

VisionSpring Foundation (VSF) Activity Report: 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024

Mission

To provide eye-screening, primary eye-care services, and eye-health advice to the people at the bottom of the socio-economic pyramid.

Current Scenario

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates, more than 700 million people in the developing world struggle with poor life quality due to bad eyesight. It is estimated that uncorrected vision results in \$227 billion in lost productivity to the global economy. In India alone, an estimated 550 million (55 Crore) people require eyeglasses for vision correction. Blurry vision compromises one's ability to work effectively, to read and learn in school, and to navigate surroundings with ease and safety. For many living in developing countries suffering from vision loss, a pair of eyeglasses could mean the difference between opportunity and loss of income and quality of life.

Activities

VisionSpring Foundation (VSF) is an NGO (not-for-profit) that does eye screening for the poor people, provides primary eye-care services, and eye health advice with FCRA Registration Number: 231661855. VSF also has the facility of providing eyeglasses to those who need them. VSF conducts community outreach activities and free eye-screening outreach program. The mobile eyecare units (vans) go to the remote interiors and provide last mile vision-care services to the poor. VSF also provides eye-care/eye-health advice centres and refers patients with complex eye diseases (such as cataract, etc.) to the nearest eye hospital. VSF helps change the lives of the poor people in India by aiding in restoring their vision.

VisionSpring Foundation (VSF) has received FCRA grant amount from 1st January 2020 to 31st March 2024 as per the table below:

Name of Donor	Address of Donor	Country of Donor	Amount Received	Date of Remittance
VisionSpring, Inc.	505, 8 th Avenue Suite, 12A-07, New York-10018	United States of America (USA)	USD 24,982	08 January 2020
VisionSpring, Inc.	505, 8 th Avenue Suite, 12A-07, New York-10018	United States of America (USA)	USD 499,980	04 February 2020
VisionSpring, Inc.	505, 8 th Avenue Suite, 12A-07, New York-10018	United States of America (USA)	USD 234,980	26 June 2020
VisionSpring, Inc.	505, 8 th Avenue Suite, 12A-07, New York-10018	United States of America (USA)	USD 167,968	12 August 2020
VisionSpring, Inc.	505, 8 th Avenue Suite, 12A-07, New York-10018	United States of America (USA)	USD 293,611	29 October 2020
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10108	United States of America (USA)	USD 269,980	29 January 2021
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10108	United States of America (USA)	USD 449,950	07 May 2021
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10109	United States of America (USA)	USD 399,950	18 May 2021
The World Zoroastrian Organisation	6943 Fieldstone Drive, Burr Ridge, Illinois, 60527-5295	United States of America (USA)	USD 9,980	26 May 2021
The World Zoroastrian Organisation	6943 Fieldstone Drive, Burr Ridge, Illinois, 60527-5295	United States of America (USA)	USD 2,480	27 May 2021
Schumacher GmbH	Industriestr. 47, D-68169, Mannheim	Germany	EURO 34,955	23 Jun 2021

VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10109	United States of America (USA)	USD 41,195	01 October 2021
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10109	United States of America (USA)	USD 74,960	01 November 2021
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10109	United States of America (USA)	USD 299,978	05 November 2021
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 399,950	31 January 2022
American Friends of EdelGive Foundation	450 Lexington Avenue, 4 th Floor, New York, NY-10017	United States of America (USA)	USD 26,997	27 April 2022
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 399,950	06 July 2022
Integrated Science LLC	21, George Street, STE, G03, Lowell, MA 01854-2249	United States of America (USA)	USD 29,950	14 July 2022
International Medical Corps	12400, Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, California 90025	United States of America (USA)	USD 49,980	14 July 2022
International Medical Corps	12400, Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, California 90025	United States of America (USA)	USD 44,979	14 September 2022
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 499,950	27 September 2022
American Friends of EdelGive Foundation	450 Lexington Avenue, 4 th Floor, New York, NY-10017	United States of America (USA)	USD 26,997	16 December 2022
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 239,950	21 December 2022
Integrated Science LLC	21, George Street, STE, G03, Lowell, MA 01854-2249	United States of America (USA)	USD 37,450	26 December 2022
Integrated Science LLC	21, George Street, STE, G03, Lowell, MA 01854-2249	United States of America (USA)	USD 37,449	26 December 2022
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 239,950	31 January 2023
International Medical Corps	12400, Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, California 90025	United States of America (USA)	USD 4,483.68	6 February 2023
Integrated Science LLC	21, George Street, STE, G03, Lowell, MA 01854-2249	United States of America (USA)	USD 29,950	17 March 2023
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 474,950	18 May 2023
American Friends of EdelGive Foundation	450 Lexington Avenue, 4 th Floor, New York, NY-10017	United States of America (USA)	USD 21,316	20 June 2023
Integrated Science LLC	21, George Street, STE, G03, Lowell, MA 01854-2249	United States of America (USA)	USD 14,960	31 July 2023
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 399,950	31 July 2023

VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 464,950	27 September 2023
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 349,950	06 December 2023
American Friends of EdelGive Foundation	450 Lexington Avenue, 4 th Floor, New York, NY-10017	United States of America (USA)	USD 24,066	23 January 2024
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 474,950	30 January 2024
VisionSpring, Inc.	PO Box 756, New York-10110	United States of America (USA)	USD 474,950	14 March 2024
		Total USD	USD 7,538,022	
		Total Euro	EURO 34,955	

Programs/Program Undertaken between 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024:

A. Improving the lives and productivity of Tea tribes (tea garden workers and their families/dependents) through eye-screenings and provision of eyeglasses, in association with the Tea Estates in Assam, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal.

Background and Scope:

During the period of 1st January 2024 till 31st March 2024, a total of 19,855 tea tribes and their household members were screened in the tea estates of Assam, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal, India and 11,352 eyeglasses were provided to those who required them. Those with complex eye diseases were referred to the Government/other hospitals in the area for further diagnosis and treatment. This program was conducted in collaboration with the following organisations:

1. Tea garden workers and their families/dependents in following locations of Assam India:

- Amalgamated Plantations, Achabam
- Amalgamated Plantations, Borhat
- Amalgamated Plantations, Naharkhatia
- Amalgamated Plantations, Naamroop
- Amalgamated Plantations, Powai

2. Tea garden workers and their families/dependents in following locations of West Bengal, India:

- Jalpaiguri District Small Tea Growers, Darjeeling*
- Jalpaiguri District Small Tea Growers, Jalpaiguri*
- Makaibari Tea Estate, Darjeeling*

3. Tea garden workers and their families/dependents in following locations of Tamil Nadu, India:

- Indo Sri Lankan Trust, Nilgiris*

***Note: JDSTGA, Makaibari, and Indo Srilankan project will continue in the next quarter as well.**

Eye-Screening Statistics: 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024

- 1. Distribution of people screened:** Screened a total of 19,855 tea pickers and their households in the tea estates of Assam, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal, India, among them 47% (n = 9,362) were males and 53% (n = 10,489) were females.
- 2. Refractive error (poor vision) rate among the screened population:** 67% (n = 13,334) of all the screened individuals identified with refractive error/presbyopia.
- 3. Referrals made for the screened population:** 19% (n = 3,688) have been referred to the hospitals out of whom 76% (n = 2,820) identified with suspected cataract and 24% (n = 868) identified with other complex eye diseases had been referred for further diagnosis to tertiary care hospitals and/or community health centres.
- 4. Eyeglasses distribution:** 85% (n = 11,352) of all population identified with refractive error/presbyopia received eyeglasses; Reading Glasses: 61% (n = 6,962), Pre-cuts: 8% (n = 905) and Prescription (Rx) Glasses: 31% (n = 3,485).
- 5. First Time Wearers (FTWs):** 96% (n = 10,876) of the people who received their eyeglasses got their first ever pair of eyeglasses through the eye-screening outreach program.
- 6. Post-coverage rate** in the population was 85%.

Pictures:



Registration



Eye-Screening



Counselling and Eyeglasses
Dispensing

Testimonial: Amalgamated Plantations, Assam

Name: Chandrana Borchetia

Gender: Female

Age: 34 Years

Occupation: Tea Garden Worker

Location: Dibrugarh, Assam

Chandrana Borchetia has been working in the tea garden for more than 12 years and she came to know about the eye-screenings outreach conducted by the VisionSpring team through a mobilisation announcement in the locality. She has been struggling with headaches and blurry vision during her daily tasks in the tea garden which has decreased her productivity, making it challenging to complete her usual workload efficiently.

She visited the outreach program and underwent a thorough eye checkup and was provided with a pair of eyeglasses to address her vision problems. She expresses that with the newfound clarity, she feels more confident and anticipates being able to work with increased productivity, as she can now see things clearly.



B. Improving the lives and productivity of artisans, weavers and their households in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, and Karnataka through eye-screenings and provision of eyeglasses.

The objective of the program was to reach out to 74,176 weavers, artisans, and their households in the weavers and artisans' clusters of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Bihar, and Punjab through eye-screenings and distributed 41,290 eyeglasses to those who require, as well as it includes the referral of cataract and other complex eye disease cases to nearby hospitals for further diagnosis and potential treatment. p

Between 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024, weavers, artisans, spinners, and their household were screened for vision in the weaver and artisan clusters of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Odisha, Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Punjab and 41,290 eyeglasses were provided to those who required them. Those with complex eye diseases were referred to the Government/other hospitals in the area for further diagnosis and treatment. This program was in collaboration with the following organisations in India:

- Rural & Tribal Artisans in Udalguri (Assam)*
- ACCESS Development Services in Barmer (Rajasthan)*
- Bhartiya Samruddhi Investments and Consulting Services in Ramnagar and Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- HKV Benaras in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- Kunj Innovation Trust in Sonbhadra (Uttar Pradesh)
- Mayurbhanj Foundation in Mayurbhanj (Odisha)*
- Mubarakpur Handloom in Azamgarh, Varanasi, and Uttar Pradesh (Uttar Pradesh)
- Panchganga Mahila in Mumbai (Maharashtra)
- Project Purkul in Haridwar and Dehradun (Uttarakhand)*
- RaviChhaya Foundation in Aurangabad (Maharashtra)*

- Skilled Samaritan in Muzaffarnagar (Uttar Pradesh)
- The Nabha Foundation in Patiala (Punjab)*
- TISSER India (Multiple states)
- UDEVU Weavers in Chitradurga (Karnataka)*
- Umamaheswara Weavers in Vizianagaram (Andhra Pradesh)*
- VAC Trust in Uttara Kannada and Dharwad (Karnataka)
- Yuva Vikas Foundation in Mayurbhanj, Balasore, and Kendrapara (Odisha)

***Note: RTD Foundation, Access Development Services, Mayurbhanj Foundation, Project Purkul, RaviChhaya, Skilled Samaritan, The Nabha Foundation, UDEVU, and Umamaheshwara projects will continue in next quarter also.**

Eye-Screening Statistics: 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024

1. **Distribution of people screened:** Screened a total of 74,716 weavers, artisans, spinners, and their household in the weaver and artisan clusters of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Odisha, Bihar Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Punjab in India, among them 49% (n = 36,301) were males and 51% (n = 37,870) were females.
2. **Refractive error (poor vision) rate among the screened population:** 69% (n =51,539) of all the screened individuals identified with refractive error/presbyopia.
3. **Referrals made for the screened population:** 14% (n = 10,098) have been referred to the hospitals out of whom 72% (n = 7,251) identified with suspected cataract and 28% (n = 2,847) identified with other complex eye diseases had been referred for further diagnosis to tertiary care hospitals and/or community health centres.
4. **Eyeglasses distribution:** 90% (n = 41,290) of all population identified with refractive error/presbyopia received eyeglasses; Reading Glasses: 54% (n = 22,494) and Prescription (Rx) Glasses: 39% (n = 16,061) and Pre-Cuts: 7% (n = 2,735).
5. **First Time Wearers (FTWs):** 90% (n = 37,343) of the people who received their eyeglasses got their first ever pair of eyeglasses through the eye-screening outreach program
6. **Post-coverage rate** in the population was 90%.

Pictures:



Testimonials: BASIX India, Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh

Name: Prabhunath Rajbhar

Gender: Male

Age: 55 Years.

Occupation: Weaver

Location: Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh

Prabhunath has been working as a weaver for more than 20 years. Two weeks ago, he broke the left temple of his eyeglasses which was making it difficult for him to see clearly while weaving. He visited the outreach program to get a new pair of eyeglasses. Prabhunath was overjoyed as he can see clearly again with the eyeglasses he had received. This experience has not only improved Prabhunath's vision but also has a positive impact on his livelihood as a weaver. He can now continue with his work without hindrance.



D. Improving the lives and educational outcomes of children through the provision of eyeglasses.



Locations: Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi NCR, Haryana, Punjab, and West Bengal in India.

VSF collaborated with multiple mission-aligned organizations/bodies such as Devi Sansthan in Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Kashi Jaycees Charitable Trust in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Joti Foundation in Bathinda (Punjab), Navjyoti India Foundation in Delhi (Delhi NCR), Sampark Sathi Foundation in Delhi (Delhi NCR), Loyal Welfare Foundation in Agra (Uttar Pradesh) Varitra Foundation in Karnal (Haryana). Please refer to **Table 1** for detailed information.

VSF conducted eye-screenings of 94,059 children and provided 7,815 eyeglasses from 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024. These eyeglasses helped children see clearly and improved learning outcomes as 70% of learning is through vision. It helps children to actively participate in school and would contribute to making their future bright.

Eye-Screening Statistics: 1st January 2024 to 31st March 2024

- 1. Distribution of children screened:** Screened 94,059 children in various states of India.
- 2. Eyeglasses distribution:** 7,815 eyeglasses were distributed to the children who had refractive error.
- 3. First Time Wearers (FTWs):** Out of 7,815 eyeglasses distributed to the children, 6,510 were the first-time eyeglasses wearers.

Table 1:

S. No.	Partner(s)	Location(s) in India
1.	Agadhbodh Foundation	Ranchi, Jharkhand
2.	Centre for Education and Health Research Organization	Delhi NCR
3.	Community Eye Care Foundation	Pune, Maharashtra
4.	Darjeeling Tibetan Settlement Office	Darjeeling, West Bengal
5.	Devi Sansthan	Lucknow and Unao, Uttar Pradesh
6.	Joti Foundation	Bathinda, Punjab
7.	Kashi Jaycees Charitable Trust	Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
8.	Loyal Welfare Foundation	Agra and Noida, Uttar Pradesh
9.	Navjyoti India Foundation	Delhi NCR
10.	Raza Educational Society	Bengaluru, Karnataka
11.	Sampark Sathi Foundation	Delhi NCR
12.	Sun Foundation	Delhi NCR
13.	Varitra Foundation	Karnal, Haryana

Pictures:



Testimonial:**Name:** Soumyaditi**Gender:** Female**Age:** 14 years**Occupation:** Student

Soumyaditi, who is in 9th class was facing issues while attending classes and while playing with friends. While playing with her friends, she sometimes missed out on objects or couldn't see something clearly, because of which she constantly kept losing in games. In the classroom she was facing trouble in seeing the blackboard clearly. After her check-up and receiving a pair of glasses she can see all distant things clearly. She feels her experience of seeing things has improved.

**Testimonial:****Name:** Priyanka**Gender:** Female**Age:** 10 years**Occupation:** Student

Priyanka who is in 5th class said that she was not aware that there was any issue with her eyesight. She had been getting frequent headaches but did not relate this to poor eyesight. After getting her eyes tested, she realised that she could see much better with glasses. The spectacles she received will help her see everything clearly now. She is expecting that her headache issue will also be resolved with the spectacles.

