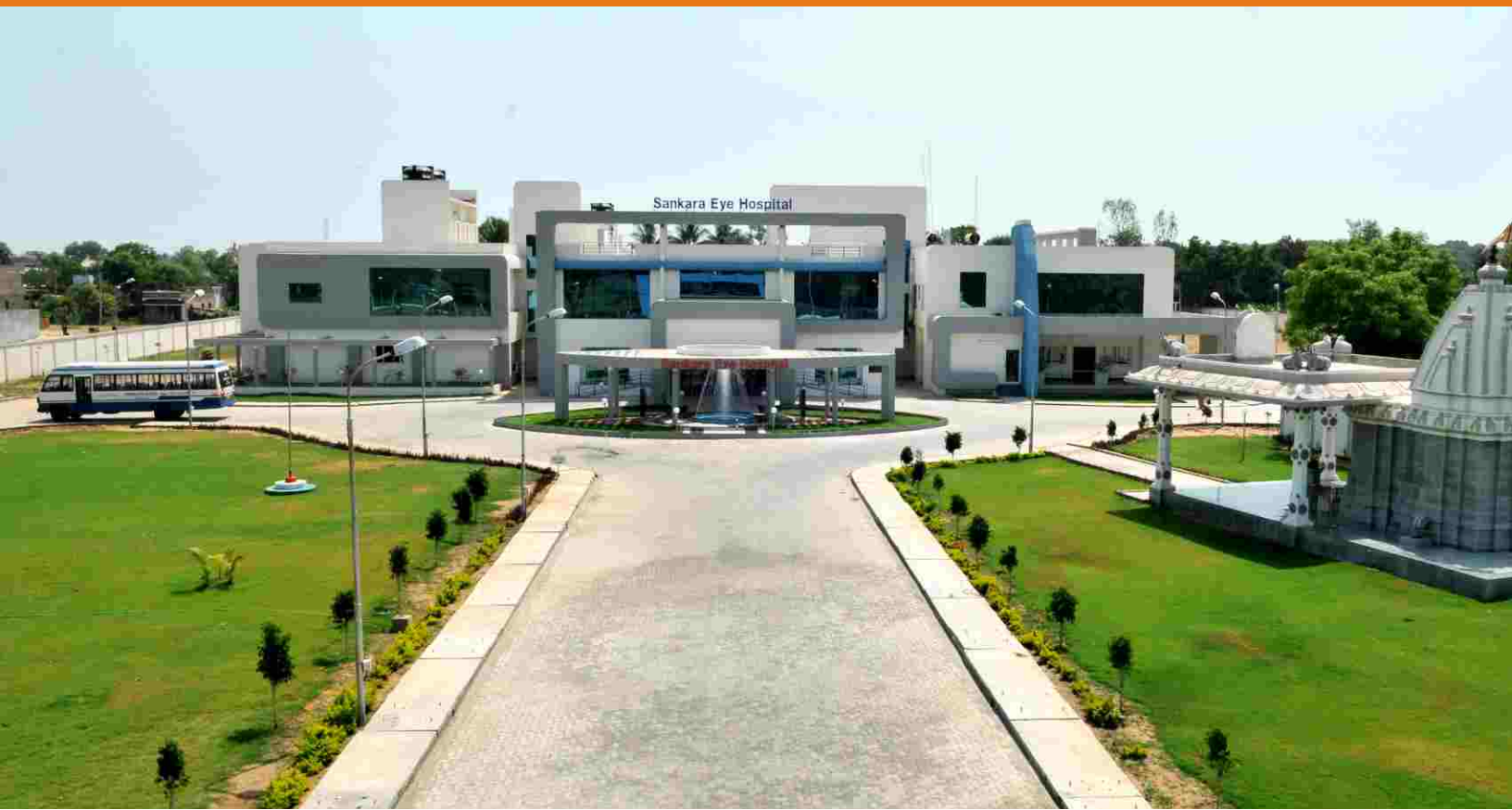


Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand, Gujarat

Project Report



Thank You Note from Executive Chairman, SEF, USA

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Greetings from Sankara Eye Foundation, USA, (SEF)! As you all know, SEF's goal is to build at least one Sankara Eye Hospital (SEH) per major state in India and help eradicate curable blindness by the year 2020 - Vision 20/20 by 2020.

One of the significant milestones towards Vision 20/20 by 2020 was the opening of the Sankara Eye Hospital in Anand, Gujarat on October 19, 2008. I had the privilege of attending the inauguration ceremony and was also very lucky to be invited to sing the invocation song - "Vaishnava Janato Tene Kahiye, Peed Parayee Jaa Ne Re..." I consider myself the luckiest person!



It is a very beautiful, modern, state-of-the-art eye Hospital built to serve the visually handicapped poor of that area and to also serve those who can afford to pay so that the Hospital becomes self-sufficient in five years. The emphasis is on serving the poor as the poor patients will constitute 80% of the patients. When you visit Gujarat next time, please make it a point to visit the Hospital and you will be extremely happy to see the tremendous work happening there.

Sankara Eye Hospital Anand, would not have happened without your unwavering support and I consider Sankara Eye Foundation to be very fortunate and we will strive hard to make sure that you are extremely satisfied with our performance both here in the USA and in India.

There is one area full of "Wall of Founders" boards with almost 1000 names of the "Founding Donors". This is the first of our Hospitals to have so many "Founding Donors" and this performance is hard to beat. Many, many of you supported this Hospital and some of you anonymously. We also had several partners like Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA), Charotar Leuva Patidar Samaj (CLiPS), Harshadbhai and Naina Patel, Ajitbhai and Nilaxi Patel and other big supporters.

The volunteers of the Focus-Gujarat project worked extremely hard for more than three years and we are very happy to say that almost all the required funds of \$3.5M was raised in the USA.

The Hospital is performing very well today and in a few years when we reach full capacity, we should be performing around 25,000 eye surgeries per year at this Hospital.

The Hospital has completed one year of wonderful work and please join us at the First Annual Day Functions at the Hospital in December 2009.

Now that you have supported the construction of this beautiful Hospital in Anand, we come to you again to support the FREE Eye Surgeries. Please consider supporting 'Open an eye a month' for only \$30 a month, or 'Open an eye a week' for \$30 a week or support our eye camps (\$1,000) and get your name on the Wall of Eye Camp Sponsors.

Let me end this with my favorite song which is also our philosophy - 'Jyot se jyot jagate chalo, prem ki Ganga bahate chalo....' Please help eradicate curable blindness in India by the year 2020 - Vision 20/20 by 2020

Sincerely,



Murali Krishnamurthy

Sankara Eye Vision from Mangaing Trustee, Dr R V Ramani

Dear Well Wishers and Supporters of SEF, USA,

Greetings from Sankara Eye Care Institutions India, a chain of Eye Care Hospitals established in different states of India with your support and active participation.

Today, our group has six Eye Hospitals in India directly run by us, two affiliated Hospitals and two sister Institutions. We have total bed strength of 1800 and around 1000 full time employees are involved in our day to day activities.

This tremendous growth in the field of community eye care, with the sole objective of providing a high quality eye care to every one irrespective of their socio economic status has been made a reality because of your involvement and support.

It is your institution and all of you can justifiably feel proud that totally we will be performing 100,000 surgeries per year to the poorest of the poor, providing the entire services including food free of cost.

Whether it is Sankara Eye Hospital Guntur, Bangalore, Shimoga, Anand or the Mission Head Quarters at Coimbatore, you have played a key role in the making of it.

As the demand for Sankara's Eye Care is going up year after year, the need for support towards the recurring expenditure is also being felt. For the first five years our Hospitals have to be supported for the recurring expenditure. It is like fostering a new born, make him/her stand and ultimately walk on their own. Once a Hospital becomes self sustaining, the recurring expenditure is met by the revenue generated from the paid patients. There after, your support would be required only for replacing the equipment and for newer facilities.

We at Sankara Eye Care Institutions appeal to the donors of SEF, USA to provide whatever support possible for the recurring expenditure. The whole world is passing through a financial strain. By the grace of God things would improve in the near future. At the same time our commitment to the society, our promise to the under privileged and our assignments for the visually handicapped have to go on uninterrupted.

With your support we are confident of moving forward.

We pray to the Lord Almighty;
So long as the mountains stand,
So long as the rivers flow,
So long as the Sun, and the Moon and The Stars shine,
This movement of ours should stand to serve the needy,
With the involvement of all like minded people.

With warm regards



Dr. R V Ramani,
Founder and Mangaing Trustee
Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India



Letter from Gujarat Team Volunteer Ritesh Tandon

Message from Gujarat Team Coordinator, SEF, USA

Dear Friends, Donors, Well Wishers of SEF

I would like to THANK YOU for your incredible support to Sankara Eye Hospital (SEH), Anand, Gujarat. Last year, on October 19th 2008, a beautiful 225 bed Sankara Eye Hospital Anand was inaugurated and this could not have been possible without your support and help. Most of the funds for SEH Anand hospital were donated in the United States, and today because of YOU, Gujarat Hospital is operating and performing free surgeries for poor and needy people. Gujarat Team and all SEF members appreciate your love, support and affection given to us in this beautiful journey and we have no words to describe same



I like to highly recognize Gujarat Core Team and all SEF members for dedicating four years of their life on working on Gujarat Hospital project. The core team, not only travelled across US for fundraising, but also spent time in brainstorming new ideas to create flagship events like SEF Dandia, highly organized Banquets, Gujarati Comedy Shows etc. Each member of Core team has a full time job, this team has worked late into evenings and weekends, away from their families to complete SEH Anand Hospital. I am very fortunate to have the great & dedicated team and each one of them are individual leaders.

On behalf of SEF, we like to specially mention the huge support we have received from our benefactor and Partner in Service, Harshadbhai and Naynaben Uka from LA and their family especially, Ajitbhai and Nilaxiben Patel. Their unwavering support and belief in SEF has been invaluable to the organization, which I am sure will continue for many years to come. I would also like to mention organizations like - Charotar Leua Patidar Samaj of Bay Area (CLiPS), American Asian Hotel Owner Association (AAHOA) and Charitable Care Foundation (CCF), for their incredible support to SEF, USA and the Gujarat Hospital. Any time you plan to visit Gujarat, please do visit our SEH Anand hospital and give us your feedback. We are in this journey together so your input is still important.

At the end, like to mention that our journey is not over yet, we need support for eye camps and surgeries for the Gujarat Hospital and all other SEF hospital. With your help, we promise to eradicate curable blindness not only from Gujarat, but all over India

Feel free to contact us for any questions: focusgujarat@giftofvision.org or call me on my cell 408 623 2623 for any questions

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ritesh Tandon". The signature is stylized and includes a flourish at the end.

Ritesh Tandon
SEF Gujarat Team Coordinator

The Making of Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand, Gujarat

Land Acquisition

After many challenges and tough decisions, SEF, with incredible hard work from Divyogi Patel (SEF Board Member) and Abhay Tandon, was able to purchase the 5 acre land ideal for building 225 bed Sankara Eye Hospital in the heart of Gujarat.

Bhoomi Pooja

In line with the broader mission of Vision 20/20 by the year 2020, Bhoomi Pooja was done in Anand, marking the inauguration of Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand on 7th June 2007. Mr Srivatsan, our Honorary Director, Project Vision 2020, attended the function on behalf of the Sankara Eye Care. Many local guests attended the auspicious day.



Construction

Bhoomi pooja was followed by extensive and dedicated efforts by various organizations and employees to bring up a beautiful state of art building. Mr. Pranesh, our Projects Manager burnt midnight oil for months to make this dream a reality. With a construction phase of just over a year, Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand, boasts of one of the best facilities not only in Anand but in all Gujarat. Many thanks to the architect team Sankar Associates for creating the beautiful vision.



The Making of Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand, Gujarat

Kumbhabhishekam - The consecration ceremony of the Temple

The temple has been constructed both in the South Indian and Gujarati style. Lord Ganesha has been made in Coimbatore and sent to Gujarat for the Kumbhabhishekam.

Three priests from Kumbakonam in the State of Tamil Nadu came over to Gujarat to perform the religious poojas. A Gujarat Pandit from the Mogar village has been identified to continue with the daily poojas. Around 100 invitees from Anand, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, and Vadodara participated in the function. Today, the temple stands majestically on the hospital grounds.



Inauguration

Our prestigious project for Gujarat, Sankara Eye Hospital at Mogar, Anand had the singular privilege of being inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi in the divine presence of the Sankaracharya of Kanchi. 19th October 2008 turned out to be memorable day for all of us. SEF Board members along with Patron Shri Harshad Uka and family participated in the inaugural function.

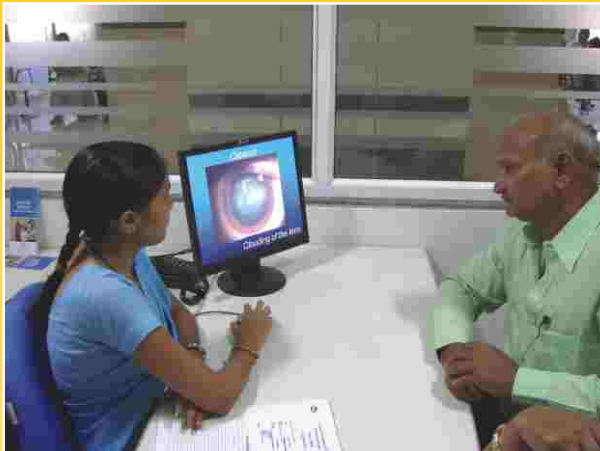


The Hospital turned out to be an Architect's delight - with the majestic Ganesha temple built in Gujarati style, the elegant front arch, the sprawling lawns, the beautiful eye shaped foyer with a fountain in the front. The entire building shows a touch class! We are all proud of the outcome which is purely because of your support.



Apart from the building the equipments have been chosen to be the best and we have created an ideal infrastructure for quality eye care delivery.

A Center of Excellence



A Center of Excellence in Comprehensive Eye Care: Patients both poor as well as affluent receive high quality superior eye care services at Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand. The non paying patients are brought to the hospital from the camp site in the hospital vehicle. On the other hand, the paying patients attend the Out Patient Department on their own. Both the paying, as well as the camp patients, receive quality eye care and undergo a comprehensive eye examination comprising of refraction, slit lamp examination along with other investigations. The patient may be advised surgery, medications, spectacles or investigations.

Patients selected from camps, are provided free accommodation, food for three days as well as free transportation to and from the hospital. Postoperative medications and sunglasses are provided to the patients at time of discharge. Paying outpatients as well as inpatients have access to our hygienic and good quality food available at affordable prices in our canteen.



We at Sankara, provide comprehensive eye care services which include high end pharmacy as well as optical shop for our patients. Availability of all services under one roof leads to a unique experience both in terms of quality and convenience.

The Human Resource Development

Buildings and equipments alone would not make an Institution - the human resource is the key for the successful program. About two years ago, around sixty girls, from economically challenged families, were selected from the villages surrounding Mogar. They underwent intensive training at Coimbatore, under the guidance of Dr. Radha Ramani for university recognized Vision Care Technicians courses along with coaching in spoken English. These fully trained technicians are now taking care of Sankara Eye Hospital Mogar, Anand. Next batch of trainees are currently undergoing training at the Mission Head Quarters (MHQ) at Coimbatore.

For the training, no tuition fee was levied but at the same time all of them received stipend every month with free accommodation at the MHQ. We have successfully created career opportunities to so many young people from the surrounding villages. Similarly the Doctors and the administration staff are also identified from Gujarat and they had the initial training at MHQ before getting posted at SEH Mogar, Anand.

Dr. Sandeep is the Chief Medical Officer, Mr. V. Ramachandra Rao as CEO of Gujarat



Gift of Vision The Total Care



The renowned program for which SECI has received numerous awards consists of weekly rural outreach eye camps, to identify individuals suffering from corneal blindness, cataract, glaucoma and other eye ailments. Patients are provided with medical and surgical treatment, free of cost. Gift of vision serves the rural poor population.

On the day of the camp, a team from Sankara Eye Center, conducts the eye screening in the village school. Those who require medicines are provided with them, free of cost. Patients brought to base hospital are provided transportation, accommodation, investigation, surgery, intra ocular lens implantation, post operative medicines and food are given free of cost.

Any program without proper follow up is incomplete. Gift of Vision patients are meticulously and systematically followed up after 30 days to assess the visual recovery and make a qualitative analysis of the performance an exercise unique to this institution.

Under the "Gift of Vision" we do not wait for the patient to come to us but reach out to them through our network of field staff, doctors and paramedics.

Free Eye Camps

For the 'Gift of Vision' Rural Outreach Eye Care services in the Anand hospital, we have entered into an agreement with SEWA and Tribhuvan Das Foundation who perform the preliminary survey and identification of the patients at the village level.



You are welcome to sponsor a camp for \$1,000 which can include the set up, transportation of the medical staff and equipment, screening of 100's of people who come to the camp, transportation of the patients selected for surgery etc This is great opportunity to get directly involved in the Gift of Vision Program. Unfortunately, due to the restriction placed by the National Blindness Program, we are unable to accommodate the choice of villages for the camps.



Support System for our Hospital

The functional managers from Mission Head Quarters in terms of surgical theatre, wards, OPD and the Camp Department, periodically visit Sankara Eye Hospital Anand to provide the necessary guidance during this initial phase. Similarly our Director of HR and Marketing and the Technical team of Senior Consultants visit the Hospital on a monthly basis. SEH Anand is connected with the MHQ and all other Sankara Units through broad band connectivity and video conferencing.

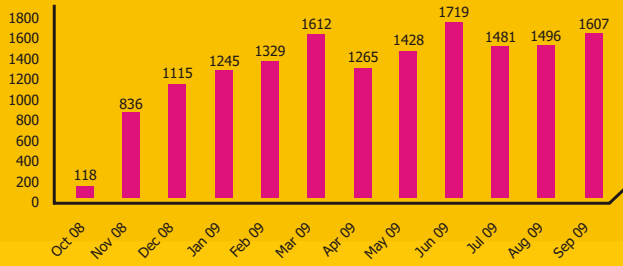
Regular feedbacks are being received at the MHQ from SEH Anand on a daily basis and this further facilitates better coordination and administration.

A nine member Apex team have been constituted at MHQ to guide the CEOs and CMOs of every Unit, regularly on a monthly basis.

With the help of our Marketing Director Mr. Bala, who was earlier working with AMUL we are slowly getting in touch with various Milk Cooperative Federations, in order to get our Hospital empanelled for paying patients.

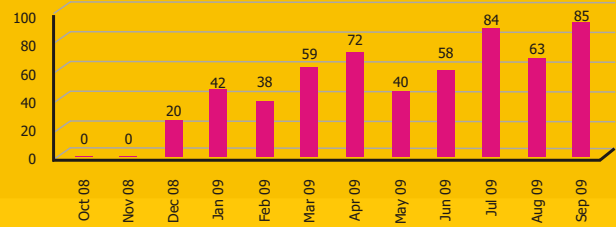
Twelve Month Report

Out Patients - Paying



■ Out Patient - Paying

In Patients - Paying



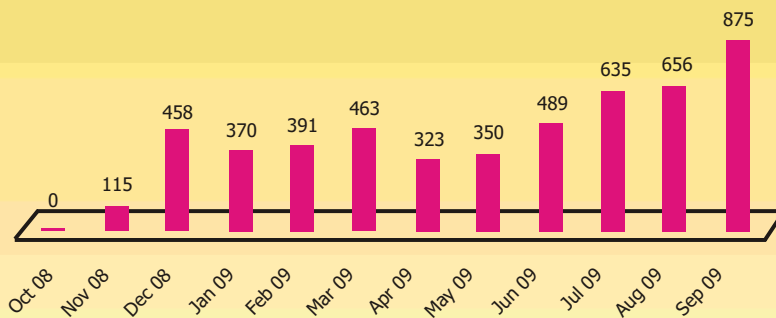
■ In Patients - Paying

We have in the letter and spirit completed our construction project successfully and the hospital has already started to make an impact in the area.

As the work load picks up more Doctors and staff are being employed. Service organizations like the Rotary and Lions are regularly visiting us and are keen to work with our hospital

As promised, we will make the Hospital self sustaining in 5 years period. But during these initial years, we need our donors to support the recurring expenditure; and thus literally help the toddler get up and walk.

Gift of Vision - Free Surgeries



■ Gift of Vision

Achievements and Goals:

- 2009 7,500 Surgeries conducted
- 2010 10,000 Surgeries expected to be conducted
- Goal 25,000 Surgeries per year to be conducted

To all those donors who made our project a reality we say a big Thank you!
With a sense of fulfilment, we invite all of you to visit the Hospital during your next trip to India.

Case Studies

Our first step



Our very first camp was organized by the Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand on 23rd November, 2008 in the Chikhodra district of Anand. A week long publicity campaign attracted 420 people to the camp. Among them was Poonambhai Sankarbhai Vaghela, aged 50. He lives in Katarpura, Chikhodra as a laborer but had to give up his work due to his diminished vision that was interfering with his daily activities. Poonambhai was fortunately among the 66 people brought back to the base hospital for surgery.

He was operated on 24th November 2008 for cataract in left eye. He underwent Small Incision Cataract Surgery with Left Eye Intra Ocular Lens implantation. He was discharged on 26th November 2008.

Review camp was conducted after one month on 28th December 2008. His post operative vision had enabled him to start working again. He had started supporting his family and his words gave us the preview of things to come:

“I never expected to be operated in such beautiful surroundings. The doctors are so cordial and helpful. They explained everything calmly to me and removed all my apprehensions and fears. The transportation facility made my decision an easy one as I could hardly earn enough to pay for any expenses involved. The hospital will go a long way. I shall never forget the day I attended the camp. Everything changed after that.”

Following the first steps ...



Seven year old, Pankaj from the Vadgam, Khambhat, had cataracts in both eyes since birth. Unfortunately, his family was unaware of it. As he grew up, he had difficulty doing his daily work and slowly his family members came to know that he can't see properly. However, they attributed this to the wrath of small pox. As a result, his family members started going to temples and praying for his well being. One day, there was a “RAINBOW” school screening program at his school from S.E.H. - Anand, where he was diagnosed as having cataract in both eyes. He was then referred to the hospital and was operated for cataract. Now, he can live his life like other children of his age.



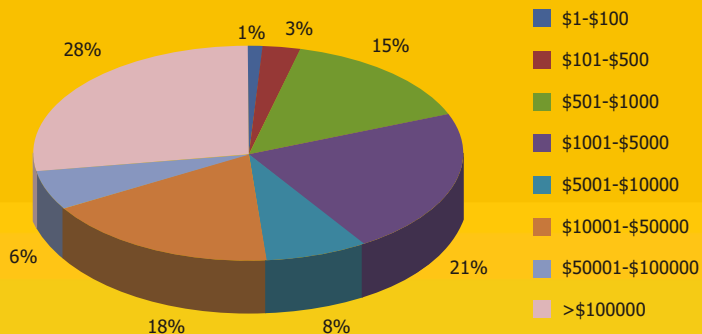
Dhanabhai, a 12 year old boy from Adas in the Anand district, was also suffering from cataract. He was referred by school screening program (Rainbow) and came to S.E.H through “GIFT OF VISION” outreach program. Since childhood, he had cataract in both eyes and due to his dim vision had difficulty with reading

His parents did not have enough money for his treatment so even though they were aware, they could not take him for any treatment. Here, at S.E.H.Mogar, Dist-Anand, he was operated for Cataract surgery on 19th FEB. 2009.

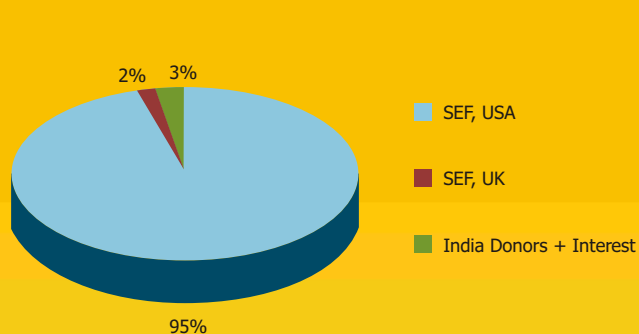
Post operatively, he experienced the difference in the vision in his one eye and was very happy and then was operated on the other eye on May 2009.

Financial Data

Anand Donations (USA)
Total : \$3,244,999



Anand Funding Total: \$3,218,840



Hospital Establishment Project Cost		
	In Rs	USD
Total	146,267,059	\$3,179,719

	Anand		
Range	Count	Total	Percentage
\$1-\$100	584	\$35,872	1%
\$101-\$500	392	\$90,296	3%
\$501-\$1000	510	\$492,708	15%
\$1001-\$5000	342	\$695,935	21%
\$5001-\$10000	36	\$260,938	8%
\$10001-\$50000	24	\$589,247	18%
\$50001-\$100000	3	\$187,913	6%
>\$100000	2	\$892,090	27%
Total	1893	\$3,244,999	

Project Funding		
	In Rs	USD
SEF, USA	139,809,504	\$ 3,050,000
SEF, UK	2,337,622	\$48,700
India Donations + Interests	4,119,933	\$ 85,832
Total	146,267,059	\$ 3,184,532

We would like to thank all our supporters for funding the construction of this hospital. More than 95% of the funds were raised in the US and the construction is now complete.

Achievements and Awards: Sankara wins awards in India & USA

The Sankara Family has been recognized for its services both here in the USA and in India for several years now. The two arms of the Sankara family work together towards their common goal of Vision 20/20 by the Year 2020. The India arm consists of the Sankara Eye Care Institutions that manages the hospitals, ably lead by Dr. R. V. Ramani along with the great staff, and has been providing award-winning service to the poor. Sankara Eye Foundation, USA, the US arm, shines due to the dedication of its enthusiastic volunteers and generous supporters. With its impeccable reputation, SEF, USA has earned its donors' trust.

FICCI Healthcare Excellence Award



On 15th September 2009, Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India won the prestigious “FICCI Healthcare Excellence Award” in the category of “Best Community Driven Healthcare Program”. The FICCI HEAL 2009 was organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, The award recognized the contribution of health care providers from public sector, private sector and the civil society.

The Award was presented by the Honorable Minister for State for Health and Family Welfare, Sri.Dinesh Trivedi and Ms. Shabana Azmi, Honorable Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Actor and Social Activist. The function was attended by over 200 invitees. SECI was lauded for their humungous efforts in the field of community eye care since last three decades. Their Gift of Vision Community Outreach Program was the unanimous choice of judges for the sheer volume of more than 500,000 free eye surgeries done so far.

The Honorable Minister specifically mentioned about SECI's 80/20 strategy of self sustainability and expressed desire and will to replicate it to other organizations.

The Hospital Management Award

In September 2008, SECI was a proud recipient of the coveted Hospital Management Award, in the category of community service. Sankara Eye Care Institutions - India was declared the winner for the “Diabetic Retinopathy Project for Rural India” project. This project aims to prevent avoidable blindness due to Diabetic Retinopathy and to create awareness about it among the rural population.



SEF, USA receives 4 star rating

And here in the US, on February 27, 2009, Sankara Eye Foundation, USA received the desired 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent evaluator of US charities. Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that the organization excels in successfully managing the finances of the organization in an efficient and effective manner. This rise in an organization's rating is an exceptional feat, especially given the economic challenges many charities have to face during these trying times.

NGO of the Year Award

On March 30, 2009, Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India received one of the highest honors an NGO can receive in India, the NGO of the Year Award, for its contribution to community eye care in 2008. The India NGO Awards seek to promote good standards and practices in resource mobilization, accountability and transparency. It recognizes and celebrates the excellence in the non-profit sector. Their aim is to create examples and inspiration for other non-profits and promote cross-regional learning and thus promote the overall credibility of the nonprofit sector for long-term sustainability.



The Tanker Foundation's "Renny Abraham Love for Service Award"

Tanker Foundation is a Chennai based Foundation involved in providing free renal dialysis for kidney patients. Every year they identify an individual and award him / her with Tanker Foundation's "Renny Abraham Love for Service Award." This year it was awarded to Dr. R. V. Ramani, Founder and Managing Trustee of Sankara Eye Care Institutions. The Governor of Tamil Nadu and one of the Union Ministers were present on the occasion to give out the Award.



Tanker Foundation Love for Service Award:



Achievement Award from NRI Global Summit

The NRI Global Summit, 2009 was organized by NRI Institute, a New Delhi-based nonprofit, that honored Indian Achievers and expressed gratification for the pioneering work done by chairman of SEF, Mr. Murali Krishnamurthy and presented an Achievement Award to him for his leadership in eradicating curable blindness in India. The NRI Institute has a nearly 30 year history of recognizing Pravasi (non-resident) Indians and people of Indian origin. The award was delivered on Oct 24th, 2009 at NRI Global Summit 2009 in Milpitas, CA. The other awardee included Vijay Amritraj, Deepti Naval, B.V Jagadeesh, and Vinod Dham. SEF is deeply touched by the honor bestowed on them.

All our volunteers and supporters can celebrate the performance and the recognition of the dedicated work of the Sankara doctors and staff in India. These awards are just small milestones in our path towards eradicating curable blindness in India - which is the real big award that motivates all of us to progress. Together, we can make it happen!!

Meet our Partners

Any individual, family or an organization donating or raising \$100K (Rs. 50 lakhs) or more towards a Sankara Eye Hospital will be considered as a Partner in Service for that Hospital.

Towards this recognition, their names will be displayed prominently and permanently at the hospital.

US based partners will also be recognized in the SEF newsletter and the website. They will be invited & honored for the inauguration of the hospital. The partner will also receive a plaque recognizing their contribution to the cause.





Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA)

In 2006, when the Gujarat project was just taking its baby steps, a few of our volunteers met Mukesh Mowji, the 2007 Chairman of AAHOA (Asian American Hotel Owners Association). Since then, Mukeshbhai has become an champion for the Sankara Eye Hospital, Anand and introduced SEF to AAHOA.

The Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA) is the voice of owners in the hospitality industry. Founded in 1989, AAHOA is now one of the fastest-growing organizations in the industry. AAHOA members are entrepreneurs in the Hospitality industry, but they are also keen on sharing their fortune with the less fortunate. For the last three years under the leadership of Mukesh Mowji, Danny Patel, Ash Patel, and Tarun Patel, SEF enjoyed AAHOA's support. SEF was welcomed at AAHOA's Annual Convention and through this convention, SEF was able to spread its mission to the AAHOA membership who donated over \$120,000 to SEF and thus making AAHOA eligible to become a Partner at the Anand hospital.

Tarun Patel, the current Chairman of AAHOA, visited the SEF Anand hospital during his last visit to India and he was extremely impressed with the SEF hospital. In his words "It is amazing. I wanted to spend 10 minutes to see if our members' money was being spent in the right place. Instead I ended up spending 45 minutes and took a complete tour of the hospital and came out speechless."

Tarunbhai, Thank you for visiting the Anand hospital and I hope that you will encourage your membership to do the same during their visits to India. AAHOA's support made the Gujarat Hospital a reality and I hope that their continued support will empower us to perform the maximum amount of surgeries and help the poor in Gujarat.

AAHOA 2009 officers include Chairman Tarun S. Patel, CHA; Vice Chairman ChandraKant "C.K." Patel, CHO; Treasurer Hemant D. "Henry" Patel; Secretary Alkesh R. "Al" Patel, CHO; and President Fred Schwartz.
www.AAHOA.com



CLiPs: Charotar Leua Patidar Samaj of Bay Area

CLiPS of Bay Area (<http://www.clipsbayarea.org>) was founded in 1990 with a membership of 20 Patel families. Today, the membership has grown to over 400 families in the San Francisco Bay Area. The CLiPS organization was created to maintain and promote the culture of the Patidars (Patels) of Charotar area in Gujarat. The goal of the CLiPS organization is to foster a community where Patidars can come together to bond with their fellow Patidars.

CLiPS, Bay Area joined SEF in the mission for vision due to Anand Hospital being built in the heart of Charotar. As their mission states, they want to give back to the community that they come from.

CLiPS, Bay Area committee members rallied all their members and encouraged everyone to donate and were able to raised more than \$100,000 for the Anand Hospital and are now "Partners In Service" at the Anand hospital. Their support for the Gujarat project has been invaluable. For the last 5 years, they have partnered with SEF to celebrate Navratri and joined us to create the biggest and best dandia events in the SF Bay Area. Many of the CLiPs members have become active SEF volunteers and champion our cause.

CLiPs has committed to work with SEF until Vision 20/20 by 2020 is accomplished and are proud to be part of this incredible journey. We thank CLiPs Bay Area for their full support in our mission.



Harshad and Nayna Uka:

Harshadbhai is a quintessential humanitarian. He is actively involved with an Emancipation Network that promotes 'Made by Survivors'. The network fights against global slavery and rescues young girls who have fallen into this misfortune and help them lead an independent life by teaching them skills to make sellable crafts, and help find sympathetic men to marry them. He is also involved in a NPO in his village which operates a small hospital and a state of the art high school. In the LA region, he is actively involved with Matiya Samaj (SOCAL) and Federation of Indian Associations (FIA)

We, at Sankara are very fortunate to get someone of Harshadbhai's caliber fully committed in carrying our mission of 20/20 by 2020 further. In his own words, here is how Harshadbhai got involved with SEF:

“Fate has a strange way of bringing together a group of people. Ram Dutt, a friend, introduced me to SEF. Although I liked the cause, I had so many other activities on my plate that I didn't consider this on the top of my list.

One day, I was talking to a group of people about one of the charity projects I was involved in. My wife, Nayna, says to me 'you are spending so much time on all these projects, why don't you look at SEF? Consider the project gives the most benefit to ones who needs the most?'

Then I realized that this was something I need to consider. 'When you build a temple, who benefits? The people who visit the temple... Are they poor? Are they not capable of building one? Do you have to have a multimillion dollar temple? How much community work is done by a limited number of people? Who benefits? Are the beneficiaries not capable of doing what the limited number of people are doing?' I realized the simple fact that SEF helps people who are in no position to help themselves.

Throw in the facts that SEF is non political, non-religious and the accounting is crystal clear, the issue was clear in my mind. Majority of my commitment right now is for SEF and Emancipation Network.”

Harshadbhai has completely embraced SEF and was our first “Partner in Service” for the Gujarat Hospital. We cannot thank Harshadbhai enough for all he has done for SEF.



Nilaxi and Ajit Patel

Ajit & Nilaxi Patel, from Fresno, are long-time Sankara Eye Foundation (SEF) supporters and became PARTNERS IN SERVICE for the Anand Hospital.

When we asked Nilaxiben to say something about them to publish in this booklet, this is what she had to say:

“I thought I wrote a check and that's it. I didn't know I have to write something. We just helped because it was a good cause and good organization and we have complete trust in SEF but don't ask me to say anything about us.”

This is the caliber of Ajitbhai and Nilaxiben. They are always there to help SEF whether it is at the AAHOA Convention, organizing a meeting in their hometown for Dr Ramani, or if we need donations to complete our project. Over time, they became a part of the SEF family and we are very fortunate to have them with us.

Born and raised primarily in Zambia, Africa, Ajit Patel moved to the United States at age 15 with his family. He attended California State University of Fresno while working at his father's motel. After graduating from Fresno State in 1992, Ajit married Nilaxi Gosai in 1997 and began raising and supporting a family by working in the retail and hotel businesses. Ajit has multiple retail stores and hotels across the country and celebrates his success by giving back to many charities benefiting the less fortunate. Sankara Eye Foundation was introduced to him by his brother in law, Harshad Uka, who is also a Partner In Service for the Anand Hospital.

Recently, Nilaxi visited the SEF Anand Hospital with her parents and siblings and this is what she had to say about the hospital:

“It is very nice hospital. We enjoyed the tour of the hospital and met Dr Uma Patel. We had a lunch there. It's a beautiful hospital and we all came very contented that our donation was well used”

Ajitbhai & Nilaxiben - Thank you for trusting SEF. We couldn't have done this without your support.

Our Donors who made this dream come true!

SEF, USA and SECI, India are extremely grateful to all our donors who made it possible for us to continue our mission to help eradicate curable blindness in India.

SEF, USA raises funds for several projects simultaneously and the list below only reflects the funds that were allocated to the construction of this particular project and in no way diminishes the support our patron have given to all other SEF projects including funds for ever so important surgeries and camps. Please contact the office if you need full report of your donations.

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Every effort has been made to maintain accurate donation tracking. Please contact the SEF office at donorcare@giftofvision.org If you have any questions and we will promptly address your query.

Testimonials



Over 30 years ago, I began a mission to make a difference in the lives of underprivileged children. My first encounter with SEF came several years ago through a volunteer interaction at a booth. It was a simple table set up at the entrance to a cultural event.

I stopped to chat with the young man and learned that response from attendees was not too good. However, I was surprised to see his upbeat attitude and smile in spite of all. This first encounter inspired me to want to learn more. 20/20 by the year 2020 is their goal and having interacted with many more volunteers and feeling their dedication, I know they will succeed. The rest, as they say, is history.

I am proud to be a donor and intend to donate to each hospital built by SEF.

SEF has made it possible for me to realize my ambition of making a difference in the lives of needy children. I am humbly grateful to SEF and all its volunteers for helping rescue thousands of children from darkness and making possible a brighter tomorrow.

Anil Lal, India Arts, LLC, Hillsborough, CA

It is rare that one gets an opportunity to help so many in such a powerful way with such modest contributions. It is a true privilege to be associated with an organization that does amazing, life changing work everyday. We pay tribute to all the dedicated volunteers of Sankara Eye Foundation and wish them well in achieving the goal for 2020. We are blessed and richer for our small part in this extraordinary endeavor.

*Thank you,
Neha & Manesh Patel, Saratoga, CA, USA, SEF Patron*





“We have been involved with several non-profit organizations for the last several years. Among them, we find Sankara Eye Foundation to be unique for the dedication, quality and lifelong commitment of their volunteers! This is what makes an organization effective and efficient. They are very well organized in whatever they set out to do. When we were approached to consider donating for a hospital in Anand area of Gujarat, we had no hesitation in agreeing to do something for Sankara for our home state where we were both born! We have been impressed by everyone of their ophthalmologist that we have met and was impressed when I visited the hospital facility in Anand when it was about 90% complete. We wish them all the best for their future success”

*Bipin and Rekha Shah
Atherton, Calif, USA.*

Charitable Care Foundation: "The Spirit of Giving"

Formed in October 1991, Charitable Care Foundation (CCF) is proud to have accomplishment it's mission to help needy people become healthy, productive, and self-reliant. Our efforts and resources are focused on local and international needs- particularly in the Bay Area of California and India.

During last 15 years, CCF has raised and distributed funds around the world for medical, surgical and emergency services, eye camps, educational and hospital buildings, housing for senior citizen, food package distributions during flood and cyclone disasters, Thanks Giving dinners, tsunami and earthquake victims.

CCF's support for the Anand hospital is incredible; donating towards the kitchen that will feed the patients on daily basis.



We are very pleased with SEF, Anand Hospital's progress. We heard about SEF from AAPI as well as from newsletter. My father, Chandulal Bhagvandas Shah, was blind and with a strong family history of glaucoma, many family members are blind. We wanted to help others, so they can have good eye check up. Our family does eye camps in Bahadarpur, Sankheda. For my father's birthday, I wanted to donate so, I called SEF, but operation theater was already taken by someone. Then, when it became available, they were very nice and gave it us to donate in my fathers name.



We are glad we donated to SEF. We are sure SEF will do good for people of Gujarat. My father will be always happy where he is. He was born in Kadod, Bardoli and was working in education department.

*Dr.Gopal, Dr.Mina, Dr.Mamta and Dr.Monica Majmundar Family
Martin, Kentucky, USA*

"First thing I looked at was the benefit to cost ratio of SEF project and I couldn't believe how much difference a little money can make in people's lives. Once you understand that, it is easy to know why so many people have donated generously to this project. Not only the benefits are great financially but also it improves social life of patients and the benefits are almost immediate. SEF doctors are professional in their skills and angels in their hearts and thanks to them for making this mission possible."

*Dhiraj Thakkar
Redwood City, CA,USA
- Patron*

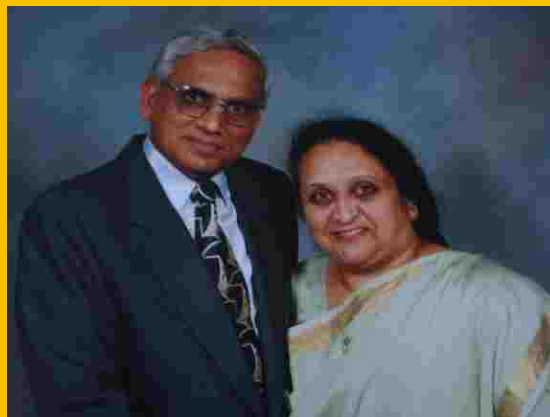
My interest in the Sankara Eye Foundation came about indirectly as a result of my late father's wish to donate to the R.M. Eye Hospital in Chikhodra District Anand, Gujarat, India. However, not having any information about them, the wish remained unfulfilled until I happened to come across an ad in India Abroad for Sankara Eye Hospital. In 2005, the Vallavbhai & Savitaben Patel Foundation made a donation to SEF USA for support towards cataract and corneal surgery.



I was eventually contacted by Ms. Anjuben Desai & Mr. Rajesh Kotadia for our Foundation to donate towards their new project for a SEF Hospital in Anand, Gujarat. Their professionalism and enthusiasm eventually led us to support the SEF Hospital in Anand. I have found SEF USA to be very forthright with any information I needed and they have kept me fully informed of the progress made during the construction of the Hospital. Their dedication enables people a second chance at life and that at no cost to the patient. Supporting SEF in its goal to help eradicate curable blindness and perform at least one million FREE eye surgeries per year by 2020 is a laudable cause and should be supported by everyone who cares for their fellow beings.

*Yashvant Patel, Trustee
Vallavbhai and Savitaben Patel Foundation, Inc.
Montvale, NJ, USA.*

We are very happy and proud to be SEF donors. My wife, Dharmista, grew up in Coimbatore, so we had known the incredible work Sankara Hospital has done in Tamil Nadu. We also received first hand input of their good work from our son, who spent a quarter at the hospital as a medical intern. Eyes of both of Dharmista's parents were donated to Sankara Hospital when they passed away. When SEF Anand project was announced it was our privilege to join as founders. We are also very delighted that all our immediate family members across USA have joined in. Two years back we visited the Anand Hospital site just getting under construction. It will be our great joy to see it in operation when we visit again end of this year.



Ramesh & Dharmistha Patel from San Jose, CA, USA

Our foundation Mahendra and Jayshree Patel donated fund to Sankara Eye Hospital to be used towards creating the general ward in the hospital. The main reason for our donation to the hospital was their very good reputation in quality eye care at an affordable price and public service in the southern India. At first my wife Jayshree was little apprehensive donating money in India and not having seen the location and people operating the institute in Anand, Gujarat area. We both had a chance to visit the institute in November 2009. After finishing the visit and seeing so many needy eye patients being taken care in a very modern clean facility she was over come with emotions. On our way out of the institute I saw tears of joy and fulfillment in corner of her eyes.



*Mahendra and Jayshree Patel
Milltown, NJ, USA
SEF Patron*

I really appreciate the great contribution of services which Sankra Eye Foundation is performing towards humanity. It is easy to build up building but it is very difficult find the human resources to serve, specially VOLUNTEER to dedicate their life to serve other needy human, so I really appreciate all the volunteers like you who dedicate their life to make the foundation a great non-profit Institute in our country. I wish we have more foundation like SEF in other medical field such as Diabetic, Cancer etc.....in our Bharat!

*CZ Patel
Princeton, NJ, USA
SEF Patron*

Meet the SEF, USA and SECI, India Teams

Sankara Eye Foundation, USA



K. Sridharan
President



Divyogi Patel
Board Member



Sundar
Radhakrishnan
Board Member



Girish Muckai
Board Member



K. Muralidharan
Executive Chairman



Sasikala
Muralidharan
Office Manager



Padma Jawahar
CFO

Sankara Eye Care Institutions, India



S V Balasubramaniam
Chairman



Dr. R V Ramani
Founder & Managing Trustee

Managing Trustee

Dr. Leela Meenakshi
Dr. P G Viswanathan
Dr. S R RAO
N Natraj
Dr. S Balasubramanian
J. M. Chanrai
Murali Krishnamurthy

Vision 2020 Team

Dr. R. Radha Ramani - Co-Founder & Hon Director of HRD

Dr. P. Janakiraman - Hon Advisor

Dr. J. K. Reddy - Director Technical

P. Balasubramaniam - Hon Advisor

C. N. Srivatsan - Hon. Project Director

Gujarat Core Team



Ritesh Tandon

I started volunteering for Sankara Eye Foundation in year 2005. Ever since, the journey to eradicating curable blindness in India has been enriching, enlightening and encouraging.

Being part of the Focus Gujarat team for building the Anand hospital has been a wonderful experience - we were faced with numerous challenges. It was a lot of hard work, but we - the volunteers, donors, supporters - did it and how! Visiting the hospital in early 2009 was one aha moment in my life that I would never forget. This has been a life changing experience for me. I am committed to help spread similar magic of light across India and maybe even beyond!

Sonal Solanki - SEF Volunteer



Anju Desai



Smita Patel



Sonal Solanki



Amit Patel

"Sankara Eye Foundation has given me an awakening of the problems that occur due to loss of sight to the under privileged population in India. In addition to the goal Vision 2020 by year 2020, I find the ingenuity and honesty of the volunteers as the primary reason that Sankara Eye Foundation is able to build its reputation and service structure in the bay area and growing around the world. I am very fortunate to have found life long friends in my journey of giving back to the country that I love. I sincerely thank all the donors who trust us with their donations and have faith to make us their means of charitable contributions to India."

Neha Desai- SEF Volunteer



Rajesh Kotadia



Snehal Bhaidasna



Neha Desai



Naushik Desai

We were touched by Sankara Eye Foundation when a booth was setup at my work about 5 years ago. At the booth, there were pictures and stories of people who need simple cataract surgeries to help them get back on their own two feet. Ever since that moment, we have donated yearly to Sankara Eye Foundation. The donations started with sponsoring cataract surgeries. During the first joint SEF/CLiPS event, we realized we could provide a bigger impact by volunteering for SEF. We have been touched by helping improve the lives of people in India. With God's generosity, we have been blessed with all of the comforts in the U.S. We felt if we could give back a little bit to our homeland, and directly impact a person's life in a positive manner, that was the biggest contribution we could make to the world.

Bakul Patel - SEF Volunteer



Bakul Patel



Bina Patel



Shruti Seth



Mohit Purohit

I have been a part of SEF for about 5 to 6 years. I was raised by my grandfather, an eye surgeon, and SEF's vision was always his dream. I have been a part of the Gujarat core team and various events, including MCing for our dandias. My son has also helped me with events and has donated his birthday money to SEF for the last 3 years. As a result of his efforts, we have 3 WOF's in the Gujarat Hospital. My father-in-law is also an eye surgeon and they have donated to the Gujarat Hospital. I was fortunate to visit the hospital in Gujarat and was very touched by what we have accomplished. Not only have I helped my grandpa's dream come true, I have met some amazing people that are very inspiring to be around.

Sangita Modi - SEF Volunteer



Sangita Modi



Kumar Iyenger



Dipak Shah



Swati Padia





To all our Supporters and Volunteers who made this project possible:

Our most sincere appreciation to each and everyone of you who has contributed to success of Anand project.

Here are just a few of the people in the US, who have been instrumental in the making of the hospital. The successful inauguration wouldn't have been possible without your generous support and the countless hours contributed by the SEF volunteers.

Thank you all!



ion, USA
By Year 2020

PLEASE DONATE TODAY
PLEASE DONATE TODAY

HALL C
EXIT



SEF Volunteers





Sankara Eye Foundation, USA

1851 McCarthy Blvd, Street #218, Milpitas, CA-95035

Phone : 1 866-Sankara (726-5272)

e mail : info@giftofvision.org

web : www.giftofvision.org



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e mail : sankarai@md3.vsnl.net.in

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280240 / 280260

e mail: anand@sankaraeye.com

web : www.sankaraeye.com

If you have any questions relating to the Gujarat Hospital please contact Anju Desai at 408 307-8885