICS within six months. A distinctive feature of the HelpMeSee training program is the use of an innovative, high fidelity MSICS surgical simulator. The simulator will utilize the same training methodologies and principles that have proven to be highly effective in the field of aviation for training pilots.



“This training strategy is patterned on the successful use of simulation in aviation that has supported the tremendous growth of that industry while attaining low risk and high safety margins.”

—Jon Pollack
Chief of Training Operations, HelpMeSee

Training Curriculum

The HelpMeSee training center will offer a wide range of training programs directed towards high quality care in cataract treatment with a primary focus on training MSICS specialists. HelpMeSee will implement programs aimed at technicians, nurses, field managers, and other staff members required at a typical cataract surgical clinic.

The HelpMeSee MSICS simulator is a high fidelity surgical simulation system that will allow simulation of the entire MSICS procedure and enable comprehensive training in a wide range of scenarios for pre-existing patient characteristics. The simulator will also have a range of more than 200 errors, challenges, and complication

scenarios that the surgeons may face in the operating room during live cataract surgery. The well-designed curriculum and instructional delivery system for effective use of the HelpMeSee MSICS simulator will result in successful training of the thousands of cataract surgical specialists necessary to eliminate the backlog of blindness due to cataracts. Instructional activities will include simulator lab practice in an immersive simulation lab, classroom instruction, lab activity, self-study and live mentored surgeries performed at surgical partner sites.

Cataract Surgical Specialist Trainees are expected to undergo around 400 to 700 hours of learning based on their prior knowledge and skills. 60% of this time will be spent on simulator practice and evaluation, 20% on classroom instruction and lab activity, and 20% on self-study.

Training Center Startup Costs

Item	US\$
Basic Infrastructure	2,436,000
Simulators	6,000,000
IT Setup	520,000
OR Equipment	60,000
Transportation	144,000
Total	\$9,160,000

Training Center Annual Operating Cost

Item	US\$
Facility	3,257,800
Staff	1,192,800
Surgical	1,353,600
Transportation	36,000
Total	\$5,840,200

The training fee of \$12,000 per student will enable the training center to run on a sustainable basis. The training center operating costs will be covered by the fees paid by students.

