2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Dear Friends of VisionSpring,

Your steadfast support and partnership propelled us to remarkable achievements in 2023. Together, we screened the vision of more than 2.6 million people and corrected the vision of nearly 1.9 million people with eyeglasses, representing 25% growth over 2022. This brings our cumulative impact since our founding to 12 million people with glasses and the potential to realize $2.6 billion in new income.

This year, performance was driven by outstanding results in our African markets which grew 70% year-over-year. Additionally, in India, we served 514 partners and doubled government contracts associated with National Programme for the Control of Blindness and Visual Impairment.

We owe our success to the expertise and tenacity of our extraordinary multi-national team. Special appreciation goes to our People & Culture colleagues who identified and integrated 150 new peers into Team VisionSpring. Additionally, our Supply Chain department’s demand forecasting enhancements facilitated growth of both institutional partnership sales (B2B) and Vision Access Program delivery (B2C).

EXPANDED VISION ACCESS PROGRAMS IN STRATEGIC GEOGRAPHIES

Livelihoods in Focus (LIF) is our strategic initiative to dramatically increase eyeglasses coverage rates – and associated productivity and income – in communities engaged in vision-intensive agriculture and artisan craft. In 2023, we expanded LIF in Assam, India for tea workers, and in Ashanti, Ghana for cocoa farmers. We also initiated new LIF programs in Karnataka, India for coffee workers and artisans, as well as in Uganda’s tea and vanilla growing districts. In total, we brought livelihoods into focus for 209k people through LIF and set the stage for significant growth in 2024.

We deepened the market penetration of our longest running program which shifts the task of correcting blurry near vision to community providers. Reading Glasses for Improved Livelihoods (RGIL) expanded with health entrepreneurs in Zambia, served new districts with community health workers in Uganda, and extended into a nationwide network of microfinance clients in Bangladesh.
We replicated our See to be Safe program from India to Africa, launching in Nigeria and Zambia. There, governments have increasingly prioritized road safety to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3.6. We kicked off with partner training and workshops to surface innovative strategies for incorporating vision correction into national road safety initiatives.

**ADVANCED SYSTEMS CHANGE & COLLABORATIVE ACTION**

This year’s World Sight Day theme spotlighted eye health in the workplace, aligning beautifully with VisionSpring’s programs. This was an opportune moment to celebrate the Clear Vision Workplace (CVW) Alliance milestone of screening the vision of half a million textile and garment workers since its inception in 2018.

To advance systems change, we continued in our role as a founding steering committee member of The Coalition for Clear Vision and of The UN Friends of Vision. These collective bodies, respectively, contributed to the development of the WHO's SPECS strategy, and successfully advocated for including eye health in the UN declaration on universal health coverage. Additionally, I was honored to join the board of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness.

**RAISED AWARENESS FOR THE CLEAR VISION MISSION**

We drew greater attention to the stark realities of the clear vision gap affecting 1 billion people who do not have the eyeglasses they need to see well and do well. This year, our clear vision mission broke through to new audiences, garnering more than 670 media mentions. **BBC World News** showcased the transformative impact of eyeglasses on prosperity, a story that resonated across the US on **NPR’s Marketplace**. We also were profoundly moved when His Holiness the **Dalai Lama**, a life-long eyeglasses wearer, bestowed his blessing on our team and mission.

**ALL THANKS TO YOU**

Your support and partnership were instrumental in our achievements in 2023. We are excited for what lies ahead in 2024 – expanded service provision, new stylish eyeglasses for low-income customers, and groundbreaking research on the link between eyeglasses and income.

Onward together,

Ella Gudwin | CEO