

Our work:

An introduction to Christian Blind Mission

the
overseas
disability
charity



Cathleen's story

Living with sight-loss because of cataracts in both eyes, three-year-old Cathleen grew more and more frustrated. Her mother, Frimina, worried she would not have the same opportunities as her friends as she grows older. She couldn't see traffic, or even distinguish her mother's face.

But thanks to the incredible generosity of Christian Blind Mission supporters like you, Cathleen has now been able to receive cataract surgery. Frimina took her daughter to our partner, the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre in Tanzania, East Africa, where ophthalmologist Dr. Godfrey Furahini diagnosed Cathleen and referred her for surgery.

The doctors carefully replaced Cathleen's lenses with artificial ones, managing to operate on both eyes in a two-hour operation. Just a few hours later Cathleen was wide awake and happy, even though her eyes were still covered with bandages. She sat on her bed and sang "Hallelujah" again and again.

Cathleen took a sight test using a Snellen chart, and it showed "a huge improvement" according to Dr. Furahini, who said, "She could only see the biggest letter on the chart before. Now she can see even the letters in the fourth line. This is a good sign that her vision will improve even more in the next weeks."

When the mother and daughter returned home, Frimina told us: "I am more than happy. And I am proud that she was so brave. Cathleen pointed to an airplane in the sky on our way home and has asked me what it is. Now she wants to become a pilot."



Our achievements:



Reached **5.2 million** people in **29 countries** across Africa, Asia and Latin America



Reached **5.2 million** people in **29 countries** across Africa, Asia and Latin America



Trained **16,603** doctors, nurses and other health professionals



Carried out **111,107** sight-restoring cataract surgeries



1,404,838 people received eye health services

Treated over 3.1 million people for blinding and disabling diseases

3.1 million people protected from blinding diseases like trachoma or river blindness



153,540 glasses and low-vision devices distributed