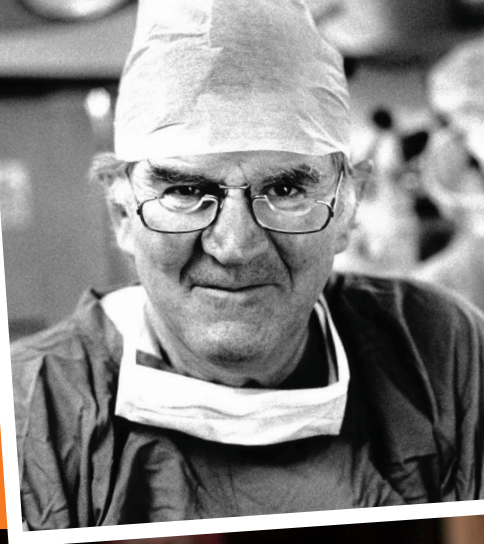




The Fred Hollows
Foundation | 護瞳行動



HONG KONG

SPRING / SUMMER 2018

A MOTHER'S LOVE

A KENYAN
MUM'S FIGHT
TO HELP HER
DAUGHTER SEE





**WORD FROM LAURA LEE,
CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE,
HONG KONG AND ASEAN**

Welcome to the Spring/Summer edition. I would like to introduce myself as the new head of our Hong Kong operations. I look forward to updating you on our work. I also thank and acknowledge the contribution of Dr Anson Wong in the establishment of our office here.

It's been a busy year with new projects and more patients having their sight restored – like young Nabiritha from Kenya. Blind since she was an infant, Nabiritha's future was uncertain. Her mother Emily spent years seeking treatment until The Fred Hollows Foundation helped Nabiritha access sight-saving surgery. Words cannot explain that moment when Nabiritha saw her mother's face for the first time.

I am also pleased that the values of our founder Professor Fred Hollows are alive and well in Hong Kong. He believed in the goodness of people and in this spirit, The Foundation has launched the inaugural Humanity Award, recognising 33 outstanding students for helping people in need in our communities.

Unfortunately, the number of people living with blindness is predicted to triple by the year 2050 to 115 million worldwide. With your help we can make a difference - because four out of five cases of blindness are preventable or can be easily treated.

The Foundation works with partner organisations, governments and health workers in more than 25 countries to provide much-needed treatment. Raising awareness for eye health is a major focus and we are planning activities to raise funds and awareness in the lead-up to World Sight Day on 11 October. Please support us on Facebook and spread the word about our work. Thank you to our dedicated supporters for helping put an end to avoidable blindness.

PROGRAM UPDATE

RESTORING SIGHT TO WOMEN AND GIRLS

The Fred Hollows Foundation has launched She Sees, a new initiative to position The Foundation as a leader in affordable, accessible eye care for women and girls.

She Sees is The Foundation's public commitment to address gender disparity in blindness as a key global health issue. Women are 1.3 times more likely to be blind than men. She Sees aims to narrow that gap.

Our founder Professor Fred Hollows believed that everyone's sight was worth saving. His commitment to ending avoidable blindness continues today through our work to bring affordable eye care to those who need it most.

The Foundation improves women's access to quality eye care in a number of ways including training female health workers, upgrading services in maternal and child health clinics, and providing eye checks for female factory workers.



NEW PROJECTS IN CHINA



The Fred Hollows Foundation has embarked on two new projects in China - Huanxian in Gangsu province and Uygur in Autonomous Region, Xinjiang. The Xinjiang project will focus on ethnic minority groups living in remote areas of southwest and northeast Xinjiang.

Both projects aim to strengthen the eye care services of partner hospitals and medical staff, and provide eye care to patients on their door step. For cultural and religious reasons, women have less access to eye care than men so The Foundation will also begin a new three-year project in Guangxi targeting women.

OUR STRONGEST RESULTS EVER IN 2017

Globally:

-  **1,106,654** eye operations and treatments performed
-  **102,356** surgeons, nurses and health workers trained
-  **66** medical facilities built, renovated or equipped
-  **HKD\$14.5M+** worth of equipment and infrastructure provided

In China:

-  **310,693** eye operations and treatments performed
-  **3,587** surgeons, nurses and health workers trained
-  **8** medical facilities built, renovated or equipped
-  **HKD\$2.1M+** worth of equipment and infrastructure provided



MUM FIGHTS FOR LITTLE GIRL'S SIGHT

By the time Nabiritha was four-months old, her mother Emily Neseke knew something was wrong with her little girl's sight. "I realised that she would not notice me when I passed by but immediately started crying when she heard my voice," Emily said. "She also couldn't pick up toys that I placed beside her to play with."

Emily spent years trying to find help for Nabiritha. Emily could barely afford the transport to visit clinics and hospitals, let alone the 10,000 Kenyan shillings (HKD\$745) required for surgery, especially as she had three other children to care for.

Eventually, Emily attended a local health centre and her persistence was rewarded when she was told that The Fred Hollows Foundation would provide the surgery. Nabiritha was taken for surgery at The Foundation's partner hospital Sabatia, about 200 kilometres from her home.

Emily was anxious as Nabiritha was taken in for surgery. The next day, the doctor carefully removed the patches. After crying a little, Nabiritha opened her eyes and looked straight into her mother's face for the first time. "I am happy that my child is able to see me clearly," Emily said through her own tears. "I never thought this day would come. "Imagine, for all those years my child had never known what I look like."

Nabiritha was excited to leave the hospital, restlessly counting the number of beds in her ward one by one. "I want to go to school so that I can learn how to read and write and see my friends," she said. After a long journey back to her village, Nabiritha met her father, brothers and sisters she had known only by voice.

It was a moment of high emotion when Nabiritha walked independently down the hilly terrain to her home. Simple eye surgery had given Nabiritha and her family a new life and hope for the future.

It is estimated that there are about 400,000 blind people in Kenya, with another 750,000 visually impaired. But there are only eight surgeons who can perform children's eye surgery. Your support is vital in bringing hope to more children like Nabiritha. Thank you.



LATEST NEWS

By working in collaboration with partner organisations and local communities, The Fred Hollows Foundation is reaching out to the Hong Kong public to gain their support to end avoidable blindness.



STUDENTS AWARDED FOR KINDNESS TO THE COMMUNITY

Our founder Professor Fred Hollows used to say that the greatest attribute of humankind was our ability to help one another. To celebrate this value in the everyday life of Hong Kong, The Foundation recognised 33 Upper Primary students in April, 2018 at the Inaugural Humanity Award presentation ceremony.

The Award celebrated a number of the students' achievements, including designing a phone app for emotional support, serving different groups of people in need, as well as working in environmental protection.

Albert Haustorfer was named Ambassador of Hope for growing his hair for two years until it was 30cm long and donating it to cancer patients to make wigs. Scan the QR code for more inspiring stories.



MAGIC MILE CHARITY RUN

We are proud to be the supporting charity of the Magic Mile Charity Run organised by Goodman Hong Kong, Founding Partner of The Fred Hollows Foundation in Hong Kong. Over 400 participants ran up the 15 floors of the Goodman Interlink cargo ramp in Tsing Yi in March 2018. Funds raised from the run will support a three-year program to end avoidable blindness for those in need in Huanxian County, Gansu Province, China.



KAY TSE SUPPORTS THE FRED HOLLOWES FOUNDATION

Local pop queen Ms Kay Tse attended the presentation ceremony of The Humanity Award, and also supported the work of The Foundation to end avoidable blindness.

Watch this video of Kay talking about how to keep our eyes healthy.



PHOTO EXHIBITION TO MARK OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

To celebrate the 25 years of work by The Fred Hollows Foundation in 25 countries, we did some digging around and found some amazing images that capture the raw emotion and humanity behind our work. Stay up to date with our latest photo exhibition calendar at our Facebook page.



HKD\$150 CAN HELP RESTORE SIGHT AND CHANGE LIVES
DONATE TODAY AT WWW.HOLLOWES.ORG/HK/DONATE



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