

#179

COMPLETE

Collector: Gimbel Foundat...nd Evaluation (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 1:46:04 PM
Last Modified: Friday, February 23, 2018 2:24:29 PM
Time Spent: Over a day
IP Address: 73.68.102.131

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Q1 Name of your organization.

Himalayan Cataract Project

Q2 Grant #

20170146 - 42289 GIMBI

Q3 Grant Period

May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018.

Q4 Location of your organization

City	Waterbury
State	Vermont

Q5 Name and Title of person completing evaluation.

Roger Clapp, Major Gifts Officer

Q6 Phone Number:

802-505-0711

Q7 Email address.

rclapp@cureblindness.org

Page 2: Key Outcomes and Results

Q8 Total number of clients served through this grant funding:

3958 = 3938 patients + 20 local medical staff

Q9 Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on the goals and objectives. Use the following format: State the Goal: State Objective 1: Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 1: State Objective 2 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 2: State Objective 3 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 3:

Goal: To restore sight to the blind and advance world-class eye care in Ethiopia

Objective 1: HCP will support community eye examinations and screening for 3000 potential patients suffering from blindness, reduced vision or other eye ailments in the Tigray Region.

Activities: Between July 1 and August 20, 2017, primary care and diagnostic teams from the Quiha Zonal Hospital (QZH) in Mekelle traveled to 50 districts in the Tigray Region to set up eye clinics to screen patients, provide basic eye care and referrals for further treatment including cataract surgery and other ophthalmic interventions as needed.

Results: The teams screened and provided eye treatment for a total of 3,938 individuals, more than 31% more than originally anticipated. Of those, approximately 1,300 patients received referrals and transportation vouchers to receive cataract surgical treatment at QZH later in August.

Outcomes: Over 3,935 individuals and their care-takers received education and advice on proper eye care from high-quality eye care from trained professionals. Patients received screening, diagnoses and treatment for their eye ailments and referrals for further treatment as needed.

Objective 2: HCP will support at least 1,000 cataract surgeries during a 5 day high-volume surgical intervention to restore vision to those who were blind due to cataracts.

Activities: HCP Program, Procurement and Coordination teams worked with QZH and Ethiopian government officials to get the ophthalmic materials to Mekelle. QZH teams coordinated the transportation, lodging and feeding of approximately 1,300 patients arriving from towns and villages across the Tigray Region. HCP affiliated ophthalmologists Drs. Geoff Tabin, Sean Ianchulev and Neda Nikpoor arrived from the U.S. to join QZH Director of Ophthalmology Dr. Tilahun Kiros to set up the surgical theatre with 20 staff members including 3 medical residents, ophthalmic nurses and technicians to provide thorough and efficient patient care. From August 21 to 26, a total of 1,367 cataract surgeries were performed for approximately 1,300 patients, including 51 children. Several patients received bilateral surgery, operations on both eyes. After a 24 hour recovery, all patients were examined by their surgeons and transported back home with their care-takers.

Results and Outcomes: A total of 1,367 cataract surgeries were performed, over 35% more than were originally anticipated, restoring sight for 1,300 individuals who will receive further follow-up in their homes villages as needed.

Objective 3: HCP will support training and mentoring to at least 3 medical residents in ophthalmic training from teaching hospitals across Ethiopia.

Activities: Working with Dr. Tabin since 2008, Dr. Kiros has established QZH as the leading community hospital for cataract surgery in the country. Rotations of 3 medical residents in ophthalmology from teaching hospitals in Ethiopia are supported by HCP to receive mentoring and hands-on training at QZH. During this outreach, each of three residents observed and participated in high-volume cataract surgery with one or more well qualified mentors.

Results and outcomes: Each of three medical residents observed and/or participated in over 400 cataract surgeries with expert hands-on training during the 5-day campaign. This represents more than three times the number of surgeries residents normally experience in their day to day work at the hospital.

Q10 Please describe any challenges/obstacles the organization encountered (if any) in attaining goals & objectives.

Getting the all the necessary materials in place for a high volume outreach continues to be a challenge. With more frequent use of biometry, ophthalmic staff can prescribe and select the exact amount of lens magnification needed for each individual. However, this increasingly exacting diagnosis, requires an expanded inventory of intraocular lenses to choose from. Moreover, advances in lens manufacturing bring a larger variety of lens options, each with their own advantages and disadvantages in terms of installation and risk of complication.

Q11 How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles?

By working with a growing number implementing partners, HCP Country Representative Dr. Liknaw Adamu and his team can make inventory adjustments among partner hospitals to fulfill these needs and improve visual acuity scores among patients receiving cataract surgical treatment. During the surgical campaign, surgical mentors including Drs. Tabin and Kiros use the opportunity to instruct medical residents and other members of the surgical team on useful techniques to achieve best results with each version of intra-ocular lens.

Q12 Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.

Dr. Sean Ianchulev has pioneered a surgical technique that may represent an improvement on the Small Incision Cataract Surgery refined by HCP co-founders Drs. Sanduk Ruit and Geoff Tabin. Dr. Ianchulev was able to explain and demonstrate this technique during the campaign. This may lead to further improvement in the approach used by HCP and its partners into the future.

Q13 Briefly describe the impact this grant has had on the organization and community served.

The \$50,000 provided by the S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund covered an estimated 59% of the cost of this surgical outreach including the pre-operative screenings and transportation to and from the surgical center in Mekelle, Ethiopia. A total of 3,938 patients received treatment and 20 local ophthalmic staff members received hands-on training and mentoring from some of the most accomplished experts in the world.

The WHO describes cataract surgery as one of the most cost-effective medical interventions of our time. Each of the 1,300 patients receiving sight-restoring cataract surgery has been released from a debilitating handicap and can now become a more fully contributing member of their family and community. In most cases, another family member, usually a child, has been pulled out of school and/or out of the work force to provide care for the blind individual. These individuals are now released to pursue their own goals and dreams. For the 51 children who received cataract surgery, their lives will be completely transformed for an entire lifetime.

With each successful campaign, HCP gains more followers and more support. Over the past two years, the governments of both Ethiopia and Ghana have signed new agreements dedicating more resources to combatting cataract blindness and we continue to move forward in eliminating needless blindness worldwide.

Q14 Please provide a budget expenditure report of the approved line items. Include a brief narrative on how the funds were used to fulfill grant objectives.

Mekelle Surgical Outreach August 21- 26, 2017

Staff Support:	\$19,483
- Recruitment, screening and diagnosis teams	
- Local surgical teams and medical residents	
- Ophthalmic nursing and technical support	
- Patient care coordination	
Transportation:	\$8,960
- Travel costs for recruitment & screening team	
- Travel costs for patients and care takers	
Lodging:	\$6,860
- Lodging expenses for patients and care-takers	
Food:	\$9,204
- Food and cooking costs for patients & care-takers	
Fuel:	\$1,799
- Diesel fuel for generators	
Medical supplies:	\$3,785
- Lenses, medicines and bandages	
Total	\$50,091

Page 4: Success Stories

Q15 Please relate a success story:

Here's a link to a story that ran in our e-newsletter and went out to over 9,000 HCP supporters and is currently on our website:

<http://www.cureblindness.org/eye-on-the-world/news/successful-cataract-outreach-in-mekelle-ethiopia>

Q16 Please relate a success story here:

This outreach in Mekelle, Ethiopia provided a great and unexpected opportunity for Peace Corps volunteers to participate in sight-restoring surgical intervention in the northern Region of Tigray in Ethiopia. This area was the scene of intense fighting during the war with Eritrea until the early 2000's. Since then, the region has slowly recovered. However, Tigray like most of Ethiopia still has one of the highest rates of cataract blindness in the world.

Thanks to this grant from S.L. Gimbel Foundation, the Himalayan Cataract Project was able to provide screening and basic eye care to 3,938 individuals across 50 districts in the Tigray Region. Of these an estimated 1,300 received referrals and transportation vouchers to receive sight-restoring cataract surgery at Quiha Zonal Hospital in the regional capital of Mekelle. From August 21 and 26, three US-based ophthalmologists joined a local team of eye surgeons led by Dr. Tilahun Kiros to perform 1,367 eye surgeries, including 51 children whose lives were transformed by a simply ten minute surgical intervention.

Q17 Please relate a success story here:

Respondent skipped this question

Page 5: Organizational Information

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q18 Which category best describes the organization.
Please choose only one.

**Medical/Health/Public
Agency**

Q19 What is the organization's primary program area of interest?

**Health & Human
Services**

Q20 Percentage of clients served through grant in each ethnic group category. Total must equal 100%

Asian/Pacific Islander	25
Other	75

Q21 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each age category.

Children Birth-05 years of age	1
Children ages 06-12 years of age	3
Youth ages 13-18	5
Young Adults (18-24)	3
Adults	30
Senior Citizens	58

Q22 Approximate percentage of clients served with disabilities from grant funds.

Blind & Vision Impaired	98
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Q23 Approximate percentage of clients served in each economic group.

At/Below Poverty Level	98
Working Poor	2

Q24 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each population category.

Families	90
Disabled	98
Students	2
Elderly	60
Children/Youth (those not included in Family)	5