



LV Prasad Eye Institute

The Edward and Soona Brown Eye Centre (ESBEC)

Dhulipalla, Sattenapalle Mandal, Palnadu District, Andhra Pradesh

(2015-2024)



Gullapalli Pratibha Rao

International Centre for Advancement of Rural Eye care

L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad

The Browns' (Mrs Soona Brown & Late Mr Edward Brown) association with the L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) began in 2011, with the funding of the Children's Eye Care Centre at the Kode Venkatadri Chowdary campus in Vijayawada. They have been one of LVPEI's biggest benefactors.

In 2015, they funded LVPEI's 12th secondary centre at Dhulipalla village in Sattenapalle Mandal, Palnadu District of Andhra Pradesh - The Edward and Soona Brown Eye Centre (ESBEC) which was inaugurated on January 12, 2015. With additional support from Microsoft and NIIF Infrastructure Finance Limited the E&SBEC became fully functional. CSR funds, from NIIF Infrastructure Finance Limited were subsequently used to purchase ophthalmic

equipment for the operation theatre and the outpatient clinics, which helped increase its capacity to serve an additional 2000 plus patients annually.

In addition to clinical care, it also offers low vision and rehabilitation services. The ESBEC caters to the eye health needs of a population of 1.5 million. It is also the first secondary centre to start corneal transplantation surgeries. Equipped with the latest technology, the experienced and compassionate team of ESBEC focuses on diabetes and diabetic retinopathy screening under the Community eye screening and eye care awareness programs are conducted throughout the year. It is one of the most successful secondary centres in the LVPEI network.



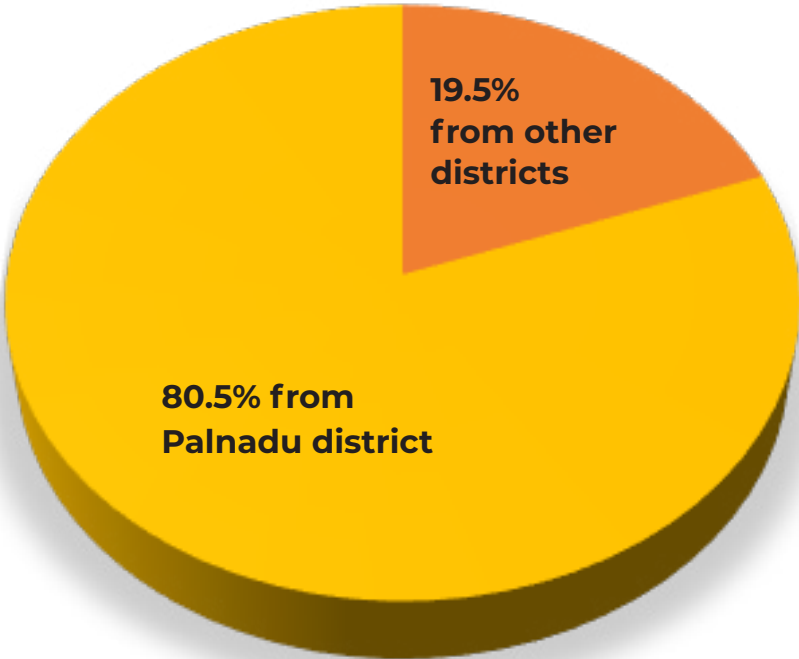
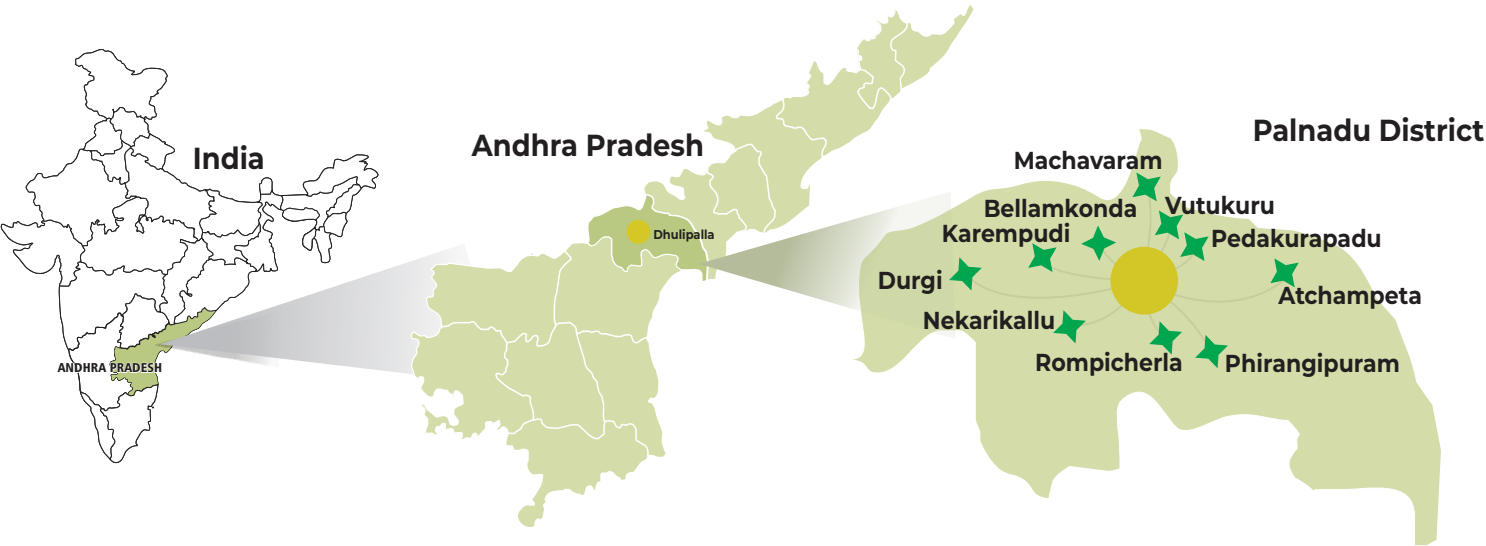
Dhulipalla village is at a distance of 8 kilometers (km) from Sattenapalle, 24 km from Piduguralla and 28 km from Narasaraopeta, the district headquarters. Palnadu district on the coastal belt of the state of Andhra Pradesh. It has a population of 2.04 million. It is bordered by NTR district on the North, Bapatla district on the South East, Prakasam district on the South West, Guntur district on the East, Suryapet and Nalgonda districts of Telangana state on the West.



Ten primary care vision centres at Vutukuru, Rompicherla, Karempudi, Bellamkonda, Phirangipuram, Atchampeta, Nekarikallu, Pedakurapadu, Machavaram and Durgi, initiated with support from One Sight Foundation, RayBan Sun Optics India Private Limited, Latter-day Saint Charities, USA and Col I S Reddy are connected to the ESBE at Dhulipalla. The eyeSmart EMR application (a tab-based app for use at primary eye care vision centres, data is recorded in the tab) and teleophthalmology connects the primary eye care vision centres to the tertiary centres, making eye health accessible to people even in the remotest parts of the state.



Dhulipalla Village: 10 Gram Panchayat Locations



80.5 % of the staff are recruited from the local community



Timeline of Services

OPD & Surgical Services



January 2016

January 2015



Community Eye Care



Low Vision Services

Corneal Transplant Services



April 2016

October 2019

2nd Operating Room



November 2022



Pashyantu, Mobile Eye Diagnostic Van

Impact

Community Screening
at the base of the
pyramid

39,726

Screenings at
Primary Eye Care Vision Centres
under ESBECE

2,08,643

100% services
free of cost

Outpatient visits at
ESBECE

2,57,961

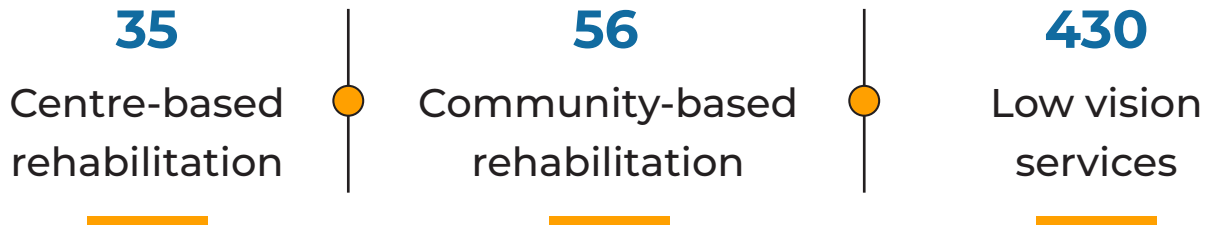
Surgeries at
ESBECE

26,462

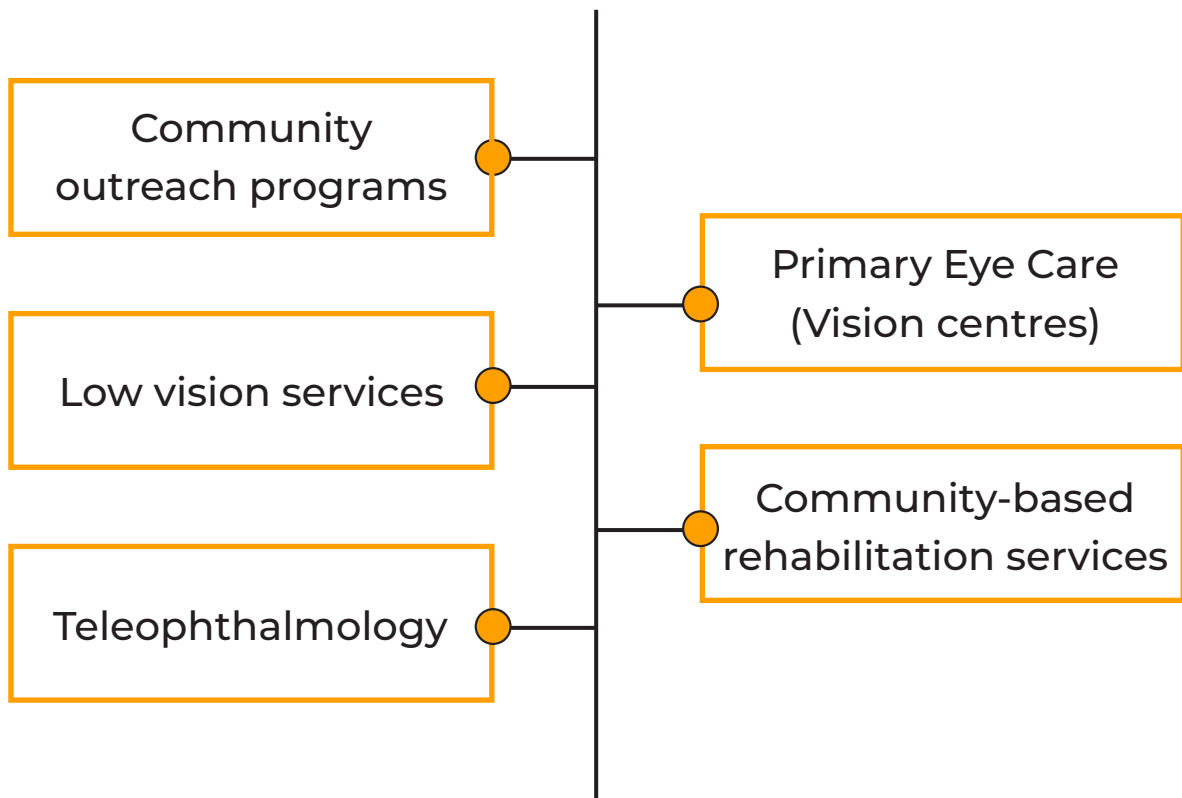
60% services
free of cost

Rehabilitation Services

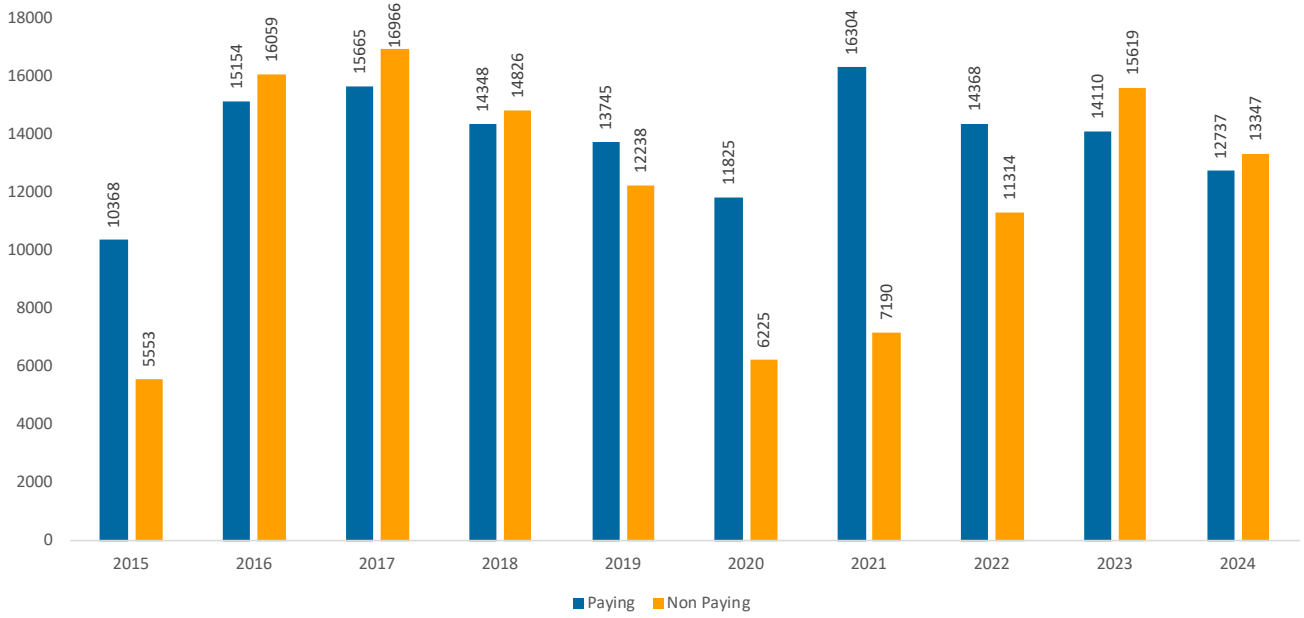
January 2015 – December 2024



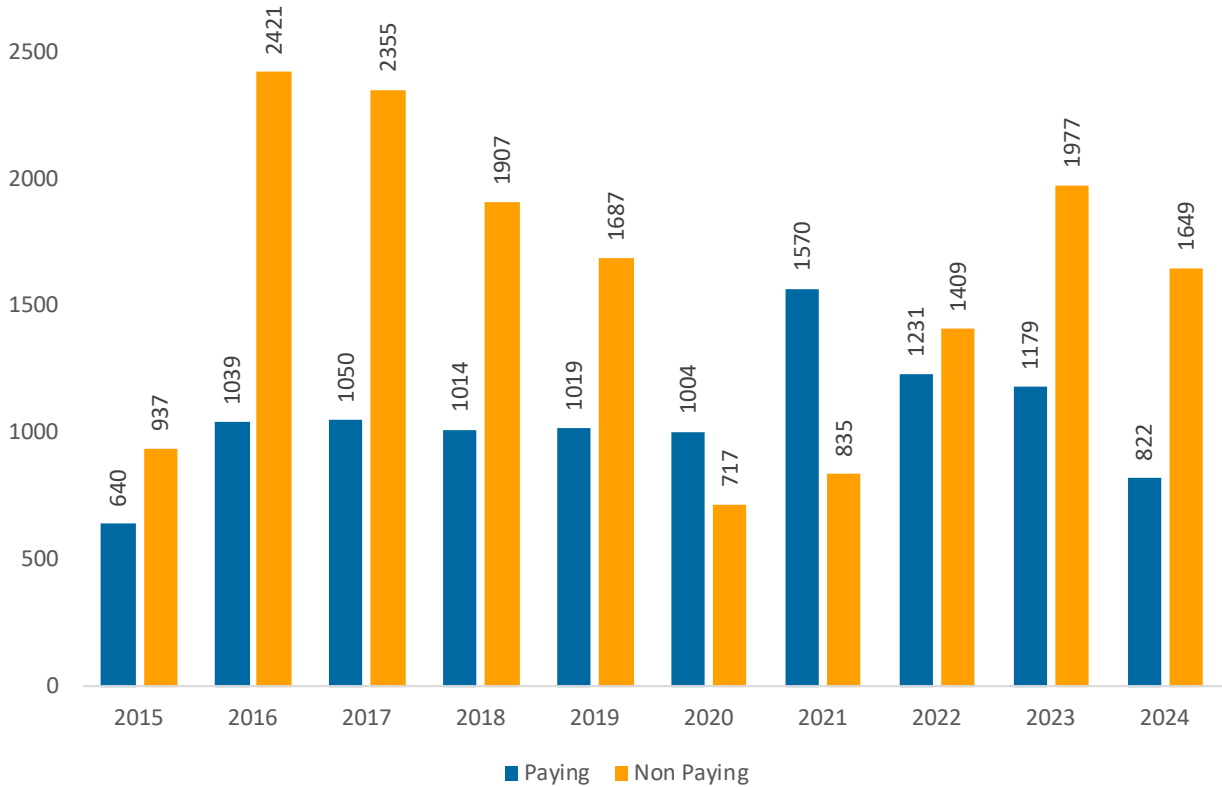
Services



**Year-wise OPD - Paying & Non Paying
(January 2015 to December 2024)**

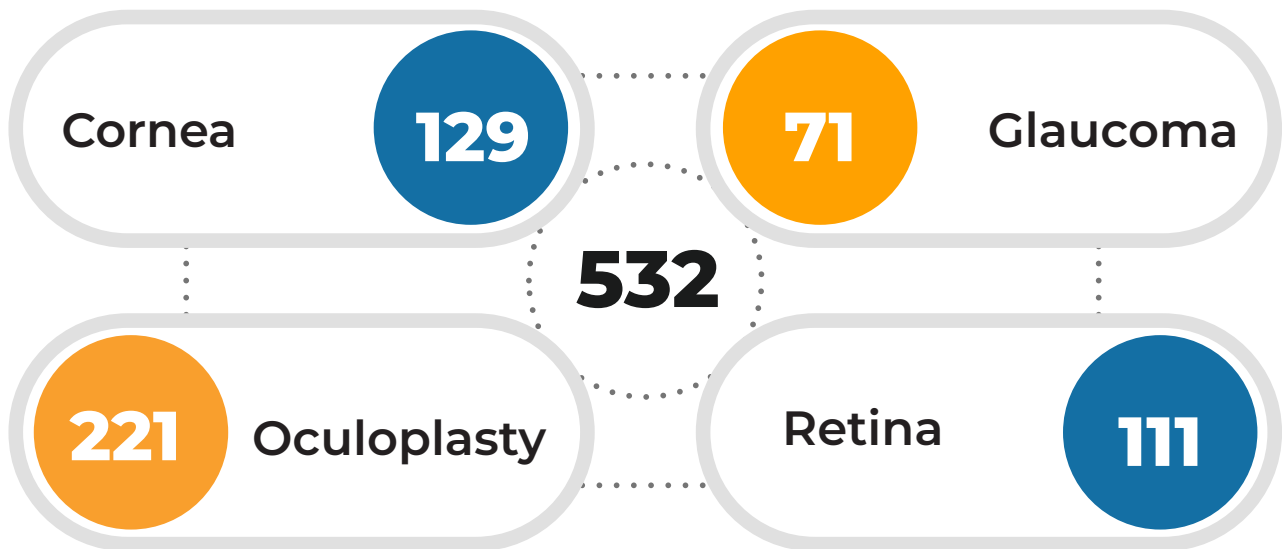


**Year-wise Surgeries - Paying & Non Paying
(January 2015 to December 2024)**

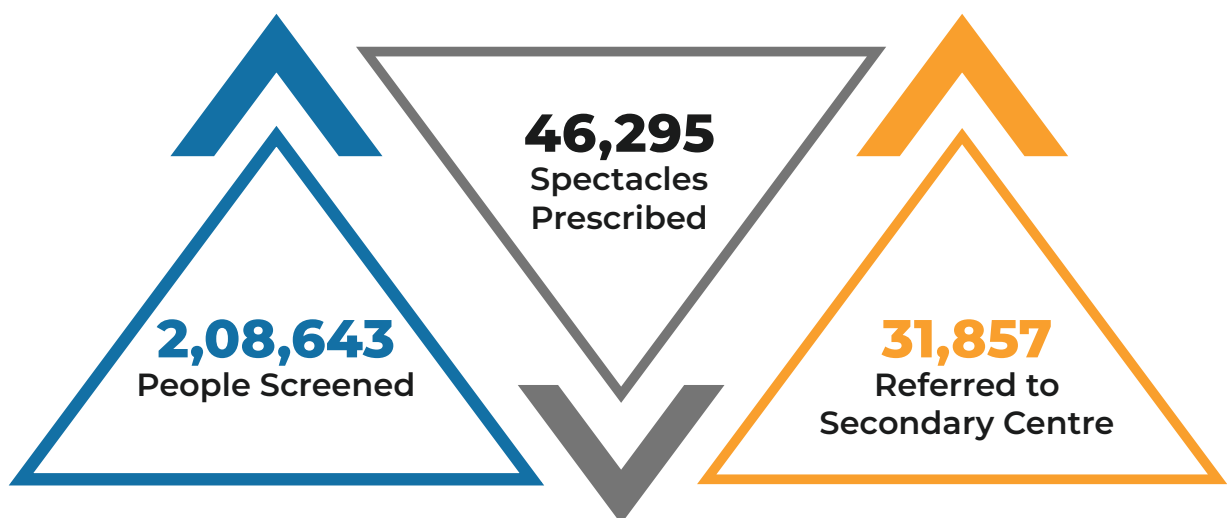


Sub-specialty surgeries performed

January 2015 – December 2024



Services @ Primary Eye Care Vision Centres



PASHYANTU

Mobile Eye Diagnostic Van (MDV) program (October 2019 - December 2024)



Advanced diagnostic procedures -

7,988

(58% Non-Paying)

The Team@ Edward and Soona Brown Eye Centre



The team continues to work ceaselessly, having pledged to serve as many patients as possible.

Happy patients are our ambassadors



When they noticed that something was amiss with her eyes, three-year-old Harshini's parents brought her to the Karempudi Primary eye care vision centre. The vision technician spotted a white reflex in Harshini's right eye. A tele-consult with an ophthalmologist confirmed that she had retinoblastoma – a life and vision-threatening eye cancer. The only treatment option available to stop the spread of the tumour and save her life was to surgically remove her eye. Harshini's father, however, was unwilling to accept the treatment plan and took her away. After weeks of outreach, education and counseling, Harshini's father agreed to her eye surgery. The surgery was done at the Hyderabad campus. A prosthetic eye was fit in the empty socket so that her face would not look different, and she received six cycles of chemotherapy to prevent the tumor from spreading elsewhere in her body. Today, Harshini is enjoying a healthy life - the LVPEI referral model of care had saved her life.



All I think about is getting Harshini the best of everything. The quick diagnosis by the vision technician and her promptness in seeking expert advice, and the well-developed teleconsultation system played a critical role in saving Harshini's life.



Dharamalapadu Vijaya, a 66-year-old woman arrived at the Edward and Soona Brown Eye Centre under challenging circumstances. She was escorted by two male members of her community, one of whom was entirely blind due to an incurable retinal condition. Dharamalapadu Vijaya had suffered a complete loss of vision in both eyes, leaving her unable to manage daily activities. A beggar with no family to support her, her diminished eyesight had brought immense struggles to her life.

Despite her circumstances, Dharamalapadu Vijaya's hope for a better future remained steadfast. After undergoing surgery at the centre, her vision improved significantly. For the first time in years, she could navigate her daily life independently. Overwhelmed with gratitude, she expressed her joy and appreciation by blessing the hospital and its staff.



This story stands as a testament to the transformative power of care, compassion, and modern medical intervention.

Dharamalapadu Vijaya's newfound independence is a beacon of hope for many others facing similar challenges.



Tammineni Vabaiah, aged 42 years came accompanied by his sister-in-law as he had diminished vision. He had vision just enough to recognize light.

After a comprehensive eye examination, it was found that he had cataracts in both eyes. He was advised a cataract surgery.

He had previously consulted several hospitals, and they demanded a huge sum of money for the surgeries. As he could not afford the cost of the surgery, he was living a very restricted life.

His mobility was highly challenged, and he was constantly getting injured bumping into walls. He had to seek help even to visit the washroom. He was unable to see his baby's face clearly, due to his limited vision.

He was operated on for cataract and an IOL was placed. The surgery was successful and vision was restored to 6/6.



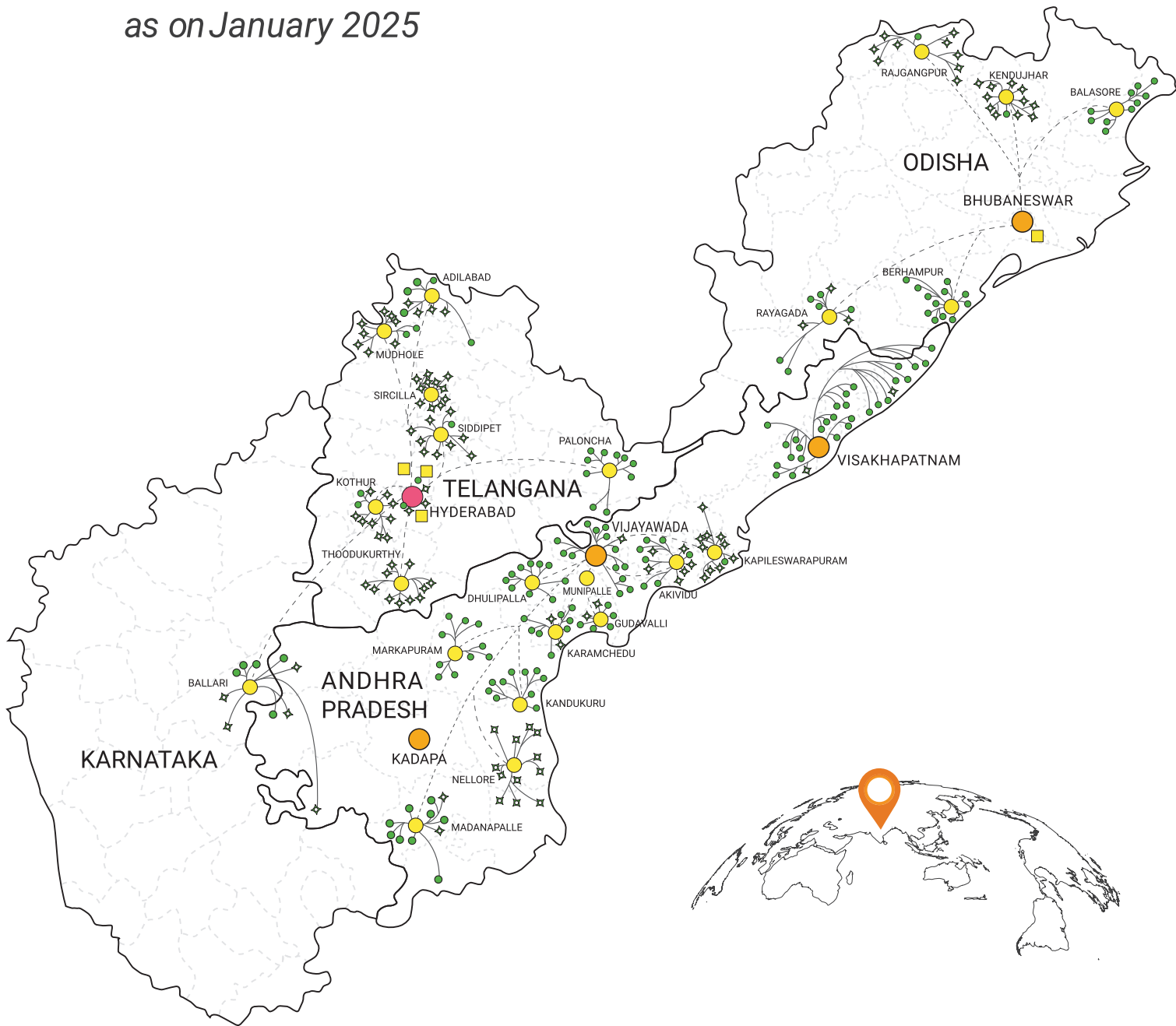
Tammineni Vabaiah was extremely happy with the outcome of the surgery and that he could finally see his baby's face so clearly. He is able to move around on his own and live a comfortable and happy life.

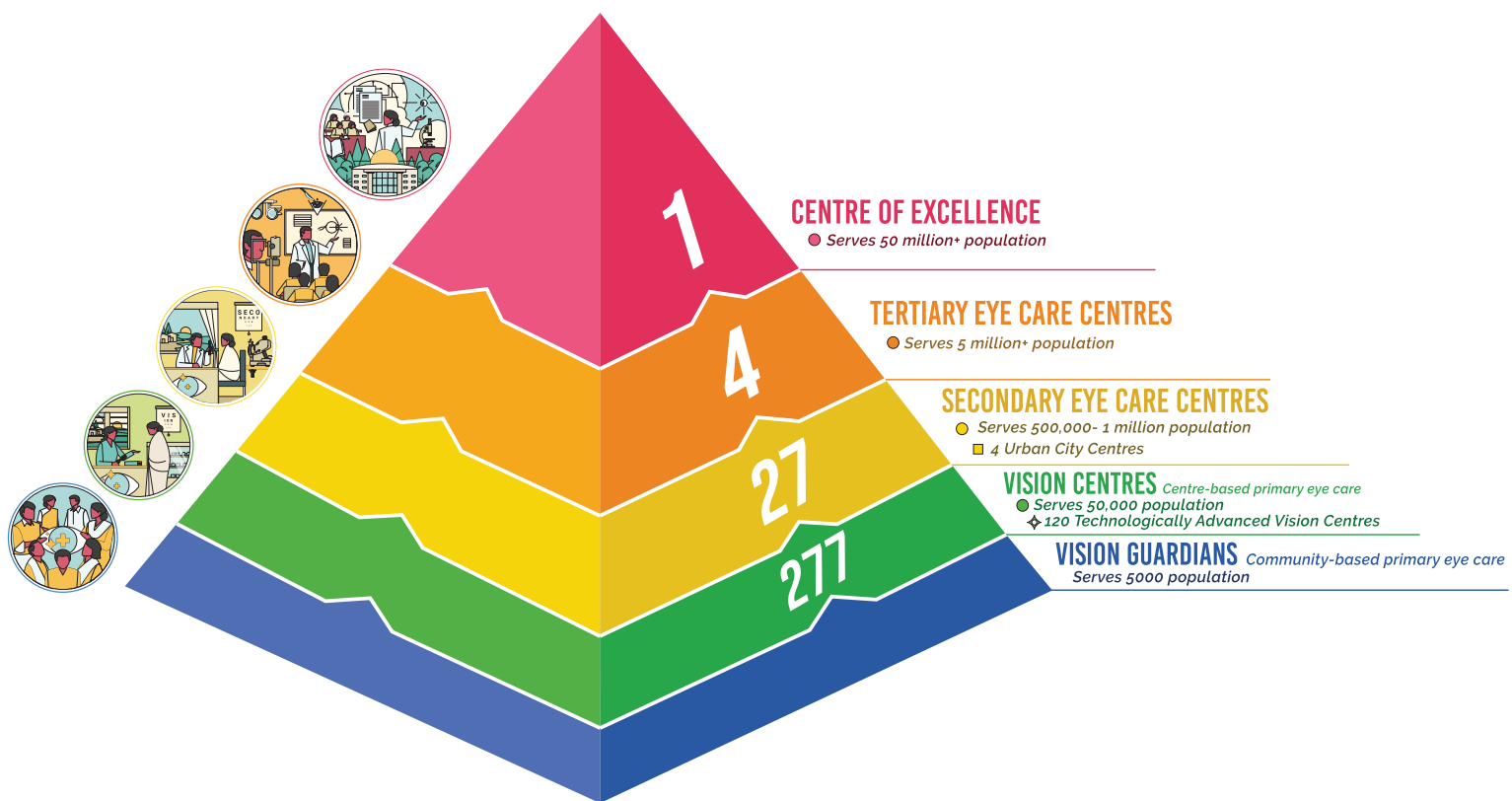


EYE CARE NETWORK

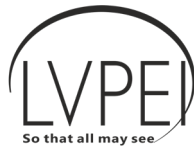
309 CENTRES

as on January 2025





Additionally, LVPEI, in partnership with the Government of Liberia, has established and manages the Liberia Eye Center in Monrovia, the capital city of Liberia.



LV Prasad Eye Institute

Edward and Soona Brown Eye Centre

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