

Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore

Project Report



Meet the SEF, USA and SECI, India Teams

Sankara Eye Foundation, USA



K. Sridharan
President



Divyogi Patel
Board Member



Sundar
Radhakrishnan
Board Member



Girish Muckai
Board Member



K. Muralidharan
Executive Chairman



Sasikala
Muralidharan
Office Manager



Padma Jawahar
CFO

Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India



S V Balasubramaniam
Chairman



Dr. R V Ramani
Founder & Managing Trustee

Managing Trustee

Dr. Leela Meenakshi
Dr. P G Viswanathan
Dr. S R RAO
N Natraj
Dr. S Balasubramanian
J. M. Chanrai
Murali Krishnamurthy

Vision 2020 Team

Dr. R. Radha Ramani - Co-Founder & Hon Director of HRD

Dr. P. Janakiraman - Hon Advisor

Dr. J. K. Reddy - Director Technical

P. Balasubramaniam - Hon Advisor

C. N. Srivatsan - Hon. Project Director

Thank You Note from Executive Chairman, SEF, USA

Dear Friends,

Greetings from, Sankara Eye Foundation, USA, (SEF). As you all know, SEF's goal is to build at least one Sankara Eye Hospital (SEH) per major state and help eradicate curable blindness by the year 2020 - Vision 20/20 by 2020. One of the significant milestones towards Vision 20/20 by 2020 was the opening of the Sankara Eye Hospital in Bangalore on March 9, 2008. I had the privilege of attending the inauguration ceremony and it was a very memorable event – a dream come true.



It is a very beautiful, modern, state-of-the-art eye Hospital built to serve the visually handicapped poor of that area and to also serve those who can afford to pay so that the Hospital becomes self-sufficient in five years. The emphasis is on serving the poor as the poor patients will constitute 80% of the patients. Our Bangalore Hospital is also serving as a training center. When you visit Bangalore next time, please make it a point to visit the Hospital and you will be extremely happy to see the tremendous work happening there.

The Hospital is performing very well and since inception until September 2009 we have conducted 335 eye camps in and around Bangalore and performed 12,105 FREE Eye Surgeries. In a few years when we reach full capacity, we should be performing around 25,000 Eye Surgeries per year at this Hospital.

We are also very happy to inform you all that we opened an eye bank at our Bangalore Hospital and this will help us perform Corneal Transplants. Mr. B.V. Jagadeesh was an invited Guest at the inaugural function in August 2009.

Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore, would not have happened without your unwavering support and I consider Sankara Eye Foundation to be very fortunate and we will strive hard to make sure that you are extremely satisfied with our performance both here in the USA and in India. If you have any suggestions to do even better, please don't hesitate to contact me at 408-425-1268 or murali777@yahoo.com.

This project would not have happened without the support of Infosys Foundation, Jaslok Foundation and others.

Our partners, Mr. B.V. Jagadeesh and the Association of Kannada Kootas of America (AKKA), played a major role and we are very thankful to them. We are also thankful to the Kannada Koota of Northern California (KKNC) for their ongoing support. The Rotary Club of Cupertino helped us buy a 60 seater Bus through the matching grants program.

The volunteers of the Focus-Bangalore project worked very hard and they are now helping with other projects of SEF. Now that you have supported the construction of this beautiful Hospital and Training Center in Bangalore, we come to you again to support the FREE Eye Surgeries. Please consider supporting 'Open an eye a month' for only \$30 a month, or 'Open an eye a week' for \$30 a week or support our eye camps and the associated eye surgeries.

Let me end this with my favorite song which is also our philosophy -

'Jyot se Jyot Jagate chalo, prem ki Ganga bahate chalo..'
(Keep on lighting a lamp with a lamp and spreading love)

Please help eradicate curable blindness in India by the year 2020 - Vision 20/20 by 2020

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. M. Murali". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Murali Krishnamurthy

Sankara Eye Vision from Mangaing Trustee, Dr R V Ramani

Dear Well Wishers and Supporters of SEF, USA,

Greetings from Sankara Eye Care Institutions India, a chain of Eye Care Hospitals established in different states of India with your support and active participation.

Today, our group has six Eye Hospitals in India directly run by us, two affiliated Hospitals and two sister Institutions. We have total bed strength of 1800 and around 1000 full time employees are involved in our day to day activities.

This tremendous growth in the field of community eye care, with the sole objective of providing a high quality eye care to every one irrespective of their socio economic status has been made a reality because of your involvement and support.

It is your institution and all of you can justifiably feel proud that totally we will be performing 100,000 free eye surgeries every year to the poorest of the poor, providing the entire services including food free of cost.

Whether it is Sankara Eye Hospital Guntur, Bangalore, Shimoga, Anand or the Mission Head Quarters at Coimbatore, you have played a key role in the making of it.

As the demand for Sankara's Eye Care is going up year after year, the need for support towards the recurring expenditure is also being felt. For the first five years our Hospitals have to be supported for the recurring expenditure. It is like fostering a new born, make him/her stand and ultimately walk on their own. Once a Hospital becomes self sustaining, the recurring expenditure is met by the revenue generated from the paid patients. There after, your support would be required only for replacing the equipment and for newer facilities.

We at Sankara Eye Care Institutions appeal to the donors of SEF, USA to provide whatever support possible for the recurring expenditure. The whole world is passing through a financial strain. By the grace of God things would improve in the near future. At the same time our commitment to the society, our promise to the under privileged and our assignments for the visually handicapped have to go on uninterrupted.

With your support we are confident of moving forward.

We pray to the Lord Almighty;
So long as the mountains stand,
So long as the rivers flow,
So long as the Sun, and the Moon and The Stars shine,
This movement of ours should stand to serve the needy,
With the involvement of all like minded people.

With warm regards



Dr. R V Ramani,
Founder and Managing Trustee
Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India



About Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore



Sankara Eye Care Institutions took a major step in their march towards Vision 20/20 by 2020 with the inauguration of the super specialty eye hospital and training center in Bangalore on 9th March, 2008. The 225 bed eye care facility was inaugurated by Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka and Shri Kris Gopalakrishnan, MD, Infosys Technology. This hospital is among the foremost in eye care in this region -- established on a 4.5 acre campus on the HAL Airport-Whitefield Road in the IT Capital of Bangalore. The center is well accessible to the most parts of the city.

Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore provides 90,000 square feet of area dedicated to the community eye care. We have 100 medical and paramedical personnel who work tirelessly to achieve the goal to eradicate preventable and curable blindness.

Making of the Hospitals - Bangalore

Bhoomi Pooja

The much awaited Boomi Pooja - Brick laying function of Sankara Eye Hospital Bangalore, was held on 28th October 2005, in the presence of the Honourable Governor of Karnataka, Sri. T.N. Chaturvedi.

The bhoomi pooja was performed by our chairman Dr. S.V.Balasubramainam. The Governor in his addressed commended the efforts of Sankara Eye Care Institutions in India and the Sankara Eye Foundation in the USA and said it was a pioneering one.



Construction

This was followed by extensive and dedicated efforts by various organizations and employees to bring up a beautiful and state of art building. Mr. Pranesh, our Projects Manager, along with his dedicated team of employees, burnt midnight oil for months to make this dream a reality. With a construction phase of over two years, Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore, boasts of one of the best facilities in Bangalore and in Karnataka.



Kumbhabhishekam

On 20th Jan'08, Khumbhabhishekam of the newly-built Sri Sudharshana Vinayaka temple at the Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore campus was performed.

Kumbhabhishekam is the process of infusing divinity and spiritual power into the vigrahas (images of the deities) of the temple. The various yagnas and rituals were performed over 3 days culminating in the consecration of the deity and the Kalasa pooja.

The idol of the Ganesha here is unique in that in its palms it holds an eye instead of the traditional modagam, hence the name of Sri. Sudharshana Vinayaka.



The kumbhabhishekam was performed by Avudayar, head priest of the Kamakshi temple before a large gathering of our donors and well wishers. Volunteers from India and SEF USA, apart from doctors, staff and trustees of Sankara participated.



Inauguration

The 9th of March was a proud day in the calendar of the Sankara Eye Care Institutions. The 225 bed super specialty eye hospital and training centre was inaugurated by the Chief Secretary in presence of the trustees from Sankara India and SEF, USA.

Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka, was the Chief guest. He lauded the efforts of Team Sankara, in its endeavour to eradicate curable blindness.

Visiting the Speciality Eye Care Services, Shri D R Kartikeyan, Former Director CBI was appreciative that the people of Karnataka would benefit from the blend of the best in infrastructure and expertise.



Mr. Kris Gopalakrishnan, Managing Director and CEO of Infosys opened the Infosys Community Eye Care Block with 200 beds which was donated by Infosys Foundation. To meet the need for trained manpower, Robert Bosch Foundation, Germany, has supported the hospital in establishing a training programme in community ophthalmology which will train medical, para medical and administrative staff.



Participating in the function, Mr.

Murali Krishnamurthy, Chairman Sankara Eye Foundation USA, recognised the collective effort of several NRIs in USA and Kannadigas in particular who have contributed to the Bangalore Hospital through the Sankara Eye Foundation and the Association of Kannada Kootas of America (AKKA).

Dr S V Balasubramaniam recognised the Partners in Service with a memento and the formal vote of thanks was proposed by our well wisher and Trustee Shri J M Chanrai.

Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore

A Center of Excellence in Eye Care

Comprehensive Eye Care: Patients both poor as well as affluent receive high quality superior eye care services at Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore. The non paying patients are brought to the hospital from the camp site in the hospital vehicle. On the other hand the paying patients attend the out patient department on their own. Both the paying as well as the camp patients receive quality eye care and undergo a comprehensive eye examination comprising of refraction, slit lamp examination along with other investigations. The patient may be advised surgery, medications, spectacles or some investigations.

For the camp site, the patients are provided stay for three days and food and accommodation is provided free of cost. Postoperative medications and sunglasses are provided to the patients at time of discharge. Paying outpatients as well as inpatients have access to our hygienic and good quality food available at affordable prices in our canteen.



Case Studies

Irony of Life



“As I continued my tour through the facility I heard the echoes of a baby crying. We walked towards the cries and opened the door to a room and saw three hospital personnel hovering over a baby. When asked what the problem was we learned that the baby was getting prepared for a chemotherapy session. The baby’s diagnosis was Retinoblastoma. The definition of this disease is basically cancer of the eye, more specifically the retina which can be thought of as the “movie screen” of our eye.

I left the hospital that day amazed that Sankara is not only helping the world see via glasses and cataract surgeries but they have branched out to combat one of the most horrible diseases of our time; cancer. The following week I spent some more time in the hospital and another baby crossed my path.

Baby Asma (4y/o) was walking around the hospital with her head down, eyes swollen shut and hands held on both sides by her parents. I learnt that baby Asma was diagnosed with bilateral (both eyes) advanced Retinoblastoma. The disease in her case was the genetic form since her father had lost an eye and her sibling had already passed away due to the same condition. Baby Asma’s condition was known to the parents two years ago as they had consulted another hospital but they could not afford the medical treatment at the time. Finally they were referred to Sankara where she presented on Oct 7, 2008. She was very fragile, unable to walk or move herself as she was in an advanced stage. The next day Baby Asma began chemotherapy. On October 31 was when I met her and according to the staff she was in much better shape than her previous visit to the hospital; walking and eating herself.”

by Nikki Rai - program coordinator for Pediatric Eye Care at SEH, Bangalore

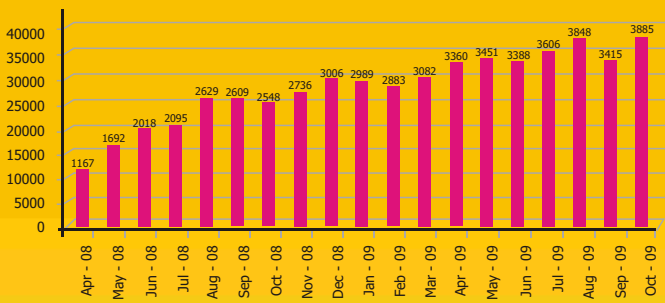
Sanjana and Sahana



Siblings from the small town of Iglooru in Ramnagara District, they were born with congenital cataract in both eyes. 3 year old Sanjana and 9 month old Sahana lived in darkness since birth. It was not ignorance about their condition but helplessness that prevented their parents from seeking medical help. Being blind in the initial years of life can be very frustrating for both parent and child. However medical care seemed unreachable for the couple who lived in a small village and were unaware of services available elsewhere. "We did not know where to go and how we could afford treatment." says their mother. The sisters were brought to the hospital. On examination, they were found to have a microcornea in addition to the cataract. The mother and grandmother were counseled and the children underwent surgery in one eye. As their mother requested the other eye to be operated, they were retained in the hospital and underwent the second surgery. Due to the coexisting eye disease an Intraocular lens could not be implanted. Special glasses were ordered and were dispensed when the children were brought for the review. They were provided food and medicines and stayed on for post operative care. The girls have gained vision in one eye. The joy is evident in both the mother as well the girls themselves. With a lot of learning to catch up with and a bright future awaiting them, their formative years promise to be colorful and fruitful.

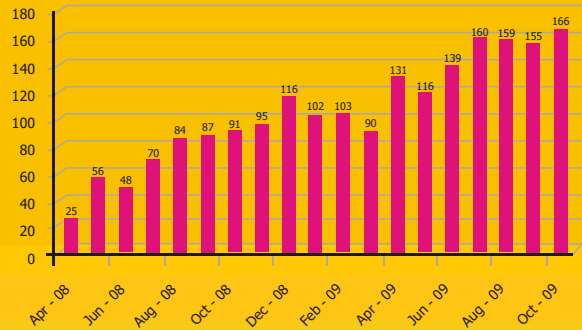
Report

Out Patients - Paying



■ Out Patient - Paying

In Patients - Paying



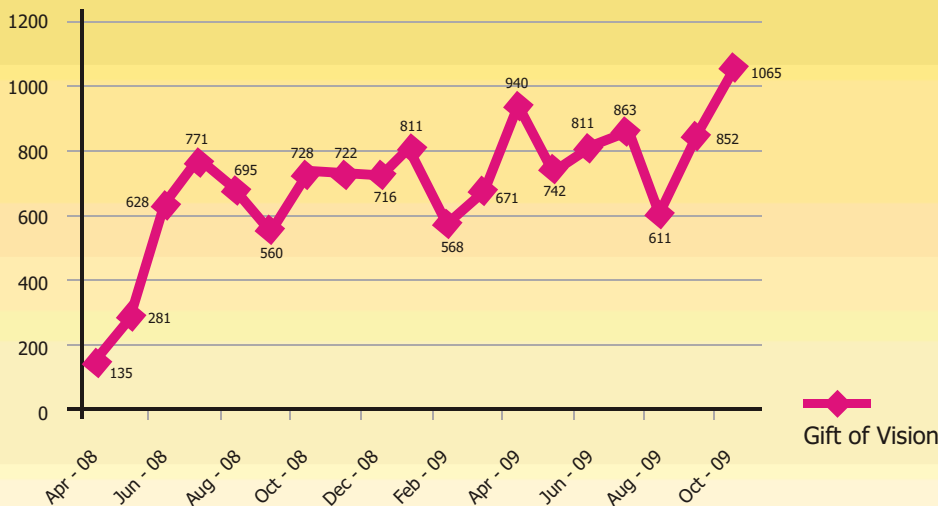
■ In Patients - Paying

We have in the letter and spirit completed our construction project successfully and the hospital has already started to make an impact in the area.

As the work load picks up more Doctors and staff are being employed. Service organizations like the Rotary and Lions are regularly visiting us and are keen to work with our hospital

As promised, we will make the Hospital self sustaining in 5 years period. But during these initial years, we need our donors to support the recurring expenditure; and thus literally help the toddler get up and walk.

Gift of Vision - Surgeries

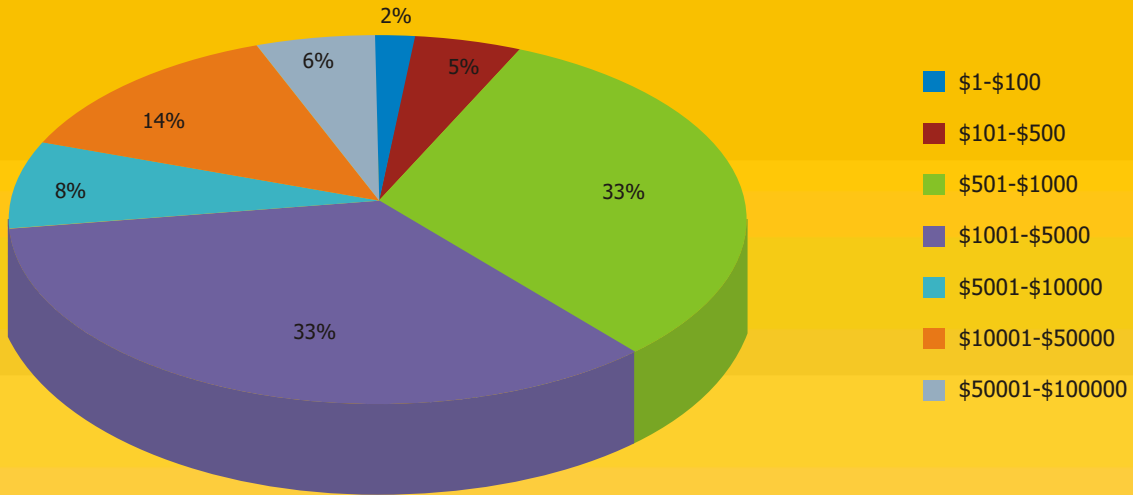


◆ Gift of Vision

To all those donors who made our project a reality we say a big Thank you!
With a sense of fulfilment, we invite all of you to visit the Hospital during your next trip to India.

Financial Data

Bangalore Donations (USA) Total : \$1,671,740



	Bangalore		
Range	Count	Total	Percentage
\$1-\$100	662	\$32,858	2%
\$101-\$500	312	\$81,026	5%
\$501-\$1000	559	\$544,979	33%
\$1001-\$5000	249	\$543,581	33%
\$5001-\$10000	18	\$135,456	8%
\$10001-\$50000	10	\$233,840	14%
\$50001-\$100000	1	\$100,000	6%
>\$100000			
Total	1,811	\$1,671,740.69	

Community Initiatives- Reaching out to the poor.

The hospital is equipped to fulfill all the eye care needs – from routine eye exams to the latest advanced in medical care, including Lasik LASER treatment and eye surgery, all in the specially designed facility. Equipped with the latest in diagnostics including Ultrasounds, LASERs, Digital Angiography, Electro diagnostic services, it provides a comprehensive service to its patients.



Infosys Community Eye Care Centre



We have also started actively reaching out to the poor through our Gift of Vision- rural outreach program and the paediatric eye care program. Infosys Community Eye Care Centre is the expression of our commitment to serve the rural population of South Karnataka. Constructed and donated by Infosys Foundation, this community eye care wing has 200 beds exclusively for the poor patients requiring free eye care, the deserving and the underprivileged sections of the society in the state of Karnataka.

Facilities: The center has comprehensive eye testing facility, diagnostic services, inpatient wards and operation theatre complexes to offer sight restoring vision to the rural poor.

Diagnostic Services: The center has a separate optometry service, comprehensive examination set up, Ultrasound and Computer Field analysis facility to help diagnose eye diseases.

Operation Theatre: The center has two operation theatres with ten operating tables to offer the very best in eye care. Facilities and equipments for Laser, Vitrectomy and phacoemulsification are available providing the best to the poor and the needy.

Pediatric Ward: The centre also has an exclusive pediatric ward

Gift of Vision Rural Outreach Program:

The program creates awareness among the masses and organizes camps in the rural area providing free treatment for ophthalmic ailments. Based on our surveys, we decide upon the target population and organize camps. Free surgery is provided to the needy along with food and transportation facility.



Follow up camp is a unique feature of this program to ensure the full recovery of the patients.

Rainbow - Preventive Eye Care Program:

Through this program children suffering from eye diseases are provided surgical and medical treatment. With children special logistical precautions are maintained and followed. Emphasis is placed on developing a three way partnership between parents, teachers and the doctors. This has allowed us to cater to the deserving in an effective manner. Rainbow program has been launched as a Joint program with Sight Savers International supported in part by grant from EnVidia Foundation



The statistics of our performance are as under:

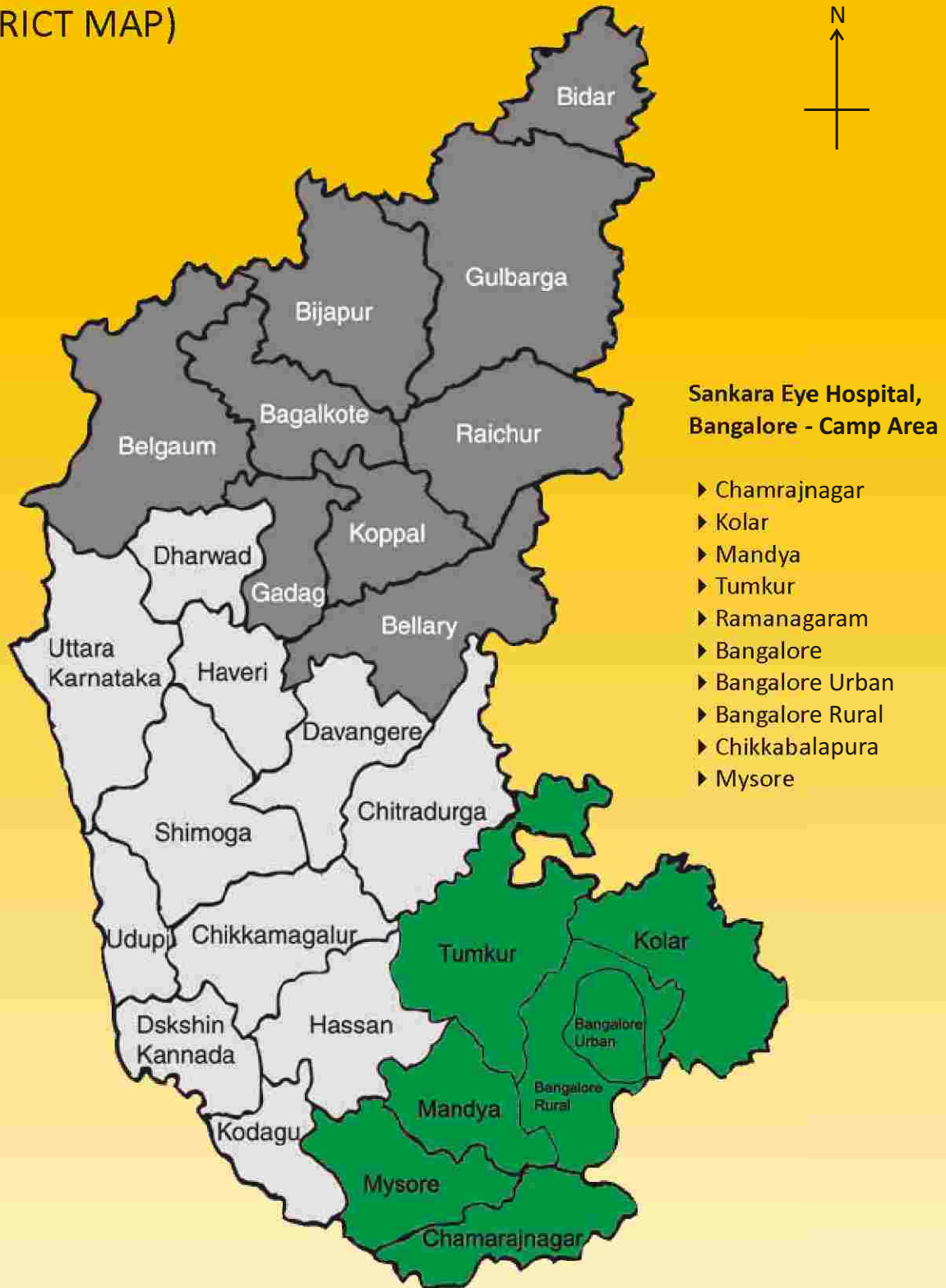
Children Screened - 13740

Spectacles Provided - 299

Surgeries Performed - 158

We have provided eye care of approximately Rs. 15,000,000 through these two programs till now.

KARNATAKA (DISTRICT MAP)



We have organized the program in eight districts of Bangalore 7286 eye surgeries till date.

Human Resource Development



Manpower is one of the biggest constraints faced by institutions working in the field of community health. We have laid strong emphasis on generation of manpower from Ophthalmologists to field workers. Emphasis is made in harnessing the local resources to generate manpower from the community itself. Through our Sankara Bosch Foundation Program, we provide training programs for the following specialities.

- Residents/Fellows in Ophthalmologists and super specialists eye surgeons
- **Vision Care Technicians:** We recognized the need for well trained ophthalmic medical technicians and have introduced this one year certificate course. The activities performed include initiating patient examination, measuring and recording visual status performing diagnostic procedures and assisting in clinical and surgical settings.
- **Eye Care Managers:** The course offers people to not only qualify as an assistant to an ophthalmologist but opens opportunities in the management cadre of specialty eye care institutions.

Ophthalmologists	14
Optometrists	7
Administrators	13
Patient Care	10
Paramedical	40
Support Staff	16

Achievements and Awards: Sankara wins awards in India & USA

The Sankara Family has been recognized for its services both here in the USA and in India for several years now. The two arms of the Sankara family work together towards their common goal of Vision 20/20 by the Year 2020. The India arm consists of the Sankara Eye Care Institutions that manages the hospitals, ably lead by Dr. R. V. Ramani along with the great staff, and has been providing award-winning service to the poor. Sankara Eye Foundation, USA, the US arm, shines due to the dedication of its enthusiastic volunteers and generous supporters. With its impeccable reputation, SEF, USA has earned its donors' trust.

FICCI Healthcare Excellence Award



On 15th September 2009, Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India won the prestigious “FICCI Healthcare Excellence Award” in the category of “Best Community Driven Healthcare Program”. The FICCI HEAL 2009 was organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, The award recognized the contribution of health care providers from public sector, private sector and the civil society.

The Award was presented by the Honorable Minister for State for Health and Family Welfare, Sri.Dinesh Trivedi and Ms. Shabana Azmi, Honorable Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Actor and Social Activist. The function was attended by over 200 invitees. SECI was lauded for their humungous efforts in the field of community eye care since last three decades. Their Gift of Vision Community Outreach Program was the unanimous choice of judges for the sheer volume of more than 500,000 free eye surgeries done so far.

The Honorable Minister specifically mentioned about SECI's 80/20 strategy of self sustainability and expressed desire and will to replicate it to other organizations.

The Hospital Management Award

In September 2008, SECI was a proud recipient of the coveted Hospital Management Award, in the category of community service. Sankara Eye Care Institutions - India was declared the winner for the “Diabetic Retinopathy Project for Rural India” project. This project aims to prevent avoidable blindness due to Diabetic Retinopathy and to create awareness about it among the rural population.



SEF, USA receives 4 star rating

And here in the US, on February 27, 2009, Sankara Eye Foundation, USA received the desired 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of US charities. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that the organization excels in successfully managing the finances of the organization in an efficient and effective manner. This rise in an organization's rating is an exceptional feat, especially given the economic challenges many charities have to face during these trying times.

NGO of the Year Award

On March 30, 2009, Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India received one of the highest honors an NGO can receive in India, the NGO of the Year Award, for its contribution to community eye care in 2008. The India NGO Awards seek to promote good standards and practices in resource mobilization, accountability and transparency. It recognizes and celebrates the excellence in the non-profit sector. Their aim is to create examples and inspiration for other non-profits and promote cross-regional learning and thus promote the overall credibility of the nonprofit sector for long-term sustainability.



The Tanker Foundation's "Renny Abraham Love for Service Award"

Tanker Foundation is a Chennai based Foundation involved in providing free renal dialysis for kidney patients. Every year they identify an individual and award him / her with Tanker Foundation's "Renny Abraham Love for Service Award." This year it was awarded to Dr. R. V. Ramani, Founder and Managing Trustee of Sankara Eye Care Institutions. The Governor of Tamil Nadu and one of the Union Ministers were present on the occasion to give out the Award.



Tanker Foundation Love for Service Award:



Achievement Award from NRI Global Summit

The NRI Global Summit, 2009 was organized by NRI Institute, a New Delhi-based nonprofit, that honored Indian Achievers and expressed gratification for the pioneering work done by chairman of SEF, Mr. Murali Krishnamurthy and presented an Achievement Award to him for his leadership in eradicating curable blindness in India. The NRI Institute has a nearly 30 year history of recognizing Pravasi (non-resident) Indians and people of Indian origin. The award was delivered on Oct 24th, 2009 at NRI Global Summit 2009 in Milpitas, CA. The other awardee included Vijay Amritraj, Deepti Naval, B.V Jagadeesh, and Vinod Dham. SEF is deeply touched by the honor bestowed on them.

All our volunteers and supporters can celebrate the performance and the recognition of the dedicated work of the Sankara doctors and staff in India. These awards are just small milestones in our path towards eradicating curable blindness in India - which is the real big award that motivates all of us to progress. Together, we can make it happen!!

Meet our Partners

Any individual, family or an organization donating or raising \$100K (Rs. 50 lakhs) or more towards a Sankara Eye Hospital will be considered as a Partner in Service for that Hospital.

Towards this recognition, their names will be displayed prominently and permanently at the hospital.

US based partners will also be recognized in the SEF newsletter and the website. They will be invited & honored for the inauguration of the hospital. The partner will also receive a plaque recognizing their contribution to the cause.



It has been a pleasure and honor for us to be working with Sankara Eye Hospitals for the last 4-5 years. The SEF team, consists of one of the finest and most dedicated volunteer groups and is ably supported by the team in India with Dr. Ramani leading the charge. SEF consistently delivers both in terms of constructing hospitals across India as well as making these hospitals as productive as possible within a very short period of time. The results from hospitals that came up in the last 2-3 years such as those in Guntur, Bangalore, Shimoga and Anand are very impressive with almost 65% of patients treated and surgeries done.

I am very confident that with a successful model to construct new hospitals and ability to making these hospitals productive SEF is heading to achieve Vision 20/20 by the year 2020..

B.V. and Anuradha Jagadeesh
SEF Supporters and Well wishers



The Sankara Eye Foundation is daily working towards the goal of putting an end to curable blindness in India. I first visited the Coimbatore facility two years back and was extremely impressed by the efficiency of their model. The hospital is run smoothly and very professionally, providing equal high quality treatment to both, paying and non-paying poor patients. Everybody benefits from the excellent eye care that is provided, and the impact on the lives of poor rural people is unimaginable. It is something that you would have to see with your own eyes to believe!

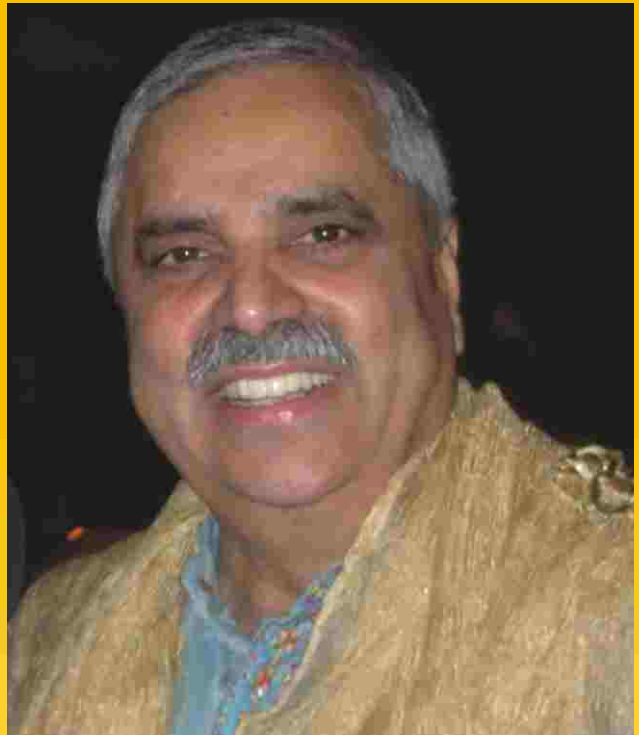
Dr. Ramani is selfless in his service and absolutely dedicated to his cause. It gives me tremendous satisfaction to be involved in this noble endeavour as a donor, knowing that my contributions go directly towards enriching lives of needy blind persons, and that post operation is practically as if they have been given new lives. There are few causes that have such a direct and immediate impact on improving lives. Best wishes to Dr. Ramani and his team in carrying this mission forward relentlessly in the future. Along with my brother, Mr. P. Satish Pai, and our families, I will always support Dr. Ramani and the Sankara Team in all their endeavours.

Dr. P. Dayananda Pai
Industrialist and Donor



AKKA's link with Sankara Eye Foundation has certainly been one of the most rewarding. The opening of six new hospitals to combat blindness in India further attests to the foundation's commitment and zeal. SEF's ambitious project "Vision 20/20," geared towards no less than the eradication of blindness in India, will be backed by AKKA to its best and fullest ability. The setting up of Free Eye Camps along with the surgeries that are saving the sight of India's rural population is altruism at its best. AKKA extends its warm gratitude to all the SEF volunteers, while wishing success to the foundation.

Kudur Murali
Past President of AKKA



"On behalf of Kannadigas of North America, I want to congratulate Sankara Eye Foundation (SEF) for making tremendous progress in such a short time by opening 6 Hospitals to address blindness in India. Further, AKKA is honored & humbled to have a partnership with SEF through it's grand project "Vision 20/20" to eradicate blindness in India. SEF's initiatives such as Free Eye Camps & Surgeries serving more than one lakh people across rural India is commendable. AKKA's support to SEF will always be there in achieving it's vision. Please convey our thanks to thousands of SEF's volunteers in USA and India"

-Ramesh Gowda

**President (2007-08), Association of Kannada Kootas
of America (AKKA)
Detroit, Michigan, USA**

Our Donors who made this dream come true!

SEF, USA and SECI, India are extremely grateful to all our donors who made it possible for us to continue our mission to help eradicate curable blindness in India.

SEF, USA raises funds for several projects simultaneously and the list below only reflects the funds that were allocated to the construction of this particular project and in no way diminishes the support our patron have given to all other SEF projects including funds for ever so important surgeries and camps. Please contact the office if you need full report of your donations. Patron have given to all other SEF projects including funds for ever so important surgeries and camps. Please contact the office if you need full report of your donations.

\$ 100,000 - 75,001

Anuradha & B. V. Jagadeesh

Ajit Dandekar

Bhavana Devi

Pankaj Dubal

Ullas Gargi

Hari Prakash Gollamudi

Ajay Kumar & Punam Gupta

Sanjay Gupta

Sahadevan Harikrishnan & Vandana Gandhi

Shrinath & Shubha Honnavalli

Srinivasan Iyengar

Kalpana Iyer

Rohit M. & Radhika Iyer

Anup Jain

Sonny Kalkat

Kannada Koota Of Northern California /

KKNC

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Balaji Ram

Chandhrasekhar Ramamurthy

Jyothishree Ramanuja & Prashanth

Bangalore

Ramesh Ramaswamy & Sita Ramesh

Murli Mohan Rao & Priya Balasubramanian

Vivekanand Rau

Anuradha Rawal & Srikanth R. Avadhanam

Namakkal S. & Gita Sambamurthy

Namita Sathyan & K.Y. Ramanujam

Arjun Saxena & Shalini Panwar

Prashanth Seetharam & Sheela Shankar

Jay & Anuradha Sethuram

Bharat A. Shah

Janani Muralidharan

Sanjay & Mousmi Goyal

Lalit K. & Veneta A. Shahani

Gulab & Indira Sharma

Padma & Nanjunda Shastry

Shruti Sheth

Arjun & Rati Shetty

Suraj B. & Rachna Shetty

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Every effort has been made to maintain accurate donation tracking. Please contact the SEF office at donorcare@giftofvision.org If you have any questions and we will promptly address your query.



Testimonials

Over 30 years ago, I began a mission to make a difference in the lives of underprivileged children. My first encounter with SEF came several years ago through a volunteer interaction at a booth. It was a simple table set up at the entrance to a cultural event. I stopped to chat with the young man and learned that response from attendees was not too good. However, I was surprised to see his upbeat attitude and smile in spite of all. This first encounter inspired me to want to learn more. 20/20 by the year 2020 is their goal and having interacted with many more volunteers and feeling their dedication, I know they will succeed.

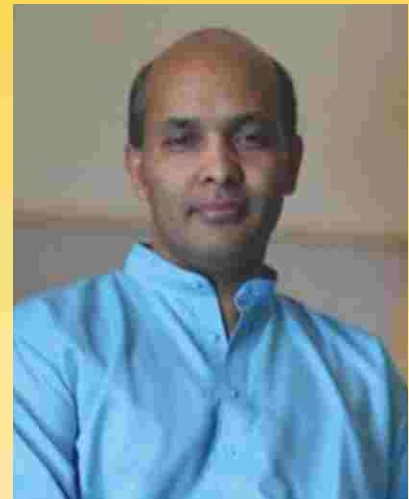


The rest, as they say, is history. I am proud to be a donor and intend to donate to each hospital built by SEF. SEF has made it possible for me to realize my ambition of making a difference in the lives of needy children.

I am humbly grateful to SEF and all its volunteers for helping rescue thousands of children from darkness and making possible a brighter tomorrow.

Anil Lal-India Arts, LLC

“SEF and KKNC joined hands back in 2006 and we have jointly done 3 fundraisers towards Bangalore & Shimoga hospitals. It is so gratifying to see the dollars we raised transforming into two great low-cost hospitals and functioning smoothly in a short amount of time. KKNC will continue to support in their goal of “20/20 vision in India by year 2020”. I wish Murali and his team of world-class volunteers the very best!



Soma Shekar (Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees, Kannada Koota of Northern California)

What I've enjoyed the most about my experience with SEF is the close fellowship of its wonderful volunteers. Often, meetings are held in the homes of the volunteers and everyone is made to feel part of the family. Volunteers and staff are totally dedicated and selfless -- they give their time and energy to hold multiple fundraising events each year.

Nat Narayanswami
SEF Volunteer & Rotarian

I have visited Sankara Eye Care Hospital in Bangalore. They do a phenomenal job in providing eye care to the needy who otherwise have no means of either accessing any medical facility or be able to afford the needed medical care. As a result of Sankara work many of these people are able self sustain and earn their living

Ram Vasanthram SEF Volunteer

Just visit any of the hospitals and you can immediately see the quality of care. The doctors and staff are top notch. And they are supported by a great group of volunteers.

**Kumar Thiagarajan
SEF Volunteer**

I have been a volunteer for the last 10 years and I have been amazed at the growth of the organization. Having a clear vision and proving consistently that they are marching towards the goal has been the key to success of SEF.

Seeing the professional way in which the services are done in India, the dedication of the staff in the hospitals are a great motivation. The socio-economic impact of the services provided is tremendous.

**Padma Jawahar
SEF Volunteer**

There is a high level of emphasis on ethics, integrity and accountability both when admitting new members or for sources of money. Financials of the organization are organized with utmost integrity and care. Volunteers work together as one family towards a common cause. While the organization is primarily based in San Jose there is a very active attempt to grow the organization beyond Bay area into Texas, East Coast, LA, Seattle and other areas.

**Chetan Gorur
SEF Volunteer - Dallas**



SEF Volunteers

*Volunteers who made this project happen:
Many volunteers of the SEF pitched in very actively to raise funds for Bangalore hospital and got it inaugurated in March 2008. It wouldn't have been possible without the countless hours of contribution by volunteers.*



Sankara Hospital Bangalore- Fast approaching towards self sufficiency goals

Karnataka is a land of wealth and diversity and renowned as the global technology hub and brings pride to the Kannadigas around the world. Amidst the thriving population are the many needy blind making Karnataka , the 3rd highest state with blind population. The incidence of blindness in Karnataka is 1.29% and the estimated prevalence is above 4.8 lakhs. This was the reasoning behind Sankara Eye Foundation approach to address this problem in Karnataka with hospitals in Bangalore and Shimoga

Sankara Eye Hospital-Bangalore is slated to be Sankara's launch pad facility for Vision 20/20. In addition to being a state-of-the-art hospital performing free eye surgeries and eye-care rural outreach on the lines of SEH-Coimbatore and SEH-Guntur, this facility includes a super specialty Training Center to focus on human resource development. The hospital situated on the Airport-Whitefield Rd is a 225 bed, state of the art facility with 25 beds for paid patient services and includes a cataract, IOL clinic, glaucoma and retina services, pediatric ophthalmology, Lasik laser center, a cornea clinic and eye bank. This hospital will cover Bangalore, Bangalore Rural, Mandya, Hassan, Mysore, Kolar, Tumkur and Chamrajanagar districts. The Bhoomi Puja was conducted in 2005 with Karnataka Governor, Sri T.N. Chaturvedi. presiding over the ceremony. The hospital was inaugurated on March 9th, 2008 by Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Sudhakar Rao and S. Gopalakrishnan, Managing Director and CEO of Infosys. Infosys Foundation sponsored the community wing of the hospital while other prominent donors and partners like Mission for Vision, Sight Savers, Jaslok Foundation, Dayanand Pai, Mantri builders and other local developers made contributions towards the hospital construction and equipment. Sankara Eye Foundation has committed to raising \$1.75 million dollars towards the total cost of \$4 million dollars for the hospital construction. SEF and SECI worked with many community based organizations to jointly work to raise awareness and funds for SEH-Bangalore. With support from local communities and organizations like AKKA, KKNC, KSMD, VSNA and generous donations from it's donors, SEF is fulfilling the commitment towards the hospital construction. At the AKKA 2006 convention, our key supporter and advisor Mr. B.V. Jagadeesh announced matching for up to \$100,000 of donations raised. AKKA foundation stepped in to support the cause and became a partner-in-service by raising \$100,000. AKKA was recognized at the inauguration ceremonies of the Bangalore Hospital with other dignitaries. KKNC, a community based organization in the bay area shares SEF's vision of freedom from curable blindness and has played a key role in raising funds for this cause. KKNC leaders, Yogesh Devraj, Ravi Reddy, Kavya Kurbur and Somasekhar have driven events like Rasika Ranjini, Sunayana with leading bay area artists including Mr. Nachiketa Sharma, who provided free performances as his contribution to SEF. Another key partnership was with Rotary club, Cupertino. Since 2007, RC Cupertino has worked with Rotary Clubs in India to deliver grants to the Sankara Eye hospitals in the form of buses or equipment. With a Matching Grant project in 2007-2008, a 60-seat Bus for transport of rural patients was delivered to the Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore. Within 10 months of service, the Bus had served over 21000 patients from surrounding rural districts. Stanford University's Rotaract Club concluded a very successful 'Give Vision' project, and also raised funds to donate a \$25000 specular microscope to Sankara Eye Hospital -Bangalore.

The hospital aims to become self sufficient in 3 to 5 years and conduct 25,000 free eye surgeries every year . It is progressing well towards that goal as it completes 7,286 free eye surgeries. The word about its quality eye care has spread wide and more paying patients are seeking services at the Bangalore hospital enabling a faster path towards self-sufficiency. Marketing efforts of the Bangalore hospital from Mr.Bala, Dr.Kaushik and SECI team are paying off with events like Walkathon and awareness programs in corporations. I-care walkathon held at the cubbon park was a success with prominent people like Anil Kumble, Ashwini Nachappa participating in the event. As with other hospitals, we could not have done this without the amazing collaboration of the generous donors like you, Sankara volunteers, and Sankara medical team in India. We are grateful for your support and request you to continue the journey with SEF until we reach Vision 2020 by the year 2020. For more information on sponsoring eye camps, equipment and other sponsorships, please contact us at sef@giftofvision.org <<mailto:sef@giftofvision.org>> and/or Hema Chamraj at hema.chamraj@gmail.com <<mailto:hema.chamraj@gmail.com>> .



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