

COMMUNITY FOCUS - 2024

In 2024, substantial progress was made in community outreach initiatives, showcasing a strong commitment to serving underserved populations. Regular bimonthly screening clinics were conducted at the Gurdwara and Rotary Bal Bhavan, providing essential healthcare services. Additionally, in collaboration with Abhayam and WIN Center, efforts were extended to organize eye screening camps in the backward coastal regions, focusing on reaching the deserving and needy individuals. Additionally through the global grant from rotary international with the help of rotary Cochin SSM launched Project Drishti – An initiative to detect the early screening and intervention in diabetic retinopathy which is one of the most common causes of vision loss in present day. A door to door screening for the elderly and bed ridden patients were conducted as part of the glaucoma week screening.

SSM, in partnership with various well-wishers and organizations, expanded its activities across the constituency. These initiatives were not limited to general outreach but also included associations with special schools for children with disabilities and orphanages, ensuring that even the most vulnerable populations received attention. Recognizing the challenges faced by patients with limited access to hospitals, special efforts were made to bring healthcare services closer to these communities, ensuring no one was left behind. This comprehensive approach underscored a steadfast dedication to improving healthcare access and addressing the unique needs of marginalized groups.

Eye Screening at a Mega Multispecialty camp OPPAM Organized by Minister P.Rajeev – February 2024 at Kalamasserry.



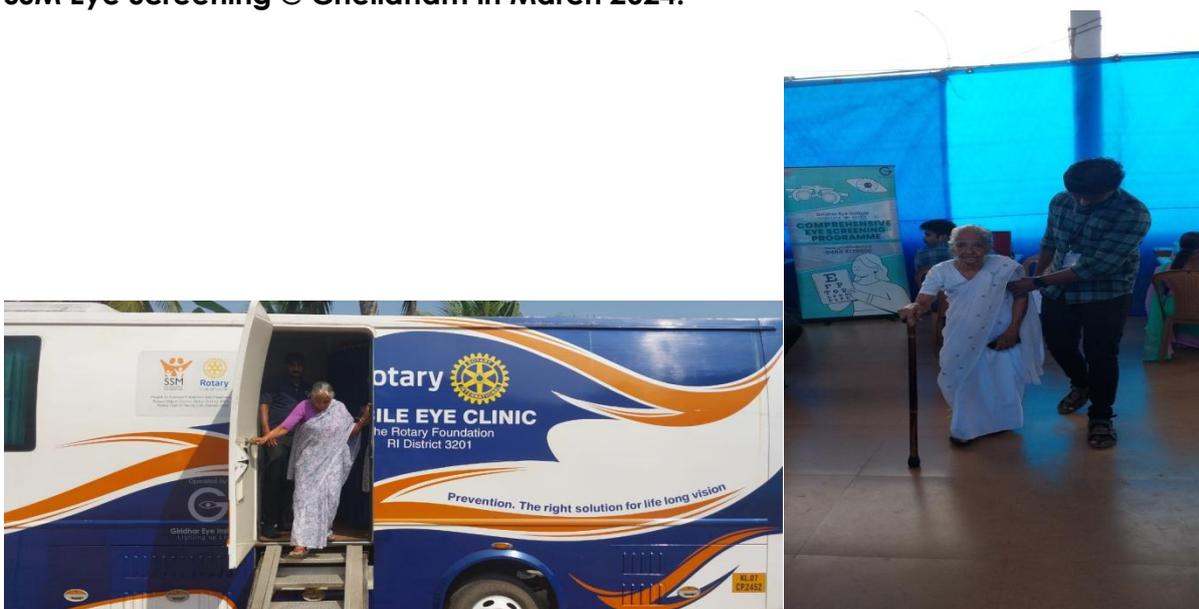
SSM & ABHAYAM Eye Screening @ WINCENTER - Eramalloor in February 2024.



SSM Eye Screening organized by Theruvoram NGO – Ezhupunna in March 2024



SSM Eye Screening @ Chellanam in March 2024.



Eye Screening conducted for senior citizens in association with Smt. Malini Kurup, Ward Counselor, as part of Glaucoma week – March/April 2024.



Glaucoma week door to door eye screening for the elderly people at Kadavanthra area.





SSM Eye Screening at Perumbalam Island inaugurated by Rtn. Raveendra Krishnan on April 2024



Inauguration of Project Drishti – Diabetic Retinopathy Centre - SSM Community Ophthalmology Centre – Thripunithura. – 8th May 2024.

Project Drishti (under a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation (TRF)) initiated by the Rotary Club of Cochin at SSM Community Ophthalmology Center - Thrippunithura, was inaugurated by Rtn. Vijaykumar T R (District Governor, Rotary International District (RID) 3201) on 8th May 2024, in the presence of Rtn. Prakash Aswani (President - Rotary Club of Cochin), Rtn. Raveendra Krishnan (Club Chair – Service Projects), Rtn. Rajan Nair (Club Chair – TRF, Rtn. Susheel Aswani (Club Chair – Fundraising), Rtn. Dr. Sujit Vasudevan (Member - Association of Physicians of India), Rtn. Venugopal C Govind (Past District Governor of RID3201, and Trustee - SSM Eye Research Foundation) and Dr. A. Giridhar (Managing Trustee - SSM Eye Research Foundation, and Director - Giridhar Eye Institute). This was made possible through the collaborative efforts of four international partner rotary clubs based in USA, England, Wales & Nigeria, along with the Rotary Club of Cochin, and the generous support of five rotary international districts.

This project, with a budget of USD 55,615 (or Rs. 46.16 lakhs) aims to combat preventable blindness by providing essential equipment for the diagnosis and

treatment of diabetic retinopathy including a Retinal Scanner, Green Laser and Operating Microscope. These items will help further the efforts of the SSM Community Ophthalmology Centre to give economically backward communities access to the best of facilities. The SSM Centre is operated by the Giridhar Eye Institute and continues to provide regular screening and treatment facilities to BPL communities. With increasing incidence of diabetes, diabetic retinopathy has become an important cause of preventable blindness. There is poor awareness of this complication, which if not detected early, can result in irreversible blinding eye disease. Project Drishti aims to create more awareness about the risks of diabetic retinopathy and to provide treatment either free or at nominal cost to deserving patients.



Eye Screening for KSRTC bus drivers and mechanics conducted at Chalakudy bus station in May 2024.



Diabetic Retinopathy screening is conducted at Rotary Balbhavan Panampilly Nagar every month.



Diabetic Retinopathy screening at Gurdwara Guru Singh Sabha, Thevara every month



School screening awareness by Dr. Krishna Ramachandran in association with Rotary Chalakudy – July 2024.



Vision 2020 Annual Conference : 5th – 7th July 2024.

Ms. Malavika. A., our Optometrist represented Giridhar Eye Institute at the 18th Edition of VISION 2020: Right to Sight India, annual conference (a national conference on Community Ophthalmology) held at Christian Medical College Hospital, Ludhiana from 5th of 7th of July 2024 along with Mr. Manoj of Outreach Department, and presented a paper titled "Burden of ocular abnormalities among children with various disabilities in special schools of Kochi, Kerala" which was well appreciated by the scientific committee.



Talk on Cataract and Glaucoma

An outreach screening was conducted for the staff at the Malayala Manorama, Kochi Bureau. Dr. S. J. Saikumar, our Medical Director, delivered an informative talk on "Cataract and Glaucoma," followed by an engaging interactive session. He also provided detailed insights into the Swarnam Eye Bank.



Cataract awareness month eye screening, Poster and pamphlets distribution for creating the awareness among the public – June 2024.



Rotary Inner Wheel members volunteering the screening conducted at Rotary Balbhavan – September 2024.



World sight day school screening and awareness conducted at various Govt Schools across Thripunithura center - October 2024.

Beginning from the first week of October, we screened numerous government primary schools in the rural areas of Thripunithura, identifying many children with eye problems whom we referred to our Thripunithura Center for further evaluation and care.



Regular Special School screening is done at Adarsh Special School at Kureekad and also various other special schools across the city every month.



World Diabetic Day – November 2024

In observance of World Diabetes Day, GEI, in partnership with Rotary Kalamassery, hosted a Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) awareness and screening event at Rotary Karmakendra. This initiative aimed to educate the community about the risks of diabetic retinopathy and promote early detection through screening. Dr. Kiran Chandran led the awareness session, providing valuable insights into managing diabetes and preventing vision-related complications. The event drew active participation from the local community members, highlighting the need for increased awareness and proactive screening in the fight against diabetic retinopathy - November 2024.



Childrens Day – November 2024.

In celebration of Children's Day, GEI hosted a vibrant painting exhibition and crafts sale, featuring artwork and handcrafted items made by children with special needs from their vocational unit. This initiative aimed to highlight the talents of these children, offering them a platform to express their creativity and contribute to society. The event not only showcased their work but also reinforced the importance of inclusivity, encouraging the community to recognize and embrace the diverse abilities of all individuals. Additionally, GEI conducted a painting competition for young children at their pediatric departments in Kadavanthra and Edapally. Dr. Neena presented certificates to the participants at the Kadavanthra branch, while Dr. Namitha did the same at the Edapally branch. Through these events, GEI continues to promote a more inclusive and supportive society for everyone, ensuring that children of all abilities are recognized and celebrated.



Awareness programme organised at Taluk Head Quarters Hospital, Thripunithura regarding diabetic retinopathy to the ASHA workers of thripunithura area.

In observance of World Diabetes Day, the SSM Community Ophthalmology Centre organized an awareness program with the support of Giridhar Eye Institute, Thripunithura. The event was held at Taluk Hospital, Thripunithura, and was aimed at educating ASHA workers about diabetic retinopathy. The program commenced with a welcome address by Mr. Sriram, Health Inspector. Dr. Thomas Kuriakose delivered an insightful talk on diabetic retinopathy: its impact on quality of life and importance of early detection followed by Mr. Riyasudeen A.K., who emphasized the critical role of ASHA workers in identifying diabetic patients within the community and referring them for diabetic retinopathy screening. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Mrs. Suma, Medical Superintendent, Taluk hospital, Thripunithura.



Diabetic retinopathy screening and awareness programme on thripunithura branch on related to world diabetic day.

Drishti is a non-profit diabetic retinopathy clinic located at GEI Thripunithura, operated by the SSM Eye Research Foundation, and supported by Giridhar Eye Institute and the Rotary Club of Cochin. In observance of World Diabetes Day on November 14th, the Drishti clinic offered free eye screenings for diabetic retinopathy to known diabetic patients. Dr. Thomas Kuriakose conducted an awareness campaign for the patients, educating them on the impact of diabetes on their lives. Additionally, all participants were screened for retinopathy using a fundus camera. The program aimed to raise public awareness about the disease and emphasize the importance of early detection to preserve vision. It also provided an opportunity for individuals who may not have access to or cannot afford quality eye care.



National Myopia week – November 2024.

As part of the Myopia Week awareness campaign, GEI conducted a comprehensive myopia screening program at Global Public School, Kochi. The initiative aimed to identify early signs of myopia and raise awareness about eye health among children, parents, and educators. During the program, over 350 students underwent detailed eye examinations conducted by a team of skilled professionals. The event highlighted the importance of regular eye check-ups and proactive measures to address vision-related issues in children.



World Disability day – December 2024.

On World Disability Day, GEI organized a comprehensive eye screening program aimed at supporting individuals with disabilities, in collaboration with Inner Wheel and Rotary. The event, held at Bethzaiitha Convent, focused on addressing the vision health needs of the differently-abled community. Dr. Kanchana Giridhar, Assistant Medical Director at GEI, along with officials from Inner Wheel, attended the occasion.





Eye Screening in collaboration with the Kerala Armed Police 1st Battalion in Tripunithura

In collaboration with the Kerala Armed Police 1st Battalion in Tripunithura, the GEI organized an outreach screening event at Bhaskaran Colony, Tripunithura. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Anson Antony, Assistant Governor of the Kerala Armed Police, alongside other senior officials. Local ward members were also in attendance, demonstrating community support for the initiative. Dr. Anjusree delivered an informative awareness talk, emphasizing the importance of health screenings and preventive care. The event successfully highlighted the collaborative efforts between law enforcement and community organizations in promoting public health and well-being.



SSM – RAAHI PROJECT

SSM, in collaboration with Sightsavers India and Cholamandalam, proudly celebrates the successful completion of the second year of its Vision Center initiative for truck drivers at Irumpanam. Over the past year, the center has made a

significant impact by conducting eye screenings for more than 3,000 truck drivers, ensuring that their vision health is prioritized.

As part of the program, 2,085 spectacles were issued to those in need, helping improve their visual clarity and enhancing road safety. Additionally, over 25 outreach programs were conducted in 2024, bringing essential eye care services directly to the truckers and further extending the initiative's reach.

This remarkable achievement underscores the collective commitment of SSM, Sightsavers India, and Cholamandalam to improving the lives of truck drivers and fostering a safer and healthier community on the roads.



EYE SCREENING CAMPS HELD IN 2024

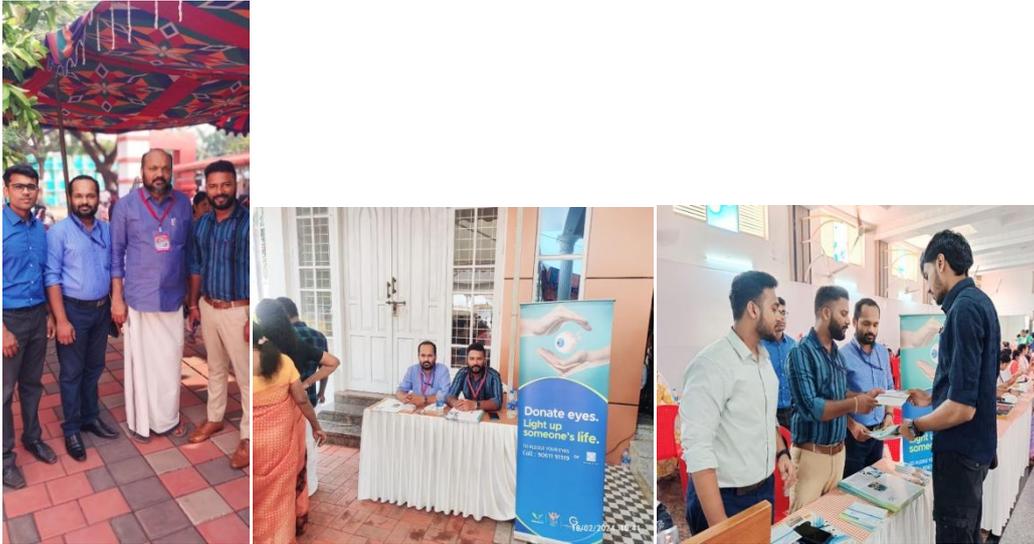
Month	No. of Camps Conducted	No. of Patients Screened	No. of Patients Referred	No of Free Surgeries Performed	No of Screening & Awareness
January	11	1094	345	100	6
February	11	1039	374	106	6
March	11	1020	286	113	6
April	9	865	211	107	5
May	10	912	212	116	5
June	8	911	285	93	5
July	11	1131	257	91	7
August	11	1102	201	95	5
September	12	971	218	65	6
October	9	854	209	83	4
November	15	1951	260	89	6
December	11	1306	320	71	6
Grand Total	129	13156	3178	1129	67

PROJECT ETHRA 2024				
Month	No. of Camps	No. of patients Screened	No. of Patients Referred for evaluation	No of Screening & Awareness sessions held
January	6	718	193	6
February	5	785	233	5
March	5	820	181	5
April	5	681	122	5
May	6	593	100	5
June	4	705	159	5
July	7	684	82	7
August	3	506	55	3
September	0	0	0	0
October	5	515	106	5
November	11	1695	154	9
December	7	1032	211	6
Grand Total	64	8734	1596	61
SSM Outreach Statistics Report 2005 to 2024				
Years	No. of camps conducted	No. of Patients screened	No of patients referred for evaluation	No of Free Surgeries Performed
2005	14	892	265	51
2006	23	1359	411	62
2007	55	5884	1542	317
2008	68	7320	2089	378
2009	44	4882	1514	176
2010	69	7569	2190	373
2011	74	6987	2249	383
2012	89	6643	2155	353
2013	65	4530	1608	404
2014	75	5712	2364	612
2015	74	5293	2248	731
2016	94	9665	3564	917
2017	97	7419	2958	1243
2018	123	9061	3339	1158
2019	143	16080	4771	1811
2020	20	2767	682	442
2021	24	1820	795	264
2022	96	8520	2809	1184
2023	86	8313	2880	984
2024	129	13156	3178	1133
Total	1462	133872	43611	12976

SWARNAM EYE BANK – ACTIVITY REPORT

February – 2024

- 1) Eye Bank stall at "Oppam", A Mega Multi specialty Medical Camp, at Kalamassery on 18/02/2024. An initiative by honorable Minister P Rajeev, Minister for Industries, Law and Coir Government of Kerala.



- 2) Awareness programme at Adinchuvadu Residence Association on 24/02/2024.



March -2024

- 1) Eye donation awareness class for Community Development Society (CDS) members (the apex body of the three-tier Kudumbashree community organisation) of Edathala Grama Panchayath on 07/03/2024.



May- 2024

- 1) Eye Donation Awareness class for CRA Residence Association members , Palarivattom at Pavana Palliative care on 05/05/2024.



June – 2024

- 1) Eye Donation Awareness class for the Association members of Ayankali Mahasabha at Ayankali Mahasabha Hall, Panangad on 02/06/2024.



- 2) An Awareness programme was conducted to (2nd year) 3rd Semester B.Sc Nursing Degree students of Sree Sudheendra College of Nursing, Ambalamedu 49 Students with teachers had attended the class at Swarnam Eye Bank on 4th June 2024. The other upcoming batches also wish to come to study about the Eye bank.



- 3) An Eye Donation Awareness class was conducted in collaboration with Suvama library and PRRA Residence Association at Palarivattom Suvama library Hall on 20/06/2024.



July -2024

- 1) An Eye Donation Awareness class was conducted to NCD members of Naroth nagar, Palarivattom on 04/07/2024.



- 2) Brochure distribution and one to one counselling was conducted for the office bearers and other members of YMCA, Aluva on the occasion of Very Rev Mannarapampil Cor episcopa Memorial Chess Championship 2024 for the visually impaired.



- 3) An Eye Donation Awareness class was Conducted to the participants of Very Rev Mannarapampil Cor Episcopa Chess championship 2024 on 14th july Sunday at YMCA Camp Centre, Aluva.



4) An Eye Donation Awareness class was conducted for the inmates of Snehatheeram home for elders, Vypin on 17/07/2024 at Snehatheeram premise. Snehatheeram Home for Elders is a unit of Nethaji Charity Foundation.



4) An Eye Donation Awareness class was conducted along with the GEI Outreach Screening in collaboration with SNDP Yogam Kendra Vanitha Sangam, Vypin Union Vanitha Sangam and Elakunnappuzha Branch Vanitha Sangam at Njarackal SN Auditorium, Vypin on 20/7/2024. There was a good response regarding eye donation and various doubts were also raised by the people in the class.



August -2024

1) An Eye Donation Awareness class and one to one session was conducted to the staffs of Malayala Manorama, Kochi Bureau on 8th August 2024, along with the GEI Outreach Screening. A talk and interactive session on the topic "Cataract and Glaucoma" was given by our Medical Director, Dr S. J Saikumar Sir. He also provided a description on the Swarnam Eye Bank. Various questions were raised related to the Eye Bank and its functions.



3) As part of the Eye Donation fortnight 2024, an Awareness class was conducted on the occasion of the Health Meeting of ward 43 of Kochi Cooperation at Palarivattom Mass Office Annex on 27th August 2024.



- 4) As a part of the Eye Donation Fortnight 2024, a public one to one awareness campaign was conducted around the premises of the General Hospital, Ennakulam on 28 August 2024



September -2024

- 1) A one to one awareness campaign, pledging and brochure distribution was conducted for the patients and bystanders of GEI on 3rd Sept 2024



October -2024

- 1) An Eye Donation Awareness class and one to one session was conducted along with the GEI Outreach Screening in collaboration with St Antony's church center committee at Lisbon Hall, Panangad on 2nd Oct 2024.



- 2) An Eye Donation Awareness class and one to one session was conducted along with the GEI Outreach Screening in collaboration with Rotary club of Kalamassery at Rotary karmakendra , Vattakunnu, Kalamassery on 6th Oct 2024.



- 3) An Awareness Class and Eye bank observation was conducted to the 4th Semester B.Sc. Nursing Degree students of Indira Gandhi College of Nursing, Kadavanthra , at Swarnam Eye Bank on 18th Oct 2024.



December -2024

- 1) An Eye Donation Awareness class and one to one session was conducted at St Sebastian's Church, Areeparampu, Cherthala. along with the GEI Outreach Screening. The class was inaugurated by the Vicar, Rev Fr Luke Puthenparampil on 7th Dec 2024.





MONTH-WISE ACTIVITY REPORT 2024

Month	Number of Eye Donations	Number of Corneas Collected	Number of Corneas Used
January	6	12	6
February	7	14	5
March	6	12	4
April	4	8	4
May	7	14	5
June	6	12	3
July	9	18	7
August	4	8	2
September	4	8	3
October	2	4	1
November	1	2	0
December	3	6	2
Total	59	118	42

EYE BANK ACTIVITY REPORT FROM 2017 TO 2024

Year	Total Number of Eye Donations	Total number of Corneas collected	Total Number of Corneas Used	Research Purpose / Discarded
2017	8	16	9	7
2018	29	58	26	32

2019	42	82	26	56
2020	19	38	11	27
2021	21	41	26	15
2022	61	121	67	54
2023	69	138	63	75
2024	59	118	42	76
Total	308	612	270	342



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