



Helen Keller
INTERNATIONAL



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

A Brighter Future is Within

Sight



OUR MISSION

Helen Keller International saves the sight and lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged. We combat the causes and consequences of blindness and malnutrition by establishing programs based on evidence and research in vision, health, and nutrition.

History

In 2015 we celebrate 100 years of global impact, stemming from the life's work of our co-founders, Helen Keller and George Kessler. From their original mission in 1915 to help soldiers blinded in combat, to our standing in 2015 as one of the world's largest and most effective not-for-profit organizations devoted to preventing blindness and reducing malnutrition, our

history is marked by passionate service and ongoing innovation to meet the challenges of the day.

Vision

We envision a world where no one suffers from preventable or treatable blindness or low vision, no one suffers from malnutrition, and fewer people suffer loss of their productive years due to disability and premature death.

dear friends,

When the remarkable Helen Keller, co-founder of Helen Keller International, said, “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much,” could she have imagined exactly how much her namesake organization would accomplish, and how many people would come together in doing so?

In 2015, thanks to the commitment of our partners and supporters, we will celebrate 100 years of reaching the world’s most vulnerable and disadvantaged families with proven programs that preserve sight and save lives.

Over the past year, in the face of daunting circumstances including the horrific Ebola outbreak in West Africa and continued political unrest and terrorism in many countries where we work, we were able to reach nearly 300 million people with our programs.

We experienced the successful launch of an innovative project in Sierra Leone and four other African nations, that delivers an integrated package of essential health services and ensures that 6-month-old children receive vitamin A at this critical stage of their development. We also initiated our acclaimed home gardening program in Vietnam, which allows women to grow nutritious foods at home while selling surplus produce so they can afford life’s essentials. And we continued to bring free eyeglasses to disadvantaged students in the United States so they have the clear vision necessary to live up to their full potential.

As a testament to the dedication and hard work of everyone within the organization, we were awarded the 2014 Henry R. Kravis Prize in Leadership, recognizing our successes in saving sight, strengthening nutrition and improving health.

Yet with this immense progress comes greater need and greater demand for our expertise and services. In fact, country governments and local partners are now asking for HKI by name.


So, as we begin our second century, we must heed Helen Keller’s exhortation to “go forward with a great desire forever beating at the door of our hearts.” We know the tasks ahead are demanding, but we also know that, through the passion and energy of our loyal supporters, a brighter future for millions more around the globe is within sight.

With deep gratitude,



Kathy Spahn

President and CEO



Henry C. Barkhorn III

Chairman

Of the 285 million people worldwide who are blind or visually impaired, as many as 80% of them don't have to be. While there are proven, cost-effective solutions for prevention and treatment, many in our world's poorest communities are still living in darkness. Through the following programs, Helen Keller International is coming to the aid of those who, through disease and lack of access to quality eye care, are most vulnerable to vision loss.

ChildSight®

Providing free in-school vision screenings and new prescription eyeglasses to children in high-poverty communities in California, Ohio and the northeastern United States, as well as China, Indonesia and Vietnam.

Preventing Blindness from Diabetes

Training doctors in prevention and treatment of diabetic retinopathy and educating patients in Bangladesh and Indonesia, which have seen rapid growth in diabetes cases.

Cataract Surgery

Improving access to high-quality, affordable cataract surgery for poor and remote communities in under-served regions of Asia.

Programs for Children with Special Needs

Improving access to quality education for children living with blindness and other disabilities in Africa and Asia.



A close-up photograph of a young girl with dark skin and curly hair. She is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. Her right hand is raised, with her fingers partially covering her right eye. The background is blurred.

5,000

Number of people in Asia with advanced diabetic retinopathy who have received treatment to limit further vision loss since 2012

FY 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

- In the US, our ChildSight® program **screened 82,480 students nationwide** and provided 17,967 pairs of prescription eyeglasses to children living in poverty
- In Vietnam, we have **expanded our ChildSight® program to include quality control monitoring of eyeglass manufacturing** so that impoverished children and families don't have to settle for poorly made glasses
- In Myanmar, we supported eye clinics which **performed over 36,000 sight-saving cataract surgeries**
- In China, we **provided access to quality, affordable cataract surgery** by training and equipping ophthalmologists working in remote rural hospitals and establishing cataract surgical training capacity at eight partner facilities
- In Indonesia, we **expanded our innovative diabetic retinopathy program** to two additional cities and tested new community-based screening strategies so that the condition can be detected early
- In Bangladesh, another country where diabetics in poor communities are often undiagnosed or have little information about managing their disease, we **established a new diabetic retinopathy screening and treatment center** at the National Institute of Ophthalmology Hospital in the capital city, Dhaka

A young boy with dark skin and short hair is wearing black-rimmed glasses. He is looking down into a purple hand mirror he is holding. He is wearing a white polo shirt over a green turtleneck. The background is a library with wooden bookshelves filled with books.

1.7 MILLION

Number of children in the United States who have received free vision screenings through ChildSight® since the program's launch in 1994

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Giving American Students Their First Look at Clear Vision

Helen Keller International's ChildSight® program visited Ridge Street School, a public elementary school in Newark, New Jersey, where most students are living at or below the poverty line. One of the students, Cyrese, had been wearing broken glasses for months. He had no choice, as his eyesight was too weak to go without them, and the price of a new pair was too high. Thanks to ChildSight®, within ten days of his screening, Cyrese had new glasses at no cost to his family. And choosing from a variety of frames to fit his personality made the process fun and exciting. "The fact that I can see better now is amazing," he says today. ■

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Training Indonesian Health Professionals in Diabetic Retinopathy

Helen Keller International, in partnership with Indonesia's Ministry of Health, has developed the country's first screening program for diabetic retinopathy. Nurse Darana Sakti joined the diabetic retinopathy screening program in 2010 and now works in the eye clinic of a national referral hospital in Jakarta.

"Through this program, I have seen many patients with eye problems,"

she says. "The patients [learn] the condition of their eyes when they are screened at the internal medical clinic, which was not commonly done before." We will continue to support diabetic retinopathy screening through 2015, giving health professionals like Ms. Sakti the opportunity to improve the screening process and enhance the lives of even more people. ■



4,200

Number of HKI-sponsored diabetic retinopathy screenings in Indonesia over the past three years

Malnutrition affects two billion people worldwide, and is the underlying cause of death for an estimated 3.1 million children under the age of 5 each year. Through a series of proven programs, Helen Keller International is working to ensure that more people in impoverished communities across Africa and Asia—particularly women and children—get the nutritional building blocks they need to thrive for years to come.

Helping Families Grow Better Food

Empowering families throughout Africa and Asia to provide better nutrition for themselves and ensure they have enough of the right food going forward by establishing home gardens and small-scale farms that produce foods rich in essential nutrients.

Improving Maternal and Child Nutrition

Promoting positive practices, including breastfeeding and nutrient-rich foods during childhood, in communities with high malnutrition and child mortality rates.

Treating Malnourished Children

Training volunteers and health workers to identify and treat cases of acute malnutrition in children, enabling communities to help themselves in times of crisis.

Saving Sight and Lives with Vitamin A

Distributing vitamin A supplements—recognized by leading economists and health experts as one of the most vital, cost-effective child survival interventions—to young children in Africa and Asia.

Bringing Better Food to Millions

Ensuring that foods fortified with essential micronutrients like vitamin A and iron are available even in the world's poorest communities.





285

MILLION

Number of people in 19 African countries we reach with micronutrient-fortified staple foods, such as cooking oil and wheat flour, to help in the fight against malnutrition

FY 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

- In 13 African countries we launched a mobile phone data collection system to **improve delivery of vitamin A supplements (VAS)** and other health services for children
- In Tanzania, we established a standard health visit for 6-month-olds to receive VAS, which **increased distribution of this vital intervention from 67% to 92%**
- In Nepal, we worked in 20 of the country's most impoverished and undernourished districts to **improve and sustain nutrition and health levels among the region's women and children**
- In Cambodia, we trained village health volunteers to distribute a powerful micronutrient supplement that easily mixes into food for babies and toddlers, **empowering mothers in the fight against child malnutrition**
- In 19 countries across Africa, we work with governments and local manufacturers in efforts to ensure that **micronutrient-fortified staple foods like cooking oil and wheat flour are accessible and affordable** in even the poorest communities

90

THOUSAND

Number of people in Nepal's most impoverished districts trained in growing better food and improving nutrition at home through the Suaahara project

A woman wearing a red sari with a white border and a white headscarf stands in front of a wooden structure with a thatched roof. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background features palm trees and a blue sky.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Reducing Hunger and Increasing Opportunity for Women

Srijani Chakma lives with her family in a remote village in Bangladesh. Living on her husband's irregular day labor income was a challenge, and hunger was a constant issue. Through Helen Keller International's Making Markets Work for Women program, Srijani received six types of vegetable seeds, chickens for the production of eggs, and small agricultural tools, and was trained in skills such as seed sowing, inter-cropping, organic fertilization, and integrated pest management. Today, not only is she providing nutritious food for her family—her young daughter will not go hungry again—but she is also earning income by selling the surplus vegetables and eggs. "I am now able to save some money for my daughter's education," Srijani says. ■

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Pioneering a 6-Month Contact Point for Infant Wellness in Sierra Leone

Fatmata Fatima Sesay is Helen Keller International's Nutrition Program Manager for Sierra Leone. A native Sierra Leonean, Fatmata helped to expand our Vitamin A Supplementation (VAS) program even as her home country was staggered by the Ebola crisis in 2014. She led the introduction of a standard health visit for 6-month-olds to receive VAS as a critical part of well-baby sessions. When mothers come to a local health center to have their children receive their first vitamin A capsule at 6 months, they also receive information on how to prepare enriched baby foods, as well as family planning counseling and the opportunity to catch up on missed immunizations. "The program goes a long way towards supporting the health and nutritional status of children in Sierra Leone," says Fatmata. ■



54

MILLION

Number of children ages 6 months to 5 years given sight- and life-saving vitamin A capsules through our programs in the past year across 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa

Little known in the developed world, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) can cause blindness, chronic pain, disability and malnutrition. They infect one in six of the world's people, including half a billion children. Helen Keller International has helped develop a series of effective programs to combat common NTDs, so that the most vulnerable communities receive the care they deserve.

Trachoma

Trachoma is a bacterial infection of the inner eyelid that can lead to blindness. (Helen Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan, lost much of her sight after contracting this condition as a child in the 1870s.) By improving access to surgeries and medications in Africa and promoting preventative behaviors such as face- and hand-washing, we are contributing to the World Health Organization goal of eliminating blinding trachoma globally by 2020.

River Blindness

Also known as onchocerciasis, this parasitic worm infection can cause painful skin irritation and full vision loss. With our partners, we have developed a successful method to reach tens of millions of people across Africa each year with preventative medicines and treatment.

Intestinal Worms

Young children are susceptible to parasitic infections which can enter their bodies orally or through the soles of their feet, and lead to poor growth and damaging health conditions including anemia. We help developing countries in Africa and Asia provide medication to treat these infections while offering health education for children in at-risk communities.

Elephantiasis

Also known as *lymphatic filariasis*, this debilitating and sometimes crippling disease often leads to severe swelling of limbs and other body parts and a painful thickening of the skin. Those infected are limited in their ability to work or care for their families and often shunned by their communities. We are helping communities not only eliminate this devastating disease, but treat those still suffering from the disabilities caused by the infection.





FY 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

- Throughout Africa, we helped distribute medications to entire communities, contributing toward the milestone of the **1 billionth NTD treatment** through USAID
- In Niger, we helped provide access to **2,789 sight-saving trachoma surgeries**, giving people who had been suffering with pain and vision impairment a chance at a new life
- In Burkina Faso, we helped to develop the country's first-ever comprehensive NTD communication plan to **encourage participation in drug distribution campaigns**
- In Guinea, we supported the country's **first-ever mass drug distribution for elephantiasis** to help stop the spread of infection in targeted communities
- In Mali, to help the country reach its elimination goals, we **supported their vital national elephantiasis morbidity program**, aimed at preventing disability caused by the disease and helping those affected better manage their condition

85 MILLION

Number of treatments for the five most common NTDs – lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, intestinal worms, parasitic worms, and trachoma – supported by Helen Keller International in six African countries during the past year

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a white school shirt and a backpack, is looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a building.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Helping Children Overcome Debilitating Infections in Cambodia

In Cambodia, due to the scarcity of clean water and other hygiene essentials, many children are infected with intestinal worms. Neang, a fifth-grade student in a rural area outside Phnom Penh, had all the signs of infection, according to her teacher: “She was very skinny, tired and had a big belly.” Without care, her growth and development would likely be stunted. The School Health Curriculum project, developed by Helen Keller International and the Cambodian government, and made possible with the support of Johnson & Johnson, has helped students like Neang begin to thrive. Neang received deworming medicine, and learned preventative practices like washing hands before eating, drinking water only after boiling it, and wearing shoes when outdoors. One year into the program, Neang maintains these practices and continues to take the twice-yearly medication. She is healthy and energetic, and has a brighter future ahead of her. ■

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Preventing Blindness and Relieving Pain in Burkina Faso

“Katialou, a woman who lives with her family in the district of Sapouy in Burkina Faso, had suffered for over ten years from trichiasis, the blinding phase of trachoma, a painful condition in which in-turned eyelashes scrape the globe of her eye every time she blinks. If not corrected, the constant abrasion can lead to blindness. A 15-minute procedure can correct the eyelid and preserve any sight that has not been lost. When Katialou heard about the opportunity for free surgery being provided in her local health center, she did not hesitate. Issouf Bamba, HKI’s Neglected Tropical Diseases Program Coordinator in Burkina Faso, and I arrived at the health center just as Katialou was being prepared for surgery. Her husband and older son were by her side for support. Observing the care that Katialou’s husband and son provided to her both during and after surgery was heartwarming. On this day I witnessed the most precious gift in action: the gift of family.” ■

- Emily Toubali, NTD Project Director,
Helen Keller International



138,663





Number of Cambodian students reached since 2009 through our School Health Curriculum program to prevent intestinal worm infections

WORKING WORLDWIDE

Helen Keller
International
Global Headquarters

NEW YORK CITY,
UNITED STATES

PROGRAM KEY

-  Eye Health
-  Nutrition/
Vitamin A Supplementation
-  Neglected Tropical Diseases
-  Childsight®

UNITED STATES |

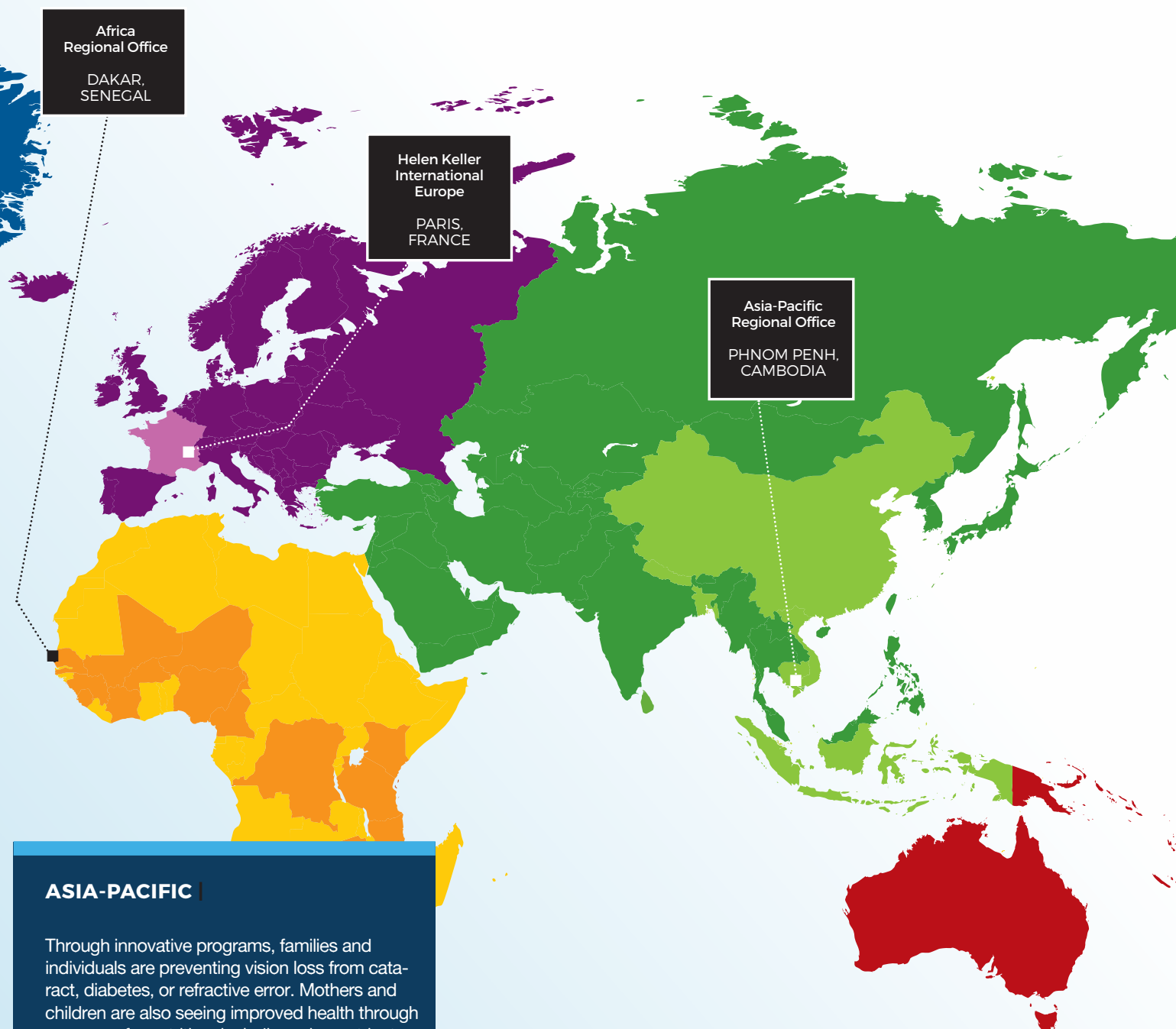
Through our pioneering Childsight® program, tens of thousands of children each year receive the gift of clear vision through free school-based vision screenings, prescription eyeglasses, and referral for further care.

California	
Connecticut	
New Jersey	
New York	
Ohio	

AFRICA |

Through programs that provide much-needed nutrition support and micronutrient supplements, and ones that help families grow better food, communities are getting relief from malnutrition. Meanwhile, many are benefiting from drug treatment and promotion of improved hygiene and sanitation to combat Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Burkina Faso	 	Mali	 
Cameroon	 	Mozambique	 
Côte d'Ivoire	 	Niger	 
Democratic Republic of Congo	 	Nigeria	 
Guinea	 	Senegal	 
Kenya	 	Sierra Leone	  
		Tanzania	 



ASIA-PACIFIC |

Through innovative programs, families and individuals are preventing vision loss from cataract, diabetes, or refractive error. Mothers and children are also seeing improved health through programs for nutrition including micronutrient supplementation, homestead food production, and control of Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Bangladesh  

Cambodia  

China  

Indonesia    

Myanmar  

Nepal 


Philippines 

Vietnam  

With more than 180 programs in 22 countries around the world, Helen Keller International is actively working to save the sight and lives of millions.

A Year of Honors in Humanitarian Leadership

In 2014 Helen Keller International was presented with the ninth annual Henry R. Kravis Prize in Leadership, which carries a \$250,000 award and recognizes extraordinary accomplishments in the nonprofit sector. We were honored for our dedication to saving millions across the globe from blindness and offering some of the most vulnerable among us a chance at better health and wellbeing for the future. “Helen Keller International’s research in nutritional blindness decades ago revealed how something as simple as a vitamin A capsule could mean the difference between life and death,” said Henry R. Kravis, co-founder of KKR & Co. L.P., and founder of the Kravis Prize. Also in 2014 our annual Spirit of Helen Keller Gala, which featured Oscar-nominated actress Abigail Breslin as Honorary Junior Chair, raised approximately \$1 million in support of our vision- and life-saving efforts. Economist and humanitarian Tom Arnold was present to accept the Helen Keller Humanitarian Award in recognition of his dedication to ending child hunger and improving maternal health in the developing world. ■



“To be connected with an award named for Helen Keller, whose life was about unleashing human potential, is both an honor and a humbling experience.”

—TOM ARNOLD, ECONOMIST
AND GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN

\$1,000,000 + Above

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Support	2014	2013
Contributions – corporations, foundations, and individuals	\$15,100,786	\$20,529,504
Contributions – medical supplies, medicines and other (in-kind)	\$188,300,788	\$77,876,062
Legacies and trusts	\$1,192,849	\$254,611
Grants – U.S. Government agencies	\$23,450,484	\$23,424,294
Grants – Non U.S. Government agencies	\$18,409,662	\$14,727,842
Net assets released from restrictions	---	---
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$246,454,569	\$136,812,313
Revenue		
Program and other revenue	\$254,540	\$313,877
Dividends and interest income	\$17,163	\$25,286
TOTAL REVENUE	\$271,703	\$339,163
TOTAL OPERATING & SUPPORT REVENUE	\$246,726,272	\$137,151,476

EXPENSES

Program Services	2014	2013
ChildSight®	\$1,834,191	\$1,352,784
Trachoma	\$1,152,973	\$1,121,390
Famine and Other Relief Services	\$1,369,444	\$3,016,657
Nutrition, including Vitamin A	\$31,887,285	\$28,089,535
Onchocerciasis	\$238,903	\$66,178
Eye Health	\$837,206	\$1,259,469
Neglected Tropical Diseases	\$12,103,421	\$10,150,318
Distribution of medicines and other (in-kind), primarily for blindness prevention	\$188,300,788	\$77,841,354
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$237,724,211	\$122,897,685
Support Services		
Management and general	\$8,072,133	\$6,961,424
Fundraising	\$1,049,580	\$1,131,381
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES	\$9,121,693	\$8,092,805
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$246,845,904	\$130,990,490
Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses	\$(119,632)	\$6,160,986

OTHER CHANGES

Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	\$54,551	\$38,721
Change in perpetual and restricted trusts	\$100,241	\$46,699

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Net Assets, Beginning of year	\$20,801,770	\$14,555,364
End of year	\$20,836,930	\$20,801,770

LEADERSHIP

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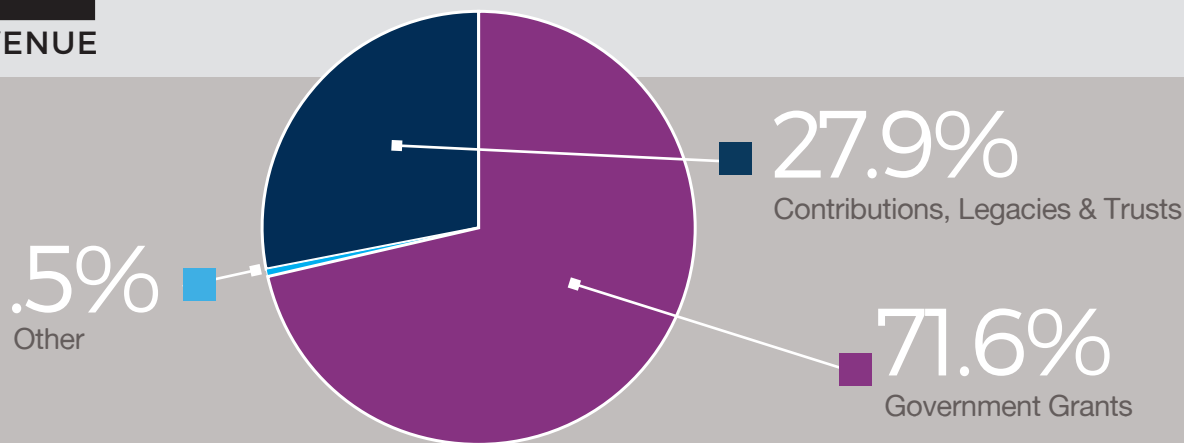
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Victoria J. Quinn, MSc, PhD
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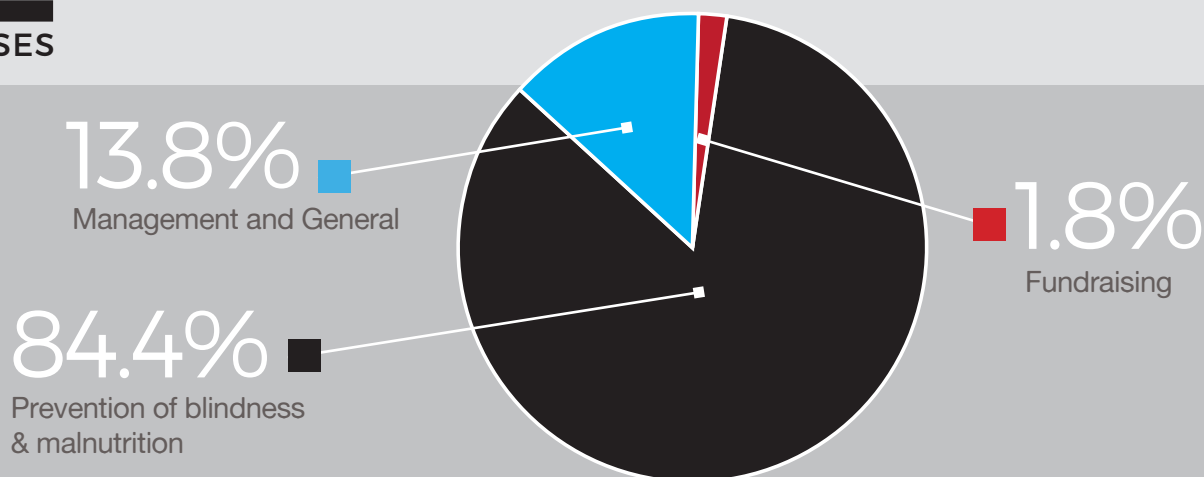
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

Pie charts represent the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. Pie charts do not include gifts in kind. If included, gifts in kind would represent 76% of total revenue, and program expenses would be 96%. "Other" revenue includes program revenue, dividends, interest, and miscellaneous income.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

For the past 100 years, the unwavering commitment of people like you has enabled Helen Keller International to provide vision- and life-saving services for the world's most vulnerable communities. As we look forward to the next 100 years, we hope you will remain with us on this important journey.

HOW CAN YOU CONTINUE TO HELP?

Donate

By donating via the enclosed reply form or online at donate.hki.org, you are helping to strengthen programs that save sight and lives in the United States and around the world.

Arrange for Planned Giving

By naming Helen Keller International in your will or as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or remaining IRA funds, you will leave a legacy of compassion for millions of children and families. To learn more, please contact our development team at 877-535-5374 or giving@hki.org.

Stay Active in Our Community

Visit hki.org to get to know our organization and experts, sign up for our monthly newsletter, and connect with our social media channels for the latest news and updates.



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Helen Keller International - Africa
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Dakar-Yoff, Senegal

Helen Keller International - Asia-Pacific
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Kingdom of Cambodia

*Helen Keller International and Helen Keller International Europe are affiliated non-profit, non-governmental organizations registered in the United States and France respectively and are united in a common mission to prevent blindness and reduce malnutrition.

Photos courtesy of HKI©; Bartay; Ric Francis; and USAID

**"I believe that if we make up our
minds to do something great, we can
accomplish it." —HELEN KELLER**

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Improving Childhood Nutrition

A powerful example of how Helen Keller International is helping to improve lives within impoverished communities is the distribution of micronutrient powders. One beneficiary, Ms. Pok Somaly, lives with her family in a small village in Cambodia. Pok's young daughter often suffered from fevers due to malnourishment. Through a program supported by Helen Keller International, a local health volunteer explained to Pok why good nutrition is crucial for childhood development, and gave her sachets of micronutrient powders to enhance the nutritional value of her daughter's food. After just three months, Pok noticed a dramatic difference. "My child's sickness is reduced," she said. Today her daughter is much healthier and has gained weight—marking significant steps towards a brighter future. ■



A Brighter Future is Within
Sight



Helen Keller
INTERNATIONAL

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