NEW SIGHT EYE CARE Annual Report for the year ending March 2019



'Hope for a Family' by Karis Faith Samoutou (Age 8)

"The mummy is blind and she needs her children to help her walk. You can tell they are poor because they don't have shoes or clothes to wear and the floor is dirty. The mummy is telling them that she is dreaming of an eye operation at New Sight. And when she can see again, she will give the eye surgeon a pineapple. The children like that and that is why they are happy!" Registered Address: 21A Upper Accommodation Road, Leeds LS9 8RZ, United Kingdom



Overview

New Sight Eye Care is a registered charity founded in the UK in 2011 and in Hong Kong in 2013. We provide support and financial aid to the Republic of Congo, pioneering the first and only eye surgery centre in the northern part of the country, and now to build a new eye hospital in Ouesso.

The charity is governed by trustees in the UK and by directors in Hong Kong, as well as being a non-profit limited company.

'New Sight Logo' by Karis Faith Samoutou.

Objectives

The objectives of the charity are:

1. The advancement of health, and the saving of lives in particular (but without limitation), by providing assistance overseas principally (but not exclusively) in the Republic of Congo for those affected with sight difficulties; and

2. To fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable and are connected to the charitable work of the Charity as the Trustees and Directors may from time to time think fit.

KEY GOVERNING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES			
UK Board Trustees	HK Board Directors	Executive Committee	Project Steering Group
Mr. Christopher Denham	Ms. Evelyn Chan	Ms. Evelyn Chan	Ms. Silla Chow
Dr. Terence Pang	Ms. Pauline Lo	Ms. Phoebe Chan	Dr. Alan Ng
Mr. Henri Samoutou	Dr. Alan Ng	Mr. Victor Kam	Mr. Chuck Ng
Dr. Joyce Samoutou-Wong	Dr. Hannah Too	Mr. Charles Leung	Ms. Rita Pang
		Ms. Stephanie Ng	Dr. Terence Pang
		Ms. Agnes Ng Lai	Mr. Henri Samoutou
		Mr. Henri Samoutou	Dr. Joyce Samoutou-Wong
		Dr. Joyce Samoutou-Wong	

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Impfondo Eye Centre

The north of Congo had never had an eye centre. This was the reason that Joyce and Henri Samoutou uprooted their family's life in the UK in April 2012 to pioneer the first and only non-profit eye centre in the north of Congo. The eye centre is based in Pioneer Christian Hospital in Impfondo, the capital of the Likouala Region. This general hospital founded in 2006 is developing rapidly. It has 32 buildings in a 17acre site. It has grown to 75 beds in recent years. New Sight and the hospital continue to enjoy good relationships with the government, the Ministry of Health, as well as the local authorities and communities. New Sight has collaborated frequently with other non-profit organisations such as United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees and Médecins d'Afrique, who frequently refer their patients for eye treatment.

New Sight gave the Impfondo eye centre with all

the equipment and trained staff as a gift to Pioneer Christian Hospital in August 2017. The nurses who were trained by New Sight can now handle emergency, consultation, inpatient, anaesthetics, and minor surgery. Henri has been going back regularly about every 3 to 4 months to perform major surgery. The clinic is self-running and continues to see about 80 patients a month.

'This is where we are' by Karis Faith Samoutou. Showing the position of Republic of Congo on the continent of Africa.

Ouesso Eye Hospital

Following the successful establishment of the Impfondo eye centre, New Sight was invited by local authorities to build a new eye hospital in Ouesso. The strategic location of Ouesso can make eye care accessible for the entire country of Congo and even neighbouring countries. In November 2016, the purchase of the 6-hectare piece of land in Ouesso was completed, with one of the six hectares being a donation from the mayor office in Ouesso. A team of topographic surveyors from Brazzaville completed land studies. An architect from South Africa, along with an engineer and project adviser from Kenya, joined Joyce and Henri for a feasibility visit in Ouesso for the masterplan of the Ouesso project.



This future eye hospital is in a strategic location that can reach out to the whole of Congo, and perhaps even to neighbouring countries such as Cameroon and Central African Republic. The Ouesso Hospital will include:

- 1. Inpatient Department
- 2. Outpatient Department
- 3. Optical shop and Workshop
- 4. Pharmacy
- 5. Surgical Unit
- 6. Training Centre
- 7. Staff and Visitors Quarters
- 8. Core Infrastructure (electricity and water supply, incineration facility)

Our Vision



'A World where nobody is needlessly visually blind' by Megan Ng In line with the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development, the vision of the World Health Organisation, and the WHO Global Action Plan 2014-19, New Sight's Vision is:

A world

• where nobody is needlessly visually impaired

 where those with unavoidable visual loss can achieve their full potential

 where there is universal access to comprehensive eye care services

The target is a 25% global reduction of avoidable

blindness and visual impairment by the year 2019 from 2010. New Sight aligns itself with this vision and works to ensure delivery of these targets. According to the WHO, worldwide, 4 in 5 people who are blind or severely visually impaired

are blind from avoidable causes. This means that we can prevent or treat their blindness. New Sight follows the technical guidance provided by the

"A world where nobody is needlessly visually impaired"

-NEW SIGHT VISION

International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness in collaboration with the WHO to plan, budget and purchase the equipment and consumables needed. In the year ending March 2019, the number of consultations in the clinic was 1236. The bulk of our charity's surgery is to remove cataracts. Patients blind from cataracts can see again the day after this one-off operation. When sight is restored, lives are transformed, not just for the patients, but also for their families and even the wider communities.

There have been several well-documented studies that proved cataract surgery to be one of the top operations with the most measurable improvement in quality of life,^{1 2} and supported the argument that it offers economic benefit to relieve poverty. ^{3 4 5}

In addition to cataract surgery, we provide vision tests and aids (e.g. glasses), prevention and treatment of eye diseases and systemic illness involving the eye (e.g. diabetes and hypertension), an 'accident and emergency' service, as well as other surgeries (e.g. for glaucoma and pterygium). Free administration of Vitamin A supplements and River Blindness treatment are also offered. For those who are assessed to be genuinely unable to afford paying for our very low-cost non-profit services, their costs are covered by New Sight's charitable poverty fund.

A Year Full of Promise and Progress

For the year ending March 2019, some key progress and activities included:

- New Sight has helped more than 10,000 patients to date in Congo.
- Collected nearly 4 containers of donated furniture and equipment in our donated storage space.
- We now have an incredible core team of volunteers and pro-bono workers along with one full-time and one part-time staff.
- By June 2019, the field team will have grown to 12 expat adults and 7 children to work with and train up the local community at our new greenfield location of Ouesso.
- Local authorities have reaffirmed their ongoing support. While we wait for our new hospital to be constructed, consultations,



training and screening programs are planned to start in July 2019 from a Department of Health's busy, centrally located health centre. 'Surgeon Daddy' by Karis Faith Samoutou. Four key goals for 2018/2019: 1. fundraising, 2. progress with construction plans, 3. preparation for medical operations, 4. build capacity. The past year has been a time of strengthened team focus and heightened activity around achieving these goals.

1. Fundraising

New Sight continued to raise its profile and further its Ouesso fundraising campaign. For the fiscal year ended March 2019, the campaign has raised more than USD2.1 million in funds.

Two Front Teeth project video launch, May 2018

The Samoutous attended a pro-bono professional studio video shoot in Macau. The video was presented as part of the Official launch of Two Front Teeth at the Gala Dinner in May 2018.

New Sight Fundraising Gala Dinner, May 2018

Over 800 guests gathered at the Kerry Hotel in Hong Kong for New Sight's second fundraising dinner on Saturday, 12 May 2018. We are so thankful to all our sponsors, performers, volunteers, table hosts and their guests, and friends who made the night so special and meaningful – an amazing USD1.3 million was raised on the night!

Macau TV interview on TDM Talk Show, September 2018

On 27 September 2018, Joyce Samoutou-Wong spoke with Karen Keith in an in-depth television interview on Macau TDM talk show.

Braver Conference for Marketing Society Hong Kong, November 2018

As part of the marketing subcommittee initiatives, Joyce was invited to be one of the speakers at the Braver Conference on 14 November 2018. New Sight was able to promote the Doggies for Sight Calendar at the event. The MullenLowe team joined the marketing subcommittee after this conference.

Metta Fundraising Cocktails, November 2018

A heartwarming fundraising event at Metta, Central on 24 November 2018 was attended by many supporters and raised around 20 thousand US dollars.

TEDxTinHauWomen, November 2018

At the TEDxTinHauWomen event on 30 November 2018, Joyce delivered a powerful and heartfelt talk entitled

"How children can lead social impact"

She spoke about how parents, educators and the community can support and empower children to impact social change in the world. Drawing from her own experience of failing to see others' needs and seeing her own children's empathy and creativity in action, Joyce moved the audience and challenged many others who watched online.

Sending Party and family fun fair, December 2018

After spending a productive year working from Hong Kong as a base, the 16 December party was such a beautiful day celebrating what we have been able to do together as a New Sight family and community, and a wonderful send-off for the Samoutous. There were games, crafts, model car racing, music performances, magic show, balloon modelling, bake sale, photo booth, and even impromptu football games.

Diocesan Girls' School Mini Bazaar, December 2018

On 19 December 2018, volunteers sold Doggie calendars and environmental straws, raising more than five thousand US dollars at the stalls, and much more from subsequent donations from the DGS community.

RTHK Radio 3 interview on the 123 show with Noreen Mir, December 2018

Joyce sat down with Noreen Mir on RTHK Radio 3 and talked about her unusual calling and Project Two Front Teeth on 19 December 2018,

Birthday and individual fundraising campaigns kicked off

Joyce and two supporters have turned their birthdays into donation campaigns for New Sight. Others also contributed through personal fundraising campaigns such as marathons.

Doggies for Sight calendar sale

Birthed out of Ezra and Karis' empathy and creativity and part of Project Two Front Teeth, Doggies for Sight Calendars have incredibly raised more than 35 thousand US dollars.



'Healing Hand of New Sight' by Karis Faith Samoutou

Other opportunities to share

Numerous opportunities to speak and share have been presented to Joyce, Henri and family over the past year.

	Speaker(s)	Date
American Women Association	Joyce	25 April 2018
DGJS School Assembly, Hong Kong	Joyce	29 May 2018
Private Event, Aberdeen Marina Club, Hong Kong	Samoutous	8 July 2018
North Point Alliance Church Mission Conference, Hong Kong	Joyce	14 September 2018
Missions Prayer Day, Kong Fok Church, Hong Kong	Joyce	29 September 2018
Pink Inspired Lunch, International Women Association Macau	Joyce	11 October 2018
Care Ambassadors at DGJS, Hong Kong	Joyce, Cherissa & Karis	23 October 2018
Kong Fok Church Missions Festival, Hong Kong	Samoutous	27 October 2018
Ying Wa Girls' School, Hong Kong	Joyce & Cherissa	31 October 2018
Alliance International Church, Hong Kong	Samoutous	4 November 2018
North Point Alliance Church, Hong Kong	Joyce & Henri	25 November 2018
Kong Fok Church Fellowship & Group Meetings, Hong Kong	Joyce	November - December 2018
Hong Kong Association of Secondary School Heads AGM, Hong Kong	Joyce & Henri	3 December 2018
DGJS Morning Assembly, Hong Kong	Joyce	8 December 2018
DGJS Morning Assembly, Hong Kong	Joyce	12 December 2018
CCIL (Chinese Church in London), London	Joyce	11 January 2019
Sharing Session at She Is Conference, Sheffield	Joyce	22 February 2019

2. Progress with Construction Plans

The Project Steering Group (PSG) along with pro bono project manager, Steve Pyle, continued to oversee the design team's work on detailed design phase, and push towards commencement of construction.

Design Progress & Tender

The original tender scope of work was approved at the Board Meeting of 16 December 2017. Initial tender documents and drawings were sent to 5 shortlisted contractors on 19 November 2018. Two tender submissions were compliant but priced in excess of funds available. At the PSG meeting of 21 January 2019 it was decided to reduce the scope of the works for Phase 1 and ask the two compliant tenderers to revise their prices. Phase 1 design was reduced in scope to the minimum viable for an operational hospital: Eye Block, Accommodation Block and infrastructure to support and approved at the PSG meeting of 13 February 2019. Changes included: concentration on small square surrounded by Eye Block, minimum number of roads, perimeter wall on north and south faces of square using temporary timber fencing, cut maintenance block. Water and power were sized for full development as not a lot of saving if reduced and there would be a high cost to put back later. The drawings were revised accordingly and revised Bills of Quantities were drafted. These were sent to the two shortlisted contractors on 30 March 2019.

Site Access & Investigation

The site investigation company completed a dirt road to provide vehicular access to the site and commenced site investigations.

3. Preparation for Medical Operations

New Sight continued to work on procurement and logistics of medical and non-medical equipment in preparation for field operations.

Move to Ouesso, March 2019

On March 2019, the Samoutous returned to Congo accompanied by the Targett family as they travelled from the UK to Brazzaville and then on to Ouesso.

Procurement of medicine and medical equipment

The team worked hard to order, pick-up/deliver and pack medicine and medical equipment essential for medical operations in Ouesso. Medical equipment were generously donated by ophthalmologists, many of whom were members of the Association of Private Eye Surgeons (APES), in Hong Kong.

Procurement of communications, office equipment and household items

Several donations of equipment and furniture from individuals and companies have been gratefully received. Other equipment and household items for the growing team were purchased, packed and sent to Congo.

Collection and warehousing by Columbia

Columbia International Removals has been providing free use of their container warehouse, packing, pick up and transportation services for all equipment, furniture and household items.

Equipment Testing by Baptist Medical Equipment Maintenance Unit, March 2019

On 30 March 2019, medical equipment stored at Columbia warehouse was tested by the Baptist medical equipment maintenance unit.

Air Freight to Congo, April 2019

Essential medicine, medical and non-medical equipment, and household items will be sent by air freight to Congo on 1 April 2019.

Engagement with Local Authorities

New Sight has signed a Protocole d'accord with the Ministry of Health of Republic of Congo which covers operations as a health institution and provides for tax exemptions, visas and work permits.



4. Build Capacity

New Sight continued to build team capacity both in Republic of Congo and Hong Kong.

'Surgeon Daddy healing patients' by Karis Faith Samoutou.

Marketing Subcommittee set up, July 2018

A strategic catalyst meeting was arranged by PwC Experience on 9 July 2018 to brainstorm ideas to maintain momentum post Gala Dinner. Subsequent to this meeting, a marketing subcommittee was set up to gather marketing professionals with the heart to volunteer for New Sight. Made up of individuals from PwC Experience and MullenLowe, the subcommittee brainstorms ideas and gathers resources to help the core team run marketing campaigns to create additional fundraising channels for New Sight.

Facet5 team building session at Manulife, July 2018

The core team attended a pro bono Facet5 workshop as part of a team building exercise organised by Selina Ko of Manulife on 11 July 2018. It was a full day of activities with reports for each member of the team.



Office move to Healing Hope, November 2018

Healing Hope offered the use of an office space for two persons at their premises in Kwai Hing, at a nominal fee. The offer includes storage space and free use of their conference room. The team has taken up this space from 27 November 2018.

Compliance training with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, February 2019

Members from the Executive Committee, Board and Congo field team attended anti-corruption training as conducted by an international team from Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld on 13 February 2019.

'Working together to get ready' by Karis Faith Samoutou

Legal advisory teams

New Sight continues to be supported with pro-bono legal, governance and compliance advisory from Allen and Overy, and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in Hong Kong, and Cleary Gootlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in the US.

Dale Carnegie Communications and Human Relations Training

Dale Carnegie offered 5 free spaces at their intensive Skills for Success 2-day course to New Sight. Five core members successfully completed the course as part of their Continual Professional Development. Dale Carnegie will be happy to continue to offer free spaces to other New Sight members in future courses.

Seeds Foundation support on governance issues

We were blessed with pro-bono help from Seeds Foundation who provided governance expertise. We now have the first draft of Operations Manual which includes New Sight Core Values.

Ouesso Pioneer Team

By June 2019, new members will have joined the growing team of amazing pioneers: 12 adults and 7 children.

- Delphine and Siko with their daughter Michelle Bambemba
 - from Democratic Republic of Congo: Nurse supervisor; HR / Lab tech
- Ruth and Jean-Marc Dunys
 - o from UK / France: Homeschool teacher; Administration
- Spencer Lherissson
 - from Haiti: Engineer
- Steven Pyle
 - from Hong Kong / UK / Thailand: Project Manager
- · Joyce and Henri Samoutou with their children Cherissa, Ezra and Karis
 - from Hong Kong / Gabon / UK: Operations; Medical
- Annabel and Douglas Targett with their children Hannah, Samuel and Sophie
 - from UK: Finance; Facilities / Technology
- Virginia and Jean-Pierre Vandevoorde
 - o from Canada / Belgium: Visitors; Construction

¹Javitt JC, Venkataswamy G, Sommer A. 'The economic and social impact of restoring sight'. In: Henkind P (ed) ACTA: 24th International Congress of Ophthalmology. Philadelphia, PA: JB Lippincott, 1983.

² International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment. Annual Report 2004. <u>http://www.icevi.org/</u> <u>publications/Annual%20Report%202004.htm</u>.

³ Javitt et al. Int. Ophthalmol. 1983: 1308-1312.

⁴ Kuper et al. 'Does Cataract surgery alleviate poverty? Evidence from a Multi-Centre Intervention Study Conducted in Kenya, the Philippines and Bangladesh'. PloS Medicine 2010; 5.11.

⁵ Faal and Gilbert. 'Convincing governments to act: VISION 2020 and the Millennium Development Goals'. Community Eye Health. 2007 December; 20(64): 62–64.

