



IRIS

International
Response
to Improve
Sight



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Our Mission

Preventable blindness is a global tragedy. An estimated 80 percent of the world's cases of blindness are due to treatable or preventable disorders such as cataracts, glaucoma, infection, and the ocular complications of diabetes. Treatment for these conditions is available readily in the United States, but remains beyond the reach of many people living in the developing world.

IRIS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing blindness and to restoring the vision of afflicted individuals in the developing world. Working directly with native health-care providers, IRIS strives to end avoidable blindness through education and equipment donation. In addition, IRIS recognizes the importance of supporting and encouraging local medical personnel, who form the front-line in the war against global blindness.



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Our Methods

IRIS works toward reducing blindness through the following efforts:

Equipment

- Donating high-tech operating room microscopes, diagnostic equipment, and lasers to clinics to enable the safe, efficient treatment of cataracts, glaucoma, ocular complications of diabetes, and other serious eye diseases.
- Purchasing medical supplies for operating rooms and clinics.
- Providing medications to treat non-surgical ocular diseases.

Education

- Delivering books, DVDs, and journals to educate native medical workers in the latest techniques and procedures.
- Visiting sites and teaching local providers about new technology and surgical methods.
- Holding conferences and seminars to alert medical professionals to the ocular needs of people living in the developing world.
- Providing funding for educational advancement of native health-care workers.

Encouragement

- Encouraging the public to support government and private endeavors to prevent blindness globally.
- Encouraging eye-care providers and other medical professionals to participate in medical missions.
- Encouraging native health-care providers by working side-by-side as colleagues.



About IRIS

IRIS is the trade name for Blue Ridge International Ophthalmology Inc., a Virginia non-stock corporation that has tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3). The IRIS Board of Directors pays all administrative costs. Therefore, your entire tax-deductible donation is applied to the purchase of equipment for overseas clinics and educational activities promoting medical missions.

You Can Make a Difference

IRIS depends on the generous support of private individuals. You may make a donation online at www.IRIS2020.org or by filling out the attached donation card and faxing or mailing it to IRIS.

Contact Us

IRIS

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left: Dr. Beri Ngong examines a patient at the Eye Department of Bango Baptist Hospital, Cameroon.

right: Dr. Emmanuel Tambe, left, and Dr. Ashley Schauer perform surgery at Mbingo Baptist Hospital, Cameroon.

photos: Jocelyn Schauer.



Give the Gift of Sight!

Yes, I would like to make the following contribution toward preventing blindness:

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$200

other \$ _____

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

E-mail

My check is enclosed and made payable to IRIS.

Please charge my credit card:

Visa

MasterCard

AmEx

Card Number

Exp. Date

Cardholder's Name

Cardholder's Signature

Thank you for your
tax-deductible gift!

