

“I’m confident that this is going to be a very important piece of work and we will do our best to prove AI was justified in his optimism that if you pull these pieces together, use the right approaches, you can do things dramatic, like making millions of blind people see.”

—Bill Gates

Sustainability

HelpMeSee is committed to building a system of sustainability into our programs. The organization operates under the expectation that we will leave in place an infrastructure reflecting consistent delivery of high quality cataract surgeries and a system for cataract surgical training.

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

Phone: 1.844.HelpMeSee
(1.844.435.7637)

Email: info@helpmeseesee.org

Web: www.helpmeseesee.org

Organizational Overview

HelpMeSee is committed to the elimination of cataract blindness in two decades



HelpMeSee
Helping the blind see.

Global Crisis of Preventable Blindness

Untreated cataracts are the leading cause of blindness throughout the world. In developing countries, blindness and visual impairment can have an enormous negative impact on quality of life as well as reducing life expectancy and economic productivity. There are also severe social and economic burdens placed on their families, caretakers and the communities in which they live. Many noble efforts currently exist to treat cataract blindness. However, these are smaller scale efforts unable to address the growing backlog of untreated cataract cases due to population growth and an aging population. Consequently, the global health crisis of cataract blindness will increase significantly over the next twenty years.

“HelpMeSee delivers the highest quality patient care to the cataract blind and maintains excellent surgical outcomes. We are doing this at a cost of no more than US\$50 anywhere in the world. Access to affordable, high quality surgery restores the dignity of every person suffering from cataract blindness.”

—Mohan Jacob Thazhathu, President & CEO, HelpMeSee

The Numbers are Compelling

- Over 285 million worldwide are visually impaired (IAPB)
- Over 20 million people worldwide are blind due to cataracts (WHO)
- An estimated 167 million people suffer from cataract visual impairment (IAPB)
- 90% of the world's visually impaired live in developing countries (IAPB, WHO)
- 80% of all visual impairment is avoidable (preventable or curable) (WHO)
- In most of Africa, there is only 1 ophthalmologist per million people (RAND)
- It is projected that by the year 2020, there will be 452 million people globally who are visually impaired due to all causes excluding uncorrected refractive error (Access Economics)



We Have a Solution

The solution exists today in the form of Manual Small Incision Cataract Surgery (MSICS), a high quality, cost effective procedure that takes approximately five minutes to perform. The real challenge is to make available MSIC surgery at the scale necessary to solve the problem globally. HelpMeSee is collaborating with a network of the most respected eye care specialists worldwide, combined with breakthrough surgical simulator technology, to train 30,000 cataract surgeons who will deliver sight-saving surgery throughout the developing world where the need is greatest. HelpMeSee, together with our local surgical partners, is committed to saving the sight of millions of people worldwide over the next twenty years to effectively eliminate cataract blindness.

“We expect to use high fidelity simulator-based instructional systems to rapidly scale up the training of thousands of cataract specialists. By doing so, cataracts will cease to be a cause of blindness anywhere in the world.”

—Jim Ueltschi, Co-Founder & Chairman, HelpMeSee

Our Key Strategic Platforms

- Virtual Reality Cataract Surgical Training Simulator
- Surgical Partnerships and Practice
- Community Mobilization with GIS and GPS Systems
- Surgical Quality Assurance
- Pre-Sterilized Surgical Kits