

## Message from the CEO

I wish you all a very happy New Year.

2019 was a great year for India Vision Institute as we continued on our mission to enable access to vision screening and free spectacles to the needy as well as strengthen India's Optometry sector. As part of Eye See I Learn and Eye See I Work campaigns, we screened 136,796 underprivileged children and adults from Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Telangana, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana over the twelve-month period. Some 24,007 pairs of free spectacles were distributed to those diagnosed with refractive error.

If we look at vision screenings since our inception, IVI has undertaken 837 vision screening programs in and around Chennai and other cities in Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Assam, New Delhi, Odisha, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal – a total of 18 Indian states. To date, over 3,20,000 individuals from underprivileged communities (including over 2,55,000 children) were screened and free spectacles distributed to 48,965 individuals (including 26,690 children).

As part of our mission to strengthen India's Optometry sector through focus

on current trends and technologies, IVI organized workshops on Advancements in Progressive Addition Lenses (PALs) and Vision Therapy at Mangaluru, Nagpur, Navsari and Moradabad. We continued to collaborate with LVPEI in organising Low Vision Awareness programs. Participants who have benefited from these programs included optometrists, Optometry students, ophthalmologists and low vision practitioners. We are ever so grateful to LVPEI, our co-founder, for their continuing support.

Our Teachers Training Programs at Nuh (Mewat) and Medchal, Hyderabad, have helped equip teachers undertake preliminary vision screening in their schools.

We are thankful to our current funding partners who made all this possible - including VisionSpring, Oil India, L&T Construction, Essilor Vision Foundation, Vision for Life, among others. I very much look forward to working closely with all of you over 2020 as well as develop a number of additional partnerships to provide the planned services to underprivileged Indians.

With over 50 news articles and interviews, as well as a strong presence on so-

cial media, IVI continued to draw positive media coverage for the vision care sector.

Our goal in the near future is to conduct



a million (ten lakhs) free screening and provision of glasses to underprivileged adults and children in India every year. We are delighted that the dreams of late Prof Brien Holden and Dr GN Rao are being realised, and I want to thank our Trustees (including Dr Rao), Jayanth Bhuvanaraghan, Amit Dasgupta, Susan Varghese, JP Singh and Vivek Mendonsa, and the fantastic team at IVI. I look forward to building on this in 2020.

**-Vinod Daniel**

## SEENOW Campaign enters second phase

India Vision Institute participated in Fred Hollows Foundation's International Entities and Partners meeting, December 2019 in Sydney, Australia.

The meeting was chaired by the Foundation's Chair John Brumby and CEO Ian Wishart. Among other projects, the meeting discussed the SEENOW Campaign in Uttar Pradesh state, the first phase of which concluded in November 2019.

IVI is looking forward to partnering with the Foundation and SEENOW Campaign as it enters the next phase (February 1 -

March 15, 2020), and working on other projects that will benefit in reaching out to millions of underprivileged Indians who need access to a pair of glasses.



## Join IVI on Facebook



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**IVI is a member of Asia Pacific Council of Optometry and VISION 2020**

## 2019 – Some Highlights

### Record vision screenings

With help from our supporters, and as part of Eye See & I Learn and Eye See & I Work campaigns, we screened 136,796 underprivileged children and adults



from Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Telangana, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Assam and Haryana. A total of 24,007 pairs of free spectacles were distributed to those diagnosed with refractive errors.

### Capacity-building workshops

Several workshops were organized,



including on Advancements in Progressive Addition Lenses (PALs) and Vision Therapy at Mangaluru, Nagpur, Navsari and Moradabad, as well as two



Low Vision Awareness (LAP) programs in collaboration with LVPEI.

### Teachers Training Programs at Mewat and Medchal

In May, a Teachers Training Program at Nuh (Mewat), in association with the SRF Foundation, Riti Eye Care, Rewari and Essilor Vision Foundation, drew 53 teachers, who were provided training and given a basic screening kit to carry out preliminary vision screening in



schools.

A Teachers Training Program at Medchal, Hyderabad in November, in association with LVPEI, Krushi Home and Essilor Vision Foundation, drew 41 teachers from 18 schools. The program was designed to help teachers understand basic eyecare testing. Organized at Krushi Home, the teachers were given a basic screening kit to carry out preliminary vision screening

in their schools.

**Teachers help screen children:** Following the training, some 3,000 underprivileged school-going children were screened by teachers under the overall supervision of our optometrist at Medchal. Around 164 children were diagnosed with refractive errors and they will be provided free spectacles.



### IVI Essilor Optometry Researcher Trophy 2019

The India Vision Institute-Essilor Young Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy for



2019 was awarded to Pailan College of Management and Technology, Kolkata. Vishal Biswas won the award.

### Himachal Governor launches Vision campaign

On November 14, Children's Day, the Himachal Pradesh Governor, HE Bandaru Dattatreya, launched a vision screening



campaign initiated by Essilor Vision Foundation in Shimla that will benefit over 10,000 children in the district. The participation of the Governor in the launch was a recognition of the importance given to vision screening of school children.

A collaboration with Essilor Vision

Foundation (EVF), the initiative is expected to provide around 1,000 children with free spectacles following screenings conducted by IVI.

Subsequent to the launch, some 5,024 underprivileged school children from



government and government-aided schools were screened in Shimla, and 282 children diagnosed with refractive error will receive free spectacles.

*IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor Vision Foundation for funding the program.*

### Volunteer for IVI

**We are looking for volunteers**  
**(Optometrists/Optomety students)**  
**who can support us in screening**  
**underprivileged children and adults**  
**in the community.**

**Email us at**  
**[ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org](mailto:ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org)**  
**or call us on**  
**91-44-24515353**

## Avadi screenings continue

Continuing with our campaign at Avadi in Chennai's outskirts, IVI screened 771 underprivileged daily wage workers – at Avadi and Thiruverkadu. Some 463 workers diagnosed with refractive error will receive free spectacles.



*IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles and also MLA, Avadi, Tamil Nadu Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture, K Pandiarajan, for funding the program.*

## Vision screening at IIT-Madras for Shaastra

As part of the annual IIT-Madras technical festival Shaastra and under the auspices of its social campaign BLINK, some 210 underprivileged daily wagers at the campus were screened and 123 wagers diagnosed with refractive error will receive free spectacles.



*IVI acknowledges the support of IIT-M Shaastra team for the venue and Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles.*

## Screening and Spectacles distribution at Madras Club

A total of 111 underprivileged workers from Madras Club, Adyar got their vision screened, and 63 workers diagnosed with refractive error received free spectacles.



*IVI acknowledges the support of Madras Club, Adyar and Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles.*

## Campaign for truck drivers

IVI continued with the screening of truck drivers at Salem, thanks to the support of Sightsavers. Some 1,969 truckers were screened at Paramathi, Sankagiri Lorry Owners Association and Kondalampatti. A total of 1,532 were diagnosed with refractive error. They will be provided free spectacles.



*IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers for funding the program.*

## Spectacles for children at Berhampur

A total of 3,132 school-going children were screened at Berhampur, Odisha and 238 children were diagnosed with refractive error and provided free spectacles.



*IVI acknowledges the support of L&T Construction for funding the program.*

## Support IVI

To **DONATE ONLINE**  
and for additional information,  
please visit  
[www.indiavisioninstitute.org](http://www.indiavisioninstitute.org)

All donations shall qualify for deductionsu/s 80 G of the Income Tax Act 1961.

India Vision Institute  
<https://www.indiavisioninstitute.org>

Watch 'In conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on  
[www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute](http://www.youtube.com/indiavisioninstitute)



**IIT-Madras, Chennai, Shaastra Team**

## Eye See & I Learn

Some 16,729 underprivileged children were screened in government and government-aided schools at Arumbakkam, Kannagi Nagar, Okkiyam Thoraipakkam, Koyambedu, MMDA Colony, Villivakkam, ICH, Shenoy Nagar



and Taramani in Chennai. A total of 2,136 children diagnosed with refractive errors received free spectacles.

The vision of 2,061 underprivileged children from government and government-aided schools in Thiruvannamiyur and Villivakkam were



screened; 396 children diagnosed with refractive errors will be provided free spectacles.

*IVI acknowledges the support of VisionSpring for providing free spectacles.*

## Eye See & I Work

IVI vision screened 1,818 underprivileged daily wage workers from Saidapet, Jafferkhanpet, Old Washermanpet, Ekkatuthangal, Perambur, Pallavaram and Chemmenchery in Chennai - of which 1,163 wagers diagnosed with refractive errors received free spectacles.



A total of 250 underprivileged workers from Perumbakkam and Chemmenchery in Chennai got their vision screened, and 175 diagnosed with refractive error will receive free spectacles.

Another 939 daily wagers were screened at Paramathi and Sankagiri in Salem district. Some 458 diagnosed with refractive error will receive free spectacles.



*IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles.*

*We also acknowledge the Optometry students of SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Potheri for volunteering in the vision screening programs.*

## IVI Vision Screening Programs

|                        | Children | Community | Total    |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| No of programs         | 565      | 272       | 837      |
| Individuals screened   | 25,4406  | 64,663    | 3,19,069 |
| Spectacles distributed | 26,690   | 22,275    | 48,965   |

## What people say about IVI

*"On this Children's Day, I am happy to launch a worthwhile campaign for the benefit of our children. I congratulate IVI for this initiative that will not only benefit children in their school and daily activities, but also to eventually build a future for them."*

**- HE Bandaru Dattatreya, Governor, Himachal Pradesh at IVI's Shimla campaign launch**

*"We are happy to associate with IVI in the campaign for children in Shimla district. EVF works with IVI in remote parts of India as we continue the fight for Eradication of Poor Vision through provision of access to screenings and spectacles to the needy."* **-Mahesh K.V, Head, EVF**

*"Our school benefited from IVI's vision screening program, including in raising awareness about eye care among students. We welcome more such programs. The children are motivated enough now to seek eye care help in future. We have awareness of the need for early intervention in children with vision issues. The program gives teachers a greater understanding of vision-related issues, including awareness that there is more to vision care than just acuity. Providing service to students in school rather than referring them to an external optometrist increases both access to and use of glasses. It also enables to change the stigma associated with wearing glasses."*

**-Jeyanthi, Headmistress, ICH Higher Secondary School, Villivakkam**

*"Our students tell us that they are more comfortable reading and doing their homework now. We are glad that the IVI screening has alerted us to the problem studentsface. We would highly recommend IVI to conduct more screening programs. The eye examination and free spectacles have changed our students' lives. Their grades have improved and so have their interest in reading and exploring books without prompting."*

**- Ravi, Headmaster, Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Villivakkam**

*"I am really impressed by the program conducted by IVI in collaboration with the IIT-M Shastra festival team. Thank you so much for screening lots of people in our campus. I am happy for both IIT-M and IVI teams. Keep it up."*

**- Mrs. Vijayalakshmi, Head, Owzone, IIT-Madras.**

## Upcoming Programs

The maximum prize money will be INR 10,000.



<https://www.indiavisioninstitute.org/upcoming-programs-view/42>

## IVI Essilor Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy 2020

India Vision Institute is pleased to announce 'IVI Essilor Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy 2020'. IVI invites eligible candidates\* to send us their applications for the award. The winner will receive the IVI Researcher Award and the Rolling Trophy will be sent to their school.

Multiple entries from the same school will not be entertained.

For further details, visit:

[www.indiavisioninstitute.org/upcoming-programs-v.../43](http://www.indiavisioninstitute.org/upcoming-programs-v.../43)



## Workshop on Advancements in Progressive Addition Lenses

IVI announces a day's hands-on workshop on Advanced Course in 'Progressive Addition Lenses' to enhance the existing knowledge on PALs and equip professionals with requisite soft skills towards effective optical sales. Optometry practitioners, educators and students can attend the workshop. The date, venue and registration details will be informed later.

## Current project supporters



Maurice Newman (Australia), Australian High Commission in New Delhi, Lt Col T Sundaram (retd) (Mumbai), L&T Construction, Ms. Susan Daniel (Los Angeles, USA), V.S Motors, Ranipet, G V Vivekanandan (Chennai)

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