

IMPACT REPORT

What We Do

Uncorrected refractive error is the number one cause of vision impairment worldwide. For individuals who cannot rely on glasses or contact lenses due to disability, circumstance, or financial barriers, refractive surgery can be life-changing.

The Visual Freedom Foundation (VFF) is the only NGO who provides access to this transformative surgery through a global network of volunteer refractive surgeons.

Together, we help individuals reclaim their vision, independence, economic opportunity, and quality of life.



OUR INITIATIVES



FOCUS ON INDEPENDENCE

Supporting individuals with spinal cord injuries, quadriplegia, or conditions limiting hand use.



EYE 2 EYE INITIATIVE

Inspired by TOMS "buy one, give one": each paid surgery funds a free surgery for someone in need.



REFRACTIVE SURGERY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

Building sustainable solutions and advanced centers for underserved regions.



VISUAL FREEDOM CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

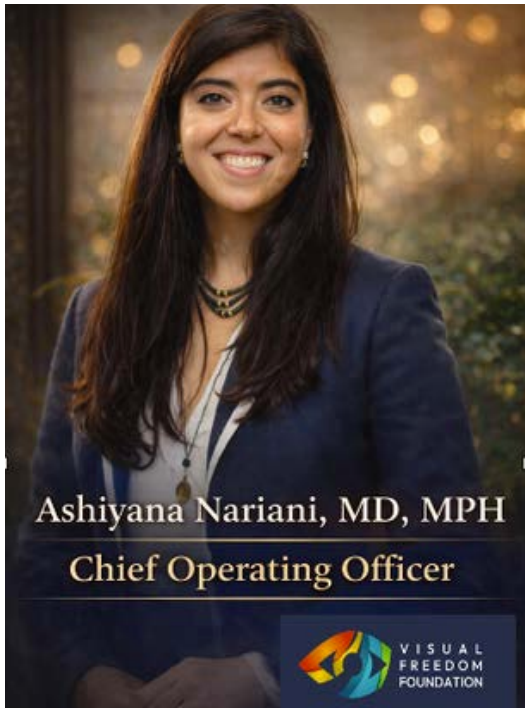
Local care centers offering free refractive surgeries for lower-income individuals.

WWW.VISUAL-FREEDOM.ORG

DONATE NOW



BRIDGING THE GAP THROUGH THE SCALABLE, COST-EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF REFRACTIVE SURGERY



Ashiyana Nariani, MD, MPH
Chief Operating Officer



At The Visual Freedom Foundation, our mission is to eliminate needless vision impairment from uncorrected refractive error by making life-changing refractive surgery accessible to underserved populations worldwide.

Today, uncorrected refractive error remains the leading cause of vision impairment globally and represents one of the largest—and most solvable—unmet needs in eye care.

The impact is especially profound for poor and vulnerable patients, including those with amputations, severe burns, paralysis, or other disabilities that make dependence on glasses difficult, as refractive surgery

can restore lifelong independence and transform their lives.

Visual Freedom Foundation is the only nonprofit organization in the world singularly dedicated to advancing refractive surgery as a scalable solution for underserved populations.

Through our global surgeon network and Duke University Eye Center collaboration, we restore vision today while advancing refractive surgery as a core tool for blindness prevention worldwide.

Join us in making vision freedom accessible to all.

Your Sincerely,
Ashiyana Nariani, MD, MPH, PCEO

Scan to make a difference:



OUR IMPACT

PROBLEM

Uncorrected refractive error is the leading cause of vision impairment globally, affecting millions of people who lack access to appropriate vision correction.



Access to refractive care remains limited in many underserved regions.

This lack of access contributes to avoidable vision impairment, limiting educational achievement, employment opportunities, economic productivity, and the ability to live independently.

SOLUTION

VFF provides complimentary refractive surgery in low and middle income countries when glasses or contact lenses are not an option, restoring sight and autonomy.



Sustainable. Scaleable
Prioritizes training and local capacity building

We are proud to collaborate with Duke University Eye Center on the Global Refractive Multi-center Landmark Trial - five international sites, rigorous clinical foundation.

IMPACT

The result of free refractive surgery is both measurable and deeply human. The work delivers outcomes that can be quantified in restored visual acuity and economic productivity.



Corporations that join expand the workforce of trained eye care professionals

RESTORED
VISUAL ACUITY

ECONOMIC
PRODUCTIVITY

RENEWED
CONFIDENCE

JOY

OUR AMBASSADORS

Building Access Through Global Centers of Excellence

	Alexandria University, Cairo, Egypt
	Durrie Vision, Overland Park, KS
	Institute Zaldivar, Mendoza, Argentina
	La Fuente, Cusco, Peru
	Matrika Eye Center, Kathmandu, Nepal
	Parkhurst Vision, San Antonio, TX, USA
	Poona Eye Care, Pune, India
	Sanjeevani Hospital, Pune, India
	The Southeast Asia Research Group, Indonesia
	Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology, Kathmandu, Nepal
	Tylock Nasser Vision, Dallas, TX, USA

11 Global
Centers
of Excellence

Over
68 surgeon
VFF Ambassadors
worldwide

LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Under the leadership of our board chairman, Greg Parkhurst, MD, VFF continues to expand access to refractive care worldwide.

The Visual Freedom Foundation Eye to Eye Program, inspired by the model of TOMS Shoes, connects patients globally through shared impact.

- Surgeons donate from each paid procedure to fund care for patients in need in lower and middle income countries.
- Surgeons and clinics in lower and middle income countries provide surgery at no cost.
- Together, we restore sight and independence - one patient at a time.



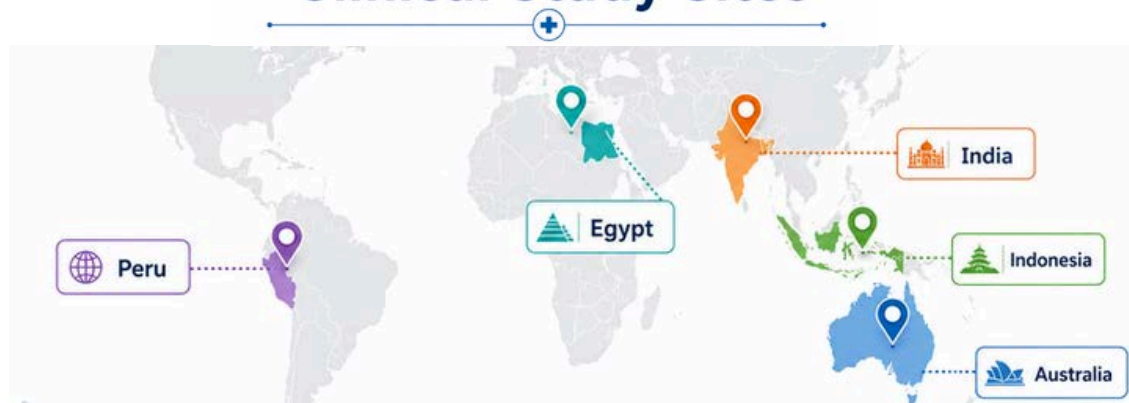
GLOBAL REFRACTIVE SURGERY MULTICENTER PILOT STUDY



Global Refractive Surgery Multicenter Pilot Study

A first-of-its-kind study evaluating how refractive surgery improves vision, independence, and quality of life for underserved individuals with below poverty level status in the following countries: India, Indonesia, Australia, Egypt and Peru.

Clinical Study Sites





AMERICAN ACADEMY
of OPTOMETRY

NCCRS

2nd Nepal Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Surgery
Society Conference - 2026

International Council of Ophthalmology



WOC

World Ophthalmology Congress
26–29 June 2026, Prague, Czech Republic



ISOP

International Society of Presbyopia



Enhancing
SKILLS FOR LIFE



OUR PASSION



"My passion extends beyond individual cases of elective refractive surgery considered as a luxury. According to a Lancet Global Health Commission report, refractive error represents the most common cause of uncorrected vision impairment. This leads to profound social, psychological, and economic impacts. Access to refractive surgery has tremendous potential for humanitarian projects, bridging gaps in visual impairment and providing functional independence to millions."

Taj Nasser, MD

OUR IMPACT AND REACH

Changing Lives Accross the Globe with Complimentary Surgeries

- Kathmandu, Nepal
- Pune, India
- San Antonio, Texas, USA
- Overland Park, Kansas, USA
- Mendoza, Argentina
- Dallas, Texas, USA
- Alexandria, Egypt
- Omaha, Nebraska
- Developing NGO partnerships with Centers of Excellence in Bangladesh and Peru



JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Become a Visual Freedom Foundation Center of Excellence

Transform Lives. Restore Independence. Expand Access to Vision Care.

Join a growing global network of surgeons and practices committed to making refractive surgery accessible to underserved patients in their communities and around the world.

As a Visual Freedom Foundation Center of Excellence, your practice can:

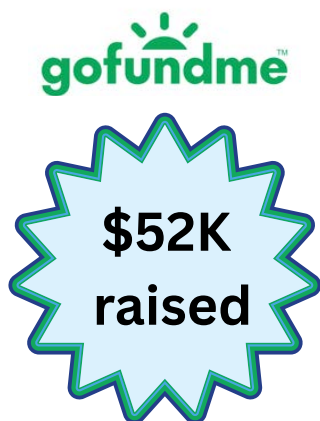
- ✓ Provide life-changing vision correction to individuals living below the poverty line
- ✓ Support patients with physical disabilities who struggle with glasses or contact lenses
- ✓ Participate in global humanitarian initiatives
- ✓ Connect with a worldwide network of leaders in refractive surgery
- ✓ Help advance visual freedom as a fundamental component of health, independence, and opportunity

Become a Center of Excellence Today

www.visual-freedom.org



Giving Tuesday Campaign



OUR BOARD

**VISUAL FREEDOM FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

— Global Leaders. Shared Vision. Lasting Impact. —

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DONATE NOW



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