

 ORBIS International is a global network of care, dedicated to saving sight worldwide. Since 1982, our volunteers and staff have directly restored the vision and transformed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in more than 80 countries. At the same time, ORBIS has been building local capacity to provide eye care in those countries by training more than 100,000 eye care professionals aboard the ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital, in local hospitals, and through long-term national blindness prevention programs in Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, India and Vietnam, and regional programs in Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. Untold millions of blind people have received the gift of sight as a result of the training ORBIS has provided.



Sarah Mwenda is one of many children in Africa whose vision has been saved by ORBIS



Front cover photograph: Sarah Mwenda injured her eye while playing with her sister. On board the Flying Eye Hospital in Tanzania, an ORBIS volunteer surgeon operated on the five-year-old, removing her damaged lens and replacing it with an artificial lens to restore her vision.



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"It is a privilege to have played a part in ORBIS since its inception – not only because ORBIS has been highly effective in preventing blindness and restoring sight to millions, but because it is a joy working with an international team of people from more than 20 different countries as one family, helping those who are suffering needlessly. To me, ORBIS is at the heart of what life is all about – promoting cooperation and understanding through helping others. What better way could there be to heal our divided world?"



Oliver Foot
President and Executive Director
ORBIS International

Your stamp on this envelope is an additional contribution to help us combat blindness worldwide.



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Please help ORBIS to save sight worldwide:

- For \$10/month (just 33 cents per day) you can provide sight-saving surgery for several children like Sarah every year.
- For \$25/month (only 83 cents per day) you can distribute enough antibiotics in a year to treat 1,200 children with eye infections that lead to blindness.
- For \$50/month (that's \$1.66 per day – the cost of a cup of coffee) you can train an eye care specialist who will go on to save the sight of thousands of people who are suffering needlessly.

+ Join the Movement





Photo by Patrick Saine



Photo by Peter Bregg



Photo by Kiran Raitley



Photo by Geoff Oliver Bugbee

Juma's Joy

Juma, a 25-year-old cobbler, lives in the rural Tanzanian town of Temeke. Blind in both eyes and unable to earn a living, Juma was selected for surgery during a Flying Eye Hospital training program and his cataracts were removed using a small incision technique, introduced by ORBIS.

“Being able to see again has changed my life.”

Two weeks later, Juma was back at work and brimming with enthusiasm: “Being able to see again has changed my life,” he said. “I now have a new ambition to be making shoes instead of just fixing old ones. I want to marry – having a family is very important to me.”

ORBIS has recently seen Juma again and his dreams are coming true – he now has a steady girlfriend and is earning enough from his shoemaking to start a family!

Vision for the World

There are millions of people in Africa like Sarah and Juma who need eye care, not to mention the fact that every minute of every day, somewhere in the world, another child goes blind. An estimated 37 million people are blind worldwide, and 28 million of them don't need to be blind at all.

ORBIS realized long ago that not all of those who desperately need help could be reached by foreign doctors simply donating their time to operate. With a problem of this magnitude, the critical need is for the development of adequate eye care infrastructure, trained staff and sustainable services to serve future generations. This is where ORBIS directs its efforts – providing training for doctors, nurses, biomedical engineers and community health care workers – empowering them to eradicate unnecessary blindness in their own countries.

In Africa, as elsewhere, ORBIS is not only transforming individual lives, but benefiting whole communities in the process.

“Looking back on the Flying Eye Hospital program... the main things gained from it were the surgeries – especially the procedures for pediatric cataracts. My approach to surgery changed. I now use a smaller incision, so the wound is smaller... The healing is quicker and the post-op complications have decreased... The continued help we are getting from ORBIS and the hands-on training are all things that we can continue to practice and use.”

Dr. Christine Mataka
Muhimbili Hospital
Tanzania

YES! I want to save sight with ORBIS.

MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM

I understand that my ongoing, cost-efficient donations are essential to help ORBIS save sight worldwide. I would like to make a monthly donation of:

\$ _____

SINGLE GIFT OF SUPPORT

I am not able to join your monthly giving program at this time, but realize that my support is vital to saving sight worldwide. Enclosed is my single gift of:

\$ _____

DONOR INFORMATION

NAME _____

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PAYMENT OPTIONS

CREDIT CARD

Charge my AMEX VISA MASTERCARD

Giving frequency (circle one): Monthly One-time

CARD # _____

EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

MONTHLY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

Please deduct my donation from my checking account each month. A check for my first month's contribution is enclosed.

SIGNATURE _____

SINGLE GIFT BY CHECK

I am enclosing a check payable to ORBIS for my single gift of support.

All contributions are tax-deductible.
Thank you for your support!

Detach envelope at perforation, insert form, moisten flap and seal.