

Message from the CEO

The strength of any organisation is its staff and IVI is privileged to have a highly talented and enthusiastic team. Their commitment to serving society and their desire to ensure that every Indian has access to a pair of spectacles is what makes IVI successful. A two-day team retreat we held recently in Mahabalipuram only reinforced this to me.

Thanks to support from Shell India, JSW Foundation and Sightsavers India, the past few months saw a major vision screening campaign reaching over 80,000 commercial drivers, making our roads a bit safer. It was unfortunate to see that 1.4% of the drivers had a distance vision loss of over +/-2D, which would have greatly compromised their ability to drive safely. We were also delighted to initiate and co-host a major Vision and Road Safety conference in partnership with Vision Spring and Sightsavers India that brought several global leaders and organisations working in this area together. We will continue to work closely with our partners to strengthen policies for driver licence renewals to include Vision tests. We will also work towards sensitising both drivers and the general public on the importance of Vision for Safer Roads.

Thanks to MRF Foundation and Luxottica for supporting large underprivileged

community screening programs that will enable thousands of rural underprivileged people to see better and be more productive in life and work.

As part of our Education programs, IVI's online activities continue to evoke wide interest. These include the Excellence in Vision Science Research Series. In collaboration with Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal and with the support of LV Prasad Eye Institute, Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Professions, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, and Department of Optometry, SRM University, we are organising an Online Research Methodology Course for Postgraduate Optometry students. We have also initiated a Soft Skills Training for Optometry students and practitioners supported by Optometry Giving Sight (OGS).

Once again, this year, the ongoing IVI-Essilor Optometry Wizard of the Year 2022 National Quiz is generating a very encouraging response from students and young Optometrists.

As we work towards providing access to a pair of spectacles to every underprivileged Indian who needs one, I seek your support. In terms of innovative ideas, volunteering your time or financial



support. Please do write to us at ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org if you would like to know more about our projects or would be keen to collaborate with us.

As part of our Education programs on topics of interest to the optometry community and the broader audience, we continued with our panel discussions in association with VisionPlus Magazine. Thank you, VisionPlus for publishing articles from these sessions.

Coming up on May 21 is the virtual Optometry Career Fair 2022. We look forward to the participation of students and young professionals. It is a great networking opportunity for industry and others, in addition to providing a platform to hire fresh talent.

We thank companies, institutions and others for continuing to support and generously funding our initiatives.

- Vinod Daniel

Advancements in Low Vision Intervention for Central Peripheral Visual Field Loss

A webinar on Advancements in Low Vision Intervention for Central Peripheral Visual Field Loss, on February 25 (commemorating Low Vision Awareness Month), stressed on low vision patients, their needs and quality of vision. It discussed advancements in low vision aids for central and peripheral vision loss patients and prescribing



the right devices to maximise their residual vision. Speakers included Prof. Monica Chaudhry, Founder, Learn Beyond Vision, Senior Consultant, IGNOU, Professor and HOD Optometry, Amity University, and Dr Rakesh Roshan, Chief Executive Officer, Ox sight.

[Click to view the session](https://youtu.be/3ysC-M-yqtE)
<https://youtu.be/3ysC-M-yqtE>

IVI is a member of



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Vision and Road Safety (VARs) Conference 2022



Vision and Road Safety Conference (VARs) 2022, an initiative of India Vision Institute, supported by Sightsavers India and VisionSpring, on February 10 and 11, evoked a positive response from within India and overseas. There were 551 registrations.

VARs 2022 looked at the importance of vision in road safety, discussed data on uncorrected refractive errors among drivers, policies on road safety, future directions, barriers, solutions, in addition to focusing on developing partnerships.

Keynote speakers included Dr Meleckidzedek Khayesi, Department of Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization (WHO); Vinod Daniel, CEO, India Vision Institute; RN Mohanty, CEO, Sightsavers India; Ella Rain Gudwin, CEO, VisionSpring Global; Ashwini Saxena, CEO, JSW Foundation; Da-

vid Navarro Olivencia, Vice President, Vision on the Road Group Plan, Essilor Luxottica; Prof. Praveen Vashisht, Office-in Charge, Dr. R. P. Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS, Delhi; and Peter Holland, CEO, International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) among others. World Council of Optometry (WCO)



President Peter Hendicott gave a message of support at the start of the conference.

The conference brought together key stakeholders who will continue to work on vision and road safety policies and create awareness on this important issue.

Excellence in Vision Science Lecture Series

The second talk of the Excellence in Vision Science Lecture Series was delivered by Dr. Ramesh S Ve, Professor, Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Professions, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), on 'Design & Development of Tonogoniometry for Angle Closure Glaucoma Care', December 20, 2021. Focusing on his latest work on developing the design of tonogoniometry, he stressed on understanding the key problem either in the clinic or community, the need for a multidisciplinary approach, 'design thinking', and how



all these are important for innovation to happen. The five components of innovation, according to him, include concept, proof of concept, iterative prototyping, pre-commercial and commercial ready.

[Click to view the session](https://youtu.be/YQOnhpMsonE)
<https://youtu.be/YQOnhpMsonE>

The third talk in the series - 'Research in Community Eye Health: Need and Scope' - was by Dr. Anuradha Narayanan, Principal, Elite School of Optometry, Program in-charge, School Children Eye Health, Sankara Nethralaya, on February 16. She spoke on what brought her to community eye health and how her research work commenced – and focused on some of her work, including the one that secured



her a place in the Limca Book of Records. The key is to ask crucial research questions in order to discover areas that require attention and has plenty of scope

to study. [Click to view the session](https://youtu.be/CcC7p7XWPP8)
<https://youtu.be/CcC7p7XWPP8>

Talk four, on March 16, 'Dimensions of Research in Glaucoma - Optometrist Perspective' by Dr. Rashima Ashokan, Professor, Elite School of Optometry, Head - Occupational Optometry Services, Senior Optometrist & Researcher

- Glaucoma Project, Sankara Nethralaya, focused on her journey in glaucoma research and highlighted that knowledge about glaucoma and skills are key for optometrists to co-manage glaucoma. [Click to view the session](https://youtu.be/hWZyKNCxrcY)
<https://youtu.be/hWZyKNCxrcY>



Talk five of the series – on April 14 - was delivered by Dr Prema Chande, Head



of Department, Lotus College of Optometry, Mumbai, Consultant Optometrist, Roshini Eye care, Navi Mumbai on 'Evidence-based Research of Ocular changes in Endocrine

Disorders'.

[Click to view the session](https://youtu.be/6zmXOGIREJc)
<https://youtu.be/6zmXOGIREJc>

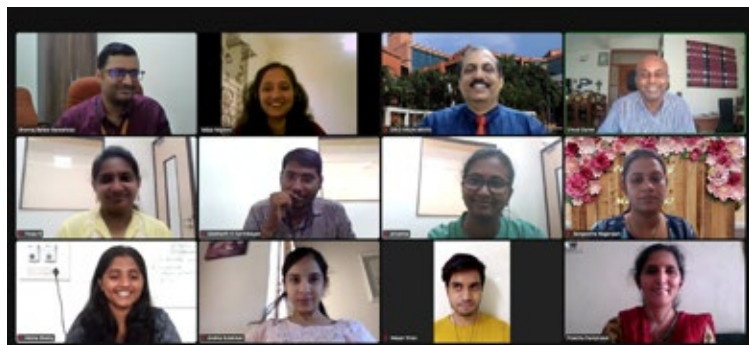
Volunteer for IVI

We are looking for volunteers (Optometrists/Optomety students) who can support us in screening underprivileged children and adults in the community.

Email us at ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org or call us on 91-44-24515353

Workshop on Visual Psychophysics

IVI hosted a workshop on 'Visual Psychophysics' on March 12 facilitated by Dr. Shonraj Ballae Ganeshrao, Associate Professor and Head of Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Professions, Manipal Academy of Higher Education



(MAHE), and his research team of Priyanka M, Siddharth K K and Pooja Nandagopal.

The workshop exposed 10 young researchers to the basics of building a psychophysical experiment paradigm, creating experiments using the Psychopy Builder view, and the basics of python programming needed to build experiments using Psychopy.

IVI-VisionPlus Panel Discussions

Artificial intelligence in eyecare

As an emerging technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers a range of applications in fields as diverse as law enforcement, manufacturing, agriculture, and finance. AI holds great potential for use in healthcare. Eyecare, in particular, may see a transformation in the coming years as AI-based technology promises to bring about a quantum change in service delivery.



The panel discussion on 'Artificial Intelligence in Eyecare', January 31, focused on AI's eyecare applications and its prospects in going forward. Moderated by Vinod Daniel, who underscored the potential AI holds and its ability to transform rural eye care service accessibility, the panelists comprised Dr. Monica Gandhi, Associate Medical Director, Head - Digital Initiatives, Consultant Glaucoma, and Anterior Segment, Dr. Shroff Charity Eye Hospital; Dr. Thirumalesh M B, Consultant Ophthalmologist, Vitreo Retina Surgeon, Narayana Nethralaya; Gautham Pasupuleti, CEO & Managing Director, Biodesign Innovation Labs; and Ms. D.R. Devi, Consultant, and Low Vision Care Specialist, Vision Aid India. Panelists pointed to the low doctors-to-patients ratio as a major hurdle to eye care access. The lack of eye care specialists in remote regions means that patients often access specialized eye care only at a very late stage. [Read the full article at https://visionplusmag.com/seminar/artificial-intelligence-in-eyecare/](https://visionplusmag.com/seminar/artificial-intelligence-in-eyecare/)

Virtual and Augmented Reality in Low Vision Rehabilitation

The future of low vision rehabilitation will be interdisciplinary. Optometrists will have to work in conjunction with specialists such as physiotherapists and occupational health specialists, among others, to help ensure an improvement in the overall quality of life for patients. Low vision care requires a holistic approach.

To commemorate Virtual and Augmented Reality in Low Vision Rehabilitation Awareness month, panelists at the discussion on Virtual and Augmented Reality in Low Vision Rehabilitation (on February 28) set at rest concerns that patients using virtual reality devices may experience motion sickness. The resolution of images created and the auto-adjustment technology rule out that possibility. However, it would not be advisable for patients with epilepsy and claustrophobia to use virtual



reality-based devices. Panelists included Dr. Ramesh S Ve, Ms. Sarika Gopalakrishnan, Senior Optometrist; HOD, Low Vision Care Services, Sankara Nethralaya, and Mukundan Govindraj, Practice Lead, Extended Reality, Boston Consulting Group. [Read the full article at https://visionplusmag.com/seminar/virtual-and-augmented-reality-in-low-vision-rehabilitation/](https://visionplusmag.com/seminar/virtual-and-augmented-reality-in-low-vision-rehabilitation/)

Consequences of Brain Injury on Vision

A panel discussion during Brain Injury Awareness Month in March focused on 'Consequences of Brain Injury on the Visual System'. The panel comprising Dr. Sieu Khuu, Associate Professor & Deputy Head of School, School of Optometry and Vision Science, The University of New South Wales, Dr. Jameel Rizwana Hussaindeen, Head – Rivoli Vision Academy, Clinical Diplomate – Binocular Vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry, American Academy of Optometry (AAO), Dr. Revathy Mani, Lecturer, University of New South Wales, spoke on the prevalence of visual dysfunction associated with brain injury, early signs, symptoms an eye care practitioner needs to look out for, the role of a neuro-optometrist in visual function examination, vision therapy, and rehabilitation for improving the quality of life. [Read the full article at https://visionplusmag.com/seminar/consequences-of-brain-injury-on-visual-system/](https://visionplusmag.com/seminar/consequences-of-brain-injury-on-visual-system/)



Vision & Autism Spectrum Disorder

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a range of developmental conditions characterized by social, behavioural and communication deficits. Many people with ASD experience a range of problems with their visual system.

To delve into visual processing among those with ASD and to commemorate 'World Autism Awareness Day', a panel discussion on Vision and Autism Spectrum Disorder on April 27 included Dr Sahithya Bhaskaran Medical Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Services, Aravind Eye Hospitals, Aditya Goyal, President, ASCO-India, Principal Sankara College of Optometry, Preeti Sharma, Senior Clinical Optometrist (Paediatric) and Orthoptist, Dr Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital, Nivedha Santharam, Behavioral Optometrist & Vision therapist, Kids Care- Children's clinic

and Pediatric Neurology Center.

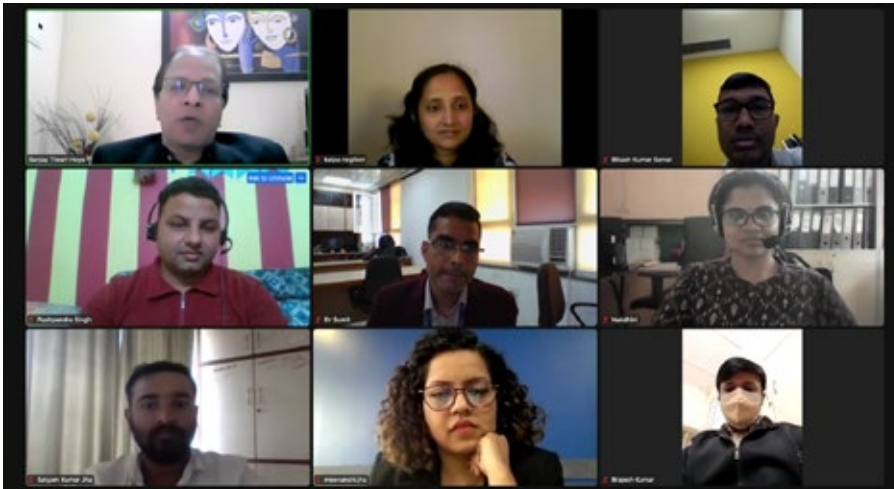
The discussion centred on how vision impairment in the autistic population has an influence on their development, the prevalence of autism and associated vision problems in India, and autistic behaviours to note, which are markers for early detection of underlying vision problems, comprehensive eye examination of patients with ASD, and the role of vision therapy in improving the quality of life of patients with ASD.



Young Leaders Program 2022

The eighth IVI Young Leaders Program'22 (YLP), supported by Hoya Lens India, commenced on February 7 with a session by Vinod Daniel on Introduction to

YLP continued with two sessions on Design Thinking & Innovation and The Art of Project Management. The sessions were facilitated by Maheshwari Srinivasan,



Leadership & Management.

This was followed by sessions on Communication Effectiveness by Jayanta Roy Chowdhury, Chief of Bureau, Press Trust of India, and Transformational Leadership by Dr. Sumit Grover, Ophthalmologist, Academician & Public Health Professional, in March.

Watch 'In Conversation with Vinod Daniel' video series only on www.youtube.com/indivisioninstitute



Pavel Richter, CEO, Coalition for Clear Vision



RN Mohanty, CEO, Sightsavers India

Online Research Methodology Course

IVI has launched an Online Research Methodology course in collaboration with Optometric Association of Tamil Nanbargal and with the support of LV Prasad Eye Institute, Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Professions, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, and Department of Optometry, SRM University, for research aspirants.



Over four months, the course will cover Research in Healthcare, Writing research proposal, Data Analysis, Critical Appraisal and Writing Reviewing Articles, Research Publications, Grant Writing and Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research

Module 1 of the course included 'Health & Eye Care Research & Writing a Research Proposal' facilitated by Dr Ramesh S Ve, Dr Jameel Rizwana H, Head - Rivoli Vision Academy; Clinical Diplomate – Binocular vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry, American Academy of Optometry (AAO), Divya S, Associate Professor & Optometry Program Coordinator, Department of Optometry, SRM Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, SRM Institute of Science & Technology and Gopinath M, Research Scholar, Department of Optometry, Manipal College of Health Professions, Manipal Academy of Higher Education.

Over 30 eye care research eye care professionals have enrolled for the course.

Connecting Eye to Brain Understanding Visual Pathway and related disorders

Dr. Rashmin Gandhi, Managing Director, Foresight Worldwide, Consultant and Director, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Center for Sight, Hyderabad and Vice President, Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, spoke on the visual pathway and lesions that results in vision loss or visual field deficits through case-based discussions. The talk was covered over two sessions on 18 and 23 March.



Foresight Worldwide, Consultant and Director, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Center for Sight, Hyderabad and Vice President, Indian Neuro-Ophthalmology Society,

IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard 2022

This year's IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard of the Year – a national optometry quiz commenced on 7 April. Round 1 was open to optometry students and practitioners, and was conducted online over two days. Out of 431 candidates who participated, 23 were shortlisted for Round 2.

Six participants have been selected for the Finals from Round 2, which was facilitated over telephone. The finalists are Reshma Meraj Shaikh, MGM School of Biomedical Sciences, Navi Mumbai, Shyamala G, Sankara Nethralaya, Diwakar Rao, Vittala International Institute of Ophthalmology, Roselin Kiruba A, The Sankara Nethralaya Academy, Bhuvaneshwari Ganesan, Vasanth Institute of Ophthalmology and Research & Sarika G, Sankara Nethralaya.

The finals are to be held in Chennai in June.

IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor India Private Ltd.

MRF and IVI launch vision screening program

A major campaign to screen and provide free spectacles to the underprivileged in Chennai, Arakkonam, and Trichy (Tamil Nadu) was launched in April with support from MRF Foundation. Some 10,000 people are being screened and those with refractive error are provided free spectacles.



IVI acknowledges the support of MRF Foundation.

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IVI - Essilor Workshops on Essentials of Spectacle Dispensing

Workshops on Essentials of Spectacle Dispensing were organised at the Department of Optometry, ERA University, Lucknow on 25 and 26 March, and a workshop at the Department of UIAHS, Chandigarh University, Punjab on 30 April. IVI helped facilitate the workshops



along with Essilor India. A total of 200 optometry students attended.

The workshops included lectures and hands-on training, covering ophthalmic lens and frame materials, the manufac-

turing process, fitting, troubleshooting, progressive addition lenses and its advancements.

Nandhini Vasudevan, Program Manager, IVI and Tanima Chakraborty, Regional EPS Manager-North, Essilor India Private Limited facilitated the sessions. Pooja Nandagopal, Junior Research Fellow, Department of



Optometry, MAHE connected with the students of ERA University virtually to deliver a session on spectacle frames.

IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor India Private Ltd.

Eye See & I Learn

Screening tribal school children in Odisha

Vision screenings were conducted for 4,500 school children in socio-economically disadvantaged tribal communities in Cuttack district of Odisha state. Free spectacles were provided to children diagnosed with refractive errors. Others with ocular ailments have been referred to a local hospital for comprehensive ex-



aminations. The project included awareness creation for better eye health care among school authorities, parents and school-going children.

IVI acknowledges the support of Australian Consulate-General, Kolkata.

Eye See & I Work

Vision Screening in Vidyanagar, Karnataka

A vision campaign screened over 8,164 people in villages around Vidyanagar, Karnataka (Vaddu Panchayat, Basapur village, Talur, and Tanoranagallu village). People diagnosed with refractive errors are being provided free corrective spectacles. Those in need for further comprehensive eye examinations have been referred to a tertiary eye care facility.



IVI acknowledges the support of JSW Foundation.

Activities listed in this issue are for January - April 2022.

Vision Screening Underprivileged Communities

IVI's campaigns during January-March vision screened over 11,270 underprivileged daily wage workers in Chennai, Krishnagiri, Virudhunagar, Pudukottai, Salem, Arimalam, Nilgiris, Tirupur and other parts of Tamil Nadu. Some 5,760 people diagnosed with refractive errors received free spectacles and 1,476 were referred to hospitals for further intervention.



IVI acknowledges the support of the Essilor Vision Foundation for providing free spectacles.

IVI Supports Daily Wage Earners

Another major screening campaign - for industrial workers in Chennai - has progressed well. We screened 15,138 people in Koyambedu, Choolaimedu, Purasaiwakam, Pallikaranai, Peerkankaranai, Kilpauk, Aminjikarai, Tondiarpet, Kannagi Nagar, Kotturpuram, Thiruvottriyur, Adyar, Velachery, and other areas in Chennai. Some 8,829 people diagnosed with refractive errors were given free spectacles and 3,009 people were referred to the hospital for further intervention.



IVI acknowledges the support of Luxottica India.

Commercial Vehicle & Truck Drivers Screening in TN, Karnataka

As part of DriveSafeIndia program, an initiative of Shell India and implemented by IVI, 56,500 drivers, cleaners, and technicians across Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were screened since October 2021. Driving communities in Chennai, Bangalore, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli, Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Salem, Madurai, Coimbatore, Pudukottai, Dindigul, Virudhunagar, Tirupur, and Erode benefitted. As many as 27,000 people were diagnosed with refractive errors, with 10,000 hospital referrals.



IVI acknowledges the support of Shell India.

Screening Truck Drivers in Kanchipuram and Kochi

Campaigns undertaken in Kanchipuram district of Tamil Nadu and Kochi in Kerala screened over 5,000 truck drivers; 1,967 truckers found to have vision difficulties received free spectacles and 312 truckers were referred to hospital for further examination.



IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers India.

Screening Salem Truckers and Communities

To support drivers and underprivileged adults in Salem (Tamil Nadu), JSW supported an IVI program for vision screening 2,000 drivers and 5,000 underprivileged adults. People detected with vision difficulties will be receiving free spectacles and some have been referred to hospital for further examination.



IVI acknowledges the support of JSW Foundation.

Vision Screening on Wheels

The Urban Eye Health Program - an initiative of Sightsavers with support from SBI Capital, and implemented by IVI through a Mobile Van Eye Unit going around urban slums and Government Health Centres of Chennai has screened 3,885 people. Areas covered include Ennore Kuppam, Kottivakkam, Royapuram, Neelangarai, Old Washermenpet, Perungudi and Chindatripet. Some 3,301 people were diagnosed with refractive errors and 1,245 people have been referred to a tertiary hospital for a comprehensive eye examination.



IVI acknowledges the support of Sightsavers India.

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Coalition for Clear Vision meeting at IVI office in Chennai

Pavel Richter, Executive Director of The Coalition for Clear Vision, visited India Vision Institute office on March 30 and 31. He visited IVI's vision screenings, including two school programs at Palavakkam and Neelankarai and a community program at Perungudi.



IVI's staff were on a retreat and training sessions April 1 - 3. Teams engaged in motivational talks, interactive sessions, and fun games.

On April 1, at the IIT-Madras Alumni Club, IVI Trustee & Director, Lawrence and Mayo, Vivek Mendonsa, conducted a talk on motivation and management for staff, and Ramachandran P, Chair, IVI Advisory



IVI Team Retreat

April 2 and 3 were well spent at Dakshinchitra on the outskirts of Chennai. The games, some great food, and a delightful tour of the Living Museum full of heritage from the different states of South India offered staff a well-rounded program.



IVI also organized a vision screening camp for communities around Dakshinchitra. Some 120 people got free vision screening and those detected with refractive errors were provided free spectacles.

International Women's Day

To commemorate International Women's Day on March 8, IVI joined the world and the nation in celebrating gender equality for a sustainable tomorrow. Vision screening programs for women in Chennai were organized at KK Nagar, Saidapet, Sholavaram, Integrated Child Development Centre, Kilpauk, and the Urban Primary Health Centre at Chetpet. Australia's Consul General, Sarah Kirlaw, Sri Karunanidhi, MLA and IVI CEO Vinod Daniel were present at



the screening program at KK Nagar. IVI's vision screening activities have provided priority to women and children.

Committee, led the participants into an illuminating talk on self-improvement and personality development.

World Optometry Day 2022

On World Optometry Day, March 23, IVI announced the launch of a new program to screen 5,000 commercial vehicle drivers



in Greater Chennai. Those found to have uncorrected refractive errors are being provided free corrective glasses. The spectacles are being provided with the support of Essilor Vision Foundation (EVF).

IVI also undertook 11 outreach camps across Chennai, including a school screening program in Coimbatore.

What they say about IVI

"I am delighted to be here at IVI's vision screening for women on the occasion of International Women's Day. Having good sight is crucial to the ability of women and girls to access education and employment. It is good to see IVI's screenings making an impact among women and girl children." - Sarah Kirlaw, Australia's Consul-General

'The Research Methodology course was designed to impart the knowledge and skill set required to be able to understand the foundational concepts. The course received great response with over 20 students in the first batch, enrolled from all across the country. The course is being led by renowned vision scientists and faculty members.' - **Dr. Jameel Rizwana Hussaindeen, Head, Rivoli Vision Academy**

"The spectacles provided through the vision screening campaign are of good quality. The children, their parents and teachers are extremely happy as they were exposed to eye health awareness. We expect to see a marked improvement in performance by students." - **Principal, Government Adi Dravidar Welfare School, Palavakkam**

'I was privileged to speak at India Vision Institute's Young Leader's Program. It was a great experience to speak on 'Design Thinking & Innovation' to an audience that listens keenly, interacts, and involves in discussions. Thanks IVI for the opportunity.' - **Maheswari Srinivasan, CEO & Founder, Core Idea Innovations**

IVI Vision Screening Programs

	Children	Community	Total
No of programs	690	308	984
Individuals screened	289,103	245,212	534,315
Spectacles distributed	28,306	117,802	146,126

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The Gift of Vision to Prisons

IVI has announced a campaign to benefit inmates of eight prisons across Tamil Nadu. Costs, including for glasses, will be met from partners and public.

We estimate an additional requirement of **INR 3.2 lakhs (INR 320,000) @ INR 40,000** per prison towards the project to meet logistics and other costs.

IVI seeks the support of individuals, corporates and groups to give liberally for this cause.

Current Project Supporters

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