



### *A word from the Medical Director,*

Every single time I give a power point presentation on the Eye Centre, I begin with a photo of the original building taken in 1993. Every time I see this, it never fails to surprise me. We have seen many challenges and many have been faced with more than just a few obstacles, but the growth of this little eye clinic, despite these challenges is truly inspirational. Doing a quick calculation, I am stunned – we are almost 19 years old! This impacts especially when one sees a patient whose sight is restored and does not have to face life without sight.

We have received the draft Evaluation Report put together by a consultant selected by Sight Savers International. This evaluation report highlights the strengths and powerful impacts of the services we provide. It also makes a few valid suggestions on areas to improve. The first recommendation we are implementing, is to strengthen our relationships with the MoH (Ministry of Health) and other government bodies. We have had a few meetings with MoH representatives and will keep you posted. 19 years down, and with continued hard work from our staff, support from donors and well wishes and enhanced relationships with local government... we have many more years to go.



*Happy clients after surgery*



*Post surgery patients at the Toyota sponsored screening*



*Patients at the Vigurungani eye camp after surgery*

## SPONSORED OUTREACH SCREENINGS

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, Toyota Kenya gave a donation of 1,000,000 Kshs (\$11,900 USD) to enable us to carry out 10 outreaches, provide medication, spectacles and transport patients back to the clinic for surgery.

We need to make a special mention of the Toyota Team as they took their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiative to another level. The Toyota Kenya staff were completely engaged and proactive. They attended the screenings, got involved and helped us out at every stage of the screening process, from registering patients to testing vision. It was great to see a company get so involved.

*“I have really learnt to appreciate what I have. Being involved actively in a number of these screenings has taught me a lot, not just regarding eye care, but what we can do to bring light to someone’s world, and just make that difference”*

*- Marizia Idaya Waziri, Toyota Kenya*

## SURGICAL SAFARIS

Our Surgical Eye Camps take eye care to the most remote of locations. Our surgical team sets up a satellite surgery in the selected location and we see, operate on and treat patients in their own village eliminating the obstacle of travel and access.

During the past 6 months we performed 2 Surgical Eye Camps, one in Bamba sponsored by the Hindu Ramsena Group where 852 patients were seen and 121 operations conducted.

We also has an Eye Camp in Vigurungani sponsored by Shree Cutchhi and Leva Patel Samaj Charitable Trust. Here we saw a total of 1,274 patients and performed 132 cataract operations in 5 days.

## Sight Savers Evaluation

The Final Sight Savers Evaluation Process is now coming to a close. The draft report thus far has highlighted the strengths of the KDEC and its facilities and has also pointed out the need to engage more with local government. We have addressed this suggestions by meeting with the MoH representatives for the district to plan the way forward for the next year. We look forward to an even closer and more active relationship between the Kwale District Eye Centre and the Kenya Ministry of Health in the future.



*Sigh Savers focus group discussion*



*Intern student Lily Morogo in theatre*

## Ongoing Training

KDEC is an approved training institution and recognized by the Kenyan Medical Practitioner & Dentist board. Since we began, KDEC has been participating in training of various cadres of eye care workers including post graduate doctors from the university of Nairobi and Clinical officers from Kenya medical training college. We aim to constantly enhance ophthalmic training.

# KDEC

## A visit to the UK

As mentioned in our last Bi Annual Report, following the visit of the Southampton Vision 2020 team to Kenya, four Eye Units from the Coast Region were invited to visit the Southampton Hospital.

*“We learnt so much. It was eye opening to see how the hospitals in the UK function. We had many talks about sharing skills and came up with great strategies which we are already putting into place here. What a great experience”*

*-Rose Atsiaya, Nurse in Charge*



*Rose meets the Mayor of Southampton!*

## CBM - Christian Blind Mission

We would like to thank Nat Bascom of CBM for his years of patience, support and guidance. He is a true friend of the Kwale District Eye Centre.

He will be replaced by Jack Muthui, the new national coordinator of CBM Kenya. We look forward to continuing our successful relationship with CBM.



*Nat Bascom presents Almasie, our low vision therapist, with a certificate.*



*Dr. Theil in Theatre*

## Visiting Doctors

We have many visiting doctors and specialists in their field who come to the eye centre and give of their time to assist us. We are grateful to every doctor who walks through our doors. Their help is immeasurable. An example of is Dr. Thiel from Germany. In addition to spending time in our clinic and theatre he gave his entire theatre contents to the KDEC. They were shipped here with support from German Rotary Clubs and are now installed and working in theatre.

# KDEC

## SCHOOLS AWARENESS AND SCREENING

Eye Health awareness creation in schools continues to be an effective way of enhancing community knowledge and responsiveness on eye disease. Children are powerful ambassadors who can go back home and sensitize family and community members. In addition to creating awareness amongst students, a total off 11 teachers benefitted from specific teacher trainings. 29 children were screened.



*Students being briefed on eye health*



*School Awareness Workshop*

*Braeburn Students at the Eye Centre*



### Braeburn School Visit

At the KDEC, we welcome school visits to our clinic. We feel that this is a fun way to make young children aware of the importance of eye care services. We give them a tour of the clinic, and offer them basic information on the human eye. We use interactive games to address blindness. And we even let them into the theatre to watch our surgical team in action. The schools love this and we are sure that we have some budding ophthalmologists in the making.



# KDEC

## The Start of the Optical Workshop

The need for attractive reading glasses is on a steady increase. Gillian Caplain, (Dispensing Optician and) owner of Spex in the City, a bespoke frame shop in London visited our clinic to advise us on how to meet this increasing need. Gillian spent a week with us and revitalised our glasses shop. She trained our staff on stock keeping, glasses dispensing and display. We have learned a lot from her and are looking forward to an ongoing relationship with Gillian and Spex in the City.



*Gillian showing the staff in the eye shop inventory skills*



*Lunch is served!*

## Canteen

Things are moving forward at the KDEC. We are pleased to announce that we have welcomed a young entrepreneur Gladys Ikuza to the Eye Centre, where she has set up a small canteen to feed staff and patients at the clinic. Now you can come visit the eye centre and have a delicious meal while you wait.

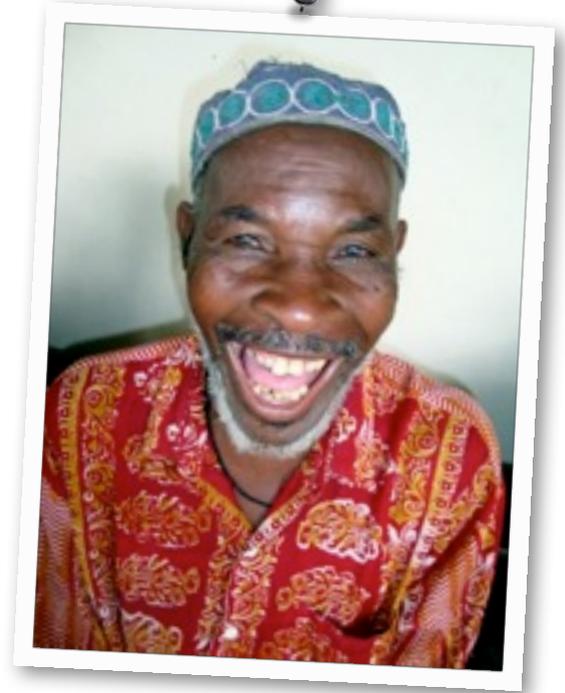
## KDEC STATISTICS

*Statistics showing our achievements from the first 6 months of 2011 and how they compare to what was accomplished in the first six months of 2012.*

<b>Eye Care</b>	<b>2011</b> (January - June)	<b>2012</b> (January - June)
Patients seen at base hospital and community screenings	8,863	12,053
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONS</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>1,012</b>
Cataract Operations	654	822
Glaucoma Operations	74	48
Blind in both eyes	143	206
Reading Glasses Issued	927	1,318
Distance Glasses Dispensed	293	448
<b>Community Work</b>		
Awareness creation meetings	109 meetings reaching 10,552 people	100 reaching 9,791
School awareness meetings and screenings conducted	16 reaching 4128 children and teachers	20 reaching 5,000
No. of children enrolled in the low vision programme	480	502
No. of children integrated into mainstream education	169	185
No. of clients in the deaf/blind programme	29	32



We hope that you have enjoyed our report. In order to keep you posted on all of the happenings here at the Kwale District Eye Centre, we will be starting a monthly email update for all of our friends and supporters. We have new Facebook and Twitter accounts in the works and will tell you more about it and how to find us in our first email update. Thanks again for all of the support. We couldn't do what we do without you!



**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT THAT  
ENABLES US TO KEEP DOING THIS.**

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