



KCCO

Kilimanjaro Centre for
Community Ophthalmology



Community Ophthalmology in Action

In sub-Saharan Africa, around 25 million people live with serious vision loss—including about 5 million who are blind. Yet roughly 90% of sight loss is preventable or treatable with proven solutions like glasses and cataract surgery.

Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology (KCCO) closes this gap through community ophthalmology: building trust, raising awareness, and connecting patients to existing services. We train community case finders, run rural outreach, and strengthen hospital and eye-clinic management—because good people can't do good work in weak systems. With stronger systems, ophthalmologists, eye nurses, primary health workers, and programme managers deliver efficient, high-quality care. In several settings across sub-Saharan Africa, this approach has increased the number of people reached three- to fourfold—without adding staff—and moved services toward financial self-sufficiency while safeguarding access for the poorest.

KCCO currently supports programmes across sub-Saharan Africa. With your gift, we can reach more underserved areas and ensure timely, affordable care for those who need it most.



Photos: © Ellen Crystal



Please support our work

Your donation will help KCCO provide communities throughout Africa with needed eye care.

About KCCO

KCCO was founded in 2001 to address the urgent need for sustainable, locally led solutions to avoidable blindness in Africa. Initially inspired by the VISION 2020 initiative, KCCO has since evolved into a trusted partner for governments, hospitals, NGOs, and donors working to strengthen eye health systems across the continent.