



PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
**2016**

Cover page: Professor Fred Hollows. Photo: Michael Amendolia



**The Fred Hollows**  
Foundation NZ



# Forewords



This Performance Report highlights one of our four main objectives: training a highly competent eye care workforce for the Pacific region. I had the privilege of attending the opening of the Regional Eye Centre in Honiara in July 2015, a new world-class facility staffed entirely by Solomon Islanders. I've been eagerly monitoring its progress during its first full year of operation to report on its success.

'In the Pacific, from the Pacific, for the Pacific' is how I like to sum up what we aim to achieve. None of which would be possible without our generous

donors. Infrastructure development has always been an integral part of building a modern eye care service. Many donors will recall the early appeals were to fund the building of intraocular lens factories in Eritrea and Nepal. At the time both were revolutionary in their design and audacious in their objectives, and both have succeeded beyond the most generous predictions.

In the same way, we believe having a regional focus and building a state of the art facility in Honiara was the most effective way to make a lasting impact. The Regional Eye Centre is built to New Zealand earthquake standards and uses solar power and rain water harvesting to make it as self-sufficient as possible. The results speak for themselves. In 2016, the team conducted 15,571 consultations - three times as many as prior years - which yielded 1,315 sight-saving surgeries. But it's not just about the numbers. These treatments were conducted in ideal conditions using the latest equipment, ensuring the best outcome for our patients. We have no doubt it would make Fred proud.

Sadly, there's another number that is far more ominous. The Regional Eye Centre staff also conducted 287 diabetic laser treatments. The scourge that is diabetes has reached the Hapi Islands.

The quality of care we provide is as important to the Trustees today as it was to Fred. 'Every eye is an eye' is one of Fred's many maxims we hold dear. Without quality infrastructure and equipment, timely supplies of medical consumables, and a wide range of spectacles, even the best clinicians in the world are powerless to eliminate avoidable blindness and treat conditions such as diabetic retinopathy. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to say a very big thank you to every donor who has so generously contributed to help us achieve Fred's vision of a world where no one is needlessly blind.

**Craig Fisher**  
Board Chair



One of the major challenges we face as we build a modern eye care system in the Pacific is overcoming the obstacles patients face accessing our services. Just as Fred made famous in Australia when he tackled trachoma, sending outreach teams to rural areas has been the preferred method across the developing world.

Thanks to the generosity of our many valued donors, every year we have continued to send outreach teams throughout the Pacific. While this is life-changing for the 100 or more patients who are

treated during that week of high impact service provision, there are always patients who miss out. It breaks the hearts of our teams to leave any without sight-saving treatment, and they work extraordinary hours to treat as many as possible.

Patient access to services remains one of the biggest challenges we face on a daily basis.

It was out of this challenge that the conversation about a Mobile Eye Clinic for Fiji was born. It's now the first of its kind in the Pacific region.

In its first full year of operation the Mobile Eye Clinic staff conducted over 6,400 consultations. This resulted in 442 sight-saving surgeries and the distribution of new spectacles to 4,077 patients. The fact the Mobile Eye Clinic is largely self-contained means it can stay in position for four to six weeks without disrupting local hospital services. Its bright colours and time spent on location means that news spreads widely and patients have time to find their way to it. It also means patients can return for follow-up consultations which ensures quality as well as quantity increases.

Thanks to the astounding support we receive from our donors, many communities in the Pacific are still served by our outreach teams whilst we build the capacity of their local eye care system. For Fijians living in rural areas, the chances of receiving sight-restoring surgery is now much brighter, thanks to our generous donors who support the vision of providing more permanent mobile eye care services.

**Andrew Bell**  
Executive Director

# Our vision

A world where no one is needlessly blind.

# Our goal

To restore sight to the needlessly blind through the provision of sight-saving surgeries and treatments, and by training local eye health specialists to deliver eye care services in their own communities.



# What we do



## Restore and preserve sight

At our clinics and through our surgical outreach programme we perform thousands of sight-restoring surgeries and sight-preserving diabetes eye care treatments, and distribute thousands of pairs of new spectacles.



## Train and support the regional eye care workforce

Training local eye doctors and nurses is the only way to eliminate avoidable blindness in a sustainable way. We support the Pacific eye care workforce by providing specialist medical training and ongoing professional development so eye care graduates can take over from visiting surgical teams.



## Strengthen local health sectors

We work to integrate eye care into existing health systems, collaborating with local health Ministries and advocating for universal access to quality eye care through the recognition of specialist qualifications.



## Drive innovation and research

Our approach is tested and effective, using appropriate data systems to better understand current and future eye care needs. We're committed to adopting innovative solutions, ensuring our eye care programmes are locally appropriate and meet international best practice.

# Snapshots of success

The differences we've made in 2016



Restore and preserve sight

82,242  
CONSULTATIONS



6,947  
sight-saving surgeries  
– 48% on outreach.

1,734

laser treatments for  
diabetic eye disease.



12,575

new spectacles dispensed  
at our clinics and through our surgical  
outreach programme.



Train and support  
the regional eye  
care workforce

21



graduates returned home  
with essential equipment and  
consumables to provide eye care  
to their communities.

2



Tongan eye nurses received their  
**Masters in Community Eye Care**  
– a leadership course to assist  
with the development of local eye  
care systems.

90%



of graduates reached by our  
**Workforce Support Programme**  
in 2015/16.



Strengthen local  
health sectors



Timor-Leste's National Eye Centre  
successfully transitioned to the  
country's Ministry of Health.



4 of our graduates  
now lecture in  
eye care at **Fiji  
National University**  
and **Divine Word  
University** in Papua New Guinea.

371

community health nurses and  
workers have been trained to  
**improve diabetic eye disease  
awareness** in Fiji, Solomon  
Islands and Kiribati.



Eye nurses trained at the **Fiji  
National University** are now  
recognised as specialists by  
the **Fiji Nursing Council**.



Drive innovation  
and research



6,442

consultations conducted across  
62 locations within Fiji through  
our Mobile Eye Clinic – the first  
of its kind in the Pacific.

Research on local eye care  
accessibility and awareness  
is conducted by one of our  
Papua New Guinea eye  
nurse graduates.



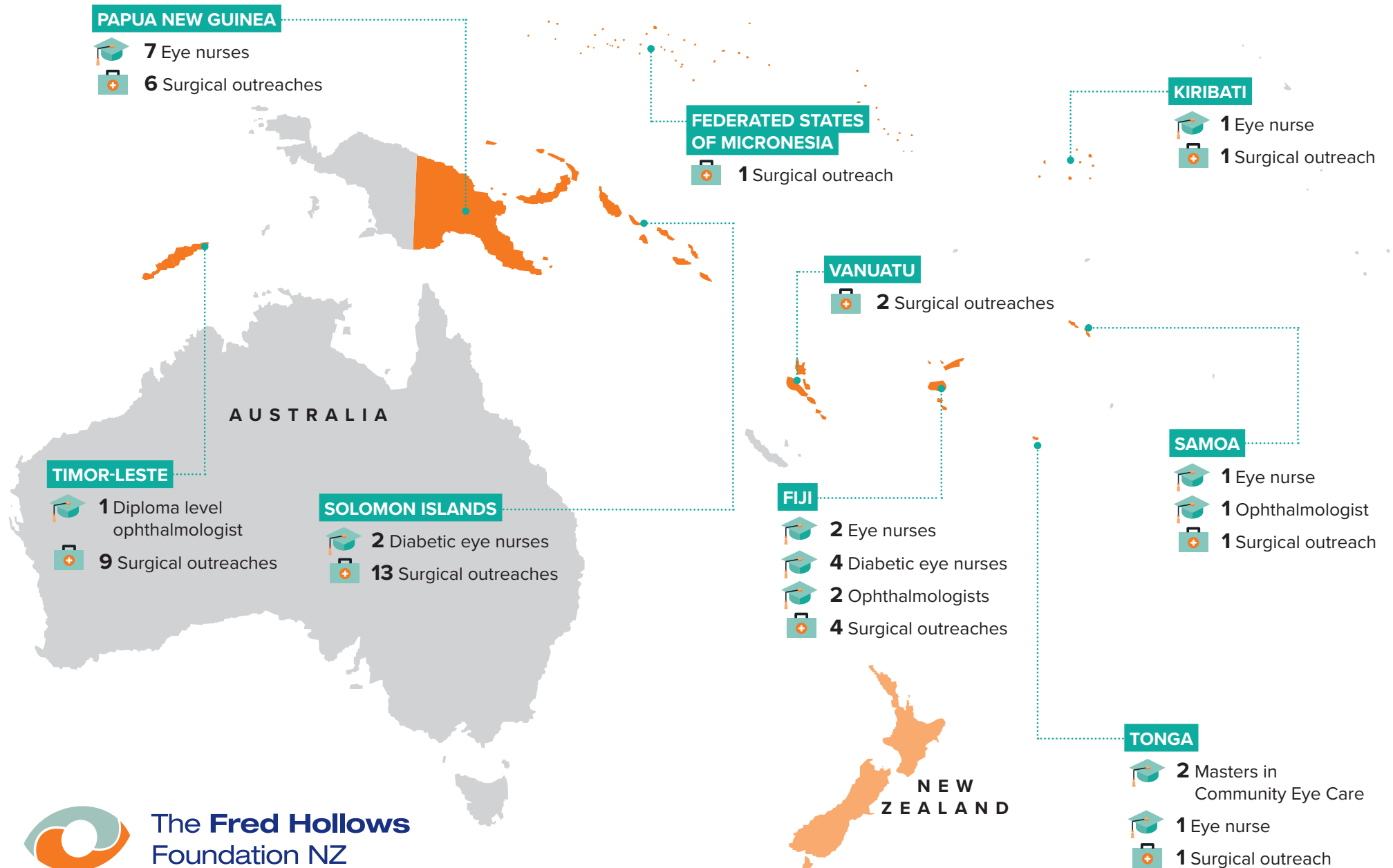
450kw

of solar energy is  
generated daily by our  
sustainable eye clinic  
in Solomon Islands.

Our Pacific Island Diabetic  
Retinopathy Programme was  
presented to the **World Health  
Organisation** in Geneva by our  
Pacific Eye Institute Director.



# 2016 graduates and surgical outreaches







## Jesse's story

### **Thank you to the people in New Zealand! Now I can see again!**

Jesse lives on a tiny, remote island in the Pacific. As a village chief and passionate gardener, he was very proud that at 74 he could make a living and provide for his large family from all the food he grows.

All this changed when Jesse developed severe cataract blindness. Unable to care for his beloved garden or even himself, he became frustrated and sad, humiliated at being fully dependent upon his family.

Then Jesse received news that a Fred Hollows Foundation surgical outreach team was going to arrive on the main island of Vanuatu. Desperate for a chance to see again, Jesse climbed into a boat and made the long journey to Port Vila with the help of one of his children.

Just 24 hours after his surgery the bandages were ready to be removed. Blinking and nervous, he opened his eyes. The blurriness gradually became clear and he could see! His surgery was a resounding success, allowing him to return to his family and his role as leader and provider for his village.

**And it's all thanks to you!**



# Thinking outside the square

## A street named after Fred

A street in the Dunedin subdivision of Three Hills was named 'Fred Hollows Way' by developers Ellen and John Dunckley.

The couple named the street after Fred because they admired his sight-restoring work and his connection to Dunedin. Fred spent the first seven years of his life there and returned to study at the University of Otago.

The celebration of the street naming was attended by Mayor of Dunedin Dave Cull, Fred's daughter Tanya Woolcott and her husband, Australian High Commissioner to New Zealand, His Excellency Peter Woolcott.

At the event, Tanya noted it was lucky it wasn't a road or an avenue, as there really was only the Fred Hollows' way.



## Creating specs with soul

Iconic New Zealand artist Dick Frizzell donated his incredible talent and joined forces with Specsavers to create a limited edition frame to raise money for The Foundation. The limited edition glasses sold out in just six weeks.

## Time to See exhibition

As part of its world tour the 'Time to See' exhibition came to New Zealand where it was hosted by The Foundation. It shows the work partners of The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust (including ourselves) do globally to restore sight to millions.

The exhibition was launched in New Zealand at Government House by Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy.



## Auckland Marathon fundraiser

We are immensely proud of Team Fred, the 40 individuals who took up the challenge of the Auckland Marathon in 2016 to raise money for The Foundation. Mike, one of the runners in the team, proposed to his fiancée earlier in 2016. To make him laugh, she made this brilliant sign to greet him at the end of the race. This gorgeous couple also raised more than \$1,000 with their run.

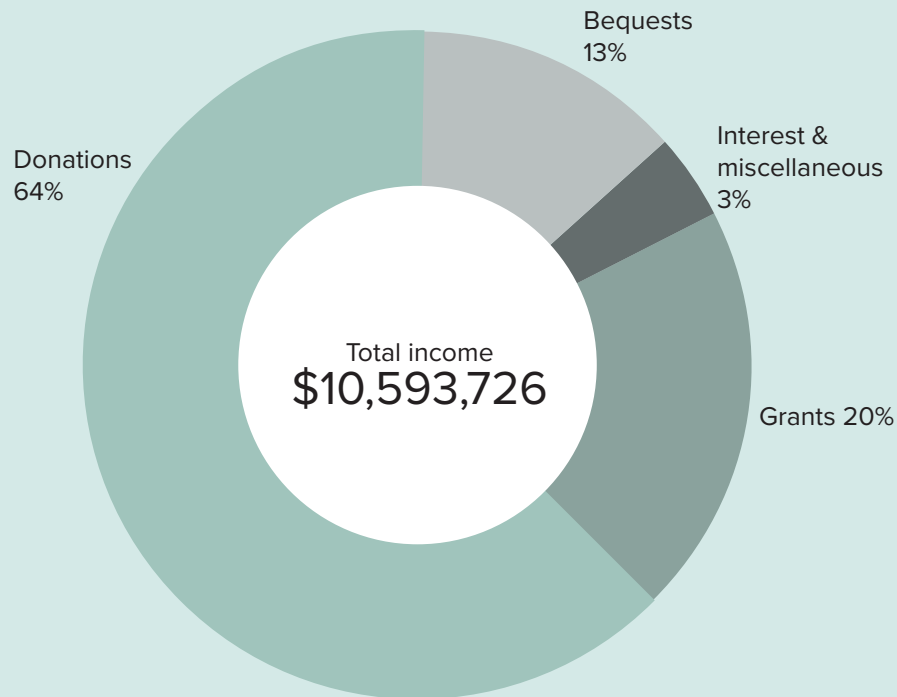


## Chopping wood to restore sight

For ten years The Keri Woodchoppers have gathered, chopped and sold vast quantities of firewood to raise money for The Foundation. The grand total is now close to \$100,000 which has helped restore sight to many people across the Pacific region. Just like Fred they get on and do it, meeting weekly rain or shine. To us they exemplify great Kiwi community spirit.



# 2016 financial report



**Donations and bequests: 77%**

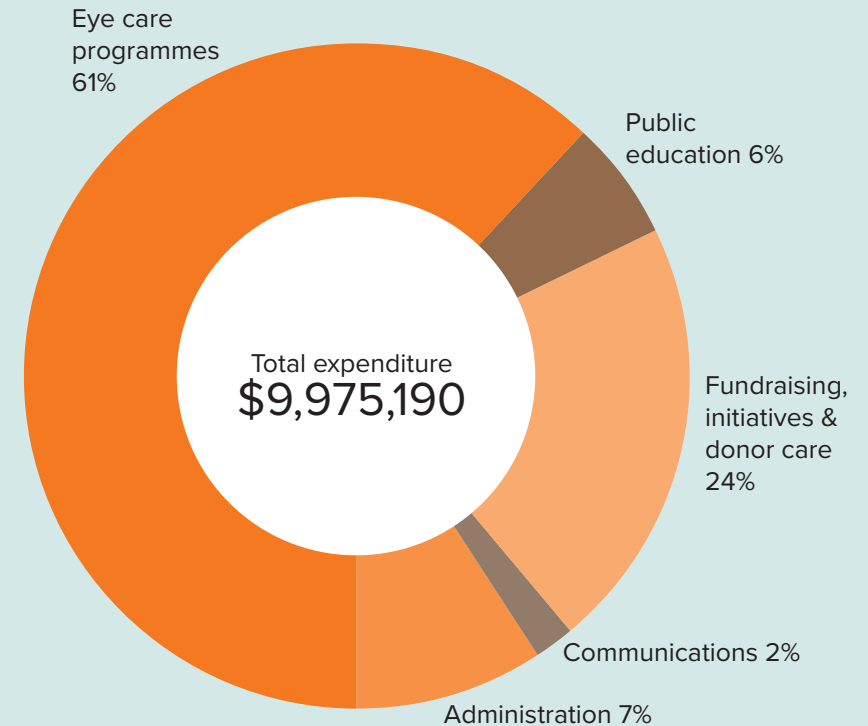
- Donations \$6,796,368
- Bequests \$1,398,120

**Grants: 20%**

- Grants \$2,085,376

**Interest & misc: 3%**

- Other income \$313,862



**Fundraising and administration: 33%**

- Fundraising, initiatives & donor care \$2,426,940
- Communications \$203,496
- Administration \$677,426

**Programme activities: 67%**

- Eye care programmes \$6,093,435
- Public education \$573,893

Financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2016. The information in this report has been summarised from the audited annual financial statements of The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ for the year ended 31 December 2016. The full audited annual financial statements are available at [hollows.org.nz](http://hollows.org.nz) or by emailing [info@hollows.nz](mailto:info@hollows.nz).



# Looking forward

In 2017 The Foundation will mark its 25th anniversary. As we celebrate our achievements, it's also a time to map out what we can achieve over the next quarter century.

## **Strengthening local health sectors**

As well as restoring and preserving sight we also work tirelessly to train the eye care workforce of the future from across the Pacific region. This growing group of outstanding graduates are now back in their communities providing much needed eye care to people who are needlessly blind. To ensure they can continue to use their skills to make this huge difference to thousands of people, they must be supported by strong local health systems. It's a vital part of The Foundation's strategy to work closely with Ministries of Health in the Pacific to support locally-owned eye care programmes that are fully integrated into national health systems. This includes strong patient referral pathways, quality health information management, and adequate equipment and consumable supply systems. In this way we ultimately aim to do ourselves out of a job. But until then, our generous donors continue to support sight-saving activities on the front-line.

## **Driving innovation and research**

Innovation and research is so important for developing high quality, comprehensive, locally appropriate and sustainable eye care systems. A great example of this was the introduction of our ground-breaking Mobile Eye Clinic in Fiji.

Since 2006, The Foundation has participated in the publishing of 93 academic, peer-reviewed articles. Prevalence surveys and eye care assessments provide us with a strong understanding of eye health needs in the Pacific, while operational research allows us to test new and innovative approaches to improve eye health access, responses and interventions.

In 2017, we'll be developing a new research strategy to ensure we continue to strive for answers to the emerging questions – just as we have successfully in the past. The strategy will ensure our programmes continue to be high quality and evidence based, whilst driving continual learning and improvement for everything we do.

Our entire organisation is committed to identifying the next breakthrough to revolutionise eye health in the Pacific. Just as the intraocular lens factories did 25 years ago.

## **Creating an eye care system in Samoa**

Samoa now has a practising optometrist and ophthalmologist, meaning eye care in this country is in very capable hands.

Dr Lucilla Lalelei Ah-Ching Sefo graduated from the Pacific Eye Institute in 2016. As the country's only practising ophthalmologist she works alongside Erna Takazawa, Samoa's only qualified optometrist. In 2015 Erna received the Queen's Young Leaders award which acknowledges exceptional young people from across the Commonwealth.

Together, Lucilla and Erna are building an eye care system for the future in Samoa. We're delighted we can support them in this life-changing work.



# People

## Patrons



**Gabi Hollows**  
Founding Director of  
The Fred Hollows  
Foundation



**Lt Gen The Rt Hon  
Sir Jerry Mateparae**  
GNZM, QSO  
Governor-General  
of New Zealand  
2011-2016



**The Rt Hon Dame  
Patsy Reddy**  
GNZM, QSO  
Governor-General of  
New Zealand

## Executive team

**Andrew Bell**  
Executive Director

**Dr Biu Sikivou**  
Director, Pacific Eye Institute

**Dr Neil Murray**  
Medical Director

**Dr John Szetu**  
Programme Medical Director

**John McElhinney**  
General Manager, Fundraising & Shared Services

## Board of trustees

**Craig Fisher (Chair)**  
Audit Partner, Chairman RSM NZ

**Franceska Banga**  
Chief Executive, New Zealand  
Venture Investment Fund Ltd  
(resigned November 2016)

**Dr Nick Mantell**  
Ophthalmologist, Eye Institute

**Debbie Sorensen DCCT**  
CEO Pasifika Futures Ltd,  
Director Health Specialists Ltd

**Kath Watson**  
CEO, OMD New Zealand

**Sir Maarten Wevers**  
Former Chief Executive, Department of the Prime  
Minister and Cabinet

**Gordon Sanderson**  
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology,  
Dunedin School of Medicine



# Thank you

The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ's trustees and staff sincerely thank our supporters for their assistance and encouragement in 2016.

## Development partners

The New Zealand Aid Programme, World Diabetes Foundation, University of Auckland, The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust, Counties Manukau District Health Board, and The Fred Hollows Foundation in Australia contribute significantly to our programmes.

**In the Pacific Islands:** The Ministries of Health in Vanuatu, Samoa, Kiribati, Tonga and Federated States of Micronesia, RANZCO, International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, and World Health Organisation.

**In Fiji:** Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Colonial War Museum Hospital, Fiji National University College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, and Fiji Water Foundation.

**In the Solomon Islands:** Ministry of Health and Medical Services, National Referral Hospital.

**In Papua New Guinea:** Papua New Guinea National Department of Health, Divine Word University, Modilon General Hospital, National Prevention of Blindness Committee, Light for the World, Mercy Hospital, and the Madang Provincial Health Authority.

**In Timor-Leste:** Ministry of Health, Fo Naroman Timor-Leste, Guido Valadares National Hospital, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons/East Timor Eye Programme.



WORLD DIABETES FOUNDATION



## Corporate supporters

We're delighted to have on-going partnerships with so many generous donors who choose to support our work in countless different ways. Mercy Hospital in Dunedin has agreed to support the nurse training programme in Papua New Guinea for the next three years, honouring the great legacy of selfless service by the Sisters of Mercy in Papua New Guinea over many years. The FIJI Water Foundation and Specsavers amazing support of the Mobile Eye Clinic made eye care accessible to over 6,400 people in Fiji in 2016 alone.

A huge thanks to the wonderful team at Ricoh for choosing to help needlessly blind people. A special thanks to DLA Piper, for their invaluable pro-bono legal services. Our deepest gratitude to FearFree Security and Safety Management for training our staff to be safe no matter where they are working.

Mainfreight, Alcon, Orbit Corporate Travel, Orca Communications Ltd and the many other businesses that have supported The Foundation in 2016, thank you.



## Individual donors, trusts, foundations and community groups

We're extremely fortunate to enjoy the support of many wonderful individuals who donate to our fundraising appeals, make one-off donations or contribute to our regular giving programme, the Miracle Club. We sincerely thank each and every one of you for sharing Fred's vision of a world where no one is needlessly blind.

We're deeply committed to the many individuals, trusts and foundations that contribute so generously to help make our vision a reality. We're thankful to the David Ellison Trust for the many, many years of continued support.

Many amazing people made a lasting impact by remembering The Foundation in their Will. While we rarely have the opportunity to thank them personally, this unique gift leaves a lasting legacy.

Throughout the year a broad range of community supporters hosted a variety of fundraising activities. Thank you to all those inspirational individuals, generous groups, super schools and virtuous volunteers who ran, walked, knitted, read, sold sausages, baked cakes, spun candyfloss, chopped wood, waved flags, sang to strangers, hosted dinners, danced across stages, and opened their hearts to help needlessly blind people see once again.



The cover image of this report shows Professor Fred Hollows with Tran Van Giap in Hanoi, Vietnam in 1992. Fred saved Giap's sight when he was just eight years old. Now, nearly 25 years after his life-changing surgery, Tran Van Giap (pictured here with Gabi Hollows) is a maths teacher and married with children.

**[hollows.org.nz](http://hollows.org.nz)**

Email  
[info@hollows.nz](mailto:info@hollows.nz)

Phone  
INTL 64 9 304 0524 | NZ 0800 227 229

Postal address  
Private Bag 99909 Newmarket  
Auckland 1149

