



The Fred Hollows
Foundation NZ

THE FUTURE FUND 2025 PROJECTS

“I believe the basic
attribute of mankind is
to look after each other.”

Professor Fred Hollows



WELCOME TO THE 2025 FUTURE FUND

With the incredible generosity of people like you, over \$2.1 million has been donated through the Future Fund to support transformative eye care projects across the Pacific.

Your extraordinary compassion has a substantial impact towards our vision of a world where no one is needlessly blind or vision impaired.

Our 2025 Future Fund highlights key projects and plans in the seven key Pacific countries we work in.

In the following pages you will discover how your generous support can transform the lives of people across the Pacific. Examples of the ways your generosity and kindness could have an impact on eye care are included at the end of this brochure.

Thank you so much for joining us on this transformative journey.

Future Fund achievements and contributions to date:



Restoring and preserving sight

More than \$200,000 raised, supporting the provision of up to 8,000 cataract surgeries.



Postgraduate eye care training

Training of local doctors and nurses so they can provide high-quality and accessible eye care in their countries.



Surgical outreaches

Our Outreach Teams have traveled to rural communities across the Pacific, providing 20,500 people with eye care consultations and conducting more than 3,440 eye surgeries.



Mobile Eye Clinic in Fiji

More than \$160,000 raised, contributing towards more than 49,000 consultations, 4,100 eye surgeries and 29,400 pairs of glasses for people in Fiji living with avoidable vision loss.



Critical equipment for clinics

Delivered to students, graduates and for our clinics in Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.



A new Centre for Eye Health in Papua New Guinea

Contributions towards building this new facility, which will be an integral hub for essential eye care services, training and support.





OUR 2025 FOCUS

Your investment in the Future Fund will help support facilities, training and development programmes to transform eye care in the Pacific and restore sight for generations to come.

Our Pacific neighbours have some of the highest rates of avoidable blindness in the world. With much of the population living in remote communities, their geographical isolation makes access to eye care difficult, meaning many people are living with avoidable vision impairment or blindness. Unable to work or access education, they must then rely on their families for support.

Your significant kindness is helping to remove the obstacles in these isolated communities, making eye care accessible to those who need it most.

Training the next generation of eye care workers

Professor Fred Hollows knew that training just one eye doctor could have a huge impact, because they could go on to train hundreds more. That's why we are working with our partners to equip local people with the skills,

knowledge and tools they need to deliver life-changing eye care in their own communities.

Paving the way for more effective and independent eye health systems

Our collaborative State of Eye Health Research Programme will continue to gather vital information on eye health in the Pacific. This includes plans to carry out important Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) surveys. These surveys are an essential component in gathering clear evidence in understanding a country's eye health issues and needs.

Climate Resilience and Sustainability

Climate change is placing ever-increasing pressure on the health of people in the Pacific, and on the region's health care systems. In countries where issues such as blackouts and cyclones are already disrupting vital services like eye care surgeries and consultations, it is increasingly important that health care facilities are designed and constructed to withstand severe weather events.

We are engaging with climate resilience programmes to conduct climate impact assessments of existing eye health clinics, ensuring they are prepared for the future.

We are so grateful for your incredible kindness. You make this crucial work possible, which will improve the lives of thousands of people long into the future.

In 2025

✓ Your continued support will help train up to **16 eye doctors and 22 eye nurses**. This is our largest cohort of students to date, making your investment even more vital as we build a stronger local Pacific eye care workforce.

✓ **10 eye doctors will graduate** from ophthalmology post graduate training, returning home to provide eye care in their communities.

✓ **A remote training campus in Solomon Islands** will be developed, to train even more eye care workers outside of the Pacific Eye Institute in Fiji.

Eye doctor and nurse training at the Pacific Eye Institute

Fiji is experiencing a crippling shortage of eye care specialists. As part of our commitment to ending avoidable blindness and vision impairment, we are working to help countries like Fiji build stronger, more sustainable, locally led eye care workforces.



Your generosity can help train 20 students at Fiji National University (FNU), which is supported by the Pacific Eye Institute (PEI). PEI is the regions only dedicated tertiary eye care training facility and supports FNU in offering three post-graduate level courses in eye care specialist qualifications.

Meet Dr Epeli, a Foundation-sponsored eye doctor in Fiji

Dr Epeli Navela is from a small coastal village on Vanua Levu, in northern Fiji. Dr Epeli left his home to work in the public health sector before transitioning into eye care. Thanks to our incredible community of supporters, in 2019 he was offered a scholarship to do further training to become an eye doctor.

For Dr Epeli, the most rewarding part of his job is the moment he removes a patient's bandages after performing sight-restoring cataract surgery.

"Some patients haven't seen their children or grandchildren, only heard their voices," he says. "And when they see them for the first time, they start crying. And then you start crying."

Dr Epeli now works for the Pacific Eye Institute in Suva and goes on outreaches, bringing eye care to people in remote areas who don't have the means to travel to the main islands, or do not know about eye care or how to access it.

"The Foundation has made a tremendous impact, especially for a lot of people in Fiji who cannot afford eye services at all."



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

A Centre for Eye Health in Port Moresby

We have supported Papua New Guinea for more than 20 years to help eliminate avoidable blindness and vision impairment. Now, we are looking to the future.

The brand-new Centre for Eye Health in Port Moresby will form the pillar of eye care services in Papua New Guinea. It will deliver and support specialist training for eye doctors, nurses and optometrists.

As well as expanding training for eye health professionals, the Centre will provide specialised eye care services, including the country's first dedicated clinic for diabetes eye disease and paediatric eye care services.

Expected to open in 2026, this climate resilient and environmentally sustainable facility will help strengthen local eye care systems so that everyone has access to essential eye care services, improving eye health right across the country.

Currently, only **seven provinces out of 22** in Papua New Guinea have an eye doctor.

Each year, the Centre will train around **10 eye nurses**, doubling the current number of graduates annually.

We aim to have **two eye doctors graduating annually**.

Our long-term goal is for every province in Papua New Guinea to have **at least one eye doctor and a team of eye nurses**, making eye care more accessible to all communities.



To give more than sight, we need to do even more than surgery.

There is an urgent need for more eye care specialists and services. That's why, alongside our partners, and thanks to your incredible ongoing support, your significant contribution to this life-changing project will support areas such as:

- **Purchasing much-needed equipment for the training of eye care specialists and the treatment of patients.**
- **Employing key personnel for the Centre, including nurses, ophthalmic clinicians, a teaching faculty head and a teaching eye doctor.**
- **Funding scholarships for student eye doctors and nurses and the continued upskilling of the eye care workforce.**
- **Providing specialist medical equipment that will enable eye surgeries to be conducted on children.**
- **Supporting outreaches in hard-to-reach parts of Papua New Guinea to ensure access to eye care for all.**

Your investment through the Future Fund will help to fully realise an eye health centre that embeds sustainable, equitable and accessible eye care into Papua New Guinea's health system, now and into the future, improving the health and wellbeing of families and communities across the country.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

A new remote training campus in Honiara



Like other nations in the Pacific region, Solomon Islands' geography isolates much of the population, making it extremely difficult for people to receive essential eye care services.

There is an urgent need in the country to expand the number of Pacific eye care workers and meet the high demand for eye doctor training – however, there are a limited number of mentors and, therefore, few opportunities for eye doctors to gain surgical experience.

To address this, as well as the significant increase in post-graduate applications, we are counting on the commitment of people like you to establish a training programme in Solomon Islands. This initiative will complement existing training through the Pacific Eye Institute in Fiji, offering additional training locations at a satellite campus based at the Regional Eye Clinic (REC) in Honiara.

With your dedication, we will be able to grow our student cohorts, increase their surgical experience, and perform an increased number of surgeries for the people of Solomon Islands.

TONGA

In Tonga, 75% of the population live in rural villages where a lot of people don't know about eye care and how to access it or they cannot afford to travel to the national hospital for eye screening and treatments.

In 2022, one of our major donors, Pat Petit, generously funded a brand-new eye screening van in Tonga. The Outreach Teams regularly visit seven health facilities across the main island of Tongatapu, helping to improve access and build a greater awareness of good eye care where it's needed most. With women often having the greatest burden of avoidable blindness, the eye screening van is essential for improving gender equity and accessible eye care, as a high proportion of people who access the service are women.



Achievements to date

28 outreaches from June 2022 to July 2023.

1,571 patients (70% female) screened for diabetes eye disease.

An average of **134 screenings per active month** across 2022 and 2023.

Your support will mean more people living in remote areas have access to sight-restoring services.

SAMOA



Cataract is the leading cause of blindness in Samoa, followed by glaucoma, diabetes eye disease and eye injuries. Cataract and uncorrected refractive error are responsible for 56% of visual impairment, so the more people we can reach, the closer we can get to ending avoidable vision loss in Samoa. Refractive error alone can often be treated with a correctly prescribed pair of glasses.

Our Outreach Teams travel regularly to visit communities most in need of eye care services throughout the Pacific. They base themselves at local hospitals, where they screen and treat patients for a range of eye problems, provide cataract and other sight-restoring surgeries, and dispense brand-new, ready-made glasses.

With your help, local eye care workers can reach even more communities, so we can ultimately achieve our goal of reaching everyone in need of eye care.

KIRIBATI

Kiribati is one of the most physically remote and dispersed countries in the world. With no resident eye doctor, patients requiring surgery must wait to be treated by eye doctors who visit on regional outreaches.

As part of our plan to improve eye care services in Kiribati, we need to conduct a Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) survey, to understand the prevalence and causes of blindness and vision impairment among the over-50s population. As with previous surveys, we will also focus on assessing the extensiveness of diabetes eye disease.

This survey will allow us to raise awareness within the health sector about the urgency of eye care and how to improve it. This will not only reduce the number of people living with avoidable vision loss but help to support our partners to manage their eye health systems independently.



Your generosity can help to significantly improve the way eye care services are delivered in Kiribati.

VANUATU

With two Foundation-sponsored eye doctors now in place, and an expansion of the National Eye Centre, the people of Vanuatu have much better access to high-quality eye care. However, there is still much work to be done.

Diabetes eye disease is one of the leading causes of vision impairment and blindness in the working-age population, and demand for treatment is overloading already stretched eye care services.

We have set up dedicated outreaches to remote areas to raise awareness about diabetes eye disease and the importance of regular eye screenings.

Diabetes eye disease often lacks symptoms in its early stages, so many people aren't aware that their condition, if left unmanaged, could affect their vision and potentially lead to blindness. This is why access to quality diabetes eye care is essential, to detect and treat any issues as early as possible.

To run a diabetes eye disease outreach, we often need:

- A consultant eye doctor, between one and four eye nurses, one trainee eye nurse, and a data support officer.
- At least one diabetes eye disease nurse and doctor.
- An eye nurse coordinator and the provincial non-communicable disease nurse.



Your commitment will allow communities across the region to access the eye care they need through vital outreach programmes. You can significantly help many people living with diabetes eye disease by giving them the eye care support that they deserve.



Restoring sight to an entire family in Namatanai

In the remote village of Um in New Ireland Province, Papua New Guinea, four adult siblings had been living with blindness caused by cataracts. Rose, 37, and her brothers Bulu, 32, Lipi, 27, and Disem, 20, had all lost their sight in recent years.

Rose, a mother of four, was left to raise her children alone after her husband abandoned her when she became blind. Bulu faced a similar fate, with his wife leaving him and one of their children behind. Lipi and Disem, the youngest, lost their vision while still in school.

Their widowed mother, despite her age, took on the enormous responsibility of caring for her children and grandchildren, but the burden was heavy.

Everything changed when Joe, a local community worker, heard about their situation. Determined to help, Joe made the journey across rivers and rugged bush trails to bring Rose and her brothers to Namatanai Rural Hospital, where a week-long outreach was taking place.

During the outreach, our team saw 432 patients including 215 women, 217 men, and several children. They performed 177 eye surgeries and distributed pairs of glasses to 192 people.

For many patients, including Rose and her brothers, this outreach was their first opportunity in years to receive eye care services. On World Sight Day (10 October), the siblings all underwent cataract surgery performed by Dr David Pahau and his team.

The following morning, as their eye patches were removed, Joe stood beside them, hopeful for the moment they had all been waiting for. When it was Disem's turn, Joe gently asked, "Can you see me?" Disem smiled and said, "I can see you!" One by one, Lipi, Bulu and Rose had their eye patches removed and vision restored, their joy evident as they looked at one another and their surroundings.

Incredible donors like you make sight-restoring moments like these possible. Together, we're closing gaps in eye care, reaching the most underserved communities, and ensuring accessible eye care for all.

SEE YOUR DONATION IN ACTION

Through the Future Fund, you are part of something truly transformative that will significantly support Fred's vision of a world where no one is needlessly blind or vision impaired.

Below are some examples of how your remarkable gift could be used:

The need	Example of your impact	Indicative costs*
Medical textbooks	The full set of medical textbooks an eye doctor needs to become qualified.	\$870
Nurse training	Training fees for one of the 12 months required to fully train an eye nurse.	\$1,100
Graduation	Contribution towards an eye doctor or nurse attending their graduation celebration.	\$2,000
Uniforms and scrubs	A year of uniforms and scrubs for eye doctors and nurses.	\$3,730
Surgical outreach	A one-week surgical outreach including transport and accommodation for the Outreach Team.	\$4,100
Diabetes eye disease clinic support	Operational support for one week at the diabetes eye disease clinic at the Pacific Eye Institute.	\$5,000
Diabetes eye disease outreach	A one-week outreach for diabetes eye disease, including transport and accommodation for the Outreach Team.	\$7,580
Doctor training	Six of the 48 months required to fully train an eye doctor.	\$8,070
Clinic consumables	Six months of essential clinic consumables and medicine.	\$8,860
Teaching outreach in Fiji	The cost to run a one-week local training outreach to provide vital training for eye care students.	\$9,700

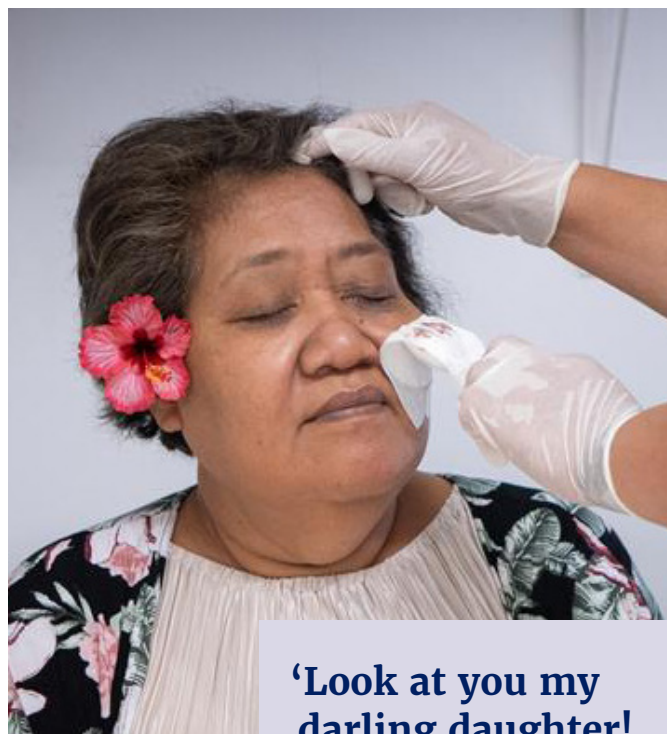
Thank you for your incredible compassion. Please return your gift with the enclosed reply form and envelope provided.

*Please note that costs above are indicative, and your support will go to where the need is greatest. If you would like to know more about funding a specific project or programme, please contact Stephne Vaughan on svaughan@hollows.nz or call **(+64) 21 460 196**.

Vinaka vakalevu. Thank you so much.

‘I couldn’t be more thankful for the chance I’ve been given to see clearly again.’

Siafy, Papua New Guinea

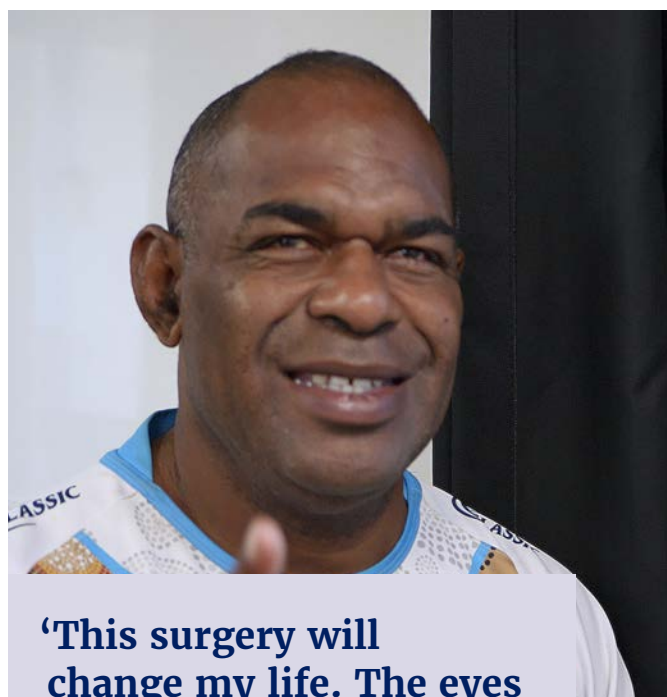


‘Look at you my darling daughter! So beautiful!’

Sau, Samoa

‘My eyes are magic now.’

Philomena, Fiji



‘This surgery will change my life. The eyes are the lights to life.’

Rupeni, Fiji

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