



Quarterly Impact Report

November 19, 2021

Highlights

- Progress towards our 2021 goals
- Jayanth Bhavaraghan and Ambassador (ret.) Mary Ann Peters join the Board of Directors
- Global institutions make eye health and glasses a global priority
- Our Global Access and Community Outreach programs at a glance
- Meet Iben Ivon, who received his first eyeglasses at the astounding age of 74
- Grant awards and corporate partnerships propel us forward



Thank you for your support in making this year thus far a success. **This year was not only a year of rebuilding, it was also a year of tremendous growth for RestoringVision.** We grew our staff, our board, and doubled our fundraising goal from last year from \$1 million to \$2 million. Today we present to you our first-ever quarterly impact report, which is a follow-on to our prior newsletter. In it, we share high points and milestones achieved over the past few months. We see a path to achieving and exceeding our 2021 program, fundraising, and organizational goals with just less than 2 months to go. Moving forward, we will share our impact report with you each quarter so that you may engage in our work more frequently and see all that you help make possible.

From all of us at RV, our board, and our staff, **THANK YOU** for being part of our journey to bring clear vision to those most in need. We are profoundly inspired and encouraged by your support of our work and the care you continue to show for the people we serve.

Progress Toward Goals

Aligned with our 2021-2023 strategic plan, our goal this year is to reach 2.14 million people

living in poverty across the globe with glasses and raise \$2 million in support of this effort. We are pleased to report that we see a pathway to achieving or exceeding these targets as of September 30, 2021.



Meet Our Newest Board of Directors

We are thrilled to announce the appointments of Jayanth Bhuvanaraghan and Ambassador (ret.) Mary Ann Peters to our Board of Directors. As prominent global leaders with expertise in the optical, nonprofit and international development sectors, they will play an important role in amplifying the work of RestoringVision as our organization scales to reach 10 million people a year.



Jayanth Bhuvanaraghan, former Chief Mission Officer and current Sr. Advisor & Coach at EssilorLuxottica, is a strong campaigner for greater eye health access and awareness and business as a force for good. He is deeply committed to bringing good vision to everyone everywhere, and is credited for creating sustainable vision care access to over 400 million people in the developing countries.



Ambassador (ret.) Mary Ann Peters is an innovative global leader with deep experience guiding large organizations in times of stability and crisis. She spent 30 years as a U.S. diplomat and served as U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh. As the former CEO of The Carter Center, she led the worldwide effort to resolve conflicts, strengthen democracy, and improve global health.

Read the full press release



Sector-wide Alliances and New Funding Initiatives to Support Eye Health and Glasses

This year, momentum continued to build around the need to ensure people across the globe have access to vision care and eyeglasses. With over 2.5 billion people needing, yet not having glasses to correct their vision, in 2021, new alliances formed, and a movement of collective action took shape to ensure **clear vision for all**. The UN General

Assembly and the IAPB have committed to ending the global vision crisis by 2030 and 2050, respectively.

On July 23, 2021, the **United Nations General Assembly** unanimously adopted a resolution to ensure eye care is available for all on a global scale by 2030. As a part of this resolution, eye health was added to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The **Vision for Everyone** resolution puts eye care as a top health priority on the world stage for the first time. This historic global development ensures that millions of impoverished people across the globe have access to the eye care services and eyeglasses they need to remain productive, sustain livelihoods, continue to learn, and be independent and contributing members of society.

This year, the **International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)** created and formalized a subcommittee, Coalition for Clear Vision. The coalition's goal is to create affordable and permanent access to glasses for all who need them throughout the world by 2050. To advance its goal, the coalition will leverage the resources of our members, the state, the private, non-governmental, and community sectors, and academic organizations worldwide to create systemic, repeatable change.

The **EYElliance** is a multi-sector coalition that drives the global strategy to increase access to eyeglasses at scale so that those in less developed countries can fully avail themselves of vital educational and economic opportunities. EYElliance identifies highly effective, proven models and integrates those solutions into broader, pre-existing public and private systems to increase access to glasses at scale.

The **Vision Catalyst Fund** aims to bring significant funding into our sector to support vision care and glasses for 1 billion people. The institution will also create a roadmap to help solve the vision crisis by collaborating with various partners (NGOs, government, and social enterprises) to help catalyze ecosystem change and sustainable access to glasses for those in need globally. Backed by glasses and lenses provided by EssilorLuxottica, VCF will provide organizations it partners with the glasses and/or lenses needed to support their vision programs.

These three alliances and the new funding initiative stand to strengthen further our work of ensuring equitable access to glasses for people living in poverty. What's more, RestoringVision is a member of both the EYElliance and IAPB. With these alliances working to prioritize eye health and glasses, coordinating various players to address our issue area, and creating new funding channels, RestoringVision has an incredible opportunity to leverage these relationships to reach our three-year plan goals. The plan calls for getting 8.8 million people into glasses during 2021-2023. Realizing this goal will set the stage for us to advance our longer-term ambition of serving 10 million people annually by the end of this decade. We are proud to say that we have already reached 19 million people in 136 countries with glasses since our inception.

Spotlight on Programs

As RestoringVision reflects on the past year and a half of our programming through the pandemic, we are deeply grateful that our work has continued. Glasses are more critical now than ever to ensure the people we serve can live productive and impactful lives. Our project partners have remained committed to our vision program, ensuring those who need glasses most have access. You can learn more about our programs below.

1. **Global Access Program (GAP):** Our GAP includes projects conducted in partnership with large global health and humanitarian organizations with deep in-country roots and the capacity to serve millions of people each year. As the pandemic continues to impact the global economy, our GAP projects have continued to scale to serve many more people in need of vision care and glasses. The demand for our vision program with these partners has now outpaced what we can advance due to available funding. As such, we continue to seek philanthropic investments to support the growing need for our work executed under our GAP.
2. **Community Outreach Program (COP):** Our COP serves small to medium size nonprofit organizations that collectively reach up to 700k people per year and travel to some of the world's most remote areas. These organizations incorporate our vision program into their existing outreach or mission projects. Because this program requires travel by individuals leading these organizations, we saw the steepest drop in our work through this program during the pandemic. As these organizations begin to return to the field, we are excited to see these projects regain momentum and our vision program expand again through our COP.

Testimonial

Iben Ivon (pictured above) received his first-ever pair of glasses at 74 years old through our vision program in the Dominican Republic (DR) with Cross Catholic Outreach. Iben spent the past 49 years working in the sugarcane fields in the Bateyes, navigating his work and world without the benefit of clear vision. He has needed glasses since he was a child but was never able to afford them. Thanks to our work, and the glasses he received, Iben can finally see clearly after a lifetime of blurry vision.

Development Highlights

Optometry Giving Sight (OGS): grant awarded to RestoringVision in support of our work in the Dominican Republic. This grant is a significant success on several levels for RestoringVision. On the strategic level, it will help us to deepen our in-country program with Cross Catholic Outreach, which is a key goal in our three-year strategic plan. On the programmatic level, it is enabling us to continue offering our newest product, distance vision glasses (DVGs), which we first piloted two years ago to address myopia in addition to presbyopia. Finally, on the developmental level, it represents a growing relationship between OGS and RestoringVision as this grant is the third we've received from OGS since 2020.

Walman Optical: grant awarded to RestoringVision in support of our 2021 program delivery targets. We are honored to have a partnership with Walman, which began in 2018. Walman Optical is a network of optical labs with 28 locations across the United States. This award represents the third award from the optical company.

Floor & Decor and United Hardware: in September, we initiated our first-ever consumer giving program with Floor & Decor and United Hardware. Thanks to Augeo Marketing, the group that designed and brought to life our consumer giving page for each company, we are now part of both brands' rewards programs. Each company has a social good category in which they offer their PROs an opportunity to support social good via a points redemption system. RV is now among the organizations included as an organization with a cause worthy of support. We are thrilled to leverage the power of consumer giving to raise awareness about our work and secure customers' donations to support it.

Thank You!

We are incredibly grateful for the support of all our partners and donors, who have put their confidence in RestoringVision. Each of you helps advance our mission and, importantly, our mutual interests of ensuring that the world's most impoverished people have the vision care and glasses they need to remain productive, employed, independent, and contribute to our global community. We look forward to a successful end to 2021.

With gratitude,

Pelin

Pelin Munis, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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