



100,000 Smiles  
100,000 Surgeries

mission  
FOR VISION



**TCF – Tulsi Chanrai Foundation** is proud to announce the milestone of **completing 100,000 free eye surgeries** and restoring the sight and economic independence of over 100,000 people. This achievement has been possible with the continuous and committed support of our partners and donors who have walked this journey with us and shared the common vision to eliminate avoidable blindness in Nigeria, from the inception of the programme till date.

**Our heartfelt thanks to all of you!**

TCF's Mission for Vision aims at reducing avoidable blindness, predominantly cataract, among the rural poor of Nigeria by providing free surgeries without compromising on quality. This programme is unique due to its reach and instant benefits. With the help of the local government and the community, outreach screening camps are set up to identify patients in need of treatment and hospital appointments will be arranged for eligible cases. At the hospital, each patient is given a basic health check-up and then the eye operation is performed.

TCF has set up five eye hospitals each, at Calabar – Cross River state (CRS), BirninKebbi – Kebbi state, Owerri – Imo state, Yola – Adamawa state and Katsina-Katsina State. Of these, two centres in Imo and Adamawa states have been handed over to the governments and TCF continues to manage the balance three eye centers in CRS, Kebbi and Katsina states.

## Stories of transformation



**Chiameka NwaniKezie** is 17 years old. She stays 152kms away in **Aba in Cross River state**. She studies in SS2, in a college close to her home, loves Maths and wants to grow up and become a nurse. After undergoing surgery at the Cross River Community Ophthalmology Project, General Hospital, Calabar, she explains about her difficulties when she couldn't see and her plans, now that she can see.

"I got injured in the right eye in school, when a fellow student

was showing a cane and it accidentally hit my eye. I couldn't see and it became very difficult as I couldn't read. I had to keep the book close to my eyes, and while walking in the sun I just couldn't see. We went for treatment to a hospital close by, and they directed us to this hospital".



A day after surgery, Chiameka chirpily says, "Wow, I can see much better now. After I go home, I would like to start going to school regularly. I would also like to go to church and sing. I love singing".



50 years old, **Laddi Musa** stays in the **Katsina Local Government** area. She had been living with her eye problem for over seven months and had been facing a lot difficulties while doing her household work and taking care of her four children. She was a homemaker with her husband being the sole earning member and the family income was not enough to pay for a surgery.

When she came with her eye problem to the Katsina Eye Centre, her vision in the right eye was 6/9 and in the left eye was HM (Hand movement). She was diagnosed with

operable cataract and she was admitted for surgery in her left eye. One month after surgery, the vision in her operated left eye was 6/12.

During her final check-up, she said, "I am now able to see things better. I can do my household work and care for my children more effectively than before. Thank you very much to the Katsina Eye Centre for the free eye surgery".



**Ainaiu Saaidu** is 12 years old and lives with her parents and four siblings in **Suru LGA, Kebbi State**. She started attending the Islamic school since she was 6 years old. Then she developed cataract in both her eyes. With the diminishing vision, also diminished her ability to do things independently. She had to depend on either of her parents to take her to school. While the other children used to learn by reading and writing, Ainaiu used to learn by listening and memorising by heart.

She had to depend on her mother, brothers and father to feed her and help her with her personal chores. She would sit in front of her house and listen to the sounds of children playing.



Then her father brought her to the Hafsat Eye Centre in Birnin Kebbi, where during the check-up her vision was CF (Counting fingers) and the doctor recommended surgery as soon as possible. After she underwent surgery in her right eye, when the eye pad was removed, her vision was 6/18. That day she was so happy to be able to see her father again after many years. She walked around the hospital with him and happily greeted everyone who she came across. She is expected to undergo surgery in her left eye after two months.

When asked about what she would do, now that she can see again, she says, 'I want to study, and I can't wait to see my mother, sister and brothers'.