

# Gift A Vision for Poor School Children from Slums

Eye Screening, Eye Glasses & further treatment for Kids in need.

## Pilot Project 2017

For 20,000 Children from Slums



Pilot Project  
Report &  
Planning for  
2017.

## What is Gift A Vision Pilot Project:

In April 2011, we, now Friends For Cause Foundation Canada, started our first Gift A Sight Project of providing cataract surgery for people living on streets in India.



In 2017 we have come up with a Pilot Project at Aligarh UP, India as an extensive program with the goal of giving 20,000 slums school children access to vision screenings and distribute free glasses to those in need.

## What is the issue of blindness & uncorrected Vision in India:

India has highest numbers of blind people in the world. The issues start with early childhood. Uncorrected vision can have a big impact on children's lives. If a child's vision is not corrected while they are in school, they may find it hard to break free from the poverty cycle as adults. And eventually become blind in old age due to poverty and challenging life throughout their youth. An eye exam and a pair of glasses can set off a chain reaction that dramatically improves their

lives. Our school screening program at Aligarh for correcting the vision of Poor slum kids is a critical contribution to transforming their future.

## What is our goal:



Our goal is to make a healthy vision accessible to these school-aged children. This enables them to improve their quality of life from childhood into adult life and contribute actively in society so they can make an impact.

We have to understand that :

- Affordability
- Access
- Lack of eye care professionals and institutions in peripherals and rural areas

are three of the major factors that affect an estimated 550 million people in India and they suffer from impaired vision. It cost India \$37 billion USD in lost productivity. Giving slum kids an access to vision care can also contribute to the overall development of India's economy and its continuously growing nation.

## How do we plan to implement Gift a Vision Pilot Project:

The program will run simultaneously with our Gift A Sight Project at



Aligarh. The screening will continue till 2018 till all kids from slums and near rural areas are covered. We are also contacting a large number of private optometrists (selection of this team yet to be done) to help us screen a big number of almost 20,000 children from a total of 100 slums schools and 187 slums and 20 peripherals villages at Aligarh (see

list of Slums schools).

To give this project wide publicity we take help from local students of convent schools. They will distribute pamphlets and help us inform local slums kids of this opportunity so that the target group of children get the message.

## Will you distribute free glasses to those in need?:



Out of the 20000 kids, we expect that 10-20% kids will need eyesight Glasses and will be provided a pair of spectacles. The initiative will also identify few children who might need further treatment or surgery.



## What is the expected cost:

Expected cost should be CAD\$ 1.00-1.25 / Child.



1. Conducting free eye checkup for 20000 children.
  2. For providing 1000 to 2000 Kids eye sight Glasses.
  3. And for surgery and further treatment of around 200 kids we expect that it will cost us CAD \$20,000.00
- This is a very approximate estimate and we will be able to get a better idea when we put this project in motion.

## Donations :

Please follow the link to donate us on our CrowdFunding Sites OR Please contact me as details on page 14.

**USE this link to go to our donation site :**  
<https://www.gofundme.com/Gift-A-Vision>

Want to know more: Read further...

What will we do if any child requires more help:



The initiative will also identify few children who might need further treatment or surgery and they will be then shifted under our Gift A Sight Project to provide surgery at the Gandhi Eye Hospital, in the presence

of their parents. Our foundation or any other local NGO will then support them for further treatment.

Thus we are not only covering the costs of screenings but also providing free spectacles and further treatment.

The Gandhi Eye Hospital at Aligarh is one of the oldest hospitals in India and has always supported us in our endeavor to outreach to deliver comprehensive eye care services in underfunded sections of population at Aligarh. Our goal of bringing vision care to the doorstep of hard-to-reach communities makes them the perfect partner.

## Are we looking for big time support OR Donors:

Yes, We are looking for few people who have heart of gold or few perfect



partners and donors for our bigger Projects of future, people who would love to change lives of a large number of beautiful kids, like this girl.

Remember an eye exam and a pair of glasses can set off a chain reaction that dramatically improves the lives of these slum school going children, transforming their future.

Thank you: because of you efforts, some children get their vision corrected.

By doing this we are building a better next generation.

**Please see our crowdfunding campaign:  
<https://www.gofundme.com/Gift-A-Vision>**



## Who are our partners in this Project:

This Project will be carried out in collaboration with various charity groups of Aligarh.

Dainik Jagran Group, IIMT and Udaan Society as lead partners.

Rotary, Loins, Lt. Col. Nitin Bhatia Memorial Trust, Hare Krishna Bhakti Kendra, Gandhi Eye Hospital and many more local groups helping us as and when required.



Project is being planned with the joint initiative of local Newspaper , Dainik Jagran.

Once the newspaper starts and takes up this cause , it is expected that many local NGOs like Rotary, Lions, Local Schools, Colleges and Aligarh Muslim University, local religious groups, and business community to join the cause.



Another local institute IIMT , Aligarh is also being requested to provide their 100% support.



Udaan Society, Aligarh and ChildCare Helpline. Udaan Society and its Director Mr Gyanendra Mishra is a well known local social worker and is working as a Senior consulted for ChildLine projects in India.

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Or

Please contact me as details on page 14 and we can make arrangements to receive donation  
FFCF account in Canada or in a US account.

### *Do you Know: Donations are easy to give.*

- *All NGOs, individuals or groups funding the cause or providing monetary support for cataract surgeries can also directly give funds to hospitals or Doctors through Draft or cheque or e-transfers. Please contact Yogi through e-mail [yogeshyb@yahoo.com](mailto:yogeshyb@yahoo.com) or leave message on his facebook Yogesh Bhatia.*
- *It is not required to give funds in our accounts.*
- *This way more transparency and accountability is maintained.*
- *Or You can go on our Crowd Funding Site to donate us.*
- *Our group and myself put our own funds to complete these projects. And pay for our air-travel to India.*
- *100% funds collected go towards the cause.*

### **Do you know:**

**Our initiative of Gift A Sight and Gift a Eye Screening, could be one of the biggest Project with a target to provide 500 to 1000 surgeries to deserving people in one single month in one city of India. And then screening 20000 kids.**

**Nowhere in the country such initiative has been taken earlier.**

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- **In nutshell- A broad public, media, NGOs and local authorities partnership is being created and they will be requested to join the initiative.**

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**Many people wonder why eye surgeries and Why India.**

The simple answer is:

- Human race is one, world needs it and target of removing blindness around the world is achievable.
- And our work is part of World Health Organisation Initiative : Vision 2020. But we are independent Volunteers and collect our own funds through our pay checks and work for the cause due to our personal commitments.

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**Do you know:**

**About 90% of the world's visually impaired people live in developing countries like India.**

Globally, uncorrected refractive errors are the main cause of visual impairment; cataracts remain the leading cause of blindness in middle- and low-income countries like India.

We also support these cataract eye surgery for:

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- People living in financially challenge situations and have no resources to get simple cataract surgery done. And they might be almost getting blind.
  - People living in slums or peripheral rural areas.
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### Do you know what is Vision 2020

**VISION 2020** is a global initiative of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). The initiative seeks to eliminate the main causes of avoidable blindness in order to give all people in the world, particularly the millions of needlessly blind, the right to sight by the year 2020.

The group Friends For Cause Foundation was formed by people who are involved in charity work from years.

The founder members of Friends For Cause Foundation belong to various organizations but have a common cause of doing some good.



**Who is this Boy.**

He is Junaid, 3 years old. You can see him with her mother. This woman is a single Mom and has no regular source of income. They live in extreme financial situation. I met Junaid and his Mom last year during the final week of our Gift a Sight Project 2016. His treatment was started but unfortunately this boy vanished and I kept on searching for him till the last day. I had discussed his case with doctors in Delhi and they need to look in more that How he can be helped. It could even cost us Rs 20000.00 for his treatment and medicines. This is when doctors do free surgery. I will again look in this particular case and will update you in Nov 2017. I promised this woman that I will help his son who lives in constant pain.

**Any takers with me for Junaid.**

Thank you for reading, please contact me at:



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