**Our 2019/20 impact at a glance**

**A project which has been looking at how to reduce the burden of glaucomas in Tanzania has built a population-based health economics model - the first of its kind. Eye health professionals will now be able to assess how they might best use actual or potential resources to prevent blindness from glaucoma in a cost-effective way. The outputs from this BCPB-funded work will be used to further refine and improve service delivery for glaucoma management and treatment throughout the developing world, thus reducing the burden of glaucoma.**

**BCPB has supported an innovative and successful initiative in sub-Saharan Africa for surgical training of ophthalmologists. Over 130 trainee eye doctors from 28 countries have been trained in either cataract or glaucoma surgery. Surgical competence has tripled, and confidence as eye surgeons has more than doubled. The impact on patient safety has been profound, with a 72% reduction in surgical complication rates for cataract surgery in the one-year follow-up after the training courses.**

**A programme in India to develop a new screening model to detect eye problems in children has screened 33,500 children aged 10 to 15 years from 162 schools. Through this BCPB-supported screening programme 1,500 (4.5%) children were identified as having an eye health problem and have now benefitted from receiving spectacles, medical treatment or surgical intervention.**

**Our co-funding of Boulter Fellowships has allowed past Fellows to access further training to progress their careers and save more sight. An example of this progress can be seen in one of our 2011-2012 Fellows who has completed a Fellowship in Low Vision Rehabilitation at LV Prasad Eye Institute in Hyderabad, India. The Fellowship gave her the opportunity to explore methods to identify, assess and plan appropriate intervention for people with visual disability within her community. With the skills and knowledge gained she is now going on to improve the quality of life of people with visual disability, in order to reduce the overall burden on the health care system.**

**BCPB has supported a project in Tanzania to train primary health care workers through the WHO/UNICEF childhood management programme to detect eye problems in children. With the full support of the Ministry of Health in Tanzania, this work has now gone on to deliver training to over 3,000 frontline health workers which will have an impact on hundreds of thousands of children in the country. This training model can now be replicated in over 100 countries which use the same WHO/UNICEF protocols to train primary health care workers, benefiting thousands more children in the future.**

**BCPB funded three parallel research mentorship projects in East Africa. Across the three countries** - **Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda - the funding enabled workshops that trained a total of 13 ophthalmologists in how to supervise students research projects, how to get the research published, and how to teach research methods to their trainees. This work has highlighted the need to encourage eye health workers to publish their research projects and thereby share their findings with others in countries with similar issues. Resources and best practice will be shared leading to better eye health services and more people having their sight saved.**

**BCPB’s investment in training the next generation of eye health professionals from developing countries through our Boulter Fellowship programme has a cascading effect long after our Fellows have completed their course at the International Centre for Eye Health in London. One of our 2017-2018 Boulter Fellows was awarded the Williams Visionary Scholar by the first Rotary club in Florida. This scholarship focuses on addressing the critical need of eye disease and treatment in Africa, and will lead to the implementation of innovative ways to tackle blindness prevention in Nigeria.**

**The JOECSA-EYE mentorship project part-funded by BCPB is a journal collaboration aiming to build research capacity in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa. It is being implemented within an existing VISION 2020 LINK partnership between COECSA (College of Ophthalmology of Eastern Central and Southern Africa) and the RCOphth (Royal College of Ophthalmologists). This project will enable JOECSA to enhance its professional status by increasing the capacity and knowledge of its editorial board. Its reviewer base will be expanded, and the improved journal will be promoted to ophthalmologists across the 14 countries in COECSA.**

**Another example of the lasting legacy which our funding can achieve is the development of an ophthalmology residency programme at Rwanda International Institute of Ophthalmology, which is directed by BCPB’s first Sir John Wilson Fellow. The programme combines clinical training at local eye hospitals, academic activities, and research opportunities.**

**Our funding of innovative ground-breaking projects in the past still continues to have a huge impact on saving sight. Following BCPB’s part-funding in 2012 of smartphone–based ophthalmic testing system which can perform comprehensive eye examinations, Peek Vision continues to go from strength to strength. An example of this is a child screening project in Trans Nzoia county, Kenya where in nine days, 25 teachers screened 21,000 children. Compared with conventional paper-based screening and referral, the Peek system increased both screening coverage (the number of children who could be screened in a given area) and adherence to referral (the number of children who attended follow-up appointments). The adherence to referral than doubled - from 22% to 54%.**