



The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ

20 years of restoring sight



Photo courtesy Peter Solihness

Who we are

The Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand carries on the work of New Zealander Professor Fred Hollows (1929-1993), an internationally-acclaimed eye surgeon and activist for social change who championed the right of all people to high quality, affordable eye care.

Globally, the Foundation has restored the sight of well over one million people, trained over 30,000 eye care workers and today works in over 30 developing countries. The Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand works predominantly in the Pacific, where more than 80,000 people are needlessly blind, in partnership with local stakeholders to restore sight and prevent avoidable blindness. The Foundation is an independent, international development organisation which is funded entirely by the voluntary contributions of individuals, businesses, foundations and governments.

Our vision

The Fred Hollows Foundation works for a world where no one is needlessly blind.

Our mission

To work with local partners and communities to ensure all people in the areas where we work have access to high quality, comprehensive eye care.

Our guiding principles

- We strongly advocate at every possible opportunity for everyone's right to access high quality eye care.
- We don't fly in and fly out – we work on the ground with a long-term perspective, training and supporting local people and organisations to ultimately develop local leadership in eye care.
- We also act now to address the short-term need for eye care services by supporting local eye clinics and running surgical outreach programs.
- We prioritise the poorest and most disadvantaged people in the areas where we work.
- Partnerships with local governments, communities and organisations are at the heart of our approach. We align our efforts with our partners' strategies and are committed to harmonising our efforts for a greater combined impact on avoidable blindness.
- We hold ourselves and our partners to high ethical standards of integrity, transparency and honesty.
- We are guided by local priorities, seeking to learn from local leadership and working collaboratively to strengthen and sustain local institutions and systems. We will however question the status quo in a constructive way and challenge fatalistic approaches.
- We are committed to monitoring and reporting our impact against clear indicators and building a strong evidence base upon which our programs are delivered and measured.
- We reject parochialism and other behaviour that undermines collaboration or distracts resources from the achievement of our mission.
- We understand that mistakes are a necessary part of innovation and improvement, but believe incompetence always needs to be confronted.
- We value pragmatism, humour and innovative thinking. We will do what it takes and take considered risks to get the job done.

What we do

1. Train eye health professionals

We train local eye health personnel through locally appropriate, internationally recognized and accredited programs for all levels of eye care workers. We work collaboratively with partner institutions to ensure this training is of high quality, admitting qualified, motivated students supported by their Ministries of Health and taught by highly qualified and experienced lecturers. We work with partner institutions to identify and mentor local teaching staff and managers to ensure sustainability of these programs.

2. Provide eye health services

We build, equip, staff and provide ongoing support to local eye clinics to provide eye care services and run surgical outreach into remote and underserved communities. Our surgical teams – made up of Pacific staff, students, graduates and, as required, appropriate developed world eye care professionals – screen patients for a range of eye problems, provide sight-restoring surgeries and dispense new, ready-made spectacles. We work with local staff and partners to improve and sustain health systems to provide high quality and genuinely accessible eye care.

3. Support eye health professionals

Training programs alone are not enough to help local eye care personnel provide consistent high quality eye care services. As they often return to work in challenging and professionally isolated conditions, ongoing logistical and mentoring support are crucial. We support graduates in advocating to their Ministries of Health for increased funding and resources for eye care and foster regional support networks such as PacEYES (the Pacific Eye Care Society) with the aim of promoting peer support, best practice and recognized clinical standards.

4. Develop local leaders

Our ultimate aim is to put ourselves out of a job; as Fred Hollows said, to support eye health workers to "run their own show". To achieve this we are identifying and supporting local leaders who are passionately committed to providing eye health in their own communities. Our goal is that these local leaders will in time run the training programs and clinical services we currently support in the Pacific.

5. Build a strong organisation

To achieve our strategic objectives, we need to be a dynamic, creative, transparent and inspiring organisation that is an employer of choice. We aim to have robust, fair and transparent human resource management and clearly



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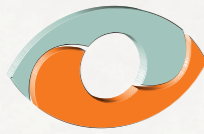
defined operational systems which support our day-to-day work. Our staff have access to training and continuing professional development opportunities which enhance their ability to further our impact as an organisation. We utilise new technologies which enable us to be cost efficient and innovative. We endeavour to learn through evaluating, documenting and sharing our experiences of 'what works'.

6. Inspire support

To achieve our ambitious vision of a world where no one is needlessly blind, we need to achieve ambitious revenue growth by inspiring support from the New Zealand public and grant-making organisations. The collective actions of our fundraising and marketing team and the submission of high quality proposals to international donors enable the miracle of sight to be returned to thousands of people each year. We aim to inspire our staff through this life-changing impact so they in turn inspire support from others. We strive to be an organisation that attracts cooperation from like-minded partners expert in areas complementing the Foundation's own, both to maximise the impact of our activities and to ensure no duplication of effort.



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